



Roskilde, 19 December 2006

Press Release

Nycomed's acquisition of ALTANA Pharma approved at Extraordinary General Meeting in ALTANA AG

Today, the shareholders of ALTANA AG approved the sale of ALTANA Pharma to Nycomed at an Extraordinary General Meeting.

On 21 September 2006, Nycomed announced that it had reached an agreement to acquire ALTANA Pharma AG, the pharmaceutical business of German-based international pharmaceuticals and chemicals group, ALTANA AG, for a total value of € 4.215 billion.

Closing of the transaction was subject to the approval of the shareholders of ALTANA AG and the necessary antitrust clearances. On 14 December 2006, Nycomed announced the EU and US antitrust clearances. With today's approval from ALTANA AG's shareholders the transaction process can now be finalised according to plan. Closing of the transaction is expected to be announced on 29 December 2006 and will be effective as of 1 January 2007.

"We are very pleased with today's approval from the shareholders of ALTANA AG. Over the last months, we have invested a lot of resources in planning and preparing the acquisition of ALTANA Pharma. After today, we can start looking forward to begin the actual integration of the two companies and to realising the great potential they hold as a unified company", said Håkan Björklund, Nycomed CEO.

The combined group will continue under the Nycomed corporate brand name and will be headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland. Based on 2005 results, the company will have an initial workforce of around 12,000 people across more than 40 countries, and have estimated annual sales of approximately € 3.1 billion and EBITDA of approximately € 848 million.

About Nycomed

Nycomed is a pharmaceutical company dedicated to meeting needs in Europe. The company provides hospital products throughout the region and general practitioner and pharmacy medicines in selected markets.

New products are sourced through licensing agreements with research companies. Here Nycomed provides late-stage clinical development, registration and marketing.

Headquartered in Roskilde, Denmark, the company employs about 3,500 people throughout Europe and Russia-CIS. Nycomed is privately owned and had a 2005 revenue of € 747.5 million.

For more information visit www.nycomed.com

For further information

Håkan Björklund, CEO
Phone +45 46 77 11 11

Christoffer Jensen, VP Communications
Phone +45 46 77 11 12
Mobile +45 22 43 69 44