PROGRAMME (Tuesday, 7 February 2006)

Technical Media Briefing: EU-funded Research on Pandemic and Avian Influenza

Monday 6 February (Afternoon / Evening): Arrival at Brussels International Airport (BE)
Participants make their own way to Crowne Plaza Brussels Europa Hotel (Near Schuman metro and train stations and Airport Bus n°12 from Zaventem Airport).
19:30-21:30 Welcome and opening of the registration desk (distribution of badges, press packs).
Address: Crowne Plaza Brussels Europa Hotel, 107, rue de la Loi, Brussels, T: +32 2 230 13 33

Tuesday 7 February

7h30 Breakfast, check out and press registration at the Crowne Plaza Hotel (distribution of badges, press packs)
8h00 Departure of bus for transfer to University of Ghent – VIB (Flanders Interuniversity Institute for Biotechnology) Research Building in Ghent (BE)
9h30 Welcome by VIB’s General Director Jo Bury
9h35 Introduction – EU supported research in avian and human pandemic influenza
Octavi Quintana Trias and Christian Patermann (Directors in DG Research)
9h50 Vaccines and antivirals (title t.b.c.), John Oxford
Retroscreen Ltd., Queen Mary School of Medicine, University of London (UK)
10h00 Veterinary aspects of Avian Influenza: the submerged part of the iceberg, Ilaria Capua
OIE and National Reference Laboratory for Newcastle Disease and Avian Influenza, Virology Department, Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie, Legnaro (IT)
10h10 Immunization with a novel, M2e-based vaccine protects against influenza, Xavier Saelens
Molecular Virology Lab, Molecular Biomedical Research Department, VIB/University of Ghent (BE)
10h20 Q & A
10h45 Visit of laboratories (protein purification laboratory, laboratory of the group of Xavier Saelens, and greenhouses), VIB Ghent (BE) – Project: Universal Vaccine
11h15 Transfer to Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Ghent, Merelbeke (BE)
11h30 Welcome by the Dean, Prof. Aart de Kruijff and Introduction by Pr Kristien Van Reeth and visit of facilities (laboratory of virology and animal facilities) – Project: ESNIP2
12h30 Transfer to Rega Institute for Medical Research in Leuven, KULeuven (BE)
13h30 Networking lunch in Leuven
14h15 Antiviral drugs against influenza, Johan Neyts
Rega Institute for Medical Research in Leuven (BE)
14h30 Introduction and visit of Biosafety 3 and PCR laboratories
Projects: VIZIER and VIRGIL
16h00 End of programme and transfer to Airport and Brussels

As of 18h00 Arrival at Brussels International Airport (BE) and departure back to home city