Merck Provides Comment on U.S. Senate Committee on Finance Hearing

Terms:
Company Statements

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KENILWORTH, N.J., Feb. 26, 2019 - Merck (NYSE: MRK), known as MSD outside the United States and Canada, announced that today Merck Chairman and CEO Kenneth C. Frazier participated in a hearing about drug pricing held by the United States Senate Committee on Finance. In his testimony, Frazier suggested six ideas to help address patient out-of-pocket costs while ensuring we can continue discovering the next generation of life-saving medicines.

For more than 125 years, Merck’s mission has been to save and improve lives around the world by inventing breakthrough medicines and vaccines, and ensuring they are available and affordable to patients who need them. These are exciting times, when decades of investment in scientific research are yielding life-changing discoveries. It is the investment of today that fuels the innovations of tomorrow. Our success depends on having a U.S. market that is free, competitive and predictable.

At Merck, we believe it is essential that we work together with both Congress and the Administration to ensure the U.S. market empowers innovation while also ensuring patients can survive and thrive without financial hardship. We pledge our cooperation for creating such changes. We are grateful for the opportunity to appear before the committee today.

Frazier’s full testimony can be found here.

About Merck

For more than a century, Merck, a leading global biopharmaceutical company known as MSD outside the United States and Canada, has been inventing for life, bringing forward medicines and vaccines for many of the world’s most challenging diseases. Through our prescription medicines, vaccines, biologic therapies and animal health products, we work with customers and operate in more than 140 countries to deliver innovative health solutions. We also demonstrate our commitment to increasing access to health care through far-reaching policies, programs and partnerships. Today, Merck continues to be at the forefront of research to advance the prevention and treatment of diseases that threaten people and communities around the world - including cancer, cardio-metabolic diseases, emerging animal diseases, Alzheimer’s disease and infectious diseases including HIV and Ebola. For more information, visit www.merck.com and connect with us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and LinkedIn.

Forward-Looking Statement of Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, N.J., USA

This news release of Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, N.J., USA (the “company”) includes “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the safe harbor provisions of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based upon the current beliefs and expectations of the company’s management and are subject to significant risks and uncertainties. If underlying assumptions prove inaccurate or risks or uncertainties materialize, actual results may differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements.

Risks and uncertainties include but are not limited to, general industry conditions and competition; general economic factors, including interest rate and currency exchange rate fluctuations; the impact of pharmaceutical industry regulation and health care legislation in the United States and internationally; global trends toward health care cost containment; technological advances, new products and patents attained by competitors; challenges inherent in new product development, including obtaining regulatory approval; the company’s ability to accurately predict future market conditions; manufacturing difficulties or delays; financial instability of international economies and sovereign risk; dependence on the effectiveness of the company’s patents and other protections for innovative products; and the exposure to litigation, including patent litigation, and/or regulatory actions.

The company undertakes no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Additional factors that could cause results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements can be found in the company’s 2017 Annual Report on Form 10-K and the company’s other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) available at the SEC’s Internet site (www.sec.gov).

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