

For Immediate Release

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Daiichi Sankyo Moves Forward with Innovative Antimalarial Drug Research Collaboration

Tokyo, Japan (October 5, 2016) – Daiichi Sankyo Company, Limited (hereafter Daiichi Sankyo), announced that it has entered into a new joint research agreement with Medicines for Malaria Venture (hereafter MMV) regarding Lead Optimization Project with the aim of developing a new, innovative antimalarial drug.

In June 2013, Daiichi Sankyo and MMV launched a High-Throughput Screening (HTS) project of a 50,000 compounds library from Daiichi Sankyo with the goal of discovering antimalarial hit compounds. Building on the identification of three hit series during the HTS project, Hit-to-Lead project was launched in March 2015.

As a result of these previous collaborative research projects, two leads that meet the criteria set by the Global Health Innovative Technology Fund (hereafter GHIT Fund) and MMV have been obtained. The collaborative research will now proceed to the next stage as Lead Optimization Project beginning in October 2016. The project goal for the Daiichi Sankyo and MMV project team is to produce a clinical candidate with suitable antimalarial “drug-like” properties.

This collaborative research project is funded through the GHIT Fund’s Product Development Platform and will receive approximately 180 million yen over a period of two years.

By developing and producing pharmaceutical agents and improving access to healthcare in developing countries, Daiichi Sankyo is actively contributing towards the third Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) set by the United Nations: ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all people at all ages. Daiichi Sankyo is also contributing to the health and quality of life of people across the globe by participating in this collaborative research project into antimalarial drugs.

About Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV)

MMV is a leading product development partnership (PDP) in the field of antimalarial drug research and development. Its mission is to reduce the burden of malaria in disease-endemic countries by discovering, developing and delivering new, effective and affordable antimalarial drugs.

Since its foundation in 1999, MMV and partners have built the largest portfolio of antimalarial R&D and access projects ever assembled, and brought forward six new medicines that are already saving lives. MMV's success is based on its extensive partnership network of over 400 pharmaceutical, academic and endemic-country partners in more than 55 countries.

MMV's vision is a world in which innovative medicines will cure and protect the vulnerable and under-served populations at risk of malaria, and ultimately help to eradicate this terrible disease.

<http://www.mmv.org>

About Global Health Innovative Technology Fund (GHIT Fund)

The GHIT Fund is a public-private partnership between the Japanese government, multiple pharmaceutical companies, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Wellcome Trust, and UNDP. Launched in April 2013 with an initial commitment of more than US\$100 million and now with capital of over US\$140 million, the organization taps Japanese research and development (R&D) to fight neglected diseases. GHIT Fund invests and manages a portfolio of development partnerships aimed at neglected diseases that afflict the world's poorest people. GHIT Fund mobilizes Japanese pharmaceutical companies and academic and research organizations to engage in the effort to get new medicines, vaccines, and diagnostic tools to people who need them most, with Japan quickly becoming a game-changer in global health. For more information, please visit

<http://www.ghitfund.org>.