



## **ABLYNX EXPANDS ITS MUSCULOSKELETAL PORTFOLIO BY TAKING P&G PHARMACEUTICALS' PROGRAMME IN-HOUSE**

**GHENT, Belgium, 20 January, 2009** - Ablynx [*Euronext Brussels: ABLX*], a pioneer in the discovery and development of Nanobodies<sup>®</sup>, a novel class of antibody-derived therapeutic proteins, has expanded its musculoskeletal research portfolio by transferring in-house full ownership of a bone disorder R&D programme initiated under its collaboration with Procter & Gamble Pharmaceuticals.

This is Ablynx's second musculoskeletal programme and it complements ALX-0141, Ablynx's Nanobody<sup>®</sup> against Receptor Activator for Nuclear Factor kappa B Ligand (RANKL) which is in preclinical development.

Together, the two programmes target different mechanisms to treat bone disorders such as osteoporosis. Ablynx plans to accelerate this second bone disorder programme towards preclinical development, once the best lead candidate Nanobody<sup>®</sup> has been selected.

"We are delighted to have reached agreement with P&G Pharmaceuticals. It fits with our strategy to expand our in-house pipeline. Ablynx has the resources and expertise to accelerate the programme which we believe could offer an important new approach to osteoporosis therapy," said Dr Edwin Moses, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Ablynx.

Ablynx's research collaboration with Procter & Gamble Pharmaceuticals, which commenced in 2004, will now formally end, with Ablynx having the rights to any assets discovered under the agreement.

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**About Ablynx [*Euronext Brussels: ABLX*] - <http://www.ablynx.com>**

Founded in 2001 in Ghent, Belgium, Ablynx is a biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery and development of Nanobodies<sup>®</sup>, a novel class of therapeutic proteins based on single-domain antibody fragments, for a range of serious and life-threatening human diseases. The Company currently has over 200 employees. Ablynx completed a successful IPO on Euronext Brussels [*ABLX*] on 7 November 2007.

Ablynx is developing a portfolio of Nanobody<sup>®</sup>-based therapeutic programmes in a number of major disease areas, including inflammation, thrombosis, oncology and Alzheimer's disease. Nanobodies<sup>®</sup> have been generated against more than 100 different disease targets. Efficacy data has been obtained in over 25 *in vivo* models for Nanobodies<sup>®</sup> against a range of different targets.

Ablynx has an extensive patent position in the field of Nanobodies<sup>®</sup> for healthcare applications. It has exclusive and worldwide rights to more than 50 families of granted patents and pending patent applications, including the Hamers patents covering the basic structure, composition, preparation and uses of Nanobodies<sup>®</sup>.

Ablynx has ongoing research collaborations and significant partnerships with several major pharmaceutical companies, including Boehringer Ingelheim, Merck Serono, Novartis and Wyeth Pharmaceuticals. Ablynx is building a diverse and broad portfolio of therapeutic Nanobodies<sup>®</sup> through these collaborations as well as through its own internal discovery programmes. The Company's lead programme, ALX-0081, an intravenously administered novel anti-thrombotic has reached its primary endpoint in a multi-dose Phase Ib study in patients undergoing PCI and ALX-0681, also an anti-thrombotic but with a subcutaneous route of administration has started Phase I in healthy volunteers. Ablynx has progressed ALX-0141, an anti-RANKL Nanobody<sup>®</sup> for bone disorders into preclinical development. In addition, Ablynx's partner Wyeth Pharmaceuticals has initiated a Phase I study in December 2008 for an anti-TNF alpha Nanobody<sup>®</sup>.

Nanobody<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of Ablynx NV.

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