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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Tenth Meeting of the Management Board**

The Management Board of the European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products met on 2 July 1996 under the chairmanship of Mr Strachan Heppell and examined the following main issues :

- The Board welcomed the updated Rolling Work Programme setting out the priorities of the EMEA until the end of 1997. In addition, the Board underlined the significant contribution of national competent authorities to the success of the European registration system covering both the centralised and mutual recognition procedures.
- However, concern was expressed over the budgetary position of the EMEA for 1997 in the light of the current proposal for a European Union preliminary draft budget, indicating a reduced subsidy in 1997 of ECU 12 million (the 1996 subsidy is ECU 13.75 million).  
The Board will return to the EMEA's Work Programme again at its December meeting, when it will know how much the 1997 subsidy will be. The budgetary decision then may mean that the Board will have to review and prioritise again the activities of the Agency.
- The Board discussed the preliminary findings of a detailed survey on the costs incurred by both the national competent authorities and the EMEA secretariat for evaluation activities in the centralised procedure. The survey should be completed by the end of 1996. The results of the survey should provide a significant contribution to the preparation by the European Commission of a proposal for modifying Council Regulation on fees payable to the EMEA.
- Following the adoption at the December 1995 meeting of the Statement of Principles Governing the Partnership between the national competent authorities and the EMEA, Annexe II consisting of the standard contract to be concluded between the Agency and the national competent authorities for scientific evaluation services was discussed again. It will be brought forward for final adoption at the September meeting.
- The eleventh meeting of the Board will be held on 25 September 1996. The Board agreed that plenary sessions could, where appropriate, be preceded by informal sessions dedicated to in-depth discussions on specific topics.