

Akzo Nobel announces EGM to approve separation of its Pharma business

Arnhem, the Netherlands, August 15, 2006 — Akzo Nobel (Euronext Amsterdam: AKZ; Nasdaq: AKZOY) has announced that an Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders (EGM) is to be held on September 7 — in accordance with Dutch law — and has today published the relevant agenda and shareholders' circular.

At next month's EGM, shareholders will be asked to give their approval to separate Akzo Nobel into two independent companies—Akzo Nobel, active in coatings and chemicals; and Organon BioSciences (OBS), active in pharmaceuticals. This proposal constitutes a significant change in the identity and nature of Akzo Nobel and therefore requires shareholder approval in accordance with Dutch law.

As announced on February 7, 2006, Akzo Nobel intends to separate its Pharma business, preferably through a minority divestment of Organon BioSciences shares, followed by a full separation within two to three years. Positive advice for the separation has already been received from the Central Works Council in the Netherlands, and the next step is to obtain approval from the shareholders to enable the process to proceed.

Subject to shareholder approval of the proposed separation, Akzo Nobel plans to divest a minority stake of approximately 20 to 30% of Organon BioSciences, and have OBS listed on Euronext Amsterdam. This is currently expected to take place by early 2007. The final timing and structure of the separation will depend on market conditions, as well as on developments at Organon BioSciences, including its product pipeline.

"We have now reached the point where we can seek shareholder approval for the separation," said Hans Wijers, Chairman of Akzo Nobel. "The EGM is another step towards achieving our goal of a fully independent Organon BioSciences. Our separation process is on track, we have received a positive advice from our works council, and we look forward to the agreement of our shareholders, which will allow us to move forward to the next phase with the aim of completing the first stage of the separation by early 2007."

In accordance with Dutch law, Akzo Nobel consulted the Central Works Council in the Netherlands regarding relevant Dutch aspects of the proposed separation. A positive advice was received on July 24.

The EGM agenda and the shareholders' circular can be downloaded from Akzo Nobel's corporate website (www.akzonobel.com/egm).

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Note for the editor

The Dutch Civil Code was amended effective October 1, 2004, introducing a new Article (2:107a) on the basis of which resolutions of the Board of Management require approval of the general meeting when these relate to an important change in the identity or character of the company or its business, including those pertaining to:

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- a transfer of all or substantially all of the business to a third party;
- the entry into or termination of a long-term cooperation between the company or a subsidiary of the company with another legal entity, if such cooperation or termination is of considerable significance to the company; and
- the acquisition or disposal of a participating interest in the capital of a company with a value of at least one-third or more of the assets of the company according to the company's balance sheet with explanatory notes or, in case the company has a consolidated balance sheet, according to the company's consolidated balance sheet with explanatory notes reflected in its most recently adopted annual accounts.

Akzo Nobel considers the intended separation to be an important change in the identity or character of the company and hence a matter that requires submission to shareholders for approval.

Akzo Nobel is a Global Fortune 500 company and is listed on both the Euronext Amsterdam and NASDAQ stock exchanges. It is also included on the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes and FTSE4Good Index. Based in the Netherlands, we are a multicultural organization serving customers throughout the world with human and animal healthcare products, coatings, and chemicals. We employ around 62,440 people and conduct our activities in four segments – human and animal health, coatings and chemicals – subdivided into 13 business units, with operating subsidiaries in more than 80 countries. Consolidated revenues for 2005 totaled EUR 13.0 billion. The financial results for the third quarter will be published on October 18, 2006.

Internet: www.akzonobel.com

Not for publication – for more information

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Safe Harbor Statement*

This press release may contain statements which address such key issues as Akzo Nobel's growth strategy, future financial results, market positions, product development, pharmaceutical products in the pipeline, and product approvals. Such statements should be carefully considered, and it should be understood that many factors could cause forecasted and actual results to differ from these statements. These factors include, but are not limited to, price fluctuations, currency fluctuations, progress of drug development, clinical testing and regulatory approval, developments in raw material and personnel costs, pensions, physical and environmental risks, legal issues, and legislative, fiscal, and other regulatory measures. Stated competitive positions are based on management estimates supported by information provided by specialized external agencies. For a more comprehensive discussion of the risk factors affecting our business please see our Annual Report on Form 20-F filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, a copy of which can be found on the company's corporate website www.akzonobel.com.

* Pursuant to the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act 1995.