



INVITATION TO PRESS CONFERENCE

You are kindly invited to the press conference, which will be held on Monday, 28 April 2008 at 12:15. at Brdo pri Kranju in the margins of the Networking meeting of the Competent Authorities for Pricing and Reimbursement of Pharmaceuticals.

The press conference will be attended by:

- Zofija Mazej Kukovič, Minister of Health of the Republic of Slovenia,
- Stanislav Primožič, Public Agency for Medicinal Products and Medical Devices, and
- Heinz Zourek, European Commission.

Please confirm your attendance at the press conference to the e-mail ana.polanc@gov.si by 12:00, Friday, 25 April 2008. You can receive your accreditations on the day of the conference at the venue.

Information on the Meeting of the Competent Authorities of the EU Member States for Pharmaceutical Pricing and Reimbursement:

There needs to be more intensive cooperation at EU level between the authorities responsible for medicinal product prices and reimbursements. The contents and form of the proposed networking will be consistent with the existing legislation according to which the decisions in the area of pharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement falls within the competences of Member States. Nevertheless, the latter are interested in a closer and coordinated cooperation for identification of best practices and for the evaluation of the effects of measures implemented in the area of pharmaceuticals. In coordination with the European Commission and in conjunction with the activities of the Pharmaceutical Forum and EU projects on medicinal product prices and reimbursement, the meeting should provide a basis for launching a process of networking, which will benefit European and Slovenian citizens. It will enhance transparency regarding medicinal product prices and decisions on their financing from public funds of the EU Member States. The gradual development of a network will provide a basis for long-term cooperation, which would be determined particularly by regular meetings, technical secretariat and virtual links.