

March 4, 2008

## **Astellas Announces Global Management System and Establishes Global Development Functional Headquarters**

Japan, March 4, 2008 - Astellas Pharma Inc. (headquarters: Tokyo, President and CEO: Masafumi Nogimori, “Astellas”) today announced that it will revise its global management system on April 1, 2008 in order to strengthen its competitiveness in the pharmaceutical market worldwide. Along with the revision of its global management system, Astellas has decided to establish a new U.S. subsidiary, Astellas Pharma Global Development, Inc., which will be located in Illinois and act as the HQs for global development.

Astellas currently possesses operations bases in Japan, the U.S., Europe and Asia. The overseas sales ratio is anticipated to exceed 50% of consolidated net sales in FY2007, ending March 2008. This proportion is forecasted to continuously increase in the future. In addition, in order to accomplish VISION 2015, Astellas’ long term management vision announced in December 2006, it needs further business expansions in the U.S., Europe and Asia while maintaining its main operations base in Japan. As a result, Astellas has decided to build an optimal global management system to enable quick and accurate decision making in order to strengthen its competitiveness in the worldwide pharmaceutical market.

The following changes are currently underway to support the establishment of the global management system:

- Astellas has been implementing a global matrix management system, under which Profit Centers in Japan, the U.S., Europe and Asia, together with their support functions, are locally operated under Regional HQs, whereas the functions of Drug Discovery Research, Development and Technology are implementing functional management throughout the world. Astellas intends to further enhance the management of these key functions by locating their HQs in optimal locations to achieve a competitive advantage.
- Astellas reorganizes its decision making committee. The Global Management Committee, consisting of Chief Officers, Heads of Profit Centers, Global Functional Heads and chaired by President & CEO, as Global CEO for Astellas group, will be newly established to discuss and decide important global business related issues. The Corporate Administration and Finance Committee, consisting of Chief Officers, relevant Division Heads of Astellas HQs and chaired by Executive Vice President of Astellas HQs will also be established to discuss and decide on the important finance and administrative issues of Astellas HQs as a Japanese legal entity. Upon the establishment of these two committees, the Corporate Executive Committee and Product Strategy Executive Committee will be disbanded.

### Astellas Pharma Global Development, Inc.

Astellas has also decided to establish its global development HQs, Astellas Pharma Global Development, Inc., in the U.S. in order to strengthen its product development competitiveness. Astellas chose the U.S. as the location of this new company to optimize development strategies and the administration of global projects. The President of this new company, Steven Ryder, M.D., F.A.C.P., will become the head of the

global development function and directly report to Global CEO for Astellas group. The regional development heads responsible for the implementation of product development strategies in Japan, the U.S., and Europe, respectively, will report to Dr. Ryder.

Details of the new subsidiary are as follows;

Name: Astellas Pharma Global Development, Inc.

Date of business commencement: April 2008

Headquarters: Deerfield, Illinois, the U.S.

President: Steven Ryder, M.D.

Business description: strategy planning and management in global development

Astellas expects that the revision of global management system and the establishment of the new subsidiary for global development functional HQs will further enhance its global competitiveness by accelerating product development and the launch of new products. Astellas will seek to enhance enterprise value in a sustainable manner.

< Reference >

Biography of Steven Ryder, M.D., F.A.C.P.

Steven Ryder received his M.D. from Mt. Sinai School of Medicine in 1974, and he completed his clinical training and board certification in internal medicine and endocrinology-metabolism at the State University of New York (SUNY). Following this, he joined the Berson Laboratory of the Bronx Veteran's Administration Medical Center and was engaged in research on endocrinology. In 1982, he joined Ayerst Laboratories (New York, NY) and assigned CNS and endocrine/metabolic clinical development. In 1987, he joined Pfizer Central Research (Groton/New London, CT) and has been involved in the development of various pharmaceutical products during his 21-year career. He has assumed the post of Senior Vice President and Group Therapeutic Area Development Head at Pfizer Global Research and Development at the latest.

In 2008, he will join Astellas as the President of Astellas Pharma Global Development, Inc. and will be assume membership on the Global Management Committee of Astellas Pharma Inc.

#####

Contacts for inquiries or additional information
Astellas Pharma Inc. Corporate Communications Tel: +81-3-3244-3201 Fax: +81-3-5201-7473 <a href="http://www.astellas.com">http://www.astellas.com</a>