

[Translation]

May 15, 2003

Yamanouchi Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (the "Company")

**RELEASE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THE COMPANY'S OWN SHARES**

(Acquisition of treasury stock pursuant to the provisions of Article 210, Commercial Code of Japan)

You are hereby notified that at the meeting of the Board of Directors held on May 15, 2003, the Company resolved that it will propose the acquisition of its own shares pursuant to the provisions of Article 210 of Commercial Code of Japan at the 90th Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders to be held on June 27, 2003 as set forth below:

Particulars

1. Reason for the acquisition of its own shares:

The Company will acquire its own shares in order to improve capital efficiency and maximize shareholder profits, which will also enable the Company to carry out more flexible financial operations in response to the business development hereafter.

2. Contents of acquisition:

(1) Types of shares to be acquired: Shares of common stock of the Company

(2) Total number of shares to be acquired:

15,000,000 shares (Maximum)

(The percentage compared to the total number of shares issued not including treasury stock: 4.5%)

(3) Aggregate amount of the acquisition cost:

¥ 52,500,000,000 (Maximum)

(Note) The contents stated above will be applied for the period until the closing of the next Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders in 2004 following the approval of the resolution at the 90th Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders to be held on June 27, 2003.

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