

# Sanofi-aventis Donates Medical Equipment to Zundao Community Hospital

**- Company Remains Committed to Post-earthquake Rebuilding Efforts -**

**Mianzhu, Sichuan, China, April 22, 2009** - Sanofi-aventis (EURONEXT: SAN and NYSE: SNY) today donated medical equipment to Zundao Community Hospital, which marks the first permanent hospital rebuilt after the tragic earthquake on May 12, 2008. The donation is a continuation of the actions that sanofi-aventis has taken to assist with post-earthquake rebuilding efforts.

Mianzhu was one of the hardest hit areas in the May 12 earthquake. In Zundao County alone, the casualty reached 4,000 out of a population of 25,000. 99% of the buildings were devastated, including the local hospital. The new Zundao Community Hospital will provide medical care and health care education for more than 24,000 people living in an around the county.

Christopher A. Viehbacher, Chief Executive Officer of sanofi-aventis, visited the hospital and reaffirmed the company's commitment to fulfilling its social responsibility. *"I am deeply impressed by the resilience of the people of Sichuan who have rebuilt their homes and communities after the tragic earthquake. Philanthropy is a big part of sanofi-aventis' culture around the world. I am proud that we have contributed to the opening of Zundao Community Hospital,"* said Mr. Viehbacher.

Sanofi-aventis was among the first companies to act after the May 12 earthquake, with a 15M RMB (1.7M Euro) donation to the Ministry of Health and donation of medicines to Sichuan Bureau of Health to support survivor rescue operations, disease-prevention, and vaccination in disaster areas.

In June 2008, sanofi-aventis China matched employee contributions, and established the "Intervention of Care Project" with Huaxi Hospital, No. 3 People's Hospital of Chengdu, and Handicap International, an international non-governmental organization specialized in the field of disability. The money raised has been used for the treatment and long-term rehabilitation of earthquake victims. To date, the "Intervention of Care" program has trained more than 1,000 healthcare professionals on subjects including spinal injury care, complicated fracture care, bed-ridden patients care, and neurological rehabilitation of brain injury patients. As a result of the "Intervention of Care" program, more than 2,500 disabled patients received long-term rehabilitation at Huaxi Hospital and No. 3 People's Hospital of Chengdu. Many more patients in the surrounding areas including Mianzhu City also benefited from the program. Experts from Handicap International also followed the disabled patients after they have left the hospital and returned to their hometowns including Zundao and Hanwang.

Thomas Kelly, General Manager of sanofi-aventis China, pointed out that the medical equipment donated to Zundao Community Hospital was partially funded by the personal contributions of more than 3,300 sanofi-aventis employees in China. *"Our employees' participation is what's unique about our involvement in the Sichuan earthquake relief efforts. As the first multinational healthcare company to establish offices in China, sanofi-aventis will stay true to its values and continue to be a responsible member of the community,"* said Mr. Kelly.

## About sanofi-aventis China

Sanofi-aventis is the first foreign pharmaceutical company to open offices in China. Sanofi-aventis is one of the fastest growing healthcare companies in China, with leading products covering vaccines (Vaxigrip<sup>®</sup>) and major therapeutic areas, such as cardiovascular/thrombosis (Plavix<sup>®</sup>, Aprovel<sup>®</sup>/Co-Aprovel<sup>®</sup>); diabetes (Lantus<sup>®</sup>), oncology (Taxotere<sup>®</sup>, Elaxotin<sup>®</sup>), internal medicine (Essentiale<sup>®</sup>), and central nervous system (Stilnox<sup>®</sup>). Sanofi-aventis currently employs more than 3,300 people in 188 cities across China.

Sanofi-aventis has three manufacturing sites in Beijing, Hangzhou and Shenzhen. In 2007, the company invested 94 million USD (700 million RMB) to establish a high-tech manufacturing facility in Shenzhen to produce Vaxigrip<sup>®</sup> for the prevention of seasonal influenza and to contribute to pandemic readiness in China.

In October 2008, sanofi-aventis announced its R&D expansion in China, which allows rapid growth of clinical programs and aims to encompass all activities, from drug-target identification to late-stage clinical studies in 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).

## Forward Looking Statements

*This press release contains forward-looking statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, as amended. Forward-looking statements are statements that are not historical facts. These statements include financial projections and estimates and their underlying assumptions, statements regarding plans, objectives, intentions and expectations with respect to future events, operations, products and services, and statements regarding future performance. Forward-looking statements are generally identified by the words “expects,” “anticipates,” “believes,” “intends,” “estimates,” “plans” and similar expressions. Although sanofi-aventis’ management believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, investors are cautioned that forward-looking information and statements are subject to various risks and uncertainties, many of which are difficult to predict and generally beyond the control of sanofi-aventis, that could cause actual results and developments to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied or projected by, the forward-looking information and statements. These risks and uncertainties include those discussed or identified in the public filings with the SEC and the AMF made by sanofi-aventis, including those listed under “Risk Factors” and “Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements” in sanofi-aventis’ annual report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2008. Other than as required by applicable law, sanofi-aventis does not undertake any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking information or statements.*

## Media contacts:

### **Xue Hua**

+86 1380 184 5657

[hua.xue@sanofi-aventis.com](mailto:hua.xue@sanofi-aventis.com)

### **Liu Shasha**

+86 1360 133 1028

[shasha.liu@sanofi-aventis.com](mailto:shasha.liu@sanofi-aventis.com)