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For further information please contact:

Olga Morozova: +7 495 258 50 01

morozova\_olga\_v@lilly.com

## **Eli Lilly and Company Launches Partnership in Russia to Transfer Technology for Manufacturing Antibiotics Necessary to Treat Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis**

**Moscow, 25 May 2006** – Eli Lilly and Company today will have a press conference at IA Interfax to announce a new partnership with SIA International, one of Russia’s largest pharmaceutical companies. This partnership will include the transfer of Lilly’s global technology that will enable SIA International to manufacture two essential antibiotics needed to treat patients with multi-drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB).

The press conference will bring together governmental and non-governmental organizations to announce an important milestone in the development of the Lilly MDR-TB Partnership\* to increase the supply of drugs available to tackle the global fight against multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) in Russia and all over the world. We hope this event will result in greater awareness and building active measures against significant growth of MDR-TB and closer cooperation among governments, health care organizations and drug producers.

Every year, about 2 million people die from tuberculosis, a curable disease. Poor adherence to the drug regimen and interrupted treatment of TB, not only fails to cure the illness, but often results in multi-drug-resistant strains, which require especially lengthy and complex treatment.

There are an estimated 400,000 new cases of MDR-TB around the world every year; most public health experts agree this is a conservative number due to inadequate surveillance. Even worse, the World Health Organization estimates that the average person with TB infects up to 20 other people in his or her lifetime. “MDR-TB is a serious threat for humanity. It should be treated very carefully, otherwise it can provoke global consequences for the whole population,” said Mikhail Perelman, Chief Pulmanologist of the Russian Federation. Clearly, this pandemic requires a massive mobilization of people and resources to address it. At present Russia is observing a consistently high rate of MDR-TB: statistics state that Russia has one of the highest numbers of MDR-TB cases per population. The common goal is to alleviate the distress of the infected people and to control the infection rate so as not to create global pandemic.

Lilly’s partnership with SIA International will achieve the following:

- Transfer Lilly drug-manufacturing technology for two MDR-TB antibiotics to the pharmaceutical company SIA International;
- Provide personnel of SIA International with special training and expertise required to best utilize this technology in accordance with global good manufacturing practice and to help ensure the quality and sustainability of drug-manufacturing.
- Lilly will also provide on-going support to ensure the transfer is successful and the products are consistently supplied to the Russian patients.

This new manufacturing partnership will result in increased supplies of the vital drugs needed to treat MDR-TB and will contribute to saving lives of patients in Russia. President of Intercontinental Region, Eli Lilly and Company, Jacques Tapiero characterized collaboration with Russia as a milestone in common efforts, “We are delighted to be working in partnership with SIA International and the Russian government. Based on their



commitment, I am confident the partnership will be a great success and hopefully serve as an example of how working together we can improve the lives of patients”.

“Lilly’s initiative is aimed at solving a serious and continuously growing public health problem. Moreover, it is a model example of public and private partnerships designed for the common good” said Ramil Khabriev, Head of the Federal Service for Supervision of Healthcare and Social Development.

\* The Lilly MDR-TB Partnership is public-private initiative led by Eli Lilly and Company to address the expanding crisis of multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) together with global health and relief organizations, academic institutions and private companies. Lilly has launched a multifaceted philanthropic program to address MDR-TB. The Partnership is pursuing a comprehensive strategy to fight MDR-TB through increasing drug supply and discounting prices, providing training in prevention, treatment, and surveillance, and sharing drug manufacturing technology with nations most at risk. For further information on Lilly MDR-TB Partnership and the full list of partners, please go to [www.lillymdr-tb.com](http://www.lillymdr-tb.com).

#### **About Lilly:**

Eli Lilly and Company is a leading innovation-driven corporation, is developing a growing portfolio of first-in-class and best-in-class pharmaceutical products by applying the latest research from its own worldwide laboratories and from collaborations with eminent scientific organizations. Headquartered in Indianapolis, Ind., Lilly provides answers – through medicines and information – for some of the world’s most urgent medical needs. For further information please go to [www.lillymdr-tb.com](http://www.lillymdr-tb.com) or contact Olga Morozova Tel +7 495 258 50 01, e-mail [morozova\\_\\_olga\\_v@lilly.com](mailto:morozova__olga_v@lilly.com)

#### **About SIA International:**

SIA International is the second largest Russian national distributor of pharmaceutical products and medical devices. SIA International was established in 1993 and owns 4 manufacturing facilities. Today SIA International provides nearly 23% of all pharmaceutical products in Russia and supplies them to more than 20 000 pharmacies and medical institutions. There are 350 domestic and 130 foreign suppliers working with SIA International. SIA International has a wide regional network of 39 affiliates. In 2005 turnover of SIA International increased by 43,5% compared to 2004 totaling \$1,5 billion. Starting January 2005 SIA International became the authorized supplier of pharmaceuticals within the DLO program in Ural and South Federal Regions. For the first year of DLO program realization SIA International had shipped pharmaceuticals worth of more than 8 billion rubles. In 2005 SIA International ranked the 21st place in the list of “200 largest Russian private companies” according to Forbes magazine