

Evolva announces Board nominations

Reinach, Switzerland, 4 May 2010 – Evolva Holding SA (SIX: EVE) is pleased to announce the nomination of Sir Tom McKillop, Claus Braestrup and Nicole Dubois for election to its Board of Directors. The three candidates will be proposed for election in the Annual General Meeting (AGM), to be held on 10 June 2010. Registered shareholders will receive the invitation to the AGM in May.

Tom McKillop was Chief Executive Officer of AstraZeneca plc (a top-10 pharmaceutical company) from the company's inception in April 1999 until his retirement in December 2005. Prior to that he was CEO of Zeneca Pharmaceuticals and he has more than 35 years of experience from management positions in the pharmaceutical industry. He was knighted in 2002 for services to the pharmaceutical industry.

Claus Braestrup was President and CEO of H. Lundbeck A/S (an international pharmaceutical firm based in Copenhagen) from 2003 until 2008. Prior to joining Lundbeck as Head of Research & Development, Dr Braestrup held senior executive positions at Schering AG and Novo Nordisk.

Nicole Dubois is a strategy and management consultant to major European and US corporations, in particular in the healthcare sector. She has at different times worked for BCG, in partnership with the Monitor Group, and independently. Key assignments have included areas such as mergers and acquisitions, transformational projects and leadership development. During her career, she consulted to organisations such as Roche, GE, BP, Aventis, Novartis and Save the Children.

Neil Goldsmith, CEO and Managing Director of Evolva commented "I am delighted that we've been able to attract individuals with such strong track records to our Board of Directors. Based on the expertise of the candidates, I'm convinced that they will make significant contributions to Evolva's progress and look forward to working with them on our Board. These nominations form an important step in the transition of our Board, which should be completed in 2011."

As announced at the Extraordinary General Meeting in November 2009, the current term for all members of the Board of Directors expires at the upcoming AGM. Two Board members, André Lamotte and Jacques Mallet, have announced that they will not stand for re-election at the AGM. The other five existing members of the board will stand for re-election. In addition to the five current members, the Board of Directors proposes that shareholders elect Tom McKillop, Claus Braestrup and Nicole Dubois.

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Tom McKillop was educated at Irvine Royal Academy, Glasgow University (where he took a BSc Hons and PhD in Chemistry) and Centre de Mecanique Ondulatoire Appliquee (Paris). He had a long and successful career at ICI, where he held a number of increasingly senior Research and Development positions until his appointment in 1989 as Technical Director and Deputy Chairman of ICI Pharmaceuticals, a role in which he had global responsibility for Research, Development, Medical and Production. In 1994, he was appointed Chief Executive Officer of Zeneca Pharmaceuticals - Zeneca having demerged from ICI in 1993 - and, on completion of the merger of Astra and Zeneca in April 1999, he became Chief Executive of AstraZeneca PLC, a position he held until retiring on 31 December 2005. He is president of The Science Council in the UK and a non-executive director of Almirall Prodesfarma SA and of UCB Pharmaceuticals. He has previously served as Chairman of the Royal Bank of Scotland, and as a non-executive director of BP plc, Amersham International plc (now GE Healthcare) and Lloyds TSB plc. During his career he has received many scholarly awards and fellowships and was knighted in 2002 for services to the pharmaceutical industry. He holds British citizenship.

Claus Braestrup holds a Master's degree in Chemical Engineering and a MSc in Biochemistry. He is Doctor of Medical Science and former Adjunct Professor in Neuroscience at the University of Copenhagen. He started his career in research and consultancy positions. He then moved to Novo Nordisk A/S, where he served as Vice President of Pharmaceutical Research, President of the CNS Division and President of the Diabetes Care Division. He subsequently took the post of Head of Preclinical Drug Research at Schering AG, before joining H. Lundbeck A/S as Executive Vice President, Research and Development. From 2003 – 2008 he was President and CEO of H. Lundbeck A/S. Claus Braestrup is member of the board of the University of Copenhagen, Bavarian Nordic A/S and Santaris A/S. He holds Danish citizenship.

Nicole Dubois is a strategy and management consultant to major European and US corporations, in particular in the healthcare sector. She has at different times worked for BCG, in partnership with the Monitor Group, and independently. She has worked with CEOs and

executive committees of global Fortune 500 companies, as well as with entrepreneurial entities and non-profit institutions, spanning organizations as diverse as BellSouth, GE, BP, Novartis, Aventis, Save the Children, World Learning etc. For the past 10 years, her main focus has been on the pharmaceutical sector. Her areas of expertise include strategy implementation, global marketing, executive leadership and post merger integration and transformation. Ms Dubois holds a PhD from the Sorbonne, an MBA from Harvard, and is a graduate of Ecole Normale Supérieure (Ulm). At various times in her career, she has also taught at these institutions or at other universities. She has published a book, *Les Multinationales*. She holds US citizenship.

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About Evolva Holding SA

Evolva's proprietary discovery technology platform uses a "disruptive" technological approach to the creation of novel small compounds that differs sharply from the prevailing synthetic chemistry and protein engineering approaches in the pharmaceutical industry today. Based on this technology, Evolva has a number of discovery and pre-clinical partnerships which in 2009 generated revenues of CHF 18.9 million. Evolva also has an attractive pipeline of compounds - one drug candidate (for renal and cardiovascular diseases) entered Phase I at the beginning of 2009, and two others (an anti-fungal and an anti-viral) are in late preclinical stages. Evolva is listed in the main standard of the SIX Swiss Exchange with the ticker EVE. For more information see www.evolva.com.

This press release contains specific forward-looking statements, e.g. statements including terms like believe, assume, expect or similar expressions. Such forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may result in a substantial divergence between the actual results, financial situation, development or performance of the company and those explicitly or implicitly presumed in these statements. Against the background of these uncertainties readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. The company assumes no responsibility to update forward-looking statements or to adapt them to future events or developments.