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News Release

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Press Release - for immediate release

UNILEVER ENTERS COLLABORATION WITH BIOLEAP

Open Innovation in Molecular Design

Unilever today announced that it has entered into a partnership with New Jersey-based BioLeap to apply their molecular-design technology to the development of innovative consumer products. Terms of the transaction are not being disclosed.

The two-year initiative will bring together a worldwide team of Unilever and BioLeap scientists working on the core biology of ageing. The programme is targeting a range of benefit areas of interest to Unilever.

Unilever's Chief R&D Officer, Genevieve Berger said, "Our R&D activities form the link between science and consumer needs, all the more so as consumers become increasingly health-conscious. This collaboration with BioLeap is another example of the commitment at Unilever to partner innovators from outside the business with specific biotech assets and knowledge with our own in-house science and development experts based in our six core laboratories across the world.

"I see the key benefits of this collaboration with BioLeap being the development of superior products across a number of categories and exclusivity that will potentially give us competitive advantage in the marketplace."

As consumer demand for healthy living and ageing products increases, Unilever is strategically positioning itself to meet this need through combining its own considerable R&D resource with complimentary technical assets. BioLeap's molecular-design technology will enable Unilever to build differentiated, health-enhancing products spanning several categories.

Work on the project will begin immediately.

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Notes to Editors

About Unilever

Unilever works to create a better future every day. We help people feel good, look good and get more out of life with brands and services that are good for them and good for others.

Unilever is one of the world's leading suppliers of fast moving consumer goods. It operates in over 170 countries and has leading positions in many of the emerging markets. Unilever products are present in more than half the households on the planet and are used over two billion times a day. Our portfolio includes some of the world's best known and most loved brands including eleven €1 billion brands, and global leadership in many categories in which we operate. The portfolio features iconic brands such as: Knorr, Dove, Hellmann's, Rexona, Lipton, Pond's, Wall's, Persil, Flora/Becel, Cif and Signal. We have around 163,000 employees in approaching 100 countries, and generated annual sales of €40 billion in 2009. For more information about Unilever and its brands, please visit www.unilever.com.

Unilever R&D involves over 6,000 professionals, six strategic centres for global R&D and 31 major product development centres. The strategic centres are located in Trumbull, US, Port Sunlight and Colworth in the UK, Vlaardingen in The Netherlands, Bangalore in India and Shanghai in China. In 2009, our investment in R&D was €891 million

About BioLeap

BioLeap is advancing proprietary molecular design for product development. BioLeap's computational, fragment-based technology and molecular-design process promise greater speed, economy, and odds of success than traditional library screening. In pharmaceutical applications, this in silico design capability addresses one of the biggest problems in drug discovery: the limitation of drug-like and patentable leads for important but often difficult biological targets. BioLeap also designs molecules for the consumer-product and agriculture industries.

Publicly announced partners of BioLeap in drug discovery are GlaxoSmithKline and Lycera Corporation. Investors in BioLeap are Adams Capital Management, Inc. and Quaker BioVentures.

For more information, visit BioLeap at bioleap.com.

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