

US-India BioPharma & Healthcare Summit Set for May

By a Staff Reporter

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — The USA-India Chamber of Commerce, a bilateral chamber of commerce, will hold its annual U.S.-India BioPharma & Healthcare Summit May 11 at the Hyatt Cambridge here.

The summit will focus on overcoming barriers to building collaborative partnerships between Indian and global companies. Panel discussions and keynotes will cover drug discovery and development, emerging markets, licensing, industry-academic partnerships, clinical research, funding innovation and cross border M&A trends, according to a press release.

There will also be a high-powered panel discussion on oncology deliberating the science, research trends and investor perspective.

Exclusive invitation-only strategy sessions will focus on industry-academic partnerships co-chaired by Nobel Laureate Prof. Phillip Sharp of MIT, Dr. Sridaran Natesan of Sanofi and Prof. Sanjeev Sinha of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

External R&D strategies session will be co-chaired by Dr. Rick Connell of Pfizer, Dr. Sandeep Gupta of Endo Pharma and Sri Mosur of Jubilant Life Sciences.

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Prominent global R&D heads of leading pharma companies and academic leaders, including many Indian Americans, confirmed to participate are: Dr. Elias Zerhouni, president, Global R&D, Sanofi; Dr. John Leonard, senior vice president, R&D, Abbott; Dr. Ivan Gergel, executive vice president, R&D, Endo Pharma; Dr. George Scangos, CEO, Biogen Idec; Dr. Gary Gilliland, Oncology R&D head, Merck & Co; Dr. Nirmal Ganguly, chairman, JIPMER, and past director general of ICMR; Dr. John Orloff, chief medical officer, Novartis; Dr. Roger Glass, director, Fogarty International Center; Dr. Karen Antman, Dean, BU Medical School; Dr. William Chin, executive



Karun Rishi is president of the USA-India Chamber of Commerce, which organizes the annual U.S.-India BioPharma & Healthcare Summit.

dean for research, Harvard Medical School; Dr. Robert King, senior partner, Goldman Sachs; Dr. Ansbert Gadicke, managing partner, MPM Capital; K.V. Subramaniam, CEO, Reliance Life Sciences; and Dr. Peter Mueller, global head of R&D, Vertex Pharmaceuticals.

USAIC's annual summit provides continuity as well as the opportunity for senior industry executives to engage in open and stimulating discussions with each other and with academic leaders. This interactive structure, including focussed strategy sessions, brings participants back to the conference each year, said the release.

The agenda for the 2012 summit is the result of a post-summit strategy session held in Delhi in November last year. The brainstorming session was attended by



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over 40 prominent CEOs and top Indian officials.

“Our annual summit is a purpose driven initiative to foster innovation and collaborative research between the global BioPharma industry and India,” said Karun Rishi, president of the USA-India Chamber of Commerce. “I encourage the active participation of all stakeholders who share our purpose of working together for an innovation driven healthier world,” said Rishi.

Minister Deshmukh said in a statement: “Today, the challenges of finding cures for diseases faced by humanity are global in nature and no nation alone can face and mitigate these challenges. We are confident our innovation friendly initiatives and policies will make India an attractive partner for BioPharma R&D partnerships and translational research.”

“India is rapidly expanding global R&D alliances. Global partnerships play a critical role in strengthening innovation ecosystems in countries as India and in facilitating adoption of harmonized global best practices” stated Dr. M.K. Bhan, Secretary, India's Department of Biotechnology, and an Advisory Board member. “India opens its arms to all friends in the United States, be it for investment or partnership in services, manufacturing and R&D.”

“With each year, the USA-India Chamber of Commerce has been growing in strength and enabling fruitful partnerships between global and Indian companies. The ‘Oncology’ theme for this year's U.S.-India BioPharma Summit is an endeavor to give a new dimension of disease focus to this platform,” said K.V. Subramaniam, Advisory Board member and CEO of Reliance Life Sciences.

The USA-India Chamber of Commerce has an outstanding advisory board of key global R&D leaders, academicians and venture capitalists who are passionate about innovation in biopharma and healthcare, said the release. The annual R&D budget of the advisory board members is more than \$25 billion, it added. For Summit information and registration, please visit www.usaindiachamber.org or e-mail: info@usaindiachamber.org.