

For Immediate Release

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### **Daiichi Sankyo Further Expands TaNeDS Collaborative Drug Discovery Programme in Europe**

**Tokyo, Japan (October 1, 2015)** – Daiichi Sankyo Company, Limited (hereafter, Daiichi Sankyo) today announced details of the application for its Take a New Challenge for Drug Discovery (TaNeDS) Europe 2015/2016, a collaborative drug discovery initiative for universities and research institutes in Europe.

The TaNeDS programme was launched in Japan in 2011 to help discover new lines of research through open innovation. From 2013 it expanded abroad, opening up to researchers in Germany, Switzerland and Austria, becoming known as the TaNeDS Global Programme, and in 2014, it expanded further across Europe to include all EU member countries. This year the programme was renamed “TaNeDS Europe,” and the aim of this programme is realizing Daiichi Sankyo’s corporate slogan of “Passion for Innovation. Compassion for Patients” through increasing collaborative opportunities with researchers in Europe. U3 Pharma GmbH (headquarters: Munich, Germany; hereafter, U3 Pharma), a wholly owned subsidiary of Daiichi Sankyo, is also participating in the programme in order to nurture the seeds of drug discovery for the next generation.

#### **About the TaNeDS Europe 2015/2016**

(1) Countries where research could be conducted:

All EU member countries plus Iceland, Norway and Switzerland.

(2) Overview of research programmes

Daiichi Sankyo seeks innovative technological research collaborators for novel drug discovery and testing projects that could result in novel drug discovery and novel new drugs.

(3) Research themes

1. Cardiovascular and metabolic disorders

New mechanisms and drug treatments for obesity, kidney and renovascular-related disorders.

2. Cancer

New targeted and investigative research for small-molecule and biologic treatments (antibody drugs, etc.).

### 3. Other disorders

New mechanisms and drug treatments for sensory neuronal systems in vision/hearing loss, immune dysfunction, fibrosis, muscle atrophy, anaemia and genetic disorders, new drug treatments for pain, genetic analysis and new drug research for rare/serious diseases.

### 4. Revolutionary drug discovery technology

Novel target molecules and delivery systems for nucleic acid treatments, and new biologic technology.

For more details, please visit the TaNeDS Europe page at:

<http://www.daiichisankyo.com/rd/taneds/index.html>

### (4) Budget and period of research

Up to 80,000 euros or 150,000 euros (plus overhead) per year for collaborative research projects lasting up to 2 years.

### (5) Eligibility

Researchers of any nationality employed by universities, research institutes and start-up companies within the EU, as well as Iceland, Norway and Switzerland, who can conduct research in those countries on projects that match Daiichi Sankyo's desired research themes.

### (6) Selection criteria

Daiichi Sankyo and U3 Pharma researchers will select research projects that match their research needs as well as demonstrate originality, potential and promise as drug discovery candidates.

### (7) Schedule

Application period:	December 1, 2015 to January 15, 2016
First shortlist selection period:	Mid-January to mid-February 2016
Second shortlist selection period:	Mid- February 2016 to early March 2016
On-site visit interview:	April, 2016
Notification of Final Decisions:	Early-May 2016
Start of research programmes:	June, 2016

### **Selection Results for the TaNeDS Global Programme 2014**

The application process for 2014 resulted in 2 projects being selected and those collaborations are currently underway.

(1) Applications: 40

(2) Selected: 2

The subjects of two selected proposals are Biologics and Structure-Based Drug Design. The principal investigators are affiliated with the Heidelberg Institute for Stem Cell Technology and Experimental Medicine in Germany and the University of Groningen in Netherlands respectively.