News Release

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Eiken Chemical Co., Ltd.
Representative: Yuji Segawa, President & CEO
Securities code: 4549 [TSE Prime Market]

EIKEN CHEMICAL Selected for GHIT Fund Research and Development Project

—Advancing the Development of a Rapid Diagnostic System for Ebola Virus Disease—

EIKEN CHEMICAL CO., LTD. (Head Office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo) hereby announces that its submitted project to develop a rapid diagnostic system for Ebola virus disease (the "Project") has been selected as a research and development project by the Global Health Innovative Technology Fund ("GHIT Fund")[*1].

Bundibugyo virus (BDBV) is one of the viruses that cause Ebola virus disease. Outbreaks of BDBV infection have occurred in Africa, including in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda and Kenya. As of October 25, 10,091 cases, including 4,891 deaths, have been confirmed, making the outbreak an urgent public health threat. Under the Project, EIKEN will develop a prototype LAMP-based[*2] diagnostic reagent for BDBV. As the lead research organization, EIKEN will work to establish a diagnostic system capable of rapidly and specifically detecting BDBV. The target specifications are designed to maintain sensitivity equivalent to that of existing real-time PCR methods and a time to result of 15 minutes or less. By making the test system compatible with multiple real-time PCR instruments, the Project will also help enable the rapid establishment of testing capacity during infectious disease outbreaks while minimizing investment in new dedicated testing equipment.

Ebola virus disease is a serious infectious disease that places a substantial burden on healthcare systems during outbreaks. However, diagnostic options for BDBV remain limited. Expanding access to rapid and reliable testing is therefore essential to support the early identification of infected individuals and enable timely isolation, clinical management, and contact tracing. By leveraging the rapid and accurate nucleic acid amplification capabilities of

the LAMP method, the Project aims to complete prototype development within a short timeframe in line with the 100 Days Mission[*3].

Through the Project, we aim to contribute to containing the spread of Ebola virus disease and strengthening preparedness for future outbreaks. EIKEN remains committed to advancing innovative diagnostic technologies to address unmet medical needs and contribute to global health.

[*1] GHIT Fund: A Japan-based international public-private partnership involving the Government of Japan, private-sector companies, Gates Foundation, and other organizations. The Fund supports the research and development of drugs, vaccines, diagnostics, and other health technologies for infectious diseases prevalent mainly in developing countries, including malaria, tuberculosis, and neglected tropical diseases (NTDs).

[*2] LAMP (Loop-mediated Isothermal Amplification): A nucleic acid amplification method developed by EIKEN that amplifies nucleic acids at a constant temperature.

[*3] 100 Days Mission: An international initiative that aims to make safe, effective, and accessible diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines available within 100 days of identifying a new pandemic threat.

Contact details
For enquiries, please contact:
Eiken Chemical Co., Ltd., Sustainability Department
E-mail: koho@eiken.co.jp
https://www.eiken.co.jp/en