

**MEDIA RELEASE • MEDIA RELEASE • MEDIA RELEASE**

## **Novartis Corporation announces changes to the Novartis Legal Preferred Firm Program**

- *The Novartis Legal Preferred Firm Program aims to achieve optimal legal and business results for the Company*
- *Changes to the program will ensure a focus on relationship building, central coordination and quality of results*
- *Law firms on the Preferred Firm Panel selected to perform the significant majority of Novartis legal work*

**New York, July 16, 2012** – Novartis today announced changes to its Legal Preferred Firm Program, an initiative that is intended to achieve the best legal and business results for Novartis through the development of longer-term, strategic partnerships with law firms. The centrally-coordinated Program will also focus on quality of results and the consistent enforcement of parameters.

As part of the Program, Novartis engaged in a process to examine and reassess its Panel of Preferred Firms. After a lengthy review, Novartis is pleased to announce its new Preferred Firm Panel of Global and U.S. law firms, which will be utilized for the significant majority of Novartis legal work:

### **Global Firms**

- Allen & Overy LLP
- Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
- Linklaters LLP
- Morrison & Foerster LLP
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
- Hollingsworth LLP (Product Liability)
- Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP (Litigation)
- Seyfarth Shaw LLP (Employment)
- Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP (False Advertising & Commercial Litigation)

### **U.S. Country Firms**

- Arnold & Porter LLP
- Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP
- Kaye Scholer LLP
- White & Case LLP

### **U.S. Country Specialist Firms**

- Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP (Litigation)
- Covington & Burling LLP (Regulatory)
- Faegre Baker Daniels LLP (Product Liability)
- Greenberg Traurig, LLP (Product Liability)
- Hogan Lovells (Regulatory)

### **U.S. Country Specialist Intellectual Property Firms**

- Fitzpatrick, Cella, Harper & Scinto
- McDermott Will & Emery
- O'Melveny & Myers LLP
- Rakoczy Molino Mazzochi Siwik LLP
- Williams & Connolly LLP
- Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP
- Winston & Strawn LLP



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“We believe the Program’s renewed focus on relationships creates a win-win environment,” said Felix R. Ehrat, Ph.D., Group General Counsel of Novartis. “The commitments we are making will lead to increased efficiency and effectiveness.”

Key changes being made to the Program include the creation of the role of Chief Counsel, Law Firm Partnering, Novartis Corporation, to provide more central coordination and focus on relationship building and consistency in approach, as well as an annual Summit where the Preferred Firm Panel will come together with senior Novartis executives and lawyers to further relationships and develop a deeper understanding of Novartis business.

#### **Disclaimer**

The foregoing release contains forward-looking statements that can be identified by terminology such as "aims," "will," "long-term," "strategic," or similar expressions, or by express or implied discussions regarding potential future savings or other business results deriving from the Preferred Firm Program. You should not place undue reliance on these statements. Such forward-looking statements reflect the current views of management regarding future events, and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements. There can be no guarantee that any savings or other business results will follow from the Preferred Firm Program. In particular, management's expectations could be affected by, among other things, uncertainties regarding actual or potential legal proceedings; unexpected issues with respect to our dealings with some or all of the Preferred Firms; the impact that the foregoing factors could have on the values attributed to the Novartis Group's assets and liabilities as recorded in the Group's consolidated balance sheet, and other risks and factors referred to in Novartis AG's current Form 20-F on file with the US Securities and Exchange Commission. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those anticipated, believed, estimated or expected. Novartis is providing the information in this press release as of this date and does not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this press release as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

#### **About Novartis**

Novartis Corporation is an affiliate of Novartis AG, which provides innovative healthcare solutions that address the evolving needs of patients and societies. Headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, Novartis offers a diversified portfolio to best meet these needs: innovative medicines, eye care, cost-saving generic pharmaceuticals, preventive vaccines and diagnostic tools, over-the-counter and animal health products. Novartis is the only global company with leading positions in these areas. In 2011, the Group's continuing operations achieved net sales of USD 58.6 billion, while approximately USD 9.6 billion (USD 9.2 billion excluding impairment and amortization charges) was invested in R&D throughout the Group. Novartis Group companies employ approximately 124,000 full-time-equivalent associates and operate in more than 140 countries around the world. For more information, please visit <http://www.novartis.com>.

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