

News Release

Your Contact

Markus Talanow +49 6151 72-7144
Investor Relations +49 6151 72-3321

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Annual General Meeting of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, Approves Dividend Increase

- **Shareholders pass resolution to increase the dividend by € 0.05 to € 1.25**
- **Actions of the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board approved by a significant majority**
- **All agenda items approved**

Darmstadt, Germany, April 27, 2018 – At the 23rd Annual General Meeting, which took place today in Frankfurt am Main, the shareholders of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, passed a resolution to increase the dividend by € 0.05 to € 1.25. This means that since 2009, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, has raised the dividend every year.

The Annual General Meeting approved the actions of the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board for fiscal 2017 by a large majority and approved all the agenda items.

About 1,300 shareholders took part in the Annual General Meeting. When the resolutions were voted on, around 76.6 million shares were represented, corresponding to 59.3 % of the approximately 129.2 million shares issued.



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Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is a leading science and technology company in healthcare, life science and performance materials. Almost 53,000 employees work to further develop technologies that improve and enhance life – from biopharmaceutical therapies to treat cancer or multiple sclerosis, cutting-edge systems for scientific research and production, to liquid crystals for smartphones and LCD televisions. In 2017, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generated sales of € 15.3 billion in 66 countries. Founded in 1668, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is the world's oldest pharmaceutical and chemical company. The founding family remains the majority owner of the publicly listed corporate group. Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, holds the global rights to the Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, name and brand. The only exceptions are the United States and Canada, where the company operates as EMD Serono, MilliporeSigma and EMD Performance Materials.