

# **Sanofi-aventis was granted the *2008 China Charity Award* by the Ministry of Civil Affairs of the People's Republic of China**

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within the field of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) -***

**Paris, France – December 15, 2008** - Sanofi-aventis announced today that it was granted the “**2008 China Charity Award**” by the Ministry of Civil Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

This award is the most prestigious award in China within the field of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

The Awarding ceremony was held in the People's Great Hall, in Beijing, to praise the outstanding achievements from individuals, enterprises and charity programs in 2008. The objective of this award is to encourage the whole society to be passionate for Charity.

On this occasion, Mr. DOU Yupei, Deputy Minister of Civil Affairs declared: “***With strong government support and regulation implementation, complemented by the dedication of role model corporations and charity organizations, China is poised to do great things with great potential in the philanthropy area***”.

After the WenChuan Earthquake in May 2008, sanofi-aventis was among the first companies to donate 15 million RMB (1 million euros) to China's Ministry of Health, as well as medicines valued at 500,000 RMB to local Sichuan Ministry of Health.

In addition, sanofi-aventis China employees immediately mobilized to establish the “*intervention of care initiative*” to provide treatment and long term rehabilitation for earthquake victims suffering from spinal cord injuries, serious head injuries, and amputations. Employee donations and matching funding by sanofi-aventis China allowed for the funding of the “*intervention of care initiative*”, which was a collaboration between leading medical institutions in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, the NGO Handicap International, and sanofi-aventis China.

## **About sanofi-aventis**

Sanofi-aventis, a leading global pharmaceutical company, discovers, develops and distributes therapeutic solutions to improve the lives of everyone. Sanofi-aventis is listed in Paris (EURONEXT: SAN) and in New York (NYSE: SNY). For more information, please visit: [www.sanofi-aventis.com](http://www.sanofi-aventis.com).

