



## **MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT    18 JANUARY 2011**

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### **Competition Authority Clears the Acquisition of Certain Assets of UCB by Aesica**

The Competition Authority has cleared the proposed transaction whereby Aesica Pharmaceuticals Limited would acquire certain assets from UCB SA. The transaction was notified by the parties under the Competition Act 2002 on 20 December 2010.

The Authority has formed the view that the proposed transaction does not raise any competition concerns in the State. The companies have been informed of the decision that the proposed transaction will not lead to a substantial lessening of competition in any markets for goods or services in the State. The Authority will publish a public version of the reasons for its determination on its website ([www.tca.ie](http://www.tca.ie)) no later than 17 March 2011 after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information is removed from the published version.

#### **Notes**

Aesica Pharmaceuticals Limited, headquartered in Newcastle, United Kingdom ("UK"), is involved, primarily in the UK, in the production and distribution of pharmaceuticals, also known as "contract manufacturing of pharmaceuticals", for pharmaceutical companies.

UCB SA, headquartered in Brussels, Belgium, is a global biopharmaceutical company focused on severe diseases in two biological therapeutic areas: the central nervous system and immunology.

The assets to be acquired comprise three UCB SA production plants located in Monheim and Zwickau in Germany and Pianezza in Italy.

#### **For further information contact:**

**Clodagh Coffey**, Communications Manager, The Competition Authority  
Tel: 01 8045406                      Mobile: 087 915 5406                      email: [cc@tca.ie](mailto:cc@tca.ie)