



The European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products

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PRESS RELEASE

Twenty-first meeting of the Management Board

The Management Board of the EMEA met on 10 February 1999 under the chairmanship of Mr Strachan Heppell.

The Board adopted the EMEA work programme for 1999-2000. One of the main elements of the programme is the increasing importance of post-authorisation surveillance in the workload of the Agency as the stock of centrally authorised medicinal products increases. The programme also highlights the need to better identify costs of the operation of the centralised procedure and the way in which different activities are funded.

Together with the work programme, the Board also adopted the preliminary draft budget for 2000, totalling EUR 50.359 million. This is made up of fee revenue of EUR 34.765 million and a contribution from the EU budget of EUR 14 million. Miscellaneous revenue (bank interest, administrative charges) is expected of EUR 1 594 000. The preliminary draft budget also includes the staffing plan for 2000, with a maximum permitted ceiling of 210 staff posts (203 in 1999).

Following the adoption of the new fee regulation in December 1998, the Board finalised its discussion on the distribution of fees in 1999 between EMEA and national competent authorities, in particular for annual fees. The Board also adopted implementing rules and charges for a range of service activities offered by the EMEA, including scientific advice and notifications for parallel distribution.

The Board agreed that the working group on fees and costing should continue to meet at least two more times before the end of the year to examine the question of costing the activities of the EMEA and national competent authorities.

Further to a report on the activities in 1997-1998 of the ad hoc EMEA working group on herbal medicinal products, the Board endorsed a mandate for the group to become a permanent working party of the EMEA. The report and mandate will be made available on the EMEA Internet site.

The Board noted that Dr Martin Bangemann, Member of the European Commission, will conduct a third audit of the European marketing authorisation system on 19 March 1999 at the EMEA.

The next meeting of the Management Board will be held on 2 June 1999, to which heads of national agencies that are not members of the Board will also be invited.

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NOTES FOR EDITORS:

1. The work programme will shortly be available on the EMEA website and later published by the Office for Official Publications of the European Community
2. The new regulation was adopted by Council of the European Union on 12 December 1998 and came into force on 21 December 1998. It is published in the Official Journal at OJ L 345, 19.12.1998, p.3 and can also be found on the EudraLex website at: <http://dg3.eudra.org>
3. 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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