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Pfizer Q1 2009 Earnings Call Transcript

Question-and-Answer Session

Operator

Thank you. (Operator Instructions). And our first question comes from Catherine Arnold of Credit Suisse. Please proceed.

Catherine Arnold - Credit Suisse

Thanks very much. Good morning.

Jeffrey Kindler

Good morning.

Catherine Arnold - Credit Suisse

Good Morning. I wanted to ask you two things. One, could you talk about the obligations that you have from your bridge financing and your merger agreement related to what you can do on dividend policy? And how we should think about that?

And then secondly, Aurobindo wasn't a large financial deal, but it does penetrative strategy seeking a broader generic portfolio. Is that fair and should we expect more of these types of arrangements as you shape the company and with that, could give us an update on your interest in generic biologics?

Jeffrey Kindler

Sure. Catherine, I'll ask Frank to address the first question, then Ian the second, and then I'll add some further towards on the second question. Frank?

Frank D'Amelio

Yeah. On the first question Catherine, given the terms of the merger agreement, we can not increase the dividend, obviously up to and through the closings of the acquisition. So there is obviously other terms and conditions in both the merger agreement and the bridge facility relative to other items, where capital could to be outlaid. But you asked be about the dividend and the answer is one the dividend not until the deal is closed.

Jeffrey Kindler

Thanks Frank. Ian?

Ian Read

Yes. So, Aurobindo is part of our overall strategy as we look at the emerging markets and establish pros in general, we've clearly have to expand our portfolio. One way we're doing that is by partnering with the appropriate companies and the appropriate geographies to get the benefits of both their scale and their expertise.

I think you're going to continue to see a look for selected partnerships expanding our ability in both brand and generics. And hence regards generic biologics will review that strategy I think post to Wyeth acquisition and then we can get into fundamentally understand our capabilities.

Jeffrey Kindler

Right. I was just going to add on that latter point that clearly one of the benefits of the Wyeth transaction are the biologic manufacturing pharmaceutical science capabilities that we are very excited about. That certainly creates the potential for opportunities in that area and we're also supportive of establishing a regulatory pathway for biological followance. So, that is very much insight. Next question please?

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