



MEDIA RELEASE • MEDIA RELEASE • MEDIA RELEASE

**Novartis Lends a Helping Hand in Canada and Around the World on
11th Annual Community Partnership Day**

Dorval, Quebec - April 27, 2007 – On the occasion of their 11th annual Community Partnership Day taking place today, employees of Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada will exchange their work stations for work gloves as they set out to provide a helping hand to community groups across Montreal, and across the country.

From their Dorval head office, more than 150 Novartis employees will help 13 social service organizations in the Montreal area, including a women's shelter, food banks, senior citizens' centres and resource centres. At these locations they will be painting, preparing meals, washing windows, gardening, and sorting food, clothing and toys.

In addition, weather permitting, the company will hold its annual Charity Car Wash on the Dorval premises, with all this year's proceeds going to the Welcome Hall Mission, a Montreal-based community service organization helping people and families in need.

“Giving back to the community in which our employees live and work is a core value at Novartis,” says Rajiv De Silva, President, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada. “In the years since the creation of Novartis, we have enjoyed a larger role in the community, and our annual Partnership Day is one of several ways that we give back to these communities. It is also a way to involve our employees in the communities with which we are so proud to be associated.”

Established to commemorate the creation of Novartis in 1996, Community Partnership Day takes place in a multitude of countries where Novartis has offices, and involves more than 10,000 Novartis employees.

Novartis was honored in 2005 with the Excellence in Corporate Philanthropy Award from the Committee to Encourage Corporate Philanthropy. In 2006, 33.6 million patients around the world benefited from Novartis access-to-medicines programs that were valued at USD 755 million. These initiatives range from drug donation and research programs to combat neglected diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis and leprosy in developing nations, to patient assistance programs that help cancer patients receive the most innovative and effective treatments.

In conjunction with this event, Novartis is launching its new Corporate Citizenship website (www.corporatecitizenship.novartis.com), providing a comprehensive review of the company's Global citizenship activities.

About Novartis Canada

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc., a leader in the healthcare field, is committed to the discovery, development and marketing of innovative products to improve the well-being of all Canadians. Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada conducts hundreds of clinical trials across the country seeking new treatments for cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancer, ophthalmology and

organ transplantation. In 2006, the Company invested over \$69 million in research and development. Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc. employs more than 850 people in Canada and its headquarters are located in Dorval, Quebec. In addition to Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc., the Novartis Group in Canada consists of Novartis Animal Health Canada Inc., Novartis Consumer Health Canada Inc., (including Novartis Nutrition Corporation) CIBA Vision Canada Inc. and Sandoz Canada Inc. For further information about Novartis Canada, please consult <http://www.novartis.ca>.

About Novartis

Novartis AG (NYSE: NVS) is a world leader in offering medicines to protect health, cure disease and improve well-being. Our goal is to discover, develop and successfully market innovative products to treat patients, ease suffering and enhance the quality of life. We are strengthening our medicine-based portfolio, which is focused on strategic growth platforms in innovation-driven pharmaceuticals, high-quality and low-cost generics, human vaccines and leading self-medication OTC brands. Novartis is the only company with leadership positions in these areas. In 2006, the Group's businesses achieved net sales of USD 37.0 billion and net income of USD 7.2 billion. Approximately USD 5.4 billion was invested in R&D. Headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, Novartis Group companies employ approximately 101,000 associates and operate in over 140 countries around the world. For more information, please visit <http://www.novartis.com>.

- 30 -

For further information, please contact:

Jason Jacobs
Communications
Tel: (514) 633-7820