

US-India BioPharma & Healthcare Summit to highlight India's potential to become a biopharma innovation hub

Our News Bureau
Mumbai

USA-India Chamber of Commerce (USAIC), a bilateral Chamber of Commerce is organising the annual US-India BioPharma and Healthcare Summit on June 23, 2011 at Hyatt Cambridge, Massachusetts, US.

The Summit will focus on overcoming the barriers to building collaborative partnerships between the Indian and global companies.

Panel discussions and keynotes will cover drug discovery and development, restructuring R&D to maximise productivity and innovation, pre-competitive alliances, industry-academic partnerships, clinical research, funding innovation and cross border M&A trends.

USAIC's annual Summit is not a line-up of company representatives showcasing what they've already done. Instead, senior decision-makers engage in candid dialogue.

There is real back-and-forth about potential opportunities and practical strategies. This interactive structure, including focussed strategy sessions, brings participants back to the conference each year.

USAIC has an outstanding advisory board of key global R&D leaders, academicians and venture capitalists who are passionate about innovation in biopharma and healthcare. Annual R&D budget of the advisory board members is more than \$25 billion.

"Our annual Summit is a purpose driven initiative to foster innovation and partnerships in the global biopharma industry," said Karun Rishi, President, USAIC. "We want to integrate India into the global drug discovery and development process. How can India fit into this evolving strategy and how can sustainable innovation be achieved?," asked Rishi.

Dr Mikael Dolsten, Global Head, R&D, Pfizer and an Advisory Board Member added, "Biopharma and biotech companies have a strong interest in the continued growth of India's innovative drug research industry—to improve public health in India and the world. Pfizer has a global network of academic alliances and strategic partnerships, including collaborations with several Indian biopharma companies and CROs, to accelerate our delivery of differentiated medicines. This Summit,

organised by the USAIC, by connecting companies with high quality drug designers and developers in India, is valuable to the industry and to patients."

"For the last five years, I have observed the annual US-India BioPharma and Healthcare Summit play a significant role in forging partnerships between the global biopharma and Indian companies. USAIC has been able to involve and engage global biopharma R&D leaders and key stakeholders to foster innovation. These interactions have led to innovative business ideas, new partnerships and business," said Hari Bhartia, an Advisory Board Member and Co-Chairman, Jubilant Life Sciences.

"The innovation-driven ecosystem fostered by the USA-India Chamber of Commerce USAIC has led to meaningful research and technology partnerships between global and Indian companies. I have been involved with this platform for the last few years and it is a great feeling to see it evolve as the Summit of Choice for global research and technology leaders and investors," said KV Subramaniam, Advisory Board member and Chief Executive Officer, Reliance Life Sciences.

Srikant Jena, Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilisers said in a statement, "Major global pharma companies are looking at India seriously with a huge market potential. I hope the leadership of these companies will also look at India as a strategic partner for their global drug discovery and development initiatives. We have seen the USAIC's annual Summit making immense contributions by bringing the key global biopharma industry and Indian stakeholders together. I look forward to receiving recommendations deliberated at the annual Summit."

Dr Naresh Trehan, Advisory Board Member of the USAIC and Chairman, Medanta - The Medicity added, "Global partnerships are vital for the future of medicine. India can be a key partner in safe and rapid development of therapies targeted at significant health problems. These partnerships can produce research that will enable development of drugs and devices to improve health around the world."

Boston Consulting Group is the Knowledge Partner for the Summit. Regarding BCG's involvement in the conference, Bart Janssens, a partner in BCG's Mumbai office stated, "We're thrilled to be working with the USAIC on this important topic. We hope the perspectives we bring to the conference will help fuel candid debate and discussion among senior decision-makers regarding the potential opportunities and practical strategies for international R&D collaborations." ■

Some members of the advisory board



Karun Rishi
President
USAIC



Hari Bhartia
Co-Chairman
Jubilant Life Sciences



KV Subramaniam
Chief Executive Officer
Reliance Life Sciences



Dr Mikael Dolsten
Global Head, R&D
Pfizer



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