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ROCHE RESIGNS FROM IPASA

Illovo, Sandton - Roche South Africa-a subsidiary of F.Hoffman-La Roche, a leading international Pharmaceutical company has handed in its resignation as a member of the Innovative Pharmaceutical Association (IPASA) today.

The resignation comes in the wake of a recent PR campaign as presented from Washington based Public Affairs Engagement (PAE) to IPASA, which Roche disagrees with.

“Neither does Roche support this campaign nor have we given our approval. We believe it is in our interest, to resign from IPASA”, said Burcak Celik, General Manager at Roche South Africa.

Roche believes that access to quality healthcare is a shared responsibility requiring all stakeholders to work together.

“Industry plays a vital role in access to healthcare and Roche will continue to workwith many different partners to continuously and sustainably reduce barriers in access to healthcare,” Celik added.

About Roche

Headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, Roche is a leader in research-focused healthcare with combined strengths in pharmaceuticals and diagnostics. Roche is the world’s largest biotech company, with truly differentiated medicines in oncology, immunology, infectious diseases, ophthalmology and neuroscience. Roche is also the world leader in *in vitro* diagnostics and tissue-based cancer diagnostics, and a frontrunner in diabetes management. Roche’s personalised healthcare strategy aims at providing medicines and diagnostics that enable tangible improvements in the health, quality of life and survival of patients. Founded in 1896, Roche has been making important contributions to global health for more than a century. Twenty-four medicines developed by Roche are included in the WHO Model Lists of Essential Medicines, among them life-saving antibiotics, antimalarials and chemotherapy.

In 2013 the Roche Group employed over 85,000 people worldwide, invested 8.7 billion Swiss francs in R&D and posted sales of 46.8 billion Swiss francs. Genentech, in the United States, is a wholly owned member of the Roche Group. Roche is the majority shareholder in Chugai Pharmaceutical, Japan. For more information, please visit www.roche.com.

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