



## Sanofi Pasteur Donates Vaccine Strain Used for Polio Eradication to WHO

*- Vaccine strain used in the production of oral polio vaccines against type 3 poliovirus -*

**Lyon, France – September, 20, 2011** – Sanofi Pasteur, the vaccines division of Sanofi (EURONEXT: SAN and NYSE: SNY), announced today it is donating to the World Health Organization (WHO) a vaccine strain used for polio eradication. The biological material given by Sanofi Pasteur is the original viral seed used to produce large quantities of oral polio vaccines (OPV) against type 3 poliovirus. With this donation from Sanofi Pasteur, WHO will be in full control of the storage of the vaccine strain and its distribution to vaccine producers worldwide.

*“Sanofi Pasteur is a leading contributor to the fight against polio and committed supporter of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative,”* said Olivier Charmeil, President and CEO of Sanofi Pasteur. *“We have provided polio type 3 viral seeds free of charge to polio vaccine manufacturers worldwide for the last 30 years. This donation is a logical next step to our 30-year unconditional support to OPV producers and a demonstration of our continued commitment to public health.”*

Since 1988, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, spearheaded by WHO, Rotary International, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and UNICEF, has achieved a 99% reduction of the number of polio cases worldwide. Polio is caused by three strains of poliovirus, types 1, 2 and 3. Wild poliovirus type 2 has already been eliminated, and it is hoped that polio type 1 and 3 will be eradicated within a few years, definitively wiping polio from the surface of the earth.

OPV is instrumental for the roll-out of nationwide immunization days. The OPV type 3 vaccine strain was officially recommended in 1990 by WHO as the standard for producing oral polio vaccine (OPV) type 3.

### **Sanofi Pasteur in the fight against polio**

Sanofi Pasteur has been supporting the Global Polio Eradication Initiative since its launch in 1988. Recently, Sanofi Pasteur responded to a UNICEF request by committing to provide 400 million doses of OPV in 2011-2012 for use in developing countries. Over the past decades, Sanofi Pasteur has supplied more than 5 billion doses of OPV to UNICEF.

Between 1997 and 2005, Sanofi Pasteur donated over 120 million doses of OPV to respond to emergency situations in African countries affected by conflicts. In response to an outbreak in Egypt and a request from WHO, the company developed the first monovalent oral polio vaccine, which helped in declaring Egypt polio free in 2006.

The company has developed other specially formulated polio vaccines to target specific regional situations. In addition to producing multiple formulations of OPV, the company is a leading supplier of injectable inactivated polio vaccine (IPV), which is available as a stand-alone polio vaccine as well as a component of combination vaccines that protect against many diseases in a single shot.



## About Sanofi

Sanofi, a global and diversified healthcare leader, discovers, develops and distributes therapeutic solutions focused on patients' needs. Sanofi has core strengths in the field of healthcare with seven growth platforms: diabetes solutions, human vaccines, innovative drugs, rare diseases, consumer healthcare, emerging markets and animal health. Sanofi is listed in Paris (EURONEXT: SAN) and in New York (NYSE: SNY).

Sanofi Pasteur, the vaccines division of Sanofi, provides more than 1 billion doses of vaccine each year, making it possible to immunize more than 500 million people across the globe. A world leader in the vaccine industry, Sanofi Pasteur offers the broadest range of vaccines protecting against 20 infectious diseases. The company's heritage, to create vaccines that protect life, dates back more than a century. Sanofi Pasteur is the largest company entirely dedicated to vaccines. Every day, the company invests more than EUR 1 million in research and development. For more information, please visit: [www.sanofipasteur.com](http://www.sanofipasteur.com) or [www.sanofipasteur.us](http://www.sanofipasteur.us)

## 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 projections and estimates and their underlying assumptions, statements regarding plans, objectives, intentions and expectations with respect to future financial results, events, operations, services, product development and potential, 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's 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, 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 among other things, the uncertainties inherent in research and development, future clinical data and analysis, including post marketing, decisions by regulatory authorities, such as the FDA or the EMA, regarding whether and when to approve any drug, device or biological application that may be filed for any such product candidates as well as their decisions regarding labeling and other matters that could affect the availability or commercial potential of such products candidates, the absence of guarantee that the products candidates if approved will be commercially successful, the future approval and commercial success of therapeutic alternatives, the Group's ability to benefit from external growth opportunities as well as those discussed or identified in the public filings with the SEC and the AMF made by Sanofi, including those listed under "Risk Factors" and "Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" in Sanofi's annual report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2010. Other than as required by applicable law, Sanofi does not undertake any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking information or statements.*

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## Contacts:

### Global Media Relations

Pascal Barollier  
T. +33-(0)4-37-37-50-38  
[pascal.barollier@sanofipasteur.com](mailto:pascal.barollier@sanofipasteur.com)  
[www.sanofipasteur.com](http://www.sanofipasteur.com)

### U.S. Media Relations

Len Lavenda  
T. +1-570-957-0717  
[len.lavenda@sanofipasteur.com](mailto:len.lavenda@sanofipasteur.com)  
[www.sanofipasteur.us](http://www.sanofipasteur.us)