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01 August 2014 | News | By BioSpectrum Bureau

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Announcing the appointment, Dr Y K Hamied, chairman, Cipla, said, "Mr Zainulbhai's 30 plus years of experience across various industries in India and the world will add a valuable perspective to our board of directors. We warmly welcome him onboard and look forward to his contribution."

Mr Adil Zainulbhai retired as chairman of McKinsey India after a distinguished career, and was consulting for Indian corporations and their boards.

He spent 24 years in the United States where he led McKinsey's Washington Office and founded the Minneapolis office before returning to India.

On the occasion, Mr Zainulbhai said, "Cipla has had a huge impact in providing affordable pharmaceuticals to the world while building a strong company. I look forward to helping Cipla become even more successful."

Mr Zainulbhai counsels the CEOs and promoters of large companies in a range of industries and has helped several such companies become global leaders.

He works closely with government leaders to drive growth, raise living standards, strengthen key sectors of the economy and improve healthcare, education, and welfare.

Recently, he co-edited the book, 'Reimagining India: Unlocking the potential of Asia's next superpower', a seminal publication of 65 essays from leading thinkers around the world to explore the challenges and opportunities facing the country.

Mr Zainulbhai grew up in Mumbai and graduated in mechanical engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT). He also has an MBA from Harvard Business School.

Also, he serves as independent director on boards of Reliance Industries, Larsen & Toubro and Network 18 and on boards of numerous non-profit organizations.