

## Press Release

### **Two Grants Totaling EUR 1.65 million by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) to Support Apogenix' Research**

*German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ) exercises option to invest EUR 0.5 million as part of recent Series B financing round*

Heidelberg, September 19, 2008 - Apogenix GmbH, a biopharmaceutical company developing novel drugs based on the targeted modulation of apoptosis (programmed cell death), today announced the granting of additional research funding amounting to EUR 1.65 million. The two grants were awarded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) in the context of Germany's renowned programs "BioChancePlus" and "Innovative Molecular and Cellular-Based Therapies".

Under the terms of the first grant, Apogenix' research collaboration partner Prof Pfizenmaier at Stuttgart University will receive EUR 500,000 of the grant totaling EUR 1.35 million. The grant will cover research activities over a period of three years. Apogenix and Stuttgart University will use the funds to study the potential application of stable, apoptosis-inducing ligands of the TNF Superfamily (TNF: Tumor Necrosis Factor) for innovative therapeutics against tumors. The funding allows the group to explore two completely novel construction principles for stable, trimeric TNF-SF ligands (SF: Superfamily) and to evaluate a selected number of these compounds in preclinical animal studies.

Furthermore, the collaboration program between Apogenix and Dr Ana Martin-Villalba, Head of the Junior Group "Molecular Neurobiology" at the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), will receive an additional EUR 300,000 in research funding from BMBF. The new funds - part of the ministry's program to support "Innovative Molecular and Cellular-Based Therapies" - will be used by Martin-Villalba's group to study Apogenix' lead candidate APG101 in a new indication, Glioblastoma multiforme. In 2007, BMBF has already granted the research partners EUR 1.5 million for the program on spinal cord injuries. The collaboration with DKFZ is expected to extend the therapeutic potential of Apogenix' lead candidate to an oncological indication, opening up new clinical and partnering opportunities.

In July 2008, the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ) has exercised its option to invest EUR 0.5 million in Apogenix' Series B round closed in April this year. Therefore, the total amount raised by Apogenix in the second financing round has increased to EUR 28 million.

"We are very pleased about these latest grants and the exercise of the investment option by DKFZ," said Dr Thomas Höger, CEO/CFO of Apogenix. "It is not the rule to receive additional grants for the expansion of an ongoing research project and it proves the potential of our research collaboration."

### **About Apogenix**

Apogenix is a biopharmaceutical company developing novel drugs based on the targeted modulation of apoptosis (programmed cell death).

Apoptosis is a natural and highly controlled mechanism to clear the body of old, damaged or abnormally transformed cells. In many disease indications, this process has become out of balance causing either an uncontrolled removal of healthy cells and tissue (e. g. acute Graft-versus-Host Disease, stroke and spinal cord injuries) or a lack of removal of damaged and abnormal cells (e.g. in case of tumors).

Apogenix is a spin-out from the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), and is based in Heidelberg, Germany. In 2005, the company has received EUR 15 million in a Series A round from the family of the renowned biotech investor and SAP co-founder Dietmar Hopp and has raised another EUR 28 million in a Series B round in 2008.

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