

FUND+ ANNOUNCES EUR 125 MILLION CLOSING OF LIFE SCIENCES IMPACT FUND

Dr Debasish Roychowdhury appointed independent board member and Chairman of the Scientific Guidance Committee

Leuven, Belgium, 26 October 2016 – FUND+ NV/SA today announced the recent closing of a new Belgian Life Sciences fund. The fund has exceeded its EUR 100 Million target and reached EUR 125 Million, making Fund+ one of the larger new Life Sciences funds in Europe in 2016.

Fund+ (www.fundplus.be) is an open ended Fund for long term equity investments in innovative life sciences companies with a focus on Belgium. The fund wants to create sustainable shareholders' value, contribute to the development of a leadership position of the Belgian Life Sciences sector and generate a tangible, beneficial societal impact.

The fund has already started to invest, taking positions in 6 promising companies. The portfolio includes Ogeda SA (previously Euroscreen SA), active in the treatment of women's health disorders, three cell therapy companies (Promethera Biosciences SA, MaSTherCell SA and Novadip SA), two companies active in the field of immuno-oncology (iTeos Therapeutics SA, eTheRNA immunotherapies NV). Fund+ intends to invest in 12 to 15 companies across the areas of drug development, medical devices and in vitro diagnostics.

Fund+ was created in May last year by Désiré Collen and is operating from the Begijnhof in Leuven. Fund+ raised over EUR 125 Million in financial commitments and is significantly supported by its public shareholders (FPIM/SFPI, SRIW, Meusinvest, Spinventure and Sambrinvest) as well as by a dozen private investors and family offices.

Désiré Collen, Founder and Chairman of Fund+, commented: *"The Life Sciences sector in Belgium has developed markedly over the last decades, to put our country on the world map. Thanks to our outstanding academic institutions, entrepreneurship and government support, Belgium counts at present over 300 biotech companies. Fund+ intends to bridge the finance gap and support innovative companies with smart money. Fund+ is proud to be supported by a mix of public investors and family offices that share our values."*

Chris Buyse, Managing Partner added: *"Fund+ has everything to succeed: a clear vision, sufficient financial means, a seasoned board and above all an experienced and complementary team. It is a pleasure to work side by side with Philippe Monteyne, Paul Magrez and Jan Van den Bossche to build the fund, create shareholders' value and contribute to the growing eco system of life sciences in our country."*

Fund+ also strengthened its board with Mr. François Fontaine, as representative of FPIM/SFPI, and Dr Debasish Roychowdhury as independent board member and chairman of the newly created Scientific Guidance Committee. Mr. Fontaine held several positions at federal government bodies and, as Investment Manager, he is the permanent representative of SFPI at the board of multiple companies in which SFPI holds a participation. Mr. Fontaine obtained a Law degree at ULB, and a degree in Fiscal Sciences from ESSEF/ICHEC. Dr Roychowdhury is a leader in the pharma industry with a strong background in oncology R&D, and regulatory and commercial operations. Debasish was the SVP of Global Oncology and Head of the Global Oncology Division at Sanofi until November 2013. Prior to that, he served as the VP for Development at GlaxoSmithKline and directed the oncology global regulatory and clinical group at Eli Lilly. He serves as an independent board member of Celyad and Radius Pharma.

✓ **About the team:**

Chris Buyse, Managing Partner

Chris Buyse was CFO at ThromboGenics NV from September 2006 until June 2014. He has 25 years of experience in international company finance and in running and establishing best financial practice. He was previously CFO of the Belgian biotechnology company CropDesign,.Before this, he was Finance Director of WorldCom/MCI Belux, and was CFO and interim CEO of Keyware Technologies, In addition, he held several financial positions at Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux and Unilever. He is currently serving as an independent Board Member of a few companies, mostly active in life sciences such as Celyad, Bone Therapeutics, Iteos and Bioxodes.

Paul Magrez, Partner

Paul MAGREZ holds a M.D. degree and a Ph.D. degree in Medical Computer Sciences both at the ULB (Brussels). He has more than 30 years of experience in in-vitro diagnostics,, clinical biology, biotechnology, and pharmaceutical industries. He held several senior and CEO positions at UCB, GlaxoWelcome, GSK, Innogenetics, Theradiag and Cerba European Lab. In 2011, he founded his own consulting firm in support of SMEs and start-ups..

Philippe Monteyne, Partner

Philippe MONTEYNE holds an M.D. degree trained as a Neurologist and a Ph.D. in Viral Immunology, both at the UCL (Univ. Cathol. de Louvain), followed by a post-doctoral fellowship at Pasteur Institute, Paris. During the last 20 years, he held senior positions in top pharma companies such as SmithKline Beecham, GSK Biologicals (as Head of Global Vaccine Development) and GSK Rare Diseases (Head of Development and Chief Medical Officer) and SANOFI (Vice President R&D France). He is also currently member of different Strategic Advisory Committees. He is also visiting Professor of Neurology at the UCL.

Jan Van den Bossche, Partner

Jan Van den Bossche holds a Master Degree in Applied Economic Sciences at the KULeuven. He worked for more than 12 years as a biotech analyst at Petercam. He was involved in numerous public and private transactions of Belgian and Dutch Biotech companies, such as ThromoboGenics, Tigenix, UCB, AMT (Uniqure), IBA, MDxHealth . Before he joined Fund+, he was for more than 2 years part of the investor relations team at the Dutch life sciences and materials sciences company DSM (Geleen, NL).

✓ **For further information, please contact:**

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