



European Medicines Agency
Press office

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PRESS RELEASE

New Management Board elects its chairman and approves composition of new scientific committees

Following the entry into force of parts of the new EU pharmaceutical legislation on 20 May 2004, the new Management Board of the European Medicines Agency (EMA) held an extraordinary meeting on 24 May 2004.

Meeting in its new composition for the first time, the Management Board elected Prof. Hannes Wahlroos (Finland) as chairman and re-elected Dr Jytte Lyngvig (Denmark) as vice-chairman.

The new 33-member Management Board has one representative per Member State, two representatives of the European Parliament and two representatives of the Commission. The revised legislation also adds for the first time, two consumer representatives and two representatives of health care professionals (one for doctors and one for veterinarians). The Council will nominate these after consultation with the European Parliament later in 2004. The list of members is attached.

One of the new responsibilities of the Management Board is to be consulted on the composition of the Agency's Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) and Committee for Medicinal Products for Veterinary Use (CVMP). The Board gave its approval to the nominations proposed by the Member States. The final composition of the two scientific committees will be published once the nominations have been formally confirmed. The first meeting of the new CHMP will be on 1-3 June 2004 and of the new CVMP on 15-17 June 2004.

--ENDS--

NOTES:

1. The new EU pharmaceutical legislation Regulation (EC) No 726/2004 was published on 30 April 2004 (OJ L36, 30.4.2004, p. 1). Part of the Regulation came into force on 20 May 2004 and the remaining parts will come into force on 20 November 2005.
2. Prof. Hannes Wahlroos is a pharmacist. After having worked in several pharmacies and as researcher in the pharmaceutical industry, Prof. Wahlroos served with the Finnish National Board of Health as Inspector and later as Chief Inspector from 1979 to 1988. He was head of the pharmaceuticals department in the National Board of Social Affairs and Health before his appointment as Director-General of the Finnish National Agency for Medicines in 1993. He has served in a number of committees at national and international level, including as member and later chairman of the Nordic Medicines Council. Prof. Wahlroos has been a member of the Management Board since 1995.
3. Dr Jytte Lyngvig is a chemical engineer. Beginning as a lecturer at the Technical University of Denmark, she went on to work in the Danish Environment Ministry and later in the Copenhagen Agency of Environmental Protection. Dr Lyngvig has 12 years' private sector experience in the transport and consultancy industries and was appointed Chief Executive Office of the Danish Medicines Agency in 2000. She joined the EMA Management Board in the same year and was first elected vice-chairman in December 2003.
4. This press release, together with other information about the work of the EMA, may be found on the EMA web site at the following location: <http://www.emea.eu.int>
5. The next meeting of the Management Board is on 10 June 2004.

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Membership of the Management Board

Chairman	Hannes WAHLROOS
European Parliament	Gianmartino BENZI José Luis VALVERDE LÓPEZ
European Commission	Jean-Paul MINGASSON Fernand SAUER
Belgium	Johan VAN CALSTER
Czech Republic	Milan ŠMÍD
Denmark	Jytte LYNGVIG (<i>Vice-chairman</i>)
Germany	Walter SCHWERDTFEGER
Estonia	Kristin RAUDSEPP
Greece	<i>To be nominated</i>
Spain	Carlos LENS CABRERA
France	Philippe DUNETON
Ireland	Pat O'MAHONY
Italy	Nello MARTINI
Cyprus	Panayiota KOKKINO
Latvia	Jānis OZOLINŠ
Lithuania	Vytautas BASYS
Luxembourg	Mariette BACKES-LIES
Hungary	Tamás PAÁL
Malta	Patricia VELLA BONANNO
The Netherlands	Aginus KALIS
Austria	Robert SCHLÖGEL
Poland	Piotr BLASZCZYK
Portugal	Rui SANTOS IVO
Slovenia	Stanislav PRIMOŽIČ
Slovakia	Ludevit MARTINEC
Finland	Pekka JÄRVINEN ¹
Sweden	Gunnar ALVÁN
United Kingdom	Kent WOODS
Patient representatives	<i>Two members to be nominated</i>
Doctors' organisations representative	<i>To be nominated</i>
Veterinarians' organisations representative	<i>To be nominated</i>
Observers:	
Liechtenstein	Brigitte BATLINER
Iceland	Ingolf PETERSEN
Norway	Gro RAMSTEN WESENBERG

¹ Pekka Järvinen is the alternate member for Hannes Wahlroos.