

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Marinomed Biotechnologie GmbH:**

### **French Nicox S.A. successfully bids for anti-viral eye drop program**

**Vienna, September 16, 2014 – Marinomed Biotechnologie GmbH agreed to sell its promising anti-viral eye drop program to Nicox S.A. of France. The France-based international ophthalmic company acquires the entire program as well as all associated rights, data, contracts and information. In return Marinomed will receive up to € 5.3 Mio. The anti-viral eye drop program of Marinomed derives from the successful technology platform Mavirex® which exploits anti-viral effects of polymers from red algae. One of the polymers, Carragelose®, has demonstrated anti-viral activity in preclinical studies, including with three of the most important adenoviruses causing conjunctivitis. The deal provides Nicox with rights and know-how to develop an innovative anti-viral product for managing viral conjunctivitis.**

The Vienna-based biotech company Marinomed Biotechnologie GmbH announced today the closing of a deal with Nicox S.A., an international company listed at Euronext Paris (COX) and focused on the ophthalmic market. Under the terms of the agreement Nicox acquires Marinomed's Carragelose® anti-viral eye drop program including all related rights, data, materials and information. The total acquisition price paid to Marinomed is up to € 5.3 Mio, including € 2.65 Mio in newly issued Nicox shares and up to € 2.65 million in potential additional cash payments. Nicox will conduct clinical studies in order to launch a medical product for the management of viral conjunctivitis potentially within the next two years.

Commenting on the company's most recent deal, Dr. Andreas Grassauer, CEO of Marinomed, says: "Viral conjunctivitis is a medical condition for which currently no etiological treatment exists. Our deal enables Nicox to potentially change just that. It combines Nicox's ophthalmic market experience with the anti-viral potential of Carragelose®. This is good news for the many people affected by viral conjunctivitis every year."

Marinomed's Carragelose® anti-viral eye drop program is based on the proprietary Mavirex® technology platform which led to the development of Carragelose® – a polymer from red algae with remarkable anti-viral effects. Currently Marinomed exploits the anti-viral potential of Carragelose® in a variety of medical device products for respiratory viral infections. The anti-viral efficacy of Carragelose® in these sprays was convincingly demonstrated in clinical trials with more than 450 patients.

Furthermore, Marinomed succeeded in preclinical studies to show anti-viral activity of Carragelose® against three of the most important adenoviruses causing viral conjunctivitis.

In general, conjunctivitis can be caused by allergic reactions, bacteria or viruses. Viral conjunctivitis is caused in 90% of all cases by adenoviruses and a test marketed by Nicox assists in the rapid identification of these.

With the closure of this deal Marinomed continues a remarkable progress with launching Carragelose®-based health products. Within a few years Marinomed's nasal sprays against respiratory viral infections have been approved in 43 countries already. In all products Carragelose® works by coating viruses, thereby preventing them from attaching to and penetrating the cells of the mucous membranes. In addition, the properties of the polymer provide a soothing and protective film of moisture on the mucous membranes. It is the first polymer developed by Marinomed using its technology platform Mavirex® which exploits anti-viral effects of polymers from red algae.

#### **About Marinomed Biotechnologie GmbH (as of September 2014)**

Marinomed Biotechnologie GmbH, headquartered in Vienna, Austria, is focused on the discovery and development of highly innovative anti-viral and immunological treatments. The Company has developed MAVIREX, a technology platform that targets more than 200 different virus strains based on Carragelose®, a naturally derived, sulphated galactose polymer from red seaweed with unique anti-viral properties. The technology has been successfully commercialized with three anti-viral nasal sprays launched internationally into the OTC market. Marinomed Biotechnologie GmbH was founded in 2006 as a spin-off from the Veterinary University Vienna. For more information, please visit [www.marinomed.com](http://www.marinomed.com).

#### **About Nicox (as of September 2014)**

Nicox (Bloomberg: COX:FP, Reuters: NCOX.PA) is an emerging international company focused on the ophthalmic market. With a heritage of innovative R&D, business development and commercial expertise, the Nicox team is building a diversified portfolio of therapies and diagnostic tools that can help people to enhance their sight. The Company's commercial portfolio and near-term pipeline already include several innovative diagnostic tests intended for eye care professionals, as well as a range of eye care products. Nicox's key proprietary asset in ophthalmology is latanoprostene bunod, a novel compound based on Nicox's proprietary nitric oxide (NO)-donating R&D platform, currently in Phase 3 clinical development in collaboration with Bausch + Lomb for the potential treatment of glaucoma and ocular hypertension. Further NO-donors are under development, notably through partners.

Nicox is headquartered in France, with research capabilities in Italy, a growing commercial infrastructure in North America and in the major European markets and an expanding international presence through partners. Nicox S.A. is listed on Euronext Paris (Compartment B: Mid Caps). For more information on Nicox or its products please visit [www.nicox.com](http://www.nicox.com).

Contact Marinomed:  
Dr. Eva Prieschl-Grassauer  
Chief Scientific Officer  
Veterinärplatz 1  
1210 Vienna, Austria  
T +43 / (0)1 / 25077 4460  
E [eva.prieschl@marinomed.com](mailto:eva.prieschl@marinomed.com)  
W <http://www.marinomed.com>

Copy Editing and Distribution:  
PR&D – Public Relations for Research and Education  
Mariannengasse 8  
1090 Vienna, Austria  
T +43 / (0)1 / 505 70 44  
E [contact@prd.at](mailto:contact@prd.at)  
W <http://www.prd.at>