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## News Release

May 9, 2014

### Wolfgang Büchele Elected Supervisory Board Chairman of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany

- **Annual General Meeting approves dividend increase and share split**
- **Executive Board actions approved by significant majority**

Frankfurt, Germany, May 9, 2014 – The newly appointed Supervisory Board of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, today elected at its inaugural meeting Wolfgang Büchele as the Chairman of this corporate governance body. Before that, the eight shareholder representatives were newly designated. The eight employee representative members of the Supervisory Board had already been elected in April. The term of office of the previous Supervisory Board members expired upon conclusion of the Annual General Meeting. The new term of office runs until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting that will resolve on the approval of the actions of the Executive Board for fiscal 2018.

At today's Annual General Meeting, the shareholders also approved the increase of € 0.20 in the dividend to € 1.90, which corresponds to a total dividend payment of approximately € 413 million and a payout ratio of around 31%. Shareholders also voted in favor of the proposed 2:1 share split.

The Annual General Meeting approved the actions of the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board for fiscal 2013 by a significant majority and approved all the resolutions except for one. Not approved was resolution 9 relating to the possibility of excluding subscription rights in the case of capital increases through contributions in kind, which was voted on as an amendment to the existing authorized capital.

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#### Merck KGaA

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The reason for not reaching the necessary 75 percent majority are stricter guidelines for foreign investors in comparison to German investors regarding the acceptance of capital measures at annual general meetings.

More than 800 shareholders took part in the Annual General Meeting. When the resolutions were voted on, 41,262,543 shares were represented, corresponding to 63.85% of the approximately 64.6 million shares issued.

All Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, press releases are distributed by e-mail at the same time they become available on the EMD Group Website. In case you are a resident of the USA or Canada please go to [www.emdgroup.com/subscribe](http://www.emdgroup.com/subscribe) to register again for your online subscription of this service as our newly introduced geo-targeting requires new links in the email. You may later change your selection or discontinue this service.

### **About Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany**

Merck KGaA of Darmstadt, Germany, is a leading company for innovative and top-quality high-tech products in the pharmaceutical and chemical sectors. Its subsidiaries in Canada and the United States operate under the umbrella brand EMD. Around 38,000 employees work in 66 countries to improve the quality of life for patients, to further the success of customers and to help meet global challenges. The company generated total revenues of € 11.1 billion in 2013 with its four divisions: Biopharmaceuticals, Consumer Health, Performance Materials and Life Science Tools. Merck KGaA of Darmstadt, Germany is the world's oldest pharmaceutical and chemical company – since 1668, the name has stood for innovation, business success and responsible entrepreneurship. Holding an approximately 70 percent interest, the founding family remains the majority owner of the company to this day.