ICC Board Members' Biographies





Appointed Lord Bilimoria of Chelsea in 2006, Karan is the first ever Zoroastrian Parsi to sit in the House of Lords. In 2008 he was awarded the Pravasi Bharti Samman by the President of India.

Karan Bilimoria is the founder of Cobra Beer, Chairman of the Cobra Beer Partnership Limited, a Joint Venture with Molson Coors, and Chairman of Molson Coors Cobra India. He qualified as a Chartered Accountant with Ernst & Young and graduated in law from the University of Cambridge. He is also an alumnus through executive education at the Cranfield School of Management, the London Business School and Harvard Business School.

Karan was a former Senior Non-Executive Director of Tesco plc. In June 2020, he was appointed President of the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) for a two-year term, and he is now Vice President until June 2023. Lord Bilimoria is the Founding Chairman of the UK India Business Council and a founding member of the Prime Minister of India's Global Advisory Council.

In July 2014, he was installed as the seventh Chancellor of the University of Birmingham, making him the first Indian-born Chancellor of a Russell Group University in Great Britain. He is the President of the UK Council for International Students Affairs (UKCISA) and one of the first two visiting entrepreneurs at the University of Cambridge.

He is an Honorary Fellow of Sidney Sussex College Cambridge, and was Chair of the Advisory Board of the Judge Business School, Cambridge University from 2015-2020 and subsequently appointed as an Honorary Ambassador. Since 2017 Lord Bilimoria has been a Bynum Tudor Fellow at Kellogg College, University of Oxford In September 2020, he was appointed as a Visiting Fellow at the University of Oxford based at the Centre for Corporate Reputation