The European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products
Directorate

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PRESS RELEASE
Thirtieth meeting of the Management Board

The EMEA Management Board met on 6 June 2001, chaired by Dr Keith Jones. Heads of EU agencies who are not members of the Board and heads of CADREAC authorities also attended the meeting.

The Board heard a progress report from the Working group on fees and costing meeting of 5 June 2001. On the basis of costing data from rapporteurs, co-rapporteurs and the EMEA, a report on experience with the current level and structure of fees will be presented to the Board at its next meeting. This will be the EMEA contribution to the revision of the fee system, expected to be proposed by the Commission at the end of 2001.

The Board and heads of agencies from CADREAC authorities welcomed the announcement of the signature of the contract for the second Pan-European Regulatory Forum ('PERF II'). PERF is funded from the European Commission PHARE programme and is part of the pre-accession strategy for central and eastern European countries. Details of the programme will be finalised at the end of June.

A proposal for the involvement of EMEA in a Community-wide strategic IT plan for pharmaceuticals was presented by the European Commission. The Board agreed that it was appropriate that the EMEA should act as the future focus of this system (from 2003) provided that adequate resources are made available.

The Executive Director gave progress reports on a number of ongoing management projects, including the establishment of performance indicators and a benchmarking exercise comparing EMEA performance against that of other regulatory agencies.

The Board noted the status of a number of other matters, including

- progress in demonstrating compliance of centrally authorised medicines with the European guidelines on minimising risk of transmission of TSE. At the time of the meeting appropriate documentation had been received for all 84 human medicines products concerned and procedures had been completed in 55 cases. For veterinary medicines, procedures were underway for 9 of the 10 products concerned.
- implementation of EMEA transparency policy, including the publication of summaries of CPMP opinions at the time of adoption and proposals for the publication of summaries on the designation of orphan medicinal products from October 2001.
- publication of a number of EMEA recruitment competitions, including posts for heads of sector for pharmacovigilance, for scientific advice and orphan drugs, and for inspections. Other posts include establishment of reserve lists for scientific administrators.

The next meeting of the Management Board will be on 4 October 2001.

NOTES:
1. This press release, together with other information about the work of the EMEA, may be found on the new EMEA web site at the following location: *http://www.emea.eu.int*
2. The first PERF programme was held in 1999-2000 and details can be found on its dedicated web site *http://perf.eudra.org*. The PHARE web site *http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/pas/phare.htm* gives more details on the objectives and mechanisms of the programme.

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