Merck KGaA
Darmstadt, Germany

News Release

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Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, Postpones 2020 Annual General Meeting

- **AGM planned for April 24 will be postponed**
- **New date will be specified and communicated as soon as orderly planning again becomes possible**
- **Health and safety of employees and shareholders have priority**

Darmstadt, Germany, March 16, 2020– Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, is postponing its Annual General Meeting scheduled for April 24, 2020 in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, to a later date owing to the coronavirus pandemic. Consequently, this will also lead to a postponement of the resolution on the existing and communicated dividend proposal for fiscal 2019. The company will set and communicate a new date as soon as the orderly planning and preparation of the Annual General Meeting can be ensured again.

"At present, the primary task is to slow down the spread of the coronavirus and thus to contain it as far as possible. With our decision, we are also supporting this intention. The health and safety of our employees and shareholders are our number-one priority," said the company's Chief Communications Officer Constantin Birnstiel.

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About Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany
Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, operates across healthcare, life science and performance materials. Around 57,000 employees work to make a positive difference to millions of people's lives every day by creating more joyful and sustainable ways to live. From advancing gene editing technologies and discovering unique ways to treat the most challenging diseases to enabling the intelligence of devices – the company is everywhere. In 2019, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generated sales of € 16.2 billion in 66 countries.

The company holds the global rights to the name and trademark "Merck" internationally. The only exceptions are the United States and Canada, where the business sectors of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany operate as EMD Serono in healthcare, MilliporeSigma in life science, and EMD Performance Materials. Since its founding 1668, scientific exploration and responsible entrepreneurship have been key to the company's technological and scientific advances. To this day, the founding family remains the majority owner of the publicly listed company.