

Japanese authorities rule Evolva's resveratrol to be regulated as a food and nutritional supplement

Reinach, Switzerland, 8 August 2013 – **Evolva Holding SA** (SIX: EVE) announced today that, following Evolva's request, the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare has issued a notice that resveratrol should be classified into the Non-drug material group. This opens the way to using Evolva's natural, fermentation-derived resveratrol in food and as a nutritional supplement in Japan, provided it complies with the food sanitation act and other general safety assessments. This decision significantly facilitates the approval process for the product in Japan. Evolva's resveratrol already has self-affirmed GRAS (Generally Regarded As Safe) status in the US and is European Novel Foods approved.

Resveratrol is a natural compound produced by a number of plants, perhaps most notably from the Japanese and Chinese Knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*) and the skin of red grapes. Resveratrol has been shown to have beneficial effects against several conditions related to ageing, and is associated with some of the documented health benefits of red wine, in which it occurs at low concentrations. It is used in a variety of dietary supplement products as well as in chewing gums, beverages and anti-ageing moisturising creams.

"Evolva acquired its resveratrol program just over six months ago and is currently applying its yeast fermentation technology platform to significantly improve the product's functionality and supply chain economics," said Evolva CEO **Neil Goldsmith**. "And we are also keen to significantly expand the product application potential of this product."

Evolva's resveratrol optimisation efforts should have as their end result an innovative new suite of fermentation-derived resveratrol products whose quality, reliability, purity, and functionality should be highly attractive to a wide range of global food and beverage ingredient producers, major players keen to upgrade their global food and beverage brands, and retail supplement distributors. The animal health field might also figure into the future of Evolva's fermentation-derived resveratrol products. This comprehensive transitioning of Evolva's resveratrol program is expected to have its first commercial impact in the second half of 2014.

- ends -

About Evolva

Evolva's mission is to discover and provide **innovative, sustainable ingredients for health, nutrition and wellness**. Evolva uses biosynthetic and evolutionary technologies to create and optimise small molecule compounds and their production routes. We are active in consumer healthcare and nutrition as well as in pharma. In both areas we have partnered projects as well as proprietary programmes. For more information see www.evolva.com.

About Resveratrol

Resveratrol is a naturally occurring molecule found in a number of plants such as Japanese and Chinese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*) and the skin of red grapes, but also in plants like peanuts and berries. It is a member of a group of plant compounds called polyphenols. Resveratrol continues to attract great interest among researchers and product innovators in the food, beverage and nutritional supplements industries because it possesses antioxidant and other properties thought to be capable of protecting the body against some of the contributing factors that lead to heart disease, cancer, Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, and other metabolic disorders. Low-purity Japanese Knotweed extracts, primarily from China, dominate the market for resveratrol products. There are also a number of synthetic resveratrol products on the market today. According to a 2012 Frost & Sullivan report, sales of resveratrol at an ingredient level (for all applications) were c. USD 50 million in 2011, with double-digit growth rates expected.

Contact Details

Neil Goldsmith, CEO

neilg@evolva.com

+ 41 61 485 2005

Jakob Dynnes Hansen, CFO

jakobdh@evolva.com

+ 41 61 485 2034

Paul Verbraeken, IR

paulv@evolva.com

+ 41 61 485 2035

This press release contains specific forward-looking statements, e.g. statements including terms like believe, assume, expect or similar expressions. Such forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may result in a substantial divergence between the actual results, financial situation, development or performance of the company and those explicitly or implicitly presumed in these statements. Against the background of these uncertainties readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. The company assumes no responsibility to update forward-looking statements or to adapt them to future events or developments.