



London, 8 December 1995

PRESS RELEASE

Eighth Meeting of the Management Board

The Management Board of the European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products met on 6 December 1995 under the chairmanship of Mr Strachan Heppell and examined the following main issues :

- The Board approved the transfer of appropriations of the 1995 budget, allowing further investments mainly on information technology. The Board also approved the initial budget for 1996, amounting to ECU 23.8 million. Further adjustments may become necessary in 1996 depending on the final level of Community subsidy and on fee income.
- The Board discussed the EMEA 1995 annual report. This document will be submitted for consultation to the scientific committees (CPMP/CVMP), and will later be sent to the Member States, the European Commission and the European Parliament after its final adoption by the Board. The Board also agreed on an outline business plan for 1996, summarizing the general orientations for activities and workload in the coming year.
- Pending the adoption of Community legislation on orphan drugs, the Board considered a proposal of the Executive Director on fees waivers and reductions. It was confirmed that orphan drugs could qualify for waiver or reduction, subject to case by case review by the competent scientific committee, and that such activities would be financed up to the amount of the reserve of ECU 750 000 released by the European Parliament.
- The Board approved the general statement of principles governing the partnership between the EMEA and the national competent authorities of Member States and will further examine the standard contract to be concluded between the Agency and the national competent authority of the rapporteur.
- The Management Board noted progress reports from its two working groups which met on 5 December on "Performance indicators" and the "Contribution of the EMEA to public and animal health".
- The ninth meeting of the Board will be held on 6 March 1996.