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P5\_TA(2002)0504

## European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products \*\*\*I

**European Parliament legislative resolution on the proposal for a European Parliament and Council regulation laying down Community procedures for the authorisation and supervision of medicinal products for human and veterinary use and establishing a European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products (COM(2001) 404 – C5-0591/2001 – 2001/0252(COD))**

(Codecision procedure: first reading)

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the Commission proposal to the European Parliament and the Council (COM(2001) 404) <sup>(1)</sup>,
- having regard to Article 251(2), Article 152(4)(b) and Article 95 of the EC Treaty, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C5-0591/2001),
- having regard to Rule 67 of its Rules of Procedure,
- having regard to the report of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Policy and the opinions of the Committee on Budgets, the Committee on Budgetary Control, the Committee on Industry, External Trade, Research and Energy and the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (A5-0330/2002),

1. Approves the Commission proposal as amended;
2. Asks to be consulted again should the Commission intend to amend the proposal substantially or replace it with another text;
3. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council and Commission.

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ C 75 E, 26.3.2002, p. 189.

**P5\_TC1-COD(2001)0252**

**Position of the European Parliament adopted at first reading on 23 October 2002 with a view to the adoption of European Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) No .../2002 laying down Community procedures for the authorisation and supervision of medicinal products for human and veterinary use and establishing a European Medicinal Products Agency**

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 95 and Article 152(4)(b) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission <sup>(1)</sup>,

Having regard to the Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee <sup>(2)</sup>,

Having regard to the Opinion of the Committee of the Regions <sup>(3)</sup>,

In accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 251 of the Treaty <sup>(4)</sup>,

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ C 75 E, 26.3.2002, p. 189.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ C ...

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ C ...

<sup>(4)</sup> *Position of the European Parliament of 23 October 2002.*

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Whereas:

- (1) Council Regulation (EEC) No 2309/93 of 22 July 1993 laying down Community procedures for the authorisation and supervision of medicinal products for human and veterinary use and establishing a European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products<sup>(1)</sup> provides, in Article 71, that within six years of the entry into force of the Regulation the Commission is to publish a general report on the experience acquired as a result of the operation of the procedures laid down in the Regulation.
- (2) In the light of the Commission's report<sup>(2)</sup> on the experience gained, it has proved necessary to improve the operation of the authorisation procedures for the placing of medicinal products on the market in the Community and to amend certain administrative aspects of the *European Medicinal Products Agency*.
- (3) It emerges from the conclusions of that report that the amendments to be made to the centralised procedure set up by Regulation (EEC) No 2309/93 consist of corrections to some of the operating procedures and adaptations to take account of the probable development of science and technology and the future enlargement of the European Union. It also emerges from the report that the general principles previously established which govern the centralised procedure should be maintained.
- (4) Moreover, since the European Parliament and the Council have adopted Directive 2001/83/EC of 6 November 2001 on the Community code relating to medicinal products for human use<sup>(3)</sup> and Directive 2001/82/EC of 6 November 2001 on the Community code relating to veterinary medicinal products<sup>(4)</sup>, the updating of all the references contained in Regulation (EEC) No 2309/93 to the codified directives has to be undertaken.
- (5) For the sake of clarity, it is necessary to replace the said Regulation with a new regulation.
- (6) It is appropriate to preserve the Community mechanism, set up by the repealed Community legislation, for concertation prior to any national decision relating to a high-technology medicinal product.
- (7) Experience gained since the adoption of Council Directive 87/22/EEC of 22 December 1986<sup>(5)</sup> has shown that it is necessary to create a centralised authorisation procedure that is compulsory for high-technology medicinal products, particularly those resulting from biotechnical processes, in order to maintain the high level of scientific evaluation of these medicinal products in the European Union and thus to preserve the confidence of patients and the medical professions in the evaluation. This is particularly important in the context of the emergence of new therapies, such as gene therapy and associated cell therapies, and xenogenic somatic therapy. This approach should be maintained, particularly with a view to ensuring the effective operation of the internal market in the pharmaceutical sector.
- (8) With a view to harmonising the internal market for new medicinal products, this procedure should also be made compulsory for any medicinal product which is intended to be administered to humans or animals and contains an entirely new active substance, that is, one that has not yet been authorised in the Community. ***Provision should be made in this context for a derogation for small and medium-sized enterprises so that the cost of marketing the medicinal products developed by these enterprises can be kept within reasonable bounds.***
- (9) As regards medicinal products for human use, optional access to the centralised procedure should also be provided for in cases where use of a single procedure produces added value for the patient. This procedure should remain optional for medicinal products which, although not belonging to the abovementioned categories, are nevertheless a therapeutic innovation. It is also appropriate to allow access to this procedure for medicinal products which, although not innovative, may be of benefit to society or to patients if they are authorised from the outset at Community level, such as ***herbal***

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 214, 24.8.1993, p. 1; Regulation as amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 649/98 (OJ L 88, 24.3.1998, p. 7).

<sup>(2)</sup> COM(2001)606 final.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ L 311, 28.11.2001, p. 67.

<sup>(4)</sup> OJ L 311, 28.11.2001, p. 1.

<sup>(5)</sup> OJ L 15, 17.1.1987, p. 38; Directive repealed by Directive 93/41/EEC (OJ L 214, 24.8.1993, p. 40).

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**medicinal products and** certain medicinal products which cannot be supplied without a medical prescription. This option may be extended to generic medicinal products authorised by the Community, provided that this in no way undermines either the harmonisation achieved when the reference medicinal products were evaluated or the results of that evaluation.

- (10) In the field of veterinary medicinal products, administrative measures should be provided for in order to take account of the specific features of this field, particularly those due to the regional distribution of certain diseases. **The Commission should draw up, as a matter of urgency, a specific regulation aimed at resolving the problems concerning the availability of medicinal products for veterinary use and should in particular introduce a policy for 'orphan' medicinal products for veterinary use analogous to that established for human medicinal products by Regulation (EC) No 141/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 1999 on orphan medicinal products<sup>(1)</sup>, implemented through Commission Regulation (EC) No 847/2000<sup>(2)</sup>. Such a Regulation should create the necessary mechanisms to ensure that all needs are covered by at least two therapeutic alternatives in the European Union, with the objective of guaranteeing both competition and the diversity of available protection options and thereby preventing the emergence of resistance. The Commission should submit a proposal within six months after the adoption of the present Regulation.** The field of application of the centralised procedure should also include medicinal products used within the framework of Community provisions regarding prophylactic measures for epizootic diseases.
- (11) In the interest of public health, it is necessary that authorisation decisions under the centralised procedure be taken on the basis of the objective scientific criteria of quality, **safety, efficacy and added therapeutic value (as referred to by the Council in its conclusions of 29 June 2000)** of the medicinal product concerned, to the exclusion of economic and other considerations. However, **medicinal products should be authorised only if the underlying clinical trials meet the ethical requirements of Directive 2001/20/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 April 2001 on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to the implementation of good clinical practice in the conduct of clinical trials on medicinal products for human use<sup>(3)</sup>, and the Member States should be able exceptionally to prohibit the use on their territory of medicinal products for human use which infringe further** objectively defined concepts of public policy and public morality. Moreover, a veterinary medicinal product may not be authorised by the Community if its use would contravene the rules laid down by the Community within the framework of the common agricultural policy.
- (12) Provision should be made whereby the quality, safety and efficacy criteria provided for by Directives 2001/83/EC and 2001/82/EC apply to medicinal products authorised by the Community. **The same criteria should also apply to medicinal products intended for paediatric use. It is essential for such medicinal products to have been evaluated in children before being authorised. Medicinal products which have already been authorised and are intended for children must be subject to subsequent evaluation.**
- (13) **In order to ensure maximum safety and efficacy with respect to the administration of medicinal products for children, as well, in future, all medicinal products which might be useful for children must be tested with regard to their administration to children respecting the criteria laid down in Directive 2001/20/EC and particular incentives should be created for research into special paediatric medicinal products. In addition, an incentive should be created to test medicinal products already long-established for adult use for their subsequent use by children.**
- (14) **The Community is required, pursuant to Article 178 of the Treaty, to take account of the development policy aspects of any measure and to promote the creation of conditions fit for human beings worldwide. Pharmaceutical law should ensure that only efficacious, safe and top quality medicinal products are exported, and create further incentives to carry out research into medicinal products against widespread tropical diseases.**

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 18, 22.1.2000, p. 1.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 103, 28.4.2000, p. 5.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ L 121, 1.5.2001, p. 34.

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- (15) **Regulation (EC) No 141/2000 provides good incentives for the development of medicinal products against rare diseases which occur in the EU since it provides for an exclusive marketing period for such medicinal products. It cannot, however, offer an incentive for developing tropical medicinal products since they can almost only be used outside the EU and it is therefore of no significance how long a firm may market such a product exclusively within the EU. The Commission should consider whether transferring the patent or data protection from a tropical medicinal product to another medicinal product marketed in the EU is an appropriate means of creating financial compensation for expenditure on research into the development of medicines to treat tropical diseases.**
- (16) **Article 3(2) of the Treaty obliges the Community to recognise and integrate gender aspects in all policy areas. For pharmaceutical legislation, this means that differences between the sexes in terms of the efficacy and safety of medicinal products should be evaluated in clinical trials and patients informed of the results. The Commission should adapt the technical guidelines for applicants and holders of marketing authorisations accordingly.**
- (17) The Community should have the means to carry out a scientific assessment of the medicinal products presented in accordance with the centralised Community authorisation procedures. Moreover, with a view to ensuring the effective harmonisation of administrative decisions taken by Member States with regard to medicinal products presented in accordance with centralised authorisation procedures, it is necessary to endow the Community with the means to resolve disagreements between Member States concerning the quality, safety and efficacy of medicinal products.
- (18) **The entire body of legislation relating to medicinal products involves matters relating to public health.**
- (19) It is thus appropriate to establish a *European Medicinal Products Agency* (hereinafter referred to as the 'Agency').
- (20) The structure and operation of the set of bodies making up the Agency should be designed in such a way as to take into account the need constantly to renew scientific expertise, the need for cooperation between Community and national institutions, the need for adequate representation of civil society, and the future enlargement of the European Union.
- (21) The chief task of the Agency should be to provide Community institutions and Member States with the best possible scientific opinions so as to enable them to exercise the powers regarding the authorisation and supervision of medicinal products conferred on them by Community legislation in the field of medicinal products. Only after a single scientific evaluation procedure addressing the quality, safety and efficacy of high-technology medicinal products has been conducted by the Agency, applying the highest possible standards, should marketing authorisation be granted by the Community, by means of a rapid procedure ensuring close cooperation between the Commission and Member States.
- (22) **The Agency should test a pilot project for prior certification of the test protocol for clinical trials. For this purpose, enterprises should submit their test plans before the start of the trials and receive confirmation from the Agency that they are methodically sound and will not be rejected by the Agency when subsequently submitted in an application for authorisation.**
- (23) In order to ensure close cooperation between the Agency and the scientists operating in Member States, provision should be made so that the Management Board is composed in such a way as to guarantee that the competent authorities of the Member States are closely involved in the overall management of the Community system for authorising medicinal products by creating an Advisory Board responsible to the Executive Director of the Agency.
- (24) **The Agency's budget should be composed of fees paid by the private sector and contributions paid out of the Community budget to implement Community policies. The core tasks of the Agency should be entirely covered by the Community budget.**

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- (25) **Point 25 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 6 May 1999 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and improvement of the budgetary procedure<sup>(1)</sup> provides that the Financial Perspective will be adjusted in order to cover the expenditure requirements resulting from enlargement.**
- (26) Exclusive responsibility for preparing the Agency's opinions on all questions concerning medicinal products for human use should be vested in a Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use. As far as veterinary medicinal products are concerned, such responsibility should be vested in a Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products. As regards orphan medicinal products, the task should fall to the Committee on Orphan Medicinal Products set up under Regulation (EC) No 141/2000. Lastly, as regards herbal medicinal products, this responsibility should be vested in the Committee on Herbal Medicinal Products set up under Directive 2001/83/EC.
- (27) The creation of the Agency will make it possible to reinforce the scientific role and independence of the committees, particularly through the setting-up of a permanent technical and administrative secretariat.
- (28) The field of activity of the Scientific Committees should be enlarged and their operating methods and composition modernised. Scientific advice for future applicants seeking marketing authorisation should be provided more generally and in greater depth. Similarly, structures allowing **for** the development of advice for companies — **especially small and medium-sized undertakings** — should be put in place. The Committees should be able to delegate some of their evaluation duties to standing working parties open to experts from the scientific world appointed for this purpose, whilst retaining total responsibility for the scientific opinions issued. The appeal procedures should be amended to provide a better guarantee for applicants' rights.
- (29) The number of members of the Scientific Committees participating in the centralised procedure should be established with a view to ensuring that the Committees remain of efficient size after the enlargement of the Union.
- (30) It is also necessary to reinforce the role of the Scientific Committees in such a way as to enable the Agency to have an active presence in the context of the international scientific dialogue and to develop certain activities that will be necessary, in particular regarding international scientific harmonisation and technical cooperation with the World Health Organisation.
- (31) Furthermore, in order to create greater legal certainty it is necessary to define the responsibilities regarding the transparency rules for the Agency's work, to set certain conditions for the marketing of medicinal products authorised by the Community, to confer on the Agency powers to monitor the distribution of medicinal products authorised by the Community and to specify the sanctions and the procedures for implementing them in the case of failure to observe the provisions of this Regulation and the conditions contained in the authorisations issued under the procedures it establishes.
- (32) It is also necessary to take measures for the supervision of medicinal products authorised by the Community, and in particular for the intensive supervision of *adverse reactions* to these medicinal products within the framework of Community pharmacovigilance activities, so as to ensure the rapid withdrawal from the market of any medicinal product presenting **a negative risk/benefit balance** under normal conditions of use.
- (33) In order to enhance the efficiency of market surveillance, the Agency should be responsible for coordinating Member States' pharmacovigilance activities. A number of provisions need to be introduced to put in place stringent and efficient pharmacovigilance procedures, to allow the competent authority to take provisional emergency measures, including the introduction of amendments to the marketing authorisation and, finally, to permit a reassessment to be made at any time of the risk/benefit balance of a medicinal product.
- (34) It is also appropriate to entrust the Commission, in close cooperation with the Agency and after consultations with the Member States, with the task of coordinating the execution of the various supervisory responsibilities vested in the Member States, and in particular with the tasks of providing information on medicinal products, and of checking the observance of good manufacturing, laboratory and clinical practices.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ C 172, 18.6.1999, p. 1.

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- (35) It is necessary to provide for the coordinated implementation of Community procedures for the authorisation of medicinal products, and of the national procedures of Member States which have already been broadly harmonised by Directives 2001/83/EC and 2001/82/EC. It is appropriate that the operation of the procedures laid down by this Regulation be reexamined by the Commission every ten years on the basis of experience gained.
- (36) In order to meet, in particular, the legitimate expectations of patients and to take account of the increasingly rapid progress of science and therapies, accelerated assessment procedures should be set up, reserved for medicinal products of major therapeutic interest, and procedures for obtaining temporary authorisations subject to certain annually reviewable conditions. In the field of medicinal products for human use, a common approach should also be followed, whenever possible, regarding the criteria and conditions for the compassionate use of new medicinal products under Member States' legislation.
- (37) In line with the current provisions of Directives 2001/83/EC and 2001/82/EC, the term of validity of a Community marketing authorisation **for new medicinal products** should be **limited initially to five years**. Furthermore, any authorisation not used for two consecutive years, that is to say, one which has not led to the placing on the market of a medicinal product in the Community during that period, should be considered invalid, in order, in particular, to avoid the administrative burden linked to maintaining such authorisations.
- (38) Environmental risks may arise from medicinal products containing or consisting of genetically modified organisms. It is thus necessary to subject such products to an environmental risk-assessment procedure similar to the procedure under Directive 2001/18/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 March 2001 on the deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms and repealing Council Directive 90/220/EEC<sup>(1)</sup>, to be conducted in parallel with the evaluation, under a single Community procedures, of the quality, safety and efficacy of the product concerned.
- (39) Council Directive 89/105/EEC of 21 December 1988 relating to the transparency of measures regulating the prices of medicinal products for human use and their inclusion in the scope of national health insurance systems<sup>(2)</sup> provides for rapid patient access to new medicinal products, fixing the maximum duration of negotiations on prices and reimbursement at 180 days. In practice, these rules are not always observed. The Commission should submit as soon as possible a report on the implementation of that Directive, and proposals for its revision and enforcement.**
- (40) Since most of the measures necessary for the implementation of this Regulation are measures of individual scope, they should be adopted by use of the advisory procedure provided for in Article 3 of Council Decision 1999/468/EC of 28 June 1999 laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission<sup>(3)</sup>, or else by use of the management procedure provided for under Article 4 of that Decision. In respect of measures of general scope within the meaning of Article 2 of that Decision, they should be adopted by use of the regulatory procedure provided for in Article 5 of that Decision,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

#### TITLE I

#### DEFINITIONS AND SCOPE

#### Article 1

The purpose of this Regulation is to lay down Community procedures for the authorisation, supervision and pharmacovigilance of medicinal products for human and veterinary use, and to establish a *European Medicinal Products Agency* (hereinafter referred to as 'the Agency').

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 106, 17.4.2001, p 1; Directive last amended by Regulation (EC) No .../2002 of ... [concerning traceability and labelling of genetically modified organisms and traceability of food and feed products produced from genetically modified organisms].

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 40, 11.2.1989, p. 8.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ L 184, 17.7.1999, p. 23.

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The provisions of this Regulation shall not affect the powers of the Member States' authorities as regards setting the prices of medicinal products or their inclusion in the scope of the national health system or social security schemes on the basis of health, economic and social conditions. In particular, Member States shall be free to choose from the particulars shown in the marketing authorisation those therapeutic indications and pack sizes which will be covered by their social security bodies.

#### Article 2

**Generic medicinal products must be identified in all Member States with the same denomination of the internationally approved chemical name of the active substances and the name of the producer.**

#### Article 3

The definitions laid down in Article 1 of Directive 2001/83/EC and those laid down in Article 1 of Directive 2001/82/EC shall apply for the purposes of this Regulation.

The holder of a marketing authorisation for the medicinal products covered by this Regulation should be established in the Community. The holder shall be responsible for placing those medicinal products on the market. **He may use a local representative as defined in Directive 2001/83/EC.**

**An evaluation of the positive effects of the medicinal product must be undertaken in relation to the risk of negative effects of the product on the user's health, on public health, or on the environment.**

#### Article 4

1. No medicinal product appearing in Annex I may be placed on the market within the Community unless a marketing authorisation has been granted by the Community in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation.

2. Any medicinal product not appearing in Annex I may be granted a marketing authorisation by the Community in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation, provided that the applicant shows that the medicinal product is a significant therapeutic, scientific or technical innovation or that the granting of authorisation in accordance with this Regulation is of interest to patients or to animal health at Community level.

Immunological veterinary medicinal products for the treatment of animal diseases subject to Community prophylactic measures may also be granted such authorisation.

3. A generic form of a medicinal product authorised by the Community may be authorised by the competent authorities of the Member States in accordance with Directive 2001/83/EC and Directive 2001/82/EC under the following conditions:

- (a) the application for authorisation is submitted in accordance with Article 10 of Directive 2001/83/EC or Article 13 of Directive 2001/82/EC;
- (b) the summary of the characteristics of the product is in all respects consistent with that of the medicinal product authorised by the Community — **except where those parts of the summary of characteristics would still be covered by patent law at the time the generic medicine was marketed;** and
- (c) the generic medicinal product is authorised under the same name in all the Member States where the application has been made. **For the purpose of this Regulation and Directives 2001/83/EC and 2001/82/EC all the linguistic versions of the INN (international non-proprietary name) are deemed to be the same.**

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4. After consulting the competent committee of the Agency set up under *Article 58*, Annex I may be re-examined in the light of technical and scientific progress, with a view to making any necessary amendments. Such amendments shall be adopted according to the procedure referred to in *Article 89(2)*.

#### Article 5

1. In order to obtain the marketing authorisation referred to in *Article 4*, an application shall be submitted to the Agency.
2. The Community shall issue and supervise marketing authorisations for medicinal products for human use in accordance with Title II.
3. The Community shall issue and supervise marketing authorisations for medicinal products for veterinary use in accordance with Title III.

### TITLE II

#### AUTHORISATION AND SUPERVISION OF MEDICINAL PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN USE

#### CHAPTER 1

##### SUBMISSION AND EXAMINATION OF APPLICATIONS – AUTHORISATIONS

#### Article 6

1. A Committee for Human Medicinal Products is hereby established. The Committee shall be part of the Agency.
2. Without prejudice to *Article 59* or to other tasks which Community law may confer on it, the Committee for Human Medicinal Products shall be responsible for formulating the opinion of the Agency on any matter concerning the admissibility of the files submitted in accordance with the centralised procedure, the granting, variation, suspension or withdrawal of an authorisation to place a medicinal product for human use on the market in accordance with the provisions of this Title and pharmacovigilance.
3. At the request of the Executive Director of the Agency or the Commission representative, the Committee for Human Medicinal Products shall also draw up an opinion on any scientific matter concerning the evaluation of medicinal products for human use. ***The Committee shall also formulate an opinion whenever there is disagreement in the assessment of medicinal product through the mutual recognition procedure. Opinions shall be accessible on the Internet, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents<sup>(1)</sup>.***

#### Article 7

1. Each application for authorisation for a medicinal product for human use shall specifically include all the information and documents referred to in Articles 8(3), 10a and 11 of Directive 2001/83/EC, and Annex I thereto. ***The documents must include a confirmation that the clinical trials conducted with regard to the medicinal product comply with the ethical requirements of Directive 2001/20/EC. As a rule, that will exclude the recognition of clinical trials carried out in developing countries, unless the medicinal product concerned is primarily geared to the domestic market in that country.*** The information and documents are to take account of ***the Community*** nature of the authorisation requested, and, ***except in justified cases***, of the use of a single name for the medicinal product.

The application shall be accompanied by the fee payable to the Agency for the examination of the application. ***The application may include in the expert report a comparison of the new medicinal product with previously authorised medicinal products for the same indications with regard to its efficacy, adverse reactions and simplicity of administration.***

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43.



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***If the new medicinal product submitted for authorisation is intended for paediatric use, the application must state that it has been tested for suitability for children by being subjected to the necessary clinical trials to verify its quality, safety and efficacy.***

***2. The application must show that the medicinal product has also been screened for its suitability for the treatment of tropical diseases, as well as the result of the screening.***

3. In the case of a medicinal product for human use containing or consisting of genetically modified organisms within the meaning of Article 2 of Directive 2001/18/EC, the application shall be accompanied by:

- (a) a copy of the the competent authorities' written consent to the deliberate release into the environment of the genetically modified organisms for research and development purposes where provided for in Part B of Directive 2001/18/EC;
- (b) the complete technical dossier supplying the information required by Annexes III and IV to Directive 2001/18/EC;
- (c) the environmental risk assessment in accordance with the principles set out in Annex II to Directive 2001/18/EC; and
- (d) the results of any investigations performed for the purposes of research or development.

Articles 13 to 24 of Directive 2001/18/EC shall not apply to veterinary medicinal products containing or consisting of genetically modified organisms.

4. The Agency shall ensure that the opinion of the Committee for Human Medicinal Products is given within 210 days of the receipt of a valid application.

***The duration of the analysis of the scientific data in the file concerning the application for marketing authorisation must be at least 80 days, except in cases where the rapporteur and co-rapporteur declare that they have completed their assessment before that time.***

***On the basis of a duly reasoned request the Committee for Human Medicinal Products may call for the duration of the analysis of the scientific data in the file concerning the application for marketing authorisation to be extended. That request must stipulate the additional length of time needed for the analysis of the scientific data in the file concerning the application for marketing authorisation to be carried out successfully.***

***The request must be drawn up at least 15 days before the end of the period laid down for analysis of the scientific data in the file concerning the application for marketing authorisation. It shall be submitted to the Management Board of the Agency, which shall take a decision on the request as soon as possible and before the end of the assessment period.***

In the case of a medicinal product for human use containing or consisting of genetically modified organisms, the opinion of the Committee shall respect the environmental safety requirements laid down by Directive 2001/18/EC. During the process of evaluating applications for marketing authorisations for medicinal products for human use containing or consisting of genetically modified organisms, the necessary consultations shall be held by the rapporteur with the bodies set up by the Community or the Member States in accordance with Directive 2001/18/EC.

5. The Commission shall, in consultation with the Agency, the Member States and interested parties, draw up detailed guidance as to the form in which applications for authorisation are to be presented.

#### Article 8

In order to prepare its opinion, the Committee for Human Medicinal Products:

- (a) shall verify that the particulars and documents submitted in accordance with Article 7 comply with the requirements of Directive 2001/83/EC, and shall examine whether the conditions specified in this Regulation for issuing a marketing authorisation are satisfied;

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- (b) may ask for a State laboratory or a laboratory designated for this purpose, **which has no interest in the granting of authorisation for the medicinal product**, to test the medicinal product for human use, its starting materials and, if need be, its intermediate products or other constituent materials in order to ensure that the control methods employed by the manufacturer and described in the application documents are satisfactory;
- (c) may, where appropriate, request the applicant to supplement the particulars accompanying the application within a specific timeperiod.

Where the Committee avails itself of the option under point (c) of the first paragraph, the time-limit laid down in the first subparagraph of *Article 7(4)* shall be suspended until such time as the supplementary information requested has been provided. Likewise, this time-limit shall be suspended for the time allowed to the applicant to prepare oral or written explanations.

#### Article 9

1. Upon receipt of a written request from the Committee for Human Medicinal Products, a Member State shall forward the information showing that the manufacturer of a medicinal product or the importer from a non-member country is able to manufacture the medicinal product concerned and/or carry out the necessary control tests in accordance with the particulars and documents supplied pursuant to *Article 7*.
2. Where it considers it necessary in order to complete its examination of an application, the Committee for Human Medicinal Products may require the applicant to submit to a specific inspection of the manufacturing site of the medicinal product concerned. **Such inspections may be made unannounced.**

The inspection shall be carried out within the time-limit laid down in the first subparagraph of *Article 7(4)*, by inspectors from the Member State holding the appropriate qualifications, who **must** be accompanied by a rapporteur or an expert appointed by the Committee.

#### Article 10

1. The Agency shall forthwith inform the applicant when the opinion of the Committee for Human Medicinal Products is that:
  - (a) the application does not satisfy the criteria for authorisation set out in this Regulation;
  - (b) the summary of the product characteristics proposed by the applicant needs to be amended;
  - (c) the labelling or package leaflet of the product is not in compliance with Title V of Directive 2001/83/EC;
  - (d) the authorisation needs to be granted subject to the conditions provided for in *Article 14(6) and (7)*.
2. Within 15 days of receipt of the opinion referred to in paragraph 1, the applicant may give written notice to the Agency that he/she wishes to appeal. In that case, the applicant shall forward the detailed grounds for his/her appeal to the Agency within 60 days of receipt of the opinion.

Within 60 days of receipt of the grounds for appeal, the Committee for Human Medicinal Products shall re-examine its opinion in accordance with the conditions laid down in the *fourth* subparagraph of *Article 65(1)*. The reasons for the conclusion reached on the appeal shall be annexed to the final opinion.

3. Within **15 days** of its adoption, the Agency shall send the final opinion of the Committee for Human Medicinal Products to the Commission, to the Member States and to the applicant, together with a report describing the assessment of the medicinal product by the Committee and stating the reasons for its conclusions.
4. If an opinion is favourable to the grant of the relevant authorisation to place the medicinal product concerned on the market, the following documents shall be annexed to the opinion:
  - (a) a draft summary of the product characteristics, as referred to in *Article 11* of Directive 2001/83/EC;
  - (b) details of any conditions or restrictions which should be imposed on the supply or use of the medicinal product concerned, including the conditions under which the medicinal product may be made available to patients, having regard to the criteria laid down in Title VI of Directive 2001/83/EC;

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- (c) **details of any other conditions or restrictions which should where necessary be imposed on the medicinal product concerned as a means of securing its safe and effective use, in particular mechanisms for controlling and monitoring its use and administration once authorised;**
- (d) the draft text of the labelling and package leaflet proposed by the applicant, presented in accordance with Title V of Directive 2001/83/EC;
- (e) the assessment report.

#### Article 11

1. Within **15 days** of receipt of the opinion referred to in Article 6(2), the Commission shall prepare a draft of the decision to be taken in respect of the application.

In the event of a draft decision granting marketing authorisation, the draft shall include or make reference to the documents mentioned in points (a) to (d) of the first subparagraph of Article 10(4).

Where the draft decision is not in accordance with the opinion of the Agency, the Commission shall annex a detailed explanation of the reasons for the differences.

The draft decision shall be forwarded to the Member States and the applicant.

2. The Commission shall take a final decision in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 89(3) if the draft decision accords with the Agency's opinion.

The Commission shall take a final decision in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 89(4) if the draft decision does not accord with the Agency's opinion,

**The final Commission decision shall be taken within 15 days after the end of the procedures referred to in Article 89(3) and (4).**

3. The Standing Committee on Medicinal Products for Human Use referred to in Article 89(1) shall adjust its rules of procedure so as to take account of the tasks incumbent upon it under this Regulation.

These adjustments shall provide that:

- (a) the opinion of the Standing Committee is to be given in writing;
- (b) each Member State is to be allowed 15 days to forward written observations on the draft decision to the Commission. However, if a decision has to be taken urgently, a shorter time-limit may be set by the Chairman according to the degree of urgency involved;
- (c) each Member State is to be permitted to require in writing that the draft decision referred to in paragraph 1 be discussed by a plenary meeting of the Standing Committee, giving its reasons in detail.

4. Where, in the opinion of the Commission, the written observations of a Member State raise important new questions of a scientific or technical nature which have not been addressed in the opinion of the Agency, the Chairman shall suspend the procedure and refer the application back to the Agency for further consideration.

5. The Commission shall adopt the provisions necessary for the implementation of paragraph 3 in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 89(2).

6. The Agency shall disseminate the documents referred to in points (a) to (d) of Article 10(4).

**7. In the case of innovative medicinal products which can be used to treat incurable diseases, the Agency shall lay down a streamlined procedure with a view to making such medicinal products available as quickly as possible.**

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### Article 12

***If a manufacturer withdraws an application for authorisation submitted to the Agency before a decision on authorisation is taken, the manufacturer shall communicate its reasons for doing so to the Agency. The Agency shall immediately notify the competent authorities of the Member State concerned.***

### Article 13

1. The marketing authorisation shall be refused if, after verification of the information and particulars submitted in accordance with *Article 7*, it appears that the quality, the safety or the efficacy of the medicinal product have not been properly or sufficiently demonstrated by the applicant.

Authorisation shall likewise be refused if the particulars and documents provided by the applicant in accordance with *Article 7* are incorrect or if the labelling and package leaflets proposed by the applicant are not in accordance with Title V of Directive 2001/83/EC.

2. The refusal of a Community marketing authorisation shall constitute a prohibition on the placing on the market of the medicinal product concerned throughout the Community.

**3. *Information about all refusals and the reasons for them shall be made publicly accessible.***

### Article 14

1. Without prejudice to Article 4(4) of Directive 2001/83/EC, a marketing authorisation which has been granted in accordance with the procedure laid down in this Regulation shall be valid throughout the Community. It shall confer the same rights and obligations in each of the Member States as a marketing authorisation granted by that Member State in accordance with Article 6 of Directive 2001/83/EC.

The authorised medicinal products for human use shall be entered in the Community Register of Medicinal Products and shall be given a number which shall appear on the packaging.

2. Notification of marketing authorisation shall be published in the Official Journal of the European Communities, quoting in particular the date of authorisation, the registration number in the Community Register, ***the INN (international non-proprietary name) of the active component of the medicinal product, the pharmaceutical form and the ATC (Agreed Therapeutic Categories) code.***

3. The Agency shall ***immediately publish and make publicly accessible in a Register*** the assessment report on the medicinal product for human use drawn up by the Committee for Human Medicinal Products and the reasons for its opinion in favour of granting authorisation, after deletion of any information of a commercially confidential nature, ***provided that such information is not vital in respect of human health or the environment.***

***The reasons for each therapeutic indication covered by the application shall be stated separately.***

4. After marketing authorisation has been granted, the holder of the authorisation shall inform the Agency of the dates of actual marketing of the medicinal product for human use in the Member States, taking into account the various presentations authorised.

The holder shall also inform the Agency if the product ceases to be marketed.

Upon request by the Agency, particularly in the context of pharmacovigilance, the marketing authorisation holder shall provide the Agency with all data relating to the volume of sales of, prescriptions for ***and adverse reactions to*** the medicinal product concerned at Community level.

### Article 15

1. Without prejudice to paragraphs 2 and 4, ***marketing authorisations for new medicinal products*** shall ***initially*** be valid for ***five years***.

***This authorisation shall be renewed five years after the initial granting of the authorisation on the basis of a comparative re-assessment by the competent authority of the updated risk/benefit balance.***

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***When the marketing authorisation is renewed, its Annexes I to III shall be updated.***

***The re-assessment procedure must be completed no later than 30 days before the initial marketing authorisation expires. The competent authority shall inform the authorisation holder as soon as possible of the results of the re-assessment.***

***After this renewal the marketing authorisation shall be valid indefinitely.***

2. Any authorisation which is not followed by the actual placing of the medicinal product for human use authorised on the Community market within ***three years*** of authorisation shall cease to be valid.

3. ***In exceptional circumstances and on public-health grounds the competent authority may grant a derogation from the provision laid down in paragraph 2. Such a derogation must be duly justified.***

4. When an authorised medicinal product previously placed on the market is no longer actually present on the market for two consecutive years, the authorisation shall cease to be valid.

5. ***In the first five years after being placed on the market, the package leaflet of every medicinal product must bear the phrase: 'Newly authorised medicinal product. Please notify any adverse reactions'.***

6. Following consultation with the applicant, an authorisation may be granted subject to certain specific obligations, to be reviewed annually by the Agency. ***The list of these obligations, together with deadlines and date of fulfilment, shall be made publicly accessible in a Register, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.***

By way of derogation from paragraph 1, the authorisation shall be valid for one year, on a renewable basis.

The arrangements for granting such authorisation shall be determined by a Commission regulation adopted according to the procedure referred to in *Article 89(2)*.

7. In exceptional ***circumstances, and*** following consultation with the applicant, authorisation may be granted ***subject to a requirement to introduce specific procedures for assessing product safety, for notifying the relevant authorities of any incident and for taking any necessary action immediately.***

***Such authorisation may be granted only for objective, verifiable reasons and must be based on one of the grounds listed in Annex I to Directive 2001/83/EC.***

8. When an application is lodged for a marketing authorisation in respect of medicinal products for human use which are of major interest from the point of view of public health and in particular from the viewpoint of therapeutic innovation, the applicant may request an accelerated assessment procedure. Due reasons are to be given for the request.

If the Committee for Human Medicinal Products accepts the application, the time-limit laid down in the first subparagraph of *Article 7(4)* shall be reduced to 150 days.

***On the basis of a duly reasoned request the Committee for Human Medicinal Products may require the duration of the scientific and clinical trials to be extended. The request must stipulate the additional length of time needed for the scientific and clinical trials to be carried out successfully.***

***The request must be drawn up at least 15 days before the end of the period of scientific and clinical trial. It shall be submitted to the Management Board of the Agency, which shall take a decision on the request as soon as possible and before the end of the trial period. The Agency shall notify the applicant as soon as possible of the request for an extension and of the action taken on that request by the Management Board.***

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9. When adopting its opinion, the Committee for Human Medicinal Products shall include a proposal concerning the criteria for the prescription or use of the medicinal products in accordance with Article 70 of Directive 2001/83/EC.

10. Medicinal products for human use which have been authorised in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation shall benefit from **the period** of protection referred to in Article 10(1) of Directive 2001/83/EC.

#### Article 16

**The Commission shall carry out an in-depth study of the actual application in practical terms of Directive 89/105/EEC in all the EU Member States and in the applicant countries. Depending on the results obtained, the European Parliament shall have the option of calling on the Commission to review the principles of that Directive and, if necessary, to consider revising it.**

#### Article 17

The granting of authorisation shall not affect the civil and criminal liability borne by the manufacturer or the holder of the marketing authorisation by virtue of the prevailing national law of the Member States.

### CHAPTER 2

#### SUPERVISION AND SANCTIONS

#### Article 18

1. After an authorisation has been issued in accordance with this Regulation, the holder of the marketing authorisation for a medicinal product for human use shall, in respect of the methods of manufacture and control provided for in points (d) and (h) of Article 8(3) of Directive 2001/83/EC, take account of technical and scientific progress and make any amendments that may be required to enable the medicinal products to be manufactured and checked by means of generally accepted scientific methods **and with due regard to Community law**. He/she shall apply for approval for these amendments in accordance with this Regulation.

2. The holder of the marketing authorisation shall forthwith supply to the Agency, to the Commission and to the Member States any new information which might entail the amendment of the particulars and documents referred to in Articles 8(3), 10a and 11 of Directive 2001/83/EC, or in Annex I thereto, or Article 10(4) of this Regulation.

In particular, he/she shall forthwith inform the Agency, the Commission and the Member States of any prohibition or restriction imposed by the competent authorities of any country in which the veterinary medicinal product is marketed and of any other new information which might influence the evaluation of the benefits and risks of the veterinary medicinal product concerned.

3. If the holder of the authorisation for placing the medicinal product for human use on the market proposes to make any alteration to the information and particulars referred to in paragraph 2, he/she shall submit the relevant application to the Agency.

4. The Commission shall, after consulting the Agency, make appropriate arrangements for the examination of variations to the terms of a marketing authorisation.

The Commission shall adopt these arrangements in the form of a regulation in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 89(2).

#### Article 19

**The applicant shall be responsible for the accuracy of the documents and data submitted. Should the Agency find that the data submitted are incorrect, it shall forthwith require the applicant to carry out the necessary corrections and to complete them within a period of two months. Should that deadline not be respected, the Agency shall reject the application. Should the Agency find that data have been falsified, it shall immediately inform the law enforcement authorities in the Member States.**

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*Article 20*

1. In the case of medicinal products for human use manufactured within the Community, the supervisory authorities shall be the competent authorities of the Member State or Member States which have granted the authorisation provided for in Article 40 of Directive 2001/83/EC in respect of the medicinal product concerned
2. In the case of medicinal products imported from non-member countries, the supervisory authorities shall be the competent authorities of the Member States in which the controls referred to in Article 51(1)(b) of Directive 2001/83/EC are carried out, unless appropriate arrangements have been made between the Community and the exporting country to ensure that those controls are carried out in the exporting country and that the manufacturer applies standards of good manufacturing practice at least equivalent to those laid down by the Community.

A Member State may request assistance from another Member State or from the Agency.

*Article 21*

1. The supervisory authorities shall have responsibility for verifying on behalf of the Community that the holder of the marketing authorisation for the medicinal product for human use or the manufacturer or importer from a non-member country satisfies the requirements laid down in Titles IV and XI of Directive 2001/83/EC.
2. Where, in accordance Article 122 of Directive 2001/83/EC, the Commission is informed of serious differences of opinion between Member States as to whether the holder of the marketing authorisation for the medicinal product for human use, or a manufacturer or importer established within the Community satisfies the requirements referred to in paragraph 1, the Commission may, after consultation with the Member States concerned, request an inspector from the supervisory authority to undertake a new inspection of the marketing authorisation holder, the manufacturer or the importer; the inspector in question shall be accompanied by two inspectors from Member States which are not party to the dispute and/or by two experts nominated by the Committee for Human Medicinal Products.
3. Subject to any arrangements which may have been concluded between the Community and non-member countries in accordance with *Article 20(2)*, the Commission may, following a reasoned request from a Member State, or from the Committee for Human Medicinal Products, or on its own initiative, require a manufacturer established in a non-member country to submit to an inspection.

The inspection shall be undertaken by inspectors from the Member State who possess the appropriate qualifications and who may be accompanied by a rapporteur or expert appointed by the Committee for Human Medicinal Products. The report of the inspectors shall be made available to the Commission, the Member States and the Committee for Human Medicinal Products.

*Article 22*

1. Where the supervisory authorities or the competent authorities of any other Member State are of the opinion that the manufacturer or importer established on Community territory is no longer fulfilling the obligations laid down in Title IV of Directive 2001/83/EC, they shall forthwith inform the Committee and the Commission, stating their reasons in detail and indicating the course of action proposed.

The same shall apply where a Member State or the Commission considers that one of the measures envisaged in Titles IX and XI of Directive 2001/83/EC should be applied in respect of the medicinal product concerned or where the Committee for Human Medicinal Products has delivered an opinion to that effect in accordance with *Article 6* of this Regulation.

2. The Commission shall request the opinion of the Agency within a time-limit which it shall determine in the light of the urgency of the matter, in order to examine the reasons advanced. Whenever practicable, the holder of the authorisation for placing the medicinal product for human use on the market shall be invited to provide oral or written explanations.

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3. Following an opinion by the Agency, the Commission shall adopt the necessary provisional measures, which shall be applied immediately.

A final decision shall be adopted within six months, in accordance with the procedures referred to in Article 11(2).

4. Where urgent action is essential to protect human or animal health or the environment, a Member State may, on its own initiative or at the Commission's request, suspend the use on its territory of a medicinal product for human use which has been authorised in accordance with this Regulation.

When it does so on its own initiative, it shall inform the Commission and the Agency of the reasons for its action at the latest on the next working day following the suspension. The Agency shall inform the other Member States without delay. The Commission shall immediately initiate the procedure provided for in paragraphs 2 and 3.

***The Member State shall also ensure that health professionals are rapidly informed of the action and the reasons therefor. The network provided by the professional associations should be fully utilised to this end. Member States shall inform the Commission and the Agency of the procedures put in place for this purpose.***

5. The suspensive measures referred to in paragraph 4 may be maintained in force until such time as a definitive decision has been reached in accordance with the procedures referred to in Article 11(2).

6. The Agency shall ***make the decision publicly accessible, immediately after it has been taken, in a Register in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.***

### CHAPTER 3

#### PHARMACOVIGILANCE

##### Article 23

For the purpose of this Chapter, Article 106(2) of Directive 2001/83/EEC shall apply.

***In order to ensure that the competent authorities are fully independent, at least the activities relating to pharmacovigilance, the operation of communications networks and market surveillance should receive public funding commensurate with the tasks conferred upon those authorities.***

##### Article 24

The Agency, acting in close cooperation with the national pharmacovigilance systems established in accordance with Article 102 of Directive 2001/83/EC, shall receive all relevant information about suspected adverse reactions to medicinal products for human use which have been authorised by the Community in accordance with this Regulation. ***This information shall be made publicly accessible through a Register in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.*** If necessary, the Committee for Human Medicinal Products may, in accordance with Article 5 of this Regulation, formulate opinions on the measures necessary. ***These opinions and measures shall be made publicly accessible.***

These measures may include amendments to the marketing authorisation. They shall be adopted in accordance with the procedures referred to in Article 11(2).

The holder of the marketing authorisation and the competent authorities of the Member States shall ensure that all relevant information about suspected adverse reactions to the medicinal products authorised under this Regulation are brought to the attention of the Agency in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation. ***Patients shall be encouraged to communicate any adverse reaction to their health professionals or directly to the holder of the marketing authorisation.***



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Article 25

The holder of an authorisation to place a medicinal product for human use on the market granted by the Community in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation shall have permanently and continuously at his/her disposal an appropriately qualified person responsible for pharmacovigilance.

That qualified person shall be resident in the Community and shall be responsible for the following:

- (a) the establishment and maintenance of a system which ensures that information about all suspected adverse reactions which are reported to the personnel of the company and to medical representatives, is collected, evaluated and collated so that it may be accessed at a single point within the Community;
- (b) the preparation of the reports referred to in Article 27(3) for the competent authorities of the Member States and the Agency in accordance with the requirements of this Regulation;
- (c) ensuring that any request from the competent authorities for the provision of additional information necessary for the evaluation of the benefits and risks of a medicinal product is answered fully and promptly, including the provision of information about the volume of sales or prescriptions for the medicinal product concerned;
- (d) providing the competent authorities with any other information relevant to the evaluation of the risks and benefits of a medicinal product, particularly information concerning post-authorisation safety studies.

Article 26

**The holder of a marketing authorisation shall inform the competent authorities first of all before any imminent withdrawal of a medicinal product from the market.**

Article 27

1. The holder of an authorisation to place a medicinal product for human use on the market shall ensure that all suspected serious adverse reactions occurring within the Community to a medicinal product authorised in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation which are brought to his/her attention by a health-care professional **or by a patient** are recorded and reported immediately to the Member States in whose territory the incident occurred, and **under no circumstances** later than 15 days following the receipt of the information.

The holder of an authorisation to place a medicinal product on the market shall be obliged to record any other suspected serious adverse reactions which meet the notification criteria, in accordance with the guidelines referred to in Article 29, of which he/she may reasonably be expected to be aware, and to notify immediately the competent authority of the Member State on whose territory the incident occurred, no later than 15 days following receipt of the information.

2. The holder of the authorisation to place the medical product for human use on the market shall ensure that all suspected serious unexpected adverse reactions occurring in the territory of a non-member country are reported immediately to Member States and the Agency and in no case later than 15 days following the receipt of the information. The arrangements for the reporting of suspected unexpected adverse reactions which are not serious, whether in the Community or in a non-member country, shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 89(2).

**These** reactions shall be communicated in the form of a report transmitted electronically and in accordance with the guidelines referred to in Article 29.

3. The holder of the authorisation to place the medicinal product for human use on the market shall be required to maintain detailed records of all suspected adverse reactions within or outside the Community which are reported to him/her by a health-care professional **or by a patient**.

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Unless other requirements have been laid down as a condition of the granting of the marketing authorisation by the Community, these records shall be submitted, in the form of a updated periodical report on safety, to the Agency and Member States immediately upon request or at least every six months during the first two years following **the initial placing on the market** and once a year for the following two years. Thereafter, the records shall be submitted at three-yearly intervals, or immediately upon request.

These records shall be accompanied by a scientific evaluation **of the benefits and the risks of the medicinal product, which classifies effects according to sex and age group of patients.**

**4. The holder of a marketing authorisation may not communicate information concerning pharmacovigilance issues to the general public without the consent of the Agency.**

#### Article 28

Each Member State shall ensure that all suspected serious adverse reactions occurring within their territory to a medicinal product for human use authorised in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation which are brought to their attention are recorded and reported immediately to the Agency and the marketing authorisation holder, and in no case later than 15 days following receipt of the information.

The Agency shall inform the national pharmacovigilance systems in accordance with Article 102 of Directive 2001/83/EC.

#### Article 29

The Commission, in consultation with the Agency, Member States, and interested parties, shall draw up guidance on the collection, verification and presentation of adverse reaction reports. **Such guidance shall lay down rules of conduct for health-care professionals concerning the targeted dissemination of information about adverse reactions which have occurred in practice.**

In accordance with this guidance, holders of marketing authorisation shall use the medical terminology accepted at international level for the transmission of adverse reaction reports.

The Agency, in consultation with the Member States and the Commission, shall set up a data-processing network for the rapid transmission of data between the competent Community authorities in the event of an alert relating to faulty manufacture, serious adverse reactions and other pharmacovigilance data regarding medicinal products authorised in accordance with Article 6 of Directive 2001/83/EC. **Furthermore, such data shall be held in public databases and made accessible, in an appropriate form and free of charge, to any interested parties.**

**For a period of two years following marketing authorisation, specific pharmacovigilance data shall be collected by means of increased surveillance by doctors of targeted small groups of patients. This data shall be collated and evaluated by the Agency.**

#### Article 30

**The Agency shall publish an annual report on the recorded reactions and point out further research requirements.**

#### Article 31

The Agency shall collaborate with the World Health Organisation in matters of international pharmacovigilance and shall take the necessary steps to submit to it, promptly, appropriate and adequate information regarding the measures taken in the Community which may have a bearing on public health protection in non-member countries; it shall send a copy thereof to the Commission and the Member States.

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### Article 32

*The Agency and national public pharmacovigilance systems shall also be organised and operate as an interactive pharmacovigilance system under which monitoring of the area in which adverse reactions appear is carried out on a continuous basis by specialists in clinical pharmacology working for universities and/or suitably equipped hospitals. These specialists shall take active steps to compile information concerning the onset of adverse reactions to the new medicinal products, interacting continuously with all the actors involved (undertakings, pharmacists, doctors, specialists) and with patients' associations. The operational interactive pharmacovigilance units shall be distributed on a rational basis throughout the area to be covered, linked by an IT network and coordinated by the national pharmacovigilance service, which in turn shall be linked to the Agency. The Agency shall coordinate the national pharmacovigilance systems, which shall operate in accordance with criteria of competence, transparency and objectivity, and shall compile a database to which undertakings shall be granted access in connection with the products for which they hold authorisations.*

### Article 33

*During the first five years the holder of the marketing authorisation shall contribute, in the individual Member States, to the costs of the interactive public pharmacovigilance system as defined in Article 32. The level of the contribution in the individual Member States shall be determined on the basis of the net annual profits generated by the sale of the new medicinal product in question and shall then be laid down by the Commission. The pharmacovigilance systems in the individual Member States and at Agency level shall operate in an independent, transparent manner.*

### Article 34

Any amendment which may be necessary to update the provisions of this Chapter to take account of scientific and technical progress shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 89(2).

## TITLE III

### AUTHORISATION AND SUPERVISION OF VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCTS

#### CHAPTER 1

#### SUBMISSION AND EXAMINATION OF APPLICATIONS – AUTHORISATIONS

### Article 35

1. A Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products is hereby established. The Committee shall be part of the Agency.
2. Without prejudice to Article 59 and other tasks which Community law may confer on it, in particular under Council Regulation (EEC) No 2377/90 of 26 June 1990 laying down a Community procedure for the establishment of maximum residue limits of veterinary medicinal products in foodstuffs of animal origin<sup>(1)</sup>, the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products shall be responsible for formulating the opinion of the Agency on any question concerning the admissibility of the files submitted in accordance with the centralised procedure, the granting, variation, suspension or withdrawal of an authorisation to place a veterinary medicinal product on the market arising in accordance with the provisions of this Title and pharmacovigilance.
3. At the request of the Executive Director of the Agency or the Commission representative, the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products shall also draw up an opinion on any scientific matter concerning the evaluation of medicinal products for veterinary use. **The Committee shall also formulate an opinion whenever there is disagreement in the assessment of a veterinary medicinal product through the mutual recognition procedure. Opinions shall be accessible on the Internet, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.**

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 224, 18.8.1990, p. 1. Regulation as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1752/2002 (OJ L 264, 2.10.2002, p. 18).

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*Article 36*

1. Each application for authorisation for a medicinal product for veterinary use shall specifically include all the information and documents referred to in Articles 12(3), 13a and 14 of Directive 2001/82/EC, and Annex I thereto. The information and documents are to take account of the unique, Community nature of the authorisation requested, and particularly of the use of a single name for the medicinal product.

The application shall be accompanied by the fee payable to the Agency for the examination of the application.

2. In the case of a veterinary medicinal product containing or consisting of genetically modified organisms within the meaning of Article 2 of Directive 2001/18/EC, the application shall also be accompanied by:

- (a) a copy of any written consent or consents of the competent authorities to the deliberate release into the environment of the genetically modified organisms for research and development purposes, where provided for in Part B of Directive 2001/18/EC;
- (b) the complete technical file supplying the information requested in Annexes III and IV to Directive 2001/18/EC;
- (c) the environmental risk assessment in accordance with the principles set out in Annex II to Directive 2001/18/EC; and
- (d) the results of any investigations performed for the purposes of research or development.

Articles 13 to 24 of Directive 2001/18/EC shall not apply to veterinary medicinal products containing or consisting of genetically modified organisms.

3. The Agency shall ensure that the opinion of the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products is given within 210 days of the receipt of a valid application.

In the case of a veterinary medicinal product containing or consisting of genetically modified organisms, the opinion of the Committee shall respect the environmental safety requirements laid down by Directive 2001/18/EC. During the process of evaluating applications for marketing authorisations for veterinary medicinal products containing or consisting of genetically modified organisms, necessary consultations shall be held by the rapporteur with the bodies set up by the Community or the Member States in accordance with Directive 2001/18/EC.

4. The Commission shall, in consultation with the Agency, the Member States and interested parties, draw up detailed guidance on the form in which applications for authorisation are to be presented.

*Article 37*

1. In order to prepare its opinion, the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products:

- (a) shall verify that the particulars and documents submitted in accordance with *Article 36* comply with the requirements of Directive 2001/82/EC and examine whether the conditions specified in this Regulation for issuing a marketing authorisation are satisfied;
- (b) may ask for a State laboratory or a laboratory designated for this purpose to test the veterinary medicinal product, its starting materials and, if need be, its intermediate products or other constituent materials in order to ensure that the control methods employed by the manufacturer and described in the application are satisfactory;

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- (c) may request a Community reference laboratory, State laboratory or laboratory designated for this purpose to verify, using samples provided by the applicant, that the analytical detection method proposed by the applicant in accordance with point j, second indent of Article 12(3) of Directive 2001/82/EC is satisfactory and is suitable for use to reveal the presence of residue levels, particularly those above the maximum residue level accepted by the Community in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EEC) No 2377/90;
- (d) may request the applicant to supplement the particulars accompanying the application within a specific time-limit.

Where the Committee avails itself of the option contained in point (d) of the first subparagraph, the time-limit laid down in the first subparagraph of Article 36(3) shall be suspended until such time as the supplementary information requested has been provided. Likewise, the time-limit shall be suspended for the time allowed to the applicant to prepare oral or written explanations.

2. In those cases where the analytical method has not been subject to verification by one of the above-mentioned laboratories in the framework of the procedures established by Regulation (EEC) No 2377/90, the verification shall be carried out within the framework of this Article.

#### Article 38

1. Upon receipt of a written request from the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products, a Member State shall forward the information establishing that the manufacturer of a veterinary medicinal product or the importer from a non-member country is able to manufacture the veterinary medicinal product concerned and/or carry out the necessary control tests in accordance with the particulars and documents supplied pursuant to Article 36.

2. Where it considers it necessary in order to complete its examination of the application, the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products may require the applicant to submit to a specific inspection of the manufacturing site of the veterinary medicinal product concerned. **Such inspections may be made unannounced.**

The inspection, which shall be completed within the time-limit referred to in the first subparagraph of Article 36(3), shall be undertaken by inspectors from the Member State who possess the appropriate qualifications and who **must** be accompanied by a rapporteur or expert appointed by the Committee.

#### Article 39

1. The Agency shall forthwith inform the applicant if the opinion of the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products is that:

- (a) the application does not satisfy the criteria for authorisation set out in this Regulation;
- (b) the summary of the product characteristics should be amended;
- (c) the labelling or package leaflet of the product is not in compliance with Title V of Directive 2001/82/EC;
- (d) the authorisation should be granted subject to the conditions provided for in Article 44(5).

2. Within 15 days of receipt of the opinion referred to in paragraph 1, the applicant may provide written notice to the Agency that he/she wishes to appeal. In that case the applicant shall forward the detailed grounds for his/her appeal to the Agency within 60 days of receipt of the opinion.

Within 60 days of receipt of the grounds for appeal, the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products shall re-examine its opinion in accordance with the conditions laid down in the *fourth* subparagraph of Article 65(1). **If the grounds for appeal include new data, not available at the time of the original submission, this period will be extended by 30 days.** The conclusions reached on the appeal shall be annexed to the final opinion.

3. Within **15 days** of its adoption, the Agency shall forward the final opinion of the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products to the Commission, to the Member States and to the applicant, together with a report describing the assessment of the veterinary medicinal product by the Committee and stating the reasons for its conclusions.

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4. In the event of an opinion in favour of granting the relevant authorisation to place the relevant veterinary medicinal product on the market, the following documents shall be annexed to the opinion:
- (a) a draft summary of the product characteristics, as referred to in Article 14 of Directive 2001/82/EC; where necessary, this draft shall reflect differences in the veterinary conditions pertaining in the Member States;
  - (b) the case of a veterinary medicinal product intended for administration to food-producing animals, a statement of the maximum residue level which may be accepted by the Community in accordance with Regulation (EEC) No 2377/90;
  - (c) details of any conditions or restrictions which should be imposed on the supply or use of the veterinary medicinal product concerned, including the conditions under which the veterinary medicinal product may be made available to users, in conformity with the criteria laid down in Directive 2001/82/EC;
  - (d) details of any other conditions or restrictions which should where necessary be imposed on the veterinary medicinal product concerned as a means of securing its safe and effective use, in particular mechanisms for controlling and monitoring its use and administration once authorised;**
  - (e) the draft text of the labelling and package leaflet proposed by the applicant, presented in accordance with Title V of Directive 2001/82/EC;
  - (f) the assessment report.

#### Article 40

1. Within 30 days of receipt of the opinion referred to in Article 35(2), the Commission shall prepare a draft of the decision to be taken in respect of the application.

In the event of a draft decision which envisages the granting of marketing authorisation, the draft shall include the documents mentioned in points (a) to (e) of Article 39(4), or shall make reference to them.

Where the draft decision is not in accordance with the opinion of the Agency, the Commission shall annex a detailed explanation of the reasons for the differences.

The draft decision shall be forwarded to the Member States and the applicant.

2. The Commission shall take a final decision in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 89(3) if the draft decision accords with the Agency's opinion.

The Commission shall take a final decision in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 89(4) if the draft decision does not accord with the Agency's opinion.

3. The Standing Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products referred to in Article 89 (1) shall adjust its rules of procedure so as to take account of the tasks assigned to it by this Regulation.

These adjustments shall provide that:

- (a) the opinion of the Standing Committee is to be given in writing;
- (b) each Member State is allowed 15 days to forward written observations on the draft decision to the Commission; however, if a decision has to be taken urgently, a shorter time-limit may be set by the Chairman according to the degree of urgency involved;
- (c) each Member State shall be permitted to request in writing that the draft decision referred to in paragraph 1 be discussed at a plenary meeting of the Standing Committee; that request shall give reasons in detail.

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4. Where, in the opinion of the Commission, the written observations of a Member State raise important new questions of a scientific or technical nature which have not been addressed in the opinion of the Agency, the Chairman shall suspend the procedure and refer the application back to the Agency for further consideration.
5. The provisions necessary for the implementation of paragraph 3 shall be adopted by the Commission in accordance with the procedure referred to in *Article 89(2)*.
6. The Agency shall disseminate the documents referred to in points (a) to (e) of *Article 39(4)*.

#### **Article 41**

***If a manufacturer withdraws an application for authorisation submitted to the Agency before a decision on authorisation is taken, the manufacturer shall communicate its reasons for doing so to the Agency. The Agency shall immediately notify the competent authorities of the Member State concerned.***

#### *Article 42*

1. The marketing authorisation shall be refused if, after verification of the information and particulars submitted in accordance with *Article 36*, it appears that:
  - (a) the quality, the safety or the efficacy of the veterinary medicinal product have not been properly or sufficiently demonstrated by the applicant;
  - (b) in the case of zootechnical veterinary medicinal products and growth promoters, when the safety and welfare of the animals and/or consumer safety and benefits in terms of health have not been sufficiently taken into account;
  - (c) the waiting time recommended by the applicant is not long enough to ensure that foodstuffs obtained from treated animals do not contain residues which might constitute a health hazard for the consumer or is insufficiently substantiated;
  - (d) the veterinary medicinal product is presented for a use prohibited under other Community provisions.

Authorisation shall likewise be refused if the particulars and documents provided by the applicant in accordance with *Article 36* are incorrect or if the labelling and package leaflets proposed by the applicant are not in accordance with Title V of Directive 2001/82/EC.

2. The refusal of a Community marketing authorisation shall constitute a prohibition on the placing on the market of the veterinary medicinal product concerned throughout the Community.
3. ***Information about all refusals and the reasons for them shall be made publicly accessible.***

#### *Article 43*

1. Without prejudice to *Article 71* of Directive 2001/82/EC, a marketing authorisation which has been issued in accordance with this Regulation shall be valid throughout the Community. It shall confer the same rights and obligations in each of the Member States as a marketing authorisation granted by that Member State in accordance with *Article 5* of Directive 2001/82/EC.

The authorised veterinary medicinal products shall be entered in the Community Register of Medicinal Products and shall be given a number which shall appear on the packaging.

2. Notification of marketing authorisation shall be published in the Official Journal of the European Communities, quoting in particular the date of authorisation and the number in the Community Register.

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3. The Agency shall *immediately* publish **and make publicly accessible in a Register** the assessment report on the veterinary medicinal product drawn up by the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products and the reasons for its opinion in favour of granting authorisation, after deletion of any information of a commercially confidential nature.

4. After marketing authorisation has been granted, the holder of the authorisation shall inform the Agency of the dates of actual marketing of the veterinary medicinal product in the Member States, taking into account the various presentations authorised.

The holder shall also inform the Agency if the product ceases to be marketed.

Upon request by the Agency, particularly in the context of pharmacovigilance, the marketing authorisation holder shall provide the Agency with all data relating to the volume of sales of or prescriptions for the medical product at Community level, broken down by Member State.

#### Article 44

1. Without prejudice to paragraphs 2 and 4, **marketing authorisations for new medicinal products** shall **initially** be valid for **five years**.

**The authorisation must be renewed five years after the initial granting of authorisation, on the basis of a comparative reassessment by the competent authority of the updated risk/benefit balance.**

**When the marketing authorisation is renewed, its Annexes I to III shall also be updated.**

**The reassessment procedure must be completed no later than 30 days before the initial marketing authorisation expires. The competent authority shall as soon as possible notify the authorisation holder of the results of the reassessment.**

**Following renewal the marketing authorisation shall be valid for an unlimited period.**

2. Any authorisation which is not followed by the actual placing of the veterinary medicinal product authorised on the Community market within **three years** of authorisation shall cease to be valid.

**3. In exceptional circumstances and on public-health grounds the competent authority may grant a derogation from the provision laid down in paragraph 2. Such a derogation must be duly justified.**

4. When an authorised veterinary medicinal product previously placed on the market is no longer actually present on the market for two consecutive years, the authorisation for the product shall cease to be valid.

5. In exceptional circumstances and following consultation with the applicant, authorisation may be granted only under specific conditions. Continuation of the authorisation shall be linked to the annual reassessment of these conditions. Such exceptional decisions may be adopted only for objective and verifiable reasons.

6. When an application is lodged for a marketing authorisation in respect of veterinary medicinal products of major interest, particularly from the point of view of animal health and from the viewpoint of therapeutic innovation, the applicant may request an accelerated assessment procedure. Due reasons are to be given for the request.

If the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products accepts the application, the time-limits laid down in the first subparagraph of Article 36(3) shall be reduced to 150 days.



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7. When adopting its opinion, the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products shall include a proposal concerning the conditions for the prescription or use of the veterinary medicinal products.
8. Veterinary medicinal products which have been authorised in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation shall enjoy the periods of protection referred to in Articles 13 and 13a of Directive 2001/82/EC.

#### Article 45

The granting of authorisation shall not affect the civil and criminal liability borne by the manufacturer or the holder of the marketing authorisation by virtue of the prevailing national law of the Member States.

### CHAPTER 2

#### SUPERVISION AND SANCTIONS

#### Article 46

1. After an authorisation has been issued in accordance with this Regulation, the holder of the marketing authorisation shall, in respect of the methods of production and control provided for in points (d) and (i) of Article 12(3) of Directive 2001/82/EC, take account of technical and scientific progress and make any amendments that may be required to enable the medicinal products to be manufactured and checked by means of generally accepted scientific methods *and with due regard to Community law*. He/she shall apply for approval for these amendments in accordance with this Regulation.
2. The competent authority in a Member State or the Agency may require the marketing authorisation holder to provide substances in sufficient quantities for the performance of tests to detect the presence of residues of the veterinary medicinal products concerned in foodstuffs of animal origin.
3. At the request of the competent authority of a Member State or the Agency, the holder of the marketing authorisation shall provide his technical expertise to facilitate the implementation of the analytical method for detecting residues of veterinary medicinal products by the Community reference laboratory or, where appropriate, national reference laboratories appointed in accordance with Council Directive 96/23/EC of 29 April 1996 on measures to monitor certain substances and residues thereof in live animals and animal products<sup>(1)</sup>.
4. The holder of the marketing authorisation shall forthwith supply to the Agency, the Commission and the Member States any new information which might entail the amendment of the particulars and documents referred to in Articles 12(3), 13a and 14 of Directive 2001/82/EC, and in Annex I thereto, and in Article 39(4) of this Regulation.

He/she shall forthwith inform the Agency, the Commission and the Member States of any prohibition or restriction imposed by the competent authorities of any country in which the veterinary medicinal product is marketed and of any other new information which might influence the evaluation of the benefits and risks of the veterinary medicinal product concerned.

5. If the holder of the authorisation for placing the veterinary product on the market proposes to make any alteration to the information and documents referred to in paragraph 4, he/she shall submit the relevant application to the Agency.
6. The Commission shall, after consulting the Agency, make appropriate arrangements for the examination of variations to the terms of a marketing authorisation.

The Commission shall adopt these arrangements in the form of a regulation in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 89(2).

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 125, 23.5.1996, p. 10.

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*Article 47*

1. In the case of veterinary medicinal products manufactured within the Community, the supervisory authorities shall be the competent authorities of the Member State or Member States which have granted the authorisation provided for in Article 44 of Directive 2001/82/EC in respect of the manufacture of the medicinal product concerned.

2. In the case of veterinary medicinal products imported from non-member countries, the supervisory authorities shall be the competent authorities of the Member States in which the controls referred to in Article 55(2) of Directive 2001/82/EC are carried out unless appropriate arrangements have been made between the Community and the exporting country to ensure that those controls are carried out in the exporting country and that the manufacturer applies standards of good manufacturing practice at least equivalent to those laid down by the Community.

A Member State may request assistance from another Member State or the Agency.

*Article 48*

1. The supervisory authorities shall have responsibility for verifying on behalf of the Community that the holder of the marketing authorisation for the veterinary medicinal product or the manufacturer or importer established on Community territory satisfies the requirements laid down in Titles IV and VIII of Directive 2001/82/EC.

2. Where, in accordance Article 90 of Directive 2001/82/EC, the Commission is informed of serious differences of opinion between Member States as to whether the holder of the marketing authorisation for the veterinary medicinal product or a manufacturer or importer established within the Community satisfies the requirements referred to in paragraph 1, the Commission may, after consultation with the Member States concerned, request an inspector from the supervisory authority to undertake a new inspection of the marketing authorisation holder, the manufacturer or the importer; the inspector in question shall be accompanied by two inspectors from Member States which are not party to the dispute and/or by two experts nominated by the Committee.

3. Subject to any arrangements which may have been concluded between the Community and non-member countries in accordance with Article 47(2), the Commission may, upon receipt of a reasoned request from a Member State, the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products, or on its own initiative, require a manufacturer established in a non-member country to submit to an inspection.

The inspection shall be undertaken by inspectors from the Member State who possess the appropriate qualifications and who may, if need be, be accompanied by a rapporteur or expert appointed by the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products. The report of the inspectors shall be made available to the Commission, the Member States and the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products.

*Article 49*

1. Where the supervisory authorities or the competent authorities of any other Member State are of the opinion that the manufacturer or importer established on Community territory is no longer fulfilling the obligations laid down in Title VII of Directive 2001/82/EC, they shall forthwith inform the Committee and the Commission, stating their reasons in detail and indicating the course of action proposed.

The same shall apply where a Member State or the Commission considers that one of the measures envisaged in Title VIII of Directive 2001/82/EC should be applied in respect of the veterinary medicinal product concerned or where the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products has delivered an opinion to that effect in accordance with Article 35 of this Regulation.

2. The Commission shall request the opinion of the Agency within a time-limit which it shall determine in the light of the urgency of the matter, in order to examine the reasons advanced. Whenever practicable, the holder of the authorisation for placing the medicinal product on the market shall be invited to provide oral or written explanations.

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3. Following an opinion by the Agency, the Commission shall adopt the necessary provisional measures, which shall be applied immediately.

A final decision shall be adopted within six months, in accordance with the procedures referred to in Article 40(2).

4. Where urgent action is essential to protect human or animal health or the environment, a Member State may, on its own initiative or at the Commission's request, suspend the use on its territory of a veterinary medicinal product which has been authorised in accordance with this Regulation.

When it does so on its own initiative, it shall inform the Commission and the Agency of the reasons for its action at the latest on the next working day following the suspension. The Agency shall inform the other Member States without delay. The Commission shall immediately initiate the procedure provided for in paragraphs 2 and 3.

5. The suspensive measures referred to in paragraph 4 may be maintained until such time as a definitive decision has been reached in accordance with the procedures referred to in Article 40(2).

6. The Agency shall **make the decision publicly accessible, immediately after it has been taken, in a Register in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.**

### CHAPTER 3

#### PHARMACOVIGILANCE

##### Article 50

For the purpose of this Chapter, Article 77(2) of Directive 2001/82/EEC shall apply.

***In order to ensure that the competent authorities are fully independent, at least the activities relating to pharmacovigilance, the operation of communications networks and market surveillance should receive public funding commensurate with the tasks conferred upon those authorities.***

##### Article 51

The Agency, acting in close cooperation with the national pharmacovigilance systems established in accordance with Article 73 of Directive 2001/82/EC, shall receive all relevant information about suspected adverse reactions to veterinary medicinal products for which have been authorised by the Community in accordance with this Regulation ***This information shall be made publicly accessible through a Register in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.*** If necessary, the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal may, in accordance with Article 35 of this Regulation, formulate opinions on the measures necessary. ***These opinions and measures shall be made publicly accessible.***

These measures may include amendments to the marketing authorisation. They shall be adopted in accordance with the procedures referred to in Article 40(2).

The holder of the marketing authorisation to place the medicinal product on the market and the competent authorities of the Member States shall ensure that all relevant information about suspected adverse reactions to the veterinary medicinal products authorised under this Regulation are brought to the attention of the Agency in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation.

##### Article 52

The holder of an authorisation to place a veterinary medicinal product on the market granted in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation shall have permanently and continuously at his disposal an appropriately qualified person responsible for pharmacovigilance.

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That qualified person shall be resident in the Community and shall be responsible for the following:

- (a) the establishment and maintenance of a system which ensures that information about all suspected adverse reactions which are reported to the personnel of the company and to medical representatives is collected, evaluated and collated so that it may be accessed at a single point within the Community;
- (b) the preparation of the reports referred to in *Article 53(3)* for the competent authorities of the Member States and the Agency in accordance with the requirements of this Regulation;
- (c) ensuring that any request from the competent authorities for the provision of additional information necessary for the evaluation of the benefits and risks of a veterinary medicinal product is answered fully and promptly, including the provision of information about the volume of sales or prescriptions for the veterinary medicinal product concerned;
- (d) providing the competent authorities with any other information relevant to the evaluation of the risks and benefits of a veterinary medicinal product, particularly information concerning post-marketing safety studies, **with particular reference to the presence of any residues of medicinal products in animal-based foodstuffs.**

#### Article 53

1. The holder of the authorisation for placing a veterinary medicinal product on the market shall ensure that all suspected serious adverse reactions, and adverse human reactions, occurring within the Community to a veterinary medicinal product authorised in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation which are brought to his attention by a health-care professional are recorded and reported immediately to the Member States in whose territory the incident occurred, and in no case later than 15 days following the receipt of the information.

The holder of the marketing authorisation shall be obliged to record any other suspected serious adverse reactions which meet the notification criteria, in accordance with the guidelines referred to in *Article 55*, of which he may reasonably be expected to be aware, and to notify immediately the Member States on whose territory the incident occurred and the Agency, no later than 15 days following receipt of the information.

2. The holder of the marketing authorisation for the veterinary medicinal product shall ensure that all suspected serious unexpected adverse reactions, and adverse human reactions, occurring in the territory of a non-member country, are reported immediately to the Member States and the Agency and in no case later than 15 days following the receipt of the information. The arrangements for the reporting of suspected unexpected adverse reactions which are not serious, whether arising in the Community or in a non-member country, shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in *Article 89(2)*.

Save in exceptional circumstances, these reactions shall be communicated in the form of an electronically transmitted report and in accordance with the guidance referred to in *Article 55*.

3. In addition, the holder of the authorisation to place a veterinary medicinal product on the market shall be required to maintain detailed records of all suspected adverse reactions occurring within or outside the Community which are reported to him/her by a health-care professional.

Unless other requirements have been laid down as a condition of the granting of the marketing authorisation by the Community, these records shall be submitted, in the form of a updated periodical report on safety, to the Agency and Member States immediately upon request or at least every six months during the first two years following authorisation and once a year for the following two years. Thereafter, the records shall be submitted at three-yearly intervals, or immediately upon request.

These records shall be accompanied by a scientific evaluation.

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*Article 54*

Each Member State shall ensure that all suspected serious adverse reactions, and adverse human reactions, occurring within its territory to a veterinary medicinal product authorised in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation which are brought to its attention are recorded and reported immediately to the Agency and the holder of the authorisation for placing the veterinary medicinal product on the market, and in no case later than 15 days following the receipt of the information.

The Agency shall forward the information to the national pharmacovigilance systems set up in accordance with Article 73 of Directive 2001/82/EC.

*Article 55*

The Commission in consultation with the Agency, Member States, and interested parties, shall draw up guidance on the collection, verification and presentation of adverse reaction reports.

In accordance with this guidance, holders of marketing authorisation shall use the medical terminology accepted at international level for the transmission of adverse reaction reports.

The Agency, in consultation with the Member States and the Commission, shall set up a data-processing network for the rapid transmission of data between the competent Community authorities in the event of an alert relating to faulty manufacture, serious adverse reactions and other pharmacovigilance data regarding veterinary medicinal products authorised in accordance with Article 5 of Directive 2001/82/EC.

*Article 56*

The Agency shall cooperate with international organisations concerned with veterinary pharmacovigilance.

*Article 57*

Any amendment necessary to update the provisions of this Chapter to take account of scientific and technical progress shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in *Article 89(2)*.

TITLE IV

THE EUROPEAN MEDICINAL PRODUCTS AGENCY  
RESPONSIBILITIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

CHAPTER 1

TASKS OF THE AGENCY

*Article 58*

*European Medicinal Products Agency* is hereby established.

The Agency shall be responsible for coordinating the existing scientific resources put at its disposal by the competent authorities of the Member States for the evaluation and supervision of medicinal products.

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## Article 59

1. The Agency shall comprise:
  - (a) the Committee for Human Medicinal Products, which shall be responsible for preparing the opinion of the Agency on any question relating to the evaluation of medicinal products for human use;
  - (b) the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products, which shall be responsible for preparing the opinion of the Agency on any question relating to the evaluation of medicinal products for veterinary use;
  - (c) the Committee on Orphan Medicinal Products;
  - (d) the Committee on Herbal Medicinal Products;
  - (e) a Secretariat, which shall provide technical and administrative support for the Committees and ensure appropriate coordination between them;
  - (f) an Executive Director, who shall exercise the responsibilities set out in Article 67;
  - (g) a Management Board, which shall exercise the responsibilities set out in Articles 68, 69 and 70;
  - (h) an Advisory Board, the functions of which are laid down in Article 69.

2. The Committees referred to in points (a) to (d) of paragraph 1 may each establish **standing and temporary** working parties.

**The Committees referred to in points (a) and (b) of paragraph 1 shall set up panels in order to secure the benefit, in connection with the evaluation of medicinal products, of expertise focused in particular on a specific type of medicinal product or treatment.**

**The Committees referred to in points (a) to (d) of paragraph 1 shall lay down in their rules of procedure precise arrangements for consulting the working parties and panels and delegating certain tasks to them. They shall also determine the arrangements for appointing members of the working parties and the panels on the basis of the lists of experts referred to in the second subparagraph of Article 65(2).**

**3. The Committee for Herbal Medicinal Products shall take over the tasks of the Committee for Human Medicinal Products with regard to the evaluation of herbal medicinal products.**

**4. The Committee for Human Medicinal Products shall consult paediatric specialists in connection with all problems relating to the assessment of medicinal products for use by children.**

5. The Executive Director, in close consultation with the Committee for Human Medicinal Products and the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products, shall set up the administrative structures and procedures allowing the development of advice for companies, as referred to in point (m) of Article 60, particularly regarding the development of new therapies.

Each committee shall establish a standing working party with the sole remit of providing scientific advice to companies.

6. The Committee for Human Medicinal Products and the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products may, if they consider it appropriate, seek guidance on important questions of a general scientific or ethical nature.

**7. The opinion of all committees shall contain minority views if such have been expressed.**

## Article 60

1. The Agency shall provide the Member States and the institutions of the Community with the best possible scientific advice on any question relating to the evaluation of the quality, the safety, and the efficacy of medicinal products for human or veterinary use, which is referred to it in accordance with the provisions of Community legislation relating to medicinal products.

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To this end, the Agency, acting particularly through its Committees, shall undertake the following tasks:

- (a) the coordination of the scientific evaluation of the quality, safety and efficacy of medicinal products which are subject to Community marketing authorisation procedures;
- (b) **making publicly available in an ad hoc Register in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, assessment reports, summaries of product characteristics, labels and package leaflets or inserts for these medicinal products; establishing that the labels and package leaflets or inserts are written in simple, clear language comprehensible to the public and that they are scientifically accurate, and periodically checking the effectiveness of the medicinal products in cooperation with undertakings, patients' associations and health-care professionals (doctors and pharmacists);**
- (c) the coordination of the supervision, under practical conditions of use, of medicinal products which have been authorised within the Community and the provision of advice on the measures necessary to ensure the safe and effective use of these products, in particular by evaluation, coordination of the implementation of pharmacovigilance obligations and the monitoring of this implementation;
- (d) *ensuring* the dissemination of information on adverse reactions to medicinal products authorised in the Community, by means of a database permanently accessible to all Member States; **health-care professionals, manufacturers and the general public shall have appropriate levels of access to that database, with business secrecy and personal data protection being guaranteed;**
- (e) **assisting the Commission and Member States in the rapid communication of information concerning pharmacovigilance to the associations of healthcare professionals;**
- (f) distributing appropriate pharmacovigilance information to the general public;
- (g) advising on the maximum limits for residues of veterinary medicinal products which may be accepted in foodstuffs of animal origin in accordance with Regulation (EEC) No 2377/90;
- (h) coordinating the verification of compliance with the principles of good manufacturing practice, good laboratory practice and good clinical practice **and the verification of compliance with pharmacovigilance obligations;**
- (i) upon request, providing technical and scientific support for steps to improve cooperation between the Community, its Member States, international organisations and non-member countries on scientific and technical issues relating to the evaluation of medicinal products, in particular in the context of discussions organised in the framework of international conferences on harmonisation;
- (j) recording the status of marketing authorisations for medicinal products granted in accordance with Community procedures;
- (k) creating a database on medicinal products, to be accessible to the general public, and **ensuring** its maintenance **independently from pharmaceutical companies; the database should enable a comparison to be made between various medicinal products in terms of efficacy, adverse reactions and contra-indications on the basis of the information already authorised for the package leaflet; the database shall include a section on medicinal products which may be administered to children; the information provided shall be worded in an appropriate and comprehensible manner;**
- (l) assisting the Community and Member States in the provision of information to health care professionals and the general public about medicinal products evaluated by the Agency;
- (m) advising companies on the conduct of the various tests and trials necessary to demonstrate the quality, safety and efficacy of medicinal products and, in particular, on the observance of good manufacturing practices;

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- (n) checking that the conditions laid down in Community legislation on medicinal products and in the marketing authorisations are observed in the case of parallel distribution of medicinal products authorised in accordance with this Regulation;
- (o) drawing up, at **the request of the Commission or of the European Parliament**, any other scientific opinion concerning the evaluation of medicinal products or the starting materials used in the manufacture of medicinal products.
- (p) **compilation of scientific information concerning pathogenic agents which might be used in biological warfare, and assessment of the stock of vaccines and medicinal products currently available to combat such agents; the assessment should include a survey of any shortcomings in research and in strategies to combat biological warfare;**
- (q) **taking part in and implementing capacity-building measures in developing countries, particularly through initial and further training courses for employees of the authorisation and inspection authorities in such countries;**

2. The database provided for in point (k) of paragraph 1 shall include the summaries of product characteristics, the patient or user package leaflet, the information shown on the labelling, **as well as pharmacovigilance data**. The database shall be developed in stages, priority being given to medicinal products authorised under this Regulation and those authorised under Chapters IV (Title III) of Directive 2001/83/EC and Directive 2001/82/EC respectively. The database shall subsequently be extended to include **all medicinal products marketed in the European Union**.

**Where appropriate, the database shall also include information about clinical trials either currently being carried out or already completed.**

#### Article 61

The Agency may give a scientific opinion, in the context of cooperation with the World Health Organisation, for the assessment of certain medicinal products for human use intended exclusively for the markets of non-member countries. For this purpose, on the recommendation of the World Health Organisation, a request shall be submitted to the Agency, in accordance with the provisions of Article 7. The Committee for Human Medicinal Products shall be responsible for drawing up the Agency's opinion, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 7 to 10. **The Agency may give a scientific opinion in the context of cooperation with the Office International des Epizooties, for the assessment of certain medicinal products for veterinary use intended exclusively for the markets of third countries. For this purpose a request shall be submitted to the Agency, in accordance with the provisions of Article 36. The Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products shall be responsible for drawing up the Agency's opinion, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 36, 37, 38 and 39.** The provisions of Article 11 or Article 40 shall not apply.

#### Article 62

1. The Agency shall take care to ensure early identification of potential sources of conflict between its scientific opinions and those of other bodies established under Community law carrying out a similar task in relation to issues of common concern.

2. Where the Agency identifies a potential source of conflict, it shall contact the body concerned in order to ensure that any relevant scientific information is shared and to identify the scientific points which are potentially contentious.

3. Where there is a fundamental conflict over scientific points and the body concerned is a Community agency or a scientific committee, the Agency and the body concerned shall work together either to solve the conflict or to submit a joint document to the Commission clarifying the scientific points of conflict. **That document shall be published immediately after its adoption.**



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4. Save as otherwise provided for in this Regulation, in Directive 2001/83/EC or in Directive 2001/82/EC, where there is a fundamental conflict over scientific points and the body concerned is a body in a Member State, the agency and the national body concerned shall work together either to solve the conflict or to prepare a joint document clarifying the scientific points of conflict. **That document shall be published immediately after its adoption.**

#### Article 63

**The Agency shall collect information on the methodology used by the Member States' authorities to ascertain the added therapeutic value to be achieved by a new medicinal product. To promote scientific exchange and avert potential conflict, the Agency shall draw up discussion papers which compare these approaches and formulate open questions.**

#### Article 64

1. **With a view to the appointment of the members of the Committee for Human Medicinal Products, the Committee on Herbal Medicinal Products and the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products, each Member State shall propose, for each committee, five persons selected on the basis of their role and their experience in the evaluation of human or veterinary medicinal products.**

**On the basis of those proposals the Executive Director shall appoint one member per Member State, taking into account the need for the committee to be multidisciplinary in nature. Those members shall maintain relevant contacts with the competent national authorities.**

**The members thus appointed shall propose to the Executive Director five additional members for each committee, chosen on the basis of their specific scientific competence.**

**The members of each committee shall be appointed for a term of three years which shall be renewable.**

**Wherever possible, the committees shall seek to establish contacts, on an advisory basis, with associations of people affected, such as patients, health-care professionals, etc.**

The members of each Committee may be accompanied by experts in specific scientific or technical fields.

The Executive Director of the Agency or his/her representative and representatives of the Commission shall be entitled to attend all the meetings of the Committees and **all the meetings** convened by the Agency or its committees.

2. In addition to their task of providing objective scientific opinions to the Community and Member States on the questions which are referred to them, the members of each Committee shall ensure that there is appropriate coordination between the tasks of the Agency and the work of competent national authorities, including the consultative bodies concerned with the marketing authorisation.

3. The members of the Committees and the experts responsible for evaluating medicinal products shall rely on the scientific assessment and resources available to the national marketing authorisation bodies. Each competent national authority shall monitor the scientific level and independence of the evaluation carried out and facilitate the activities of the Committee members and experts nominated. The Member States shall refrain from giving the Committee members and experts any instruction which is incompatible with their own individual tasks or with the tasks and responsibilities of the Agency.

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4. When preparing the opinion, each Committee shall use its best endeavours to reach a scientific consensus. If such a consensus cannot be reached, the opinion shall consist of the position of the majority of members and the divergent positions, with their grounds.

5. Each Committee shall establish its own rules of procedure.

These rules shall in particular lay down:

- (a) the procedures for appointing and replacing the Chairman,
- (b) the procedures for **consulting and** delegating certain tasks to working parties,
- (c) **the procedures for the organisation of public hearings,**
- (d) **the consultation, in connection with the medicinal-product evaluation procedures, of the panels referred to in the second subparagraph of Article 59(2),**
- (e) the establishment of a procedure for the urgent adoption of opinions, particularly in relation to the provisions on market surveillance and pharmacovigilance laid down in this Regulation.

They shall enter into force after receiving a favourable opinion from the Commission and the Management Board.

#### Article 65

1. Where, in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation, the Committee for Human Medicinal Products, **the Committee on Herbal Medicinal Products** or the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products is required to evaluate a medicinal product, it shall appoint one of its members to act as rapporteur for the coordination of the evaluation. The Committee concerned may appoint a second member to act as co-rapporteur. **The rapporteur shall establish contact with patients' representatives in order to take into account the experience that they have acquired as regards the therapeutic indications for the product.**

**When the panels referred to in the second subparagraph of Article 59 are consulted, the Committee shall forward to them the evaluation report(s) drawn up by the rapporteur or the co-rapporteur. An opinion issued by a panel shall be forwarded to the chairman of the relevant committee in such a way as to ensure that the deadlines laid down in Article 7(4) and Article 36(3) are met.**

**The substance of that opinion shall be included in the final evaluation report published pursuant to Article 14(3) and Article 43(3).**

If there is an appeal against one of its opinions, the Committee concerned shall appoint a different rapporteur and, where necessary, a different co-rapporteur from those appointed for the initial opinion. This appeal procedure may deal only with the points of the opinion initially identified by the applicant and may be **based on scientific** data available at the time the Committee adopted the initial opinion.

**Consultation of a panel may be requested in connection with such an appeal.**

2. Member States shall transmit to the Agency the names of national experts with proven experience in the assessment of medicinal products who would be available to serve on working parties of the Committee for Human Medicinal Products, **the Committee on Herbal Medicinal Products** or the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products, **and also on panels**, together with an indication of their qualifications and specific areas of expertise.

The Agency shall keep an up-to-date list of accredited experts. The list shall include the experts referred to in the first subparagraph and other experts appointed directly by the Agency. The list shall be updated.

**Members of the Management Board, members of the Advisory Board, members of the Committees, rapporteurs and experts who participate in meetings or working groups of the Agency shall publicly declare their conflicts of interest, and at each meeting, any specific interests which could be considered to be prejudicial to their independence with respect to the points on the agenda. A list of conflicts of interests shall be published in a Register in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001. The register shall be accessible at the Agency and on the Internet.**

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3. The provision of services by rapporteurs or experts shall be governed by a written contract between the Agency and the person concerned, or where appropriate between the Agency and his employer.

The person concerned, or his/her employer, shall be remunerated in accordance with a scale of fees to be included in the financial arrangements established by the Management Board.

4. The performance of scientific services for which there are several potential providers may result in a call for an expression of interest, if the scientific and technical context allows, and if it is compatible with the duties of the Agency, in particular the need to provide a high level of public health protection.

The Management Board shall adopt the appropriate procedures on a proposal from the Executive Director.

5. The Agency or any of the committees referred to in points (a) to (d) of Article 59(1) may use the services of experts for the discharge of other specific tasks for which they are responsible.

#### Article 66

1. The membership of the committees referred to in points (a) to (d) of Article 59(1) shall be made public. When each appointment is published, the professional qualifications of each member shall be specified.

2. **Officials of the Agency**, members of the Management Board, members of the Advisory Board, members of the Committees, rapporteurs and experts shall not have financial or other interests in the pharmaceutical industry which could affect their impartiality. They shall undertake to act in the public interest and in an independent manner, **and they shall make an annual declaration of their financial interests**. All indirect interests which could relate to this industry shall be entered in a register held by the Agency which the public may consult, **on request, at the Agency's offices**.

**The Agency's code of conduct shall provide for implementation of this Article with particular reference to the acceptance of gifts.**

Members of the Management Board, members of the Advisory Board, members of the Committees, rapporteurs and experts who participate in meetings or working groups of the Agency shall declare, at each meeting, any specific interests which could be considered to be prejudicial to their independence with respect to the points on the agenda. **These declarations shall be available to the public.**

#### Article 67

1. The Executive Director shall be appointed by the Management Board, **on the basis of a list of candidates proposed by the Commission after an open competition, following publication in the Official Journal of the European Communities and elsewhere of a call for expressions of interest, for a period of five years which shall be renewable. Before appointment the candidate nominated by the Management Board shall be invited without delay to make a statement before the European Parliament and answer questions put by members of this institution. The Executive Director may be removed from office by a majority of the Management Board.**

2. The Executive Director shall be the legal representative of the Agency. He/she shall be responsible **for appointing the members of the scientific committees, pursuant to Article 64(1) or other provisions of Community law, and:**

- (a) for the day-to-day administration of the Agency;
- (b) for managing all the Agency resources necessary for conducting the activities of the committees referred to in points (a) to (d) of Article 59(1), including making available appropriate scientific and technical support;
- (c) for ensuring that the time-limits laid down in Community legislation for the adoption of opinions by the Agency are complied with;
- (d) for ensuring appropriate coordination between the committees referred to in points (a) to (d) of Article 59(1);
- (e) for the preparation of the statement of revenue and expenditure and the execution of the budget of the Agency;

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- (f) for all staff matters;
  - (g) for requesting the opinion of the Advisory Board on any point concerning the Agency's activities regarding the procedures for authorising medicinal products;
  - (h) for providing the secretariat for the Management Board and the Advisory Board.
3. Each year, the Executive Director shall submit the following to the Management Board for approval, while making a distinction between the Agency's activities concerning medicinal products for human use, **those concerning herbal medicinal products** and those concerning veterinary medicinal products:
- (a) a draft report covering the activities of the Agency in the previous year, including information about the number of applications evaluated within the Agency, the time taken for completion of the evaluation and the medicinal products authorised, rejected or withdrawn;
  - (b) a draft programme of work for the coming year;
  - (c) the draft annual accounts;
  - (d) the draft forecast budget for the coming year.
4. The Executive Director shall approve all financial expenditure of the Agency.

#### Article 68

1. The Management Board shall consist of **15 members appointed by the Council in consultation with the European Parliament on the basis of a list drawn up by the Commission and which includes appreciably more names than there are posts to be filled, together with one representative of the Commission. Two of the members shall come from industrial associations, one from patients' organisations, one from doctors' organisations, and one shall represent social security schemes. The list drawn up by the Commission shall be forwarded to the European Parliament, together with the relevant documentation. As soon as possible, and within three months of notification, the European Parliament may submit its views for consideration to the Council, which shall then appoint the Management Board. Appointment of the members of the Management Board shall be carried out in such a way as to guarantee the highest expert qualifications, a broad spectrum of relevant expert knowledge and the widest possible geographical spread in the Union.**

The full members of the Management Board may arrange to be replaced by alternates.

2. The term of office of the representatives shall be three years. It shall be renewable **once**.
3. The Management Board shall elect its Chairman for a term of three years and shall adopt its rules of procedure. Decisions of the Management Board shall be adopted by a majority of two-thirds of its members. **The Management Board shall invite the chairmen of the scientific committees to attend its meetings, but they shall not have the right to vote.**
4. Before 31 January each year, the Management Board shall adopt the general report on the activities of the Agency for the previous year and its programme of work for the coming year and forward them to the Member States, the European Parliament, the Council, and the Commission.

#### Article 69

The Advisory Board shall consist of one representative from each of the national authorities competent in the authorisation of human and veterinary medicinal products. **In addition, it shall include a representative of the European Pharmacology Society, a representative of the pharmaceuticals industry, a representative of the patients' associations and a representative of each category of health-care professionals (doctors and pharmacists).** The Executive Director or his representative and the representatives of the Commission shall have the right to attend the meetings of the Advisory Board.

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The Commission may submit any question concerning Community procedures for the authorisation of medicinal products to the Advisory Board.

The opinions of the Advisory Board shall not be binding in any way.

The Management Board, on the proposal of the Executive Director and following a favourable opinion from the Commission, shall draw up the provisions necessary for the implementation of this Article.

## CHAPTER 2

### FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

#### Article 70

1. The revenues of the Agency shall consist of **contributions** from the Community and the fees paid by undertakings for obtaining and maintaining a marketing authorisation and for other services provided by the Agency. **The budgetary authority shall re-examine when necessary the level of the contributions on the basis of an evaluation of needs and the level of fees.**
2. **In order to ensure full independence, at least the activities relating to pharmacovigilance, the operation of communications networks and market surveillance should receive public funding commensurate with the tasks conferred.**
3. The expenditure of the Agency shall include the staff, administrative, infrastructure and operational expenses and expenses resulting from contracts entered into with third parties. **In the event of additional tasks being transferred to the Agency, the Commission shall provide the Agency with the appropriate resources. In the event of a dispute, the Agency shall refer the matter to the budgetary authority.**
4. By 15 February of each year at the latest, the Director shall draw up a preliminary draft **estimate** covering the operational expenditure and the **preliminary** programme of work anticipated for the following financial year, and shall forward this preliminary draft to the Management Board **including** an establishment plan.
5. Revenue and expenditure shall be in balance.
6. The Management Board shall adopt the draft budget and forward it to the Commission, which on that basis shall establish the relevant estimates in the preliminary draft general budget of the European Communities, which it shall lay before the Council pursuant to Article 272 of the Treaty.
7. The Management Board shall adopt the Agency's final **work programme and final** budget before the beginning of the financial year, adjusting it where necessary to the Community subsidy and the Agency's other resources. **Any modification of the establishment plan and of the budget shall be notified to the budgetary authority in the form of an amending budget.**
8. The Director shall implement the Agency's budget.
9. Monitoring of the commitment and payment of all the Agency's expenditure and of the establishment and recovery of all the Agency's revenue shall be carried out by the financial controller of the Commission.
10. By 31 March of each year at the latest, the Director shall forward to the Commission, the Management Board and the Court of Auditors the accounts for all the Agency's revenue and expenditure in respect of the preceding financial year. The Court of Auditors shall examine them in accordance with Article 248 of the Treaty **and shall publish an annual report on the Agency's activities.**
11. **On a recommendation from the Council,** the European Parliament shall give a discharge to the Director in respect of the implementation of the **Agency's** budget.
12. After the Court of Auditors has delivered its opinion, the Management Board shall adopt the internal financial provisions specifying, in particular, the detailed rules for establishing and implementing the Agency's budget.

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#### Article 71

**1. In order to combat fraud, corruption and other unlawful activities the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1073/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 May 1999 concerning investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) <sup>(1)</sup> shall apply without restriction.**

**2. The Agency shall accede to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 25 May 1999 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission concerning internal investigations by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) <sup>(2)</sup> and shall issue, without delay, the appropriate provisions applicable to all the employees of the Agency.**

#### Article 72

The structure and the **level** of the fees referred to in Article 70(1) shall be established by the Council acting under the conditions provided for by the Treaty on a proposal from the Commission, following the latter's consultation of organisations representing the interests of the pharmaceutical industry at Community level. **The Management Board shall adjust the level of the fees each year in accordance with the EU inflation rate as established by Eurostat.**

**Applications related to medicinal products submitted by small and medium-sized companies established in the Community shall benefit from a fee reduction and/or a delayed payment of the fee, as for orphan medicinal products, according to provisions which will be adopted by the Commission.**

### CHAPTER 3

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS GOVERNING THE AGENCY

#### Article 73

The Agency shall have legal personality. In all Member States it shall *enjoy the most extensive legal capacity accorded to legal persons under their laws. It may, in particular, acquire or dispose of movable and immovable property and may be a party to legal proceedings.*

#### Article 74

1. The contractual liability of the Agency shall be governed by the law applicable to the contract in question. The Court of Justice of the European Communities shall have jurisdiction to *give judgment* pursuant to any arbitration clause contained in a contract concluded by the Agency.

2. In the case of non-contractual liability, the Agency shall, in accordance with the general principles common to the laws of the Member States, make good any damage caused by it or its servants in the performance of their duties.

The Court of Justice shall have jurisdiction in any dispute relating to compensation for such *damage*.

3. The personal liability of its servants towards the Agency shall be governed by the relevant rules applying to the staff of the Agency.

#### Article 75

The Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the European Communities shall apply to the Agency.

#### Article 76

The staff of the Agency shall be subject to the rules and regulations applicable to officials and other staff of the European Communities. In respect of its staff, the Agency shall exercise the powers which have been devolved to the appointing authority.

The Management Board, in agreement with the Commission, shall adopt the necessary implementing provisions.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 136, 31.5.1999, p. 1.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 136, 31.5.1999, p. 15.

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Article 77

Members of the Management Board, members of the Advisory Board, members of the Committees referred to in points (a) to (d) of Article 59(1), and experts and officials and other servants of the Agency, shall be required, even after their duties have ceased, not to disclose information of the kind covered by the obligation of professional secrecy.

Article 78

The Commission may, in agreement with the Management Board and the relevant Committee, invite representatives of international organisations with interests in the harmonisation of regulations applicable to medicinal products to participate as observers in the work of the Agency. The conditions for participation shall be determined beforehand by the Commission.

Article 79

The Management Board shall, in agreement with the Commission, develop appropriate contacts between the Agency and the representatives of the industry, consumers and patients and the health professions. These contacts may include the participation of observers in certain aspects of the Agency's work, under conditions determined beforehand by the Management Board, in agreement with the Commission.

Article 80

The Management Board shall, in the case of veterinary medicinal products which have limited markets, or in the case of **human and** veterinary medicinal products intended for diseases with a regional distribution, adopt the necessary administrative measures to provide help to **small and medium-sized** pharmaceutical companies at the time of submission of their applications. These administrative measures shall include, in particular, the responsibility **for translations** being taken over by the Agency.

Article 81

To ensure **the highest** level of transparency, the Management Board, on the basis of a proposal by the Executive Director, in agreement with the Commission, shall adopt rules **and set up a Register** to ensure the availability to the public of regulatory, scientific or technical information concerning the authorisation or supervision of medicinal products, **in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001**.

**Internal rules and procedures of the Agency, its Committees and its working groups shall be made available to the public at the Agency and on the Internet.**

**A copy of all scientific information, except for confidential data of a commercial nature, shall be made available to interested parties, in response to a written request and on payment of a fee which covers the material costs involved. Applications for authorisation submitted, the stage reached in the procedure, interim decisions, authorisations and any conditions imposed shall be published on the Internet in an easily comprehensible format. Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 shall also apply to the Agency.**

**An easily comprehensible format and language understandable by a layman shall be used for the drafting of European Public Assessment Reports (EPARs). EPARs shall include a section on the conditions imposed before the medicinal product was authorised.**

**Probabilities of successful treatment and adverse reactions shall be expressed as natural frequencies (number needed to treat/number needed to harm).**

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## TITLE V

## GENERAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

*Article 82*

1. All decisions to grant, refuse, vary, suspend, withdraw or revoke a marketing authorisation which are taken in accordance with this Regulation shall state in detail the reasons on which they are based. Such decisions shall be notified to the party concerned.
2. An authorisation to place a medicinal product, governed by this Regulation, on the market shall not be granted, refused, varied, suspended or withdrawn except through the procedures and on the grounds set out in this Regulation.

*Article 83*

1. **As** regards medicinal products for human use, the provisions of Article 98(3) of Directive 2001/83/EC apply to medicinal products authorised under this Regulation.
2. Without prejudice to the unique, Community nature of the content of the documents referred to in points (a) to (d) of *Article 10(4)* and in points (a) to (e) of *Article 39(4)*, this Regulation shall not prohibit the use of two or more commercial designs for a given medicinal product covered by a single authorisation.

*Article 84*

1. By way of derogation from Article 6 of Directive 2001/83/EC, a medicinal product not authorised for human use belonging to the categories referred to in *Article 4(1)* and (2) of this Regulation, which is potentially of major interest from the point of view of public health, may be made available to certain patients for compassionate reasons.
2. Before any decision is taken concerning the compassionate use of the medicinal products falling within the categories referred to in *Article 4(1)* and (2), the manufacturer or the person applying for a marketing authorisation shall notify the Agency.
3. Where a compassionate use is envisaged, the Committee for Human Medicinal Products, after consulting the manufacturer or the applicant, may adopt recommendations on the conditions for use, the conditions for distribution and the patients targeted. The Member States shall take any appropriate measures to ensure that the recommendations may be implemented under the applicable national legislation.
4. The Agency shall keep an up-to-date list of the medicinal products referred to in paragraph 1 made available for compassionate use. **Chapter 3 of Title II on pharmacovigilance** shall apply mutatis mutandis.
5. The recommendations referred to in paragraph 3 do not affect the civil or criminal liability of the manufacturer or the applicant for marketing authorisation.
6. **Medicinal products** administered for compassionate reasons **shall be financed by the manufacturer and** may **not** be the subject of a paid transaction, except in special cases determined beforehand in national legislation.
7. The actual placing on the market of a medicinal product previously administered for compassionate reasons, following the granting of a marketing authorisation or a negative opinion by the Committee for Human Medicinal Products within the meaning of *Article 10(2)*, shall render paragraphs 3 and 6 of this Article invalid.



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**8. Where a compassionate use programme is set up, the manufacturer shall ensure that the patients taking part also have access to the new medicinal product during the period between authorisation and placing on the market.**

9. This Article shall be without prejudice to Directive 2001/20/EC.

#### Article 85

1. Without prejudice to the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the European Communities, each Member State shall determine the penalties to be applied for the infringement of the provisions of this Regulation or the regulations adopted pursuant to it and shall take every measure necessary for their implementation. The penalties shall be effective, proportionate and dissuasive.

Member States shall inform the Commission of these provisions no later than 31 December 2004 of the penalties laid down in accordance with the above subparagraph. They shall send notification of any subsequent alterations as soon as possible.

2. Member States shall inform the Commission immediately of the institution of any litigation concerning the infringement of this Regulation.

3. At the Agency's request, the Commission may impose financial penalties on the holders of marketing authorisations granted under this Regulation if they fail to observe certain obligations laid down in connection with the authorisations. The maximum amounts as well as the conditions and methods for collection of these penalties shall be laid down by the Commission in accordance with the procedure foreseen in Article 89(2).

**The Commission shall publish the names of the holders of marketing authorisations involved and the amount of, and reasons for, the financial penalties imposed.**

#### Article 86

**A European patient group shall mean a group:**

- **representing patients from more than five Member States,**
- **representing specific categories of disease or umbrella groups working in the area of long-term chronic diseases,**
- **working on a non-profit basis.**

**A European patient group shall have a secretariat responsible for relations with the EU institutions and shall work in the interest of patients to promote information about new medical developments and research and development opportunities, and shall also provide information about the impact of European legislation on its membership. The group shall submit its workplan and all sources of funding in an annual statement to the Commission and the European Parliament.**

#### Article 87

This Regulation shall not affect the competences vested in the European Food Authority created by Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety<sup>(1)</sup>.

#### Article 88

At least every ten years, the Commission shall publish a general report on the experience acquired as a result of the operation of the procedures laid down in this Regulation, in Chapter 4 of Title III of Directive 2001/83/EC and in Chapter 4 of Title III of Directive 2001/82/EC.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 31, 1.2.2002, p. 1.

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*Article 89*

1. The Commission shall be assisted by the Standing Committee on Medicinal Products for Human Use set up by Article 121 of Directive 2001/83/EC and by the Standing Committee on Veterinary Medicinal Products set up by Article 89 of Directive 2001/82/EC.

2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, the regulatory procedure laid down in Article 5 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply, in compliance with Article 7 and Article 8 thereof.

The period provided for in Article 5(6) of Decision 1999/468/EC shall be three months.

3. Where reference is made to this paragraph, the advisory procedure laid down in Article 3 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply, in compliance with Article 7 and Article 8 thereof.

4. Where reference is made to this paragraph, the management procedure laid down in Article 4 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply, in compliance with Article 7 and Article 8 thereof.

The period provided for in Article 4(3) of Decision 1999/468/EC shall be one month.

*Article 90*

Regulation (EEC) No 2309/93 is hereby repealed.

References to the repealed Regulation shall be construed as references to this Regulation and shall be read in accordance with the correlation table in Annex II.

*Article 91*

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Communities.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at ..., on ...

For the European Parliament  
*The President*

For the Council  
*The President*

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*ANNEX I*

1. Medicinal products developed by means of one of the following biotechnological processes:
  - recombinant DNA technology;
  - controlled expression of genes coding for biologically active proteins in prokaryotes and eukaryotes including transformed mammalian cells;
  - hybridoma and monoclonal antibody methods.