



The European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products

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PRESS RELEASE

Seventeenth Meeting of the Management Board

The Management Board of the EMEA met on 19 February 1998 under the Chairmanship of Mr Strachan Heppell.

The Board adopted the EMEA Work programme for 1998/1999 (EMEA/MB/071/97-Rev.1). This document builds on previous programmes, setting clearer objectives for each operational sector of the EMEA and reinforcing links to resources. The programme also acknowledges the contribution of national competent authorities in the operation of the European authorisation system.

This document will shortly be available on the Internet and later published by the Office for Official Publications of the European Community.

Together with the work programme, the Board also adopted the preliminary draft budget for 1999, totalling ECU 41.35 million. This is made up of fee revenue of ECU 27 million and a contribution from the EU budget of ECU 14 million. Miscellaneous revenue (bank interest, etc) is expected of ECU 350 000. The preliminary draft budget also includes the staffing plan for 1999, with a maximum permitted ceiling of 203 staff posts (184 in 1998).

The work programme and budget are prepared on the assumption that the proposed fee reform is adopted by early 1998, which would only impact on the EMEA revenues in the second half of the year. Any delay in adopting the fee reform could lead to the Board looking again at the work programme and budget.

The Board noted a preliminary report following the round table on paediatric clinical trials held at the EMEA 18 December 1997. A final report will be considered by the Board at its 3 June 1998 meeting.

The Board also noted the final report from the ad hoc working group on herbal medicinal products (EMEA/adhocHMPWP/1116/97 and 1120/97). The report will now be released for a three-month consultation period with interested parties.

NOTES FOR EDITORS:

1. The European Commission proposal for reform of fees payable to the EMEA is available from the Commission [document reference COM(98) 21 final of 21.01.1998].
2. 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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