



The European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Eighteenth Meeting of the Management Board**

The Management Board of the EMEA met on 3 June 1998 under the Chairmanship of Mr Strachan Heppell. The Board welcomed a new member from Belgium, Mr André Pauwels.

Most of the meeting was taken up with a 'brainstorming session' and given the nature of the topics, the meeting was extended to include heads of national agencies who are not members of the Management Board.

However, given the budgetary perspectives for 1998-1999, the Members of the Board also considered the impact of delays in the proposed fee reform, which will in particular result in lower than forecast fee revenue. The Board therefore decided to request an additional ECU 2 million from the EU budgetary authority to compensate for the shortfall in fee revenue, and adopted a supplementary and amending budget to take into account this demand. The overall budget total however remains unchanged at ECU 31.9 million.

The brainstorming session focused on a number of issues of importance to the EMEA and the European medicines authorisation system as a whole:

- continuing availability of essential veterinary medicines after 1 January 1999;
- framework for the review of the authorisation system in the year 2001 (including the criteria for evaluation); and
- the need for a more structured dialogue between EMEA, Commission and Member States in the authorisation system.

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#### **NOTES FOR EDITORS:**

1. The European Commission proposal for reform of fees payable to the EMEA is available from the European Commission [document reference COM(98) 21 final of 21.01.1998].
2. The next meeting of the Management Board will be held on 30 September 1998.
3. This press release, together with other information about the work of the EMEA, may be found on the Internet at the following location: <http://www.eudra.org/emea.html>

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