

Date: September 6, 2006

To: Interested Parties

From: William G. Bowen, Chairman of the Special Committee of Merck & Co., Inc.

Subject: Report Concerning the Conduct of Senior Management in the Development and Marketing of Vioxx

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In December 2004, a Special Committee of the Board of Directors of Merck & Co., Inc. retained The Honorable John S. Martin, Jr. of Debevoise & Plimpton LLP to undertake a thorough review of the conduct of senior management in connection with the development and marketing of Vioxx. Judge Martin and a team of lawyers from Debevoise have recently concluded an intensive and comprehensive 20-month investigation, during the course of which they interviewed 115 witnesses (including 100 present and former employees of Merck), reviewed millions of pages of documents and thousands of pages of deposition and trial testimony, and worked closely with a number of independent consultants. Judge Martin presented his findings to the full Board and, at the recommendation of the Special Committee, the Board has accepted Judge Martin's Report and has agreed that the full Report (including its 20 detailed Appendices comprising over 1400 pages) be made public.

The Board is reassured by the fact that, in reviewing numerous allegations of wrongdoing, the Martin Report concludes that management acted with integrity and had legitimate reasons for making the decisions that it made, in light of the knowledge available at the time.

Consistent with the Board's decision to publish the Martin Report, the Report and its Appendices will be available on the Debevoise & Plimpton and Merck Web sites beginning today at 5:00 p.m. We commend Judge Martin and his colleagues on the comprehensiveness and clarity of the Report, and we encourage interested parties to review in detail not only the Report itself but also the 20 Appendices that set out the facts supporting the conclusions that Judge Martin reached.

This entire experience is a reminder of the importance (as well as the difficulty) of balancing considerations of risk and benefit when developing new medicines intended to advance the health and well-being of people worldwide.

William G. Bowen