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To Whom It May Concern

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**Taisho Reaches Agreement on
the Development and Sale of Anti-obesity Drug orlistat, in Japan**

Taisho Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. [Headquarters: Toshima-ku, Tokyo; President: Akira Uehara] (Taisho) has reached an agreement with Glaxo Group Limited, a subsidiary of GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) plc [Headquarters: U.K.; CEO: Andrew Witty] to grant Taisho the rights for the development and marketing of the anti-obesity drug orlistat, in Japan.

Orlistat, an anti-obesity drug developed by Roche [Headquarters: Switzerland; CEO: Severin Schwan], is designed to prevent the absorption of fat by inhibiting lipases, which are enzymes that break down fat. Orlistat has yet to be approved in Japan, but is sold overseas as a prescription product under the product name XENICAL[®] (orlistat 120mg) in more than 149 markets around the world.

Orlistat is sold as the only Federal Drug Administration (FDA)-approved Over the Counter (OTC) product in the US, under the trade mark *alli*[®] (orlistat 60mg), with its sales of \$298.5 Million for the first six months after the launch of *alli*[®] in July 2007. As a global OTC brand, *alli*[®] is accompanied by a behavioral support program to help overweight and obese people achieve meaningful weight loss. XENICAL[®] (orlistat 120mg) is also available OTC in a number of countries in the Asia Pacific region including Australia.

GSK has the rights to develop orlistat 60mg for non-prescription use worldwide. In the U.S., orlistat 60mg was approved as an OTC weight loss aid, in February 2007. In October 2008, the European Medicines Agency's (EMA) Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use

(CHMP) issued a positive opinion supporting the approval of orlistat 60mg to be marketed as an OTC product in the European Union.

Orlistat is supported by more than 100 clinical studies conducted in more than 30 countries, including the four-year landmark XENDOS trial, the longest study ever for a weight loss medicine. More than 30 million patient treatments attest to orlistat's safety and efficacy.

Obesity is a global public health problem. Japan is estimated to have around 16 million overweight people. Of that number, roughly 12.8 million, or about 80%, are estimated to be obese. Obesity is associated with a variety of health problems, including diabetes, dyslipidemia and hypertension.

Leveraging GSK's global knowledge and expertise with *alli*[®], Taisho and GSK will work together to provide Japanese consumers who need it - an effective, safe and readily available obesity treatment option.