



London, 6 June 1997

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Fourteenth Meeting of the Management Board**

The Management Board of the EMEA met on 4 June 1997 under the Chairmanship of Mr Strachan Heppell. Part of the meeting was given over to a 'brain-storming session', but various matters of business were also considered, including:

- *Budgetary matters*

Transfers of appropriations, totalling ECU 850 000, between different chapters of the 1997 budget were approved by the Board. These transfers, for operational expenses (e.g. rent, fitting-out and computer networks), are made necessary due to appreciation of the Pound Sterling in which expenditure is made over the ECU in which the EMEA revenue is received.

The Board was concerned to hear of a proposed reduction, in the Preliminary Draft Budget of the Community for 1998, of the Agency's subsidy from ECU 14 million to ECU 12 million, and hoped that this could be redressed by Council and European Parliament during the budgetary procedure.

- *Information technology*

The compatibility of the planned new EMEA IT platform with its main partners (EU institutions, Member States, industry) was discussed in the light of a document on EMEA IT strategy.

- *Financial control of the EMEA*

The Board considered proposals for the re-organisation of the EMEA financial control function in consultation with the European Commission Financial Controller.

The 'brain-storming session' examined the regulatory challenges facing the EMEA for the millennium for both human and veterinary medicines, and the role of information technology and quality standards in modern management. It is envisaged to organise a workshop on transparency and access to documents of the EMEA later this year.

The next meeting of the Management Board will be held on 1 October 1997.

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>