

Arif Naqvi was born on 13 July 1960, established The Abraaj Group in 2002 and has served as its Group Chief Executive since inception, building it into one of the leading private equity firms in the world. He is the Chair of the Global Investment Committee at the Firm.

Professional career

Abraaj is widely recognized as a pioneer of global growth markets investing with over 20 country offices including five regional hubs in Dubai, Istanbul, Mexico City, Nairobi and Singapore.

Mr. Naqvi has over three decades of experience of investing in public and private companies and has led the Group's investment strategy, resulting in some of the most notable private equity transactions across global growth markets over the last decade.

Mr. Naqvi is a Trustee of the Interpol Foundation, Board Member of the United Nations Global Compact, B Team Global Business Leader and Founding Commissioner at the Business and Sustainable Development Commission.

He is a Columbia Global Leadership Council member and an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Art in London.

Philanthropy

In October 2012, Naqvi and Bill Gates, Co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, signed a five-year framework agreement on family planning and health in Pakistan.[6]

In 2008, Naqvi and his family established the Aman Foundation, a local, not-for-profit trust in Pakistan, focusing on Health, Nutrition and Education.

Recognitions and Awards

In 2007, Arif Naqvi was granted the Sitara-i-Imtiaz by the Government of Pakistan, in recognition of his outstanding service in the field of public services.

In 2011, he was named as one of the 50 most influential people in the global private equity industry by Private Equity International.

In 2012, he was appointed to the Board of the United Nations Global Compact by UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

In 2014, Interpol Foundation for a Safer World appointed Naqvi to its Global Board of Trustees. In this role, Naqvi will lead the I-CHECKIT initiative, one of the Foundation's five global initiatives, aimed at protecting industries vulnerable to the threat of identity fraud, such as airlines, hotels, passenger shipping companies, banks and financial institutions.

In 2015, he was awarded with the BNP Paribas Grand Prix for Individual Philanthropy by BNP Paribas.

In 2014, he received the High-Impact Entrepreneur of the Year from Endeavor Global. He was also a recipient of the Kennedy Centre's Gold Medal in the Arts award.

In 2016, he joined The B Team, a global nonprofit initiative co-founded by Sir Richard Branson and Jochen Zeitz.

As of January 2016, he is on the Global Leadership Council of Columbia University, a Board Member of Endeavor Global, and is the Chair of the Middle East Centre Advisory Board of the London School of Economics and Political Science.

He is an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Art in London.

Naqvi has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Oslo Business for Peace Award from The Business for Peace Foundation, the highest form of recognition given to individual businessmen for fostering peace and stability.