

**CONTACT - Media:**

Amsterdam +31.20.550.4488  
Lisbon +351.217.900.029

Brussels +32.2.509.1392  
Paris +33.1.49.27.11.33

**CONTACT - Investor Relations:**

+33.1.49.27.12.68

## **ENTERNEXT SUPPORTS THE EUROPABIO 5<sup>th</sup> MOST INNOVATIVE AWARD AND THE ENTENTE-LIFE SCIENCES INVESTMENT FORUM IN BRUSSELS**

**Brussels – 8 October 2014** – EnterNext today welcomed representatives of EuropaBio, the ENTENTE Project and the European Commission on the occasion of the opening of the EuropaBio 5<sup>th</sup> Most Innovative European Biotech SME Award and the ENTENTE-Life Sciences Investment Forum.

The event, that takes place in Brussels on 9 October 2014, unites 28 European early stage innovative companies active in the health sector and seeking investment opportunities and international exposure. The selected companies will pitch their innovation, developments and needs in front of an international jury consisting of about 40 business angels, venture capitalists, corporate investors and other industry experts.

The top 25% scoring companies of the ENTENTE-Life Sciences Investment Forum will get the opportunity to take part in the European Venture Contest and the European Venture Summit, the final event of the European Venture Contest, taking place on 9 & 10 December 2014 in Dusseldorf, Germany.

Nathalie Moll, Secretary General of EuropaBio: *"I am delighted and honoured to be here on behalf of the European Association of BioIndustries, EuropaBio, to open the Euronext markets. A number of biotech companies are rumoured to be considering IPOs this year after the successful IPOs carried out in this sector in the US and in some European countries in the last 12 months and we are delighted to see this surge in confidence for such a crucial sector for Europe's sustainability and success."*

Karine Baudin, VP Technology Transfer InsermTransfert, ENTENTE Project: *"Our project aims at reinforcing links and promoting transnational collaboration through networking activities among all stakeholders, sharing experience and best practices; and through an exchange programme for professionals of technology transfer in health. We hope that this meeting will result in investment from venture capitalists and early investors into these companies and therefore will support the European competitiveness with the final aim of the development of innovative products in health."*

Ruxandra Draghia Akli, Health Director of DG Research and Innovation at the European Commission: *"In its response to the crisis, the European Union has launched at the beginning of this year Horizon 2020, with 80 billion euros to be invested over the next seven years in the largest ever R&I programme. And no less than 10 billion will be invested in high tech companies. The research we are funding today is essential to ensure future jobs, growth and competitiveness in Europe."*

Alain Baetens, Head of Listings of Euronext Brussels: *"Enternext is delighted to join the EU, the ENTENTE Project and EuropaBio in their efforts to connect innovative companies with alternative financing sources for the benefit of the welfare of the real economy. EnterNext is by far the most active European market place in*

*the Life Sciences sector hosting 62 issuers from the sector. It represents a total market capitalization of €10.3 billion, accounting for a market share close to 40% in terms of capital raised at IPO. Therefore, our platform offers the global investor community the most important European Life Sciences franchise, underpinned by its key reference index, the Next Biotech.”*

To celebrate the opening of the ENTENTE-Life Sciences Investment Forum, the representatives of EuropaBio, the ENTENTE Project and the European Commission rang the bell in Brussels, marking the opening of trading on Euronext’s European financial markets.



#### **Contacts Euronext**

Caroline Nico (Europe) : +33 1 49 27 10 74; [cnico@euronext.com](mailto:cnico@euronext.com)  
Alice Jentink (Amsterdam) : +31 20 550 4488; [ajentink@euronext.com](mailto:ajentink@euronext.com)  
Jean-Yves Daxhelet (Brussels) : +32 2 213 13 00; [jean-yves.daxhelet@interelgroup.com](mailto:jean-yves.daxhelet@interelgroup.com)  
Sandra Machado (Lisbon) : +351 217 900 029; [smachado@euronext.com](mailto:smachado@euronext.com)  
Aichata Tandjigora (Paris) : +33 1 49 27 13 91; [atandjigora@euronext.com](mailto:atandjigora@euronext.com)

#### **Contacts ENTENTE**

Annalisa Gardella (Brussels): +32 2 6433691; [annalisa@e-unlimited.com](mailto:annalisa@e-unlimited.com)

#### **About EuropaBio**

EuropaBio is the European Association of BioIndustries. Its members are involved in research, development, testing, manufacturing and commercialisation of biotech products and processes in human and animal healthcare, diagnostics, bioinformatics, chemicals, crop protection, agriculture, food and environmental products and services. EuropaBio also counts a number of National Biotech Associations in its membership who in turn represents more than 1800 SMEs.

#### **About ENTENTE**

The ENTENTE-Life Sciences Investment Forum is part of the ENTENTE project ([www.entente-health.eu](http://www.entente-health.eu)), which has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement No 305128.

ENTENTE is the first European network to boost knowledge transfer activity in health research among academic and public organisations and industrial counterpart. The project aims at reinforcing links and promoting transnational collaboration by achieving 4 main objectives:

- Networking activities among all stakeholders
- Sharing Experience and Best Practices; giving visibility to Success Stories
- Implementing an exchange programme for professionals of Technology Transfer in Health
- Formulating recommendations for enhancing knowledge transfer in health at European level

#### **About EnterNext**

Launched in May 2013, EnterNext is the subsidiary of the Euronext Group designed to develop and promote its stock markets specifically for small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs). Drawing on its pan-European presence, EnterNext brings together all Euronext Group initiatives for companies with market capitalisations under €1 billion, including companies listed in the B and C compartments of its regulated European markets and on Alternext, the market tailored to the needs of SMEs. EnterNext plays an

active role in facilitating SMEs' access to financial markets, helping them generate the funds they need to grow at regional, national and pan-European level. Euronext is a wholly owned subsidiary of IntercontinentalExchange Group.

#### **About Euronext**

Euronext is the primary exchange in the Euro zone with over 1 300 issuers worth €2.6 trillion in market capitalization, an unmatched blue chip franchise consisting of 20+ issuers in the EURO STOXX 50® benchmark and a strong diverse domestic and international client base.

Euronext operates regulated and transparent equity and derivatives markets. Its total product offering includes Equities, Exchange Traded Funds, Warrants & Certificates, Bonds, Derivatives, Commodities and Indices. Euronext also leverages its expertise of running markets by providing technology and managed services to third parties. Euronext operates regulated markets, Alternext and the Free Market: in addition it offers EnterNext, which facilitates SMEs' access to capital markets.

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