Sanofi Pasteur Commends Nepal for Introducing Inactivated Polio Vaccine in Routine Immunization

- Nepal today contributes a vital step towards a polio-free world -

Kathmandu, Nepal – September 18, 2014 – Sanofi Pasteur, the vaccines division of Sanofi (EURONEXT: SAN and NYSE: SNY), participated today in the celebration of the introduction of Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV) in Nepal. Several children in Kathmandu were vaccinated with Sanofi Pasteur’s inactivated injectable polio vaccine (IPV) Imovax® Polio during a celebration held by Nepal's Minister of Health and Population, Shri Khaga Raj Adhikari. Nepal is the first Gavi-eligible country where children now receive IPV within the routine immunization schedule.

"The last transmission of polio from one person to another in Nepal was almost five years ago. Today, we start to make sure that not one of our children will ever again have her future stolen or his dreams destroyed by this disease," said the Honorable Minister of Health and Population of Nepal, Shri Khaga Raj Adhikari. “Preventing childhood deaths is central to our country’s policy. We have made progress in reducing these deaths although we continue to face challenges,” he added.

Putting children first

“We are proud that Nepal is again putting its children first. We are happy that the country is working in partnership with Sanofi Pasteur and global health organizations to introduce IPV,” said Dr Yasho Vardhan Pradhan, President of the Society of Public Health Physicians in Nepal.

“As the first Gavi-supported country to introduce IPV, Nepal takes the lead in the global effort to secure a polio-free future,” said Dr Seth Berkley, CEO of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. “Gavi is working with partners to ensure that children in the world's poorest countries are protected with IPV through routine immunisation by 2018. So far, 25 Gavi-supported countries have been approved to introduce IPV into their routine immunisation schedules," Dr Berkley added.

“Nepal is an inspiration to South Asia and to all of us”, said Olivier Charmeil, President and CEO of Sanofi Pasteur. “Through times of great change and challenge, Nepal has steadily increased vaccine coverage and reduced child mortality. Today, Nepal again leads the world by being the first Gavi-eligible country to introduce IPV. Contributing to polio eradication is part of Sanofi Pasteur's mission. Knowing that our vaccines will make sure that no Nepali child ever again falls victim to polio, makes every Sanofi Pasteur employee very proud.”

The global rollout of IPV introduction

Following the World Health Organization’s (WHO) recommendation issued earlier in 2014, Nepal is the first country to introduce IPV under the terms of a partnership between Sanofi Pasteur and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

This partnership illustrates Sanofi Pasteur’s commitment to offer high-quality IPV across a broad range of countries and economic situations at differential prices in an unprecedented, global rollout.

Introducing at least one dose of IPV and switching progressively over the next few years from an oral polio vaccine (OPV) to IPV is critical to ending transmission and improving immunization rates. Because OPV contains a very weakened form of the live polio virus, the global plan calls for OPV to be progressively replaced with the inactivated, injectable vaccine as the world moves into the final stages of polio eradication.
Countries and partners move forward to the end of polio

The universal introduction of IPV, a vaccine that has been used in the majority of the developed world for years, is a necessary step toward achieving a polio-free world by 2018 according to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) Endgame Strategic Plan. The Plan was endorsed by 194 countries in 2013 and offers a comprehensive roadmap that includes ending polio transmission, improving routine immunization rates and creating a lasting blueprint for addressing other significant global health challenges.

In February 2014, Sanofi Pasteur - the world's largest producer of IPV - and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced a joint price support mechanism, including a financial contribution from both organizations. The mechanism allows Gavi to make IPV available for inclusion in the routine immunization schedules in 73 of the world's poorest countries.

Sanofi Pasteur committed to zero polio
Sanofi Pasteur has made significant investments in modern technology to produce very large quantities of IPV -- up to 300 million doses a year. As well as this substantial investment in production capacity, Sanofi Pasteur support to IPV now includes development of a five-dose vial presentation (as well as the standard ten-dose vial presentation) to reduce wastage, a massive regulatory and licensing program in about 100 countries and expert contributions on scientific, program and technical questions.

Sanofi Pasteur, as a leader in providing both OPV and IPV, has been a partner of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative for over 20 years. The company has provided more than five billion doses of OPV to UNICEF over last two decades. In 1982, Sanofi Pasteur registered the first enhanced-potency inactivated polio vaccine (IPV), which is now distributed globally as a stand-alone poliovirus vaccine as well as in combination pediatric vaccines to immunize against many diseases in a single shot. Since then, Sanofi Pasteur has distributed more than 800 million doses of IPV and IPV-containing vaccines.

About Sanofi
Sanofi, an integrated global 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, consumer healthcare, emerging markets, animal health and the new Genzyme. 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 a broad 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

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 labelling and other matters that could affect the availability or commercial potential of such product candidates, the absence of guarantee that the product 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, trends in exchange rates and prevailing interest rates, the impact of cost containment policies and subsequent changes thereto, the average number of shares outstanding 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, 2013. 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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