

## **Update on US Government MVA procurement**

**14 November 2006**

Cambridge, UK and Cambridge, Massachusetts – 14 November 2006 – Acambis plc ('Acambis') (LSE: ACM; NASDAQ: ACAM) announces that it has received notification from the US Department of Health and Human Services ('HHS') that its proposal is no longer being considered for award as part of the US Government's Modified Vaccinia Ankara ('MVA') smallpox vaccine tender process.

Acambis received notification late yesterday that HHS has re-evaluated Acambis' technical proposal and found that its proposal is no longer in the competitive range for award. As such, Acambis is no longer eligible to receive a contract. Acambis plans to request a meeting to gain further clarification, following which it will consider its options. The US National Institutes of Health has indicated that it intends to continue Acambis' existing MVA contracts at their current price and scope.

Gordon Cameron, Chief Executive Officer, said:

'We are surprised that the US Government would eliminate Acambis from the RFP process. We believe that our proposal would have met the requirements of the US Government, especially given Acambis' track record in the biodefence field.'

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About Acambis

Acambis is a leading biotechnology company targeting infectious diseases with novel vaccines. Acambis' development-stage pipeline includes vaccines that could either offer improvements over existing products or target unmet medical needs. Its investigational vaccine against Japanese encephalitis, ChimeriVax-JE, which is undergoing Phase 3 clinical testing, is intended to provide an 'ideal' vaccine to address the estimated 50,000 cases of this viral disease in Asia every year. Acambis' proprietary ChimeriVax technology, developed in association with St Louis University, has also been used to develop ChimeriVax-West Nile, which is undergoing Phase 2 clinical testing, making it the most advanced investigational vaccine against the West Nile virus. Acambis also has the only vaccine in development against Clostridium difficile bacteria, a leading cause of hospital-acquired infections. Recognised internationally as the leading producer of smallpox vaccines, Acambis is developing an investigational smallpox vaccine, ACAM2000, and is manufacturing emergency-use stockpiles of this investigational vaccine for the US Government and other governments around the world. It is also developing an attenuated smallpox vaccine, MVA3000, under contracts with the US National Institutes of Health.

Acambis is based in Cambridge, UK and Cambridge, Massachusetts, US, and is listed on the London Stock Exchange (ACM). Its shares are listed on NASDAQ (ACAM) in the form of

American Depositary Receipts. More information is available at [www.acambis.com](http://www.acambis.com).

"Safe Harbor" statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: The statements in this news release that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, including the timing and results of clinical trials, product development, manufacturing and commercialisation risks, the risks of satisfying the regulatory approval process in a timely manner, the need for and the availability of additional capital. For a discussion of these and other risks and uncertainties see "Risk management" in the Company's 2005 Annual Report and "Risk factors" in its Form 20-F, in addition to those detailed on the Company's website and in the Company's filings made with the Securities and Exchange Commission from time to time. These forward-looking statements are based on estimates and assumptions made by the management of Acambis and are believed to be reasonable, though are inherently uncertain and difficult to predict. Actual results or experience could differ materially from the forward-looking statements,

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