



UCB S.A. Allée de la Recherche 60, B-1070 Brussels (Belgium)

## ***Press release***

Brussels, June 8, 2004

### **Annual General Meeting of UCB Shareholders**

Euronext: UCB

The Annual General Meeting of UCB shareholders, which was held under the presidency of Mr. Mark Eyskens in Brussels on June 8th, 2004 has approved the 2003 financial statements.

The Group reiterated that it achieved a solid operational performance in 2003, with a net profit reaching € 340 million up 2 % compared to 2002 in real terms and 22 % on a like-for-like basis.

The Annual General Meeting set the distribution of a net dividend of € 0.615 per share compared with a € 0.60 last year, an increase of 2.5 %, to be paid as of June 11<sup>th</sup> 2004. This return on capital represents 35 % of the Group's profit after tax and is consistent with the percentages of previous years.

The meeting also approved the appointment of Roch Doliveux, as Director of the Board of Directors.

Confirming the Group's outlook for 2004, Georges Jacobs, the Group's Chief Executive Officer, said: "This year again, UCB demonstrated its ability to generate a solid performance, confirming prospects for long term growth and profitability. In 2004, the Group's net profit at constant perimeter should improve as compared to 2003. It is on the basis of those promising perspectives, driven by sound financial results, that we have announced our ambition to create a biopharmaceutical leader, together with UK-based biotech leader Celltech, by combining strengths and sharing our vision for the future."

#### **About the UCB Group:**

*UCB, with headquarters in Brussels (Belgium), is a pharmaceutical and specialty chemical company, which operates on a global scale. It is committed to pharmaceuticals, as well as to technically innovative*

*products for surface applications. It employs 12,000 people around the world. The pharmaceutical research of UCB includes the following fields : neurology and allergy/asthma. UCB Pharma's main products include Keppra (antiepileptic), Xyzal and Zyrtec (anti-allergics), Nootropil (cerebral function regulator) and Atarax (tranquillizer). UCB, listed on Euronext Brussels, posted sales of €3 billion and net result of €340 million in 2003.*

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