



## PRESS RELEASE

Berlin, 25 June 2015

### **Sales Potential in the Billions for Bioeconomy in Medical and Pharmaceutical Industries**

Article in Biotech-Report 2015 on the importance of medical biotechnology

The health and pharmaceutical industries should be given greater priority in the German bioeconomy. Among others, potential for novel biobased drugs will have to be realised much more rapidly and consistently than it is today. This was emphasised by Prof. Dr. Christine Lang, co-chair of the German Bioeconomy Council and managing director of Organobalance GmbH, in an article for the vfa's (Verband Forschender Arzneimittelhersteller e.V. [German Association of Research-Based Pharmaceutical Companies]) Biotech-Report 2015. Only too rarely are the scientific findings of German laboratories and the resulting products successfully established on the market, says the article which is published today.

Germany may be recovering lost ground thanks to its creative SMEs, strong research base, and political support. "Yet what remains is the challenge of motivating industry and the scientific community to continue to innovate in the pharmaceutical bioeconomy, and establish the framework needed for an attractive investment in German biotechnology."

What was necessary was more bioeconomy in the health and pharmaceutical industries, if only to conserve resources. "We also continue to use tonnes of natural, limited resources in the production of drugs", Christine Lang writes and, among others, highlights the antimalarial drug artemisinin, which is isolated from the plant Artemisia, and squalene, which is obtained from sharks and used in medical products and cosmetics. "Alternative resources have long since been available, which can, e.g., be won in almost unlimited quantities from specific yeast and bacterial strains."

A global turnover in biopharmaceuticals with a volume of more than 140 billion US dollars was evidence of the economic potential of bioeconomics in the health and pharmaceutical industries. "Of the ten top-selling drugs, five come from biotechnology", the article says. This was the success German biotechnology should build on.

**For further information:**  
ORGANOBALANCE GmbH  
Gustav-Meyer-Allee 25  
13355 Berlin  
Fon (030) 46307 200  
Fax (030) 46307 210  
[www.organobalance.de](http://www.organobalance.de)  
[www.gesunde-bakterien.de](http://www.gesunde-bakterien.de)