



PRESS RELEASE  
AUGUST 14, 2018

## **HAPLOGEN ENTERS INTO A COLLABORATION WITH BAYER**

*Bayer and Haplogen form a collaboration to develop new therapeutics for patients suffering from pulmonary diseases*

**Vienna, Austria – August 14, 2018:** Haplogen GmbH announced today that it has entered into a multi-year drug discovery and development collaboration with Bayer AG (“Bayer”) to develop drug candidates with applications in pulmonary diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (“COPD”). Haplogen GmbH is a Vienna based biotechnology company focusing on the development of therapeutic substances to treat and prevent infection by the common cold virus.

The collaboration will build on discoveries and expertise developed at Haplogen in the field of broadly-acting rhinovirus therapeutics since Haplogen’s founding in 2010. The program has been supported by a collaboration with Evotec AG since 2012 adding medicinal chemistry and early drug development expertise and funding to the program.

The collaboration with Bayer now brings the competences and the funds of an international pharmaceutical company to Haplogen’s respiratory program and opens opportunities to develop medications for patients based on the assets created by Haplogen.

“We feel proud and delighted that Bayer has chosen Haplogen as a partner and we regard this as a recognition of the solid research and development work done at Haplogen in collaboration with our partner Evotec.” says Dr Georg Casari, CEO of Haplogen.

“Bayer is committed to further expanding its research efforts in the area of specialty lung diseases”, said Dr. Joerg Moeller, Member of the Executive Committee of Bayer AG’s Pharmaceuticals Division and Head of Research and Development. “Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is a severe medical condition and the third leading cause of mortality worldwide. New treatments are urgently needed and we are pleased to collaborate with Haplogen to develop meaningful innovations for patients suffering from COPD.”

The initial patent for this antiviral program had been licensed in by Haplogen from The Whitehead Institute of MIT in Boston, USA.

The research program at Haplogen received support from the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG).

Financial terms were not disclosed.



### **About Haplogen GmbH**

*Haplogen is a privately held biotechnology company in Vienna, Austria, with drug discovery programs to combat viral infections and other diseases. Haplogen's therapeutic programs are based on novel mechanisms that have been discovered using a functional genomics platform based on haploid genetics in human cell lines. Haplogen was founded in 2010 as a spin-out of CeMM, the Research Center for Molecular Medicine of the Austrian Academy of Sciences and is located at the Vienna BioCenter, a life science research and biotechnology hub in Austria. For more information on Haplogen visit: <http://www.haplogen.com>.*

### **About Bayer**

*Bayer is a global enterprise with core competencies in the Life Science fields of health care and agriculture. Its products and services are designed to benefit people and improve their quality of life. At the same time, the Group aims to create value through innovation, growth and high earning power. Bayer is committed to the principles of sustainable development and to its social and ethical responsibilities as a corporate citizen. In fiscal 2017, the Group employed around 99,800 people and had sales of EUR 35.0 billion. Capital expenditures amounted to EUR 2.4 billion, R&D expenses to EUR 4.5 billion. For more information, go to [www.bayer.com](http://www.bayer.com).*

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### **FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS**

*Information set forth in this press release contains forward-looking statements, which involve a number of risks and uncertainties. The forward-looking statements contained herein represent the judgement of Haplogen as of the date of this press release. Such forward-looking statements are neither promises nor guarantees, but are subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control, and which could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in these forward-looking statements. We expressly disclaim any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any such statements to reflect any change in our expectations or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based.*