



**LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN  
AND ASTRAZENECA 2008 IN BRIEF**





**ASTRAZENECA IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEADING PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES WITH A BROAD RANGE OF MEDICINES DESIGNED TO FIGHT DISEASE IN IMPORTANT AREAS OF HEALTHCARE. BACKED BY STRONG SCIENCE AND WIDE-RANGING COMMERCIAL SKILLS, WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR BUSINESS AND THE DELIVERY OF A FLOW OF NEW MEDICINES THAT BRING BENEFIT FOR PATIENTS AND CREATE ENDURING VALUE FOR OUR SHAREHOLDERS AND SOCIETY.**

#### DEAR SHAREHOLDER

On behalf of the Board of AstraZeneca PLC, I am pleased to confirm that the Annual Report and Form 20-F Information for the year ended 31 December 2008 (Annual Report) has now been published as well as the Notice of Annual General Meeting 2009 and Shareholders' Circular along with the accompanying information.

#### YOU SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING:

- > The Notice of AGM with the accompanying information to shareholders
- > Power of attorney document along with attendance card and voting card
- > Instructions on how to fill out the power of attorney document, voting card and attendance card for the AGM in London
- > Return envelope

You will also find the Notice of AGM at the following location on our website: [astrazeneca.com/annualreport2008](http://astrazeneca.com/annualreport2008).

On the pages that follow, you will find selected extracts from the Annual Report. These extracts have been taken without material adjustment and have been organised under the following headings:

- > 2008 in brief
  - Our Company
  - Our 2008 highlights
- > Our strategy, goals and performance
- > Our Board
- > Governance and remuneration
- > Dividends and other important information for shareholder

Whilst I very much hope that you will find this information interesting and a convenient way to keep you informed about AstraZeneca, you should be aware that this document is only intended to introduce the information contained in the Annual Report. Consequently, it should not be read as a substitute for the Annual Report itself which remains the most comprehensive current source of information about the Company.

You may find it helpful to know that it is our intention to continue to produce summary information about the Company (in a format similar to that contained in this booklet) at around the time of the publication of the Annual Report each year.

#### COMMUNICATING WITH YOU IN THE FUTURE

In the future, all shareholders registered with Euroclear Sweden AB (formerly VPC AB) will continue to receive the Notice of AGM and accompanying information sent to their designated address.

Our Annual Report is available in both English and Swedish at the following locations on our website: [astrazeneca.com/annualreport2008](http://astrazeneca.com/annualreport2008) and [astrazeneca.se/aktieägare](http://astrazeneca.se/aktieägare).

Please note that in the future, we will no longer be printing the Swedish version of our Annual Report, although you can of course print your own copy from our website should you wish to do so. Should you wish to receive a printed version of the Annual Report in English however, you can do this by ordering a copy from Strömberg shareholder service who can be contacted on the following number: +46 8 449 88 16, or by emailing them at: [astrazeneca@strd.se](mailto:astrazeneca@strd.se)

Yours sincerely

**LOUIS SCHWEITZER**  
Chairman

AstraZeneca PLC

Registered in England No. 2723534

Registered Office:  
15 Stanhope Gate,  
London, W1K 1LN

27 February 2009

## OUR COMPANY

- > Focused on the discovery, development, manufacturing and marketing of prescription pharmaceuticals and biological products for important areas of healthcare: Cardiovascular, Gastrointestinal, Infection, Neuroscience, Oncology, and Respiratory and Inflammation.
- > Broad product range, including many world leaders and a number of key products: *Arimidex*, *Crestor*, *Nexium*, *Seroquel* and *Symbicort*.
- > Active in over 100 countries with a growing presence in important emerging markets including China; corporate office in London, UK; major R&D sites in Sweden, the UK and the US.

## OUR 2008 HIGHLIGHTS

- > Sales up 3% to \$31,601 million.
- > *Crestor* sales up 26% to \$3,597 million; *Symbicort* up 22% to \$2,004 million; *Seroquel* up 9% to \$4,452 million; and *Arimidex* up 4% to \$1,857 million. *Nexium* sales down 2% to \$5,200 million.
- > Our product portfolio now includes 11 medicines with annual sales of more than \$1 billion each.
- > Sales in Emerging Markets reached \$4,273 million for the full year, up 16%.
- > Investment in R&D in line with 2007 at \$5.2 billion.
- > Core operating profit up 9% to \$10,958 million.
- > Core operating margin improved to 34.7% of sales on operational efficiencies in all functional areas.
- > Core EPS for the full year increased by 8% to \$5.10.
- > Reported EPS for the full year increased by 2%, reflecting higher intangible asset impairments and a full year of MedImmune amortisation compared with 2007.
- > Dividend up 10% to \$2.05 for the full year.
- > Cash distributions to shareholders totalled \$3,349 million (dividends \$2,739 million; share re-purchases \$610 million).

- > Over 65,000 employees (51% in Europe, 32% in the Americas and 17% in Asia, Africa and Australasia).
- > Around 12,000 people in our R&D organisation and 17 principal R&D centres in eight countries.
- > 26 manufacturing sites in 18 countries.
- > Committed to a responsible approach to business across all activities.

- > Net debt reduced by \$1.9 billion on strong cash performance and investment discipline.
- > Eight significant regulatory life-cycle management submissions; two product submissions. Phase III pipeline volume remains constant. Phase II pipeline increased by over 50%. Nominated 32 FGLPs and exceeded our target for progressing these into man.
- > New initiatives extend the scope of restructuring programme to sustain long-term competitiveness.
- > 35 significant business development transactions including extensions of existing agreements.
- > Summary Judgment Motion granted to AstraZeneca in the patent infringement actions commenced against two generic drug manufacturers in the US following abbreviated new drug applications relating to *Seroquel*.
- > Settlement of US *Nexium* patent litigation with enforceability of disputed *Nexium* patents conceded. Other patent litigation continuing in the US against generic manufacturers following abbreviated new drug applications relating to *Nexium*.
- > New Code of Conduct launched in over 40 languages and all employees trained.

Growth rates expressed above are CER growth rates.

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

## SALES \$M

		GROWTH
08	31,601	+3%
07	29,559	+7%
06	26,475	+11%

CORE EARNINGS  
PER ORDINARY SHARE \$

		GROWTH
08	5.10	+8%
07	4.38	+10%
06	3.92	+33%

NET CASH FLOW  
FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES \$M

08	8,742
07	7,510
06	7,693

## DIVIDEND FOR 2008

	\$	Pence	SEK	Payment date
First interim dividend	0.55	27.8	3.34	15 September 2008
Second interim dividend	1.50	104.8	12.02	16 March 2009
Total	2.05	132.6	15.36	

## OPERATING PROFIT \$M

		GROWTH
Core 08	10,958	+9%
Reported 08	9,144	+4%
Reported 07	8,094	-4%
Reported 06	8,216	+28%

REPORTED BASIC EARNINGS  
PER ORDINARY SHARE \$

		GROWTH
08	4.20	+2%
07	3.74	-5%
06	3.86	+34%

DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS:  
DIVIDENDS AND SHARE RE-PURCHASES \$M

	● DIVIDENDS	○ SHARE RE-PURCHASES
08	2,739	610
07	2,641	4,170
06	2,220	4,147

ASTRAZENECA IS AN INNOVATION-DRIVEN, INTEGRATED, GLOBAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY. OUR MISSION IS TO MAKE THE MOST MEANINGFUL DIFFERENCE TO PATIENT HEALTH THROUGH GREAT MEDICINES, AND TO CREATE ENDURING VALUE FOR OUR SHAREHOLDERS AND SOCIETY THROUGH INDUSTRY-LEADING R&D PRODUCTIVITY, COMMERCIAL EXCELLENCE AND OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY.

Our strategy centres on four main priorities: strengthen the pipeline, grow the business, re-shape the business and promote a culture of responsibility and accountability. These priorities are described in this table together with details of our objectives; the measures we use to assess our progress; the initiatives in place to drive achievement of our objectives; and a summary of our 2008 performance.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY	OBJECTIVES	MEASURES	INITIATIVES	2008 PERFORMANCE SUMMARY
<b>STRENGTHEN THE PIPELINE</b>				
To be one of the fastest and most productive companies in the industry through continuous improvement in our research and development (R&D), coupled with externalisation to broaden our research base and further strengthen our pipeline of new products.	Achieve a median composite eight-year product development cycle by 2010. Deliver two new molecular entity (NME) launches on average per year from 2010. In order to achieve the above objective, ensure that we have 10 or more NMEs in Phase III development by 2010.	Development cycle times and quality for small molecules and biologics. Number of NME launches per year. Attrition rates. Number of development projects by phase. Number of in-licensing deals, alliances and acquisitions. R&D investment levels.	Improving R&D quality and speed through leading-edge science, effective risk management and decision-making, and overall business efficiency. Maximising the value of our biologics business and continuing to build a major presence in this fast-growing sector. Investing in external opportunities to enhance our internal innovation through in-licensing, alliances and acquisitions.	2008 target exceeded for small molecule development cycle times. NME and life-cycle management progressions delivered. Industry top quartile for speed and cost efficiencies achieved in Discovery. Eight significant regulatory packages delivered, broadening the use of <i>Seroquel</i> , <i>Iressa</i> , <i>Symbicort</i> and <i>FluMist</i> across several jurisdictions. Two new product submissions delivered. Overall pipeline volume increased by 5% and in-phase distribution of our projects has improved: FGLP (32); Phase I (34); Phase II (31); Phase III (10); Life-cycle management (23). Over 300 Discovery collaborations/partnerships to access new science and technology platforms. 21 in-licensing deals, alliances and collaborations successfully concluded. R&D investment \$5.2 billion.
<b>GROW THE BUSINESS</b>				
To maintain our position among the industry world leaders through a continued focus on driving commercial excellence.	Deliver overall sales growth in line with market growth. Deliver target sales growth in key markets. Ensure profitable launch of our own and our in-licensed products.	Sales value growth at CER. Global sales and prescription share trends for key products and key markets. Number of life-cycle projects delivered. Number of successful launches of new products. Number of commercial collaborations secured.	Active and rigorous development of our brands to maximise patient benefit and commercial potential. Driving high standards of sales force effectiveness, marketing excellence and customer support. Building on our leadership positions in existing markets and expanding our presence in important emerging ones. Securing new external commercial collaborations that further strengthen our platform for future business growth.	Global sales +3% at CER. Sales by region at CER: North America +2%; US +1%; Established ROW +2%; Emerging ROW +16%. Sales by key product at CER: <i>Arimidex</i> +4%; <i>Crestor</i> +26%; <i>Nexium</i> -2%; <i>Seroquel</i> +9%; <i>Symbicort</i> +22%. Two US co-promotion agreements secured and 12 disposal transactions to extract value from deprioritised and non-core assets.
<b>RE-SHAPE THE BUSINESS</b>				
To create an organisation with the flexibility and financial strength to adapt quickly and effectively within a challenging and rapidly changing business environment.	Maintain gross profit margin. Efficiently deliver on R&D investment. Achieve upper quartile industry performance in relation to selling, general and administrative (SG&A) costs. Deliver procurement savings targets.	Gross margin, cost and operating margin. R&D unit cost reduction. SG&A cost growth rates. Progress of productivity initiatives. Procurement savings.	Continued implementation and expansion of our restructuring programme, including: > Reviewing supply and manufacturing assets. > Driving R&D efficiency. > Driving sales and marketing resource optimisation and customer focus. > Implementing restructuring and efficiency programmes in corporate functions.	Core gross margin: 80.4%. Core operating margin: 34.7%. On track to deliver R&D unit cost reduction target of 15% over three years. Core SG&A cost growth rate: 3%. Restructuring programme continues with benefits now estimated to reach \$2.5 billion per annum (up from \$1.4 billion); with \$2.1 billion in savings expected before 2010, and the balance to be realised by 2013. Procurement savings on track to achieve target.
<b>PROMOTE A CULTURE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY</b>				
To create an organisation that is recognised not only for the skills, experience and quality of its people, but also for the integrity with which it conducts its business.	Achieve upper quartile industry ranking for employee engagement. Ensure that a culture of responsible business, including compliance, is embedded across all of our activities. Ensure that our reputation is favourable and supports our continued success.	Employee engagement levels. Number of confirmed breaches of external sales and marketing regulations or codes. Ranking in Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes. Number of animals used in research. Greenhouse gas and Ozone Depletion Potential (ODP) emissions. Accidents with serious injury and cases of occupational illness.	Strengthening the effectiveness of leaders and our performance management. Maintaining/improving levels of employee engagement. Investing in leadership development to improve accountability and collaboration. Integrating responsible business considerations into everyday business thinking and decision-making.	Global employee survey shows employee engagement is strong, outperforming many other pharmaceutical companies. 15 confirmed breaches of external sales and marketing regulations or codes. Positioned amongst the top 6% of companies in the sector in the Dow Jones World and STOXX (European) Sustainability Indexes. 376,000 animals used in research (preliminary figures). 1.22 million tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> equivalents (39 tonnes/\$million sales). 22 tonnes ODP emissions (0.71kg/\$million sales). 2.28 accidents with serious injury per million hours worked. 1.04 cases of occupational illness per million hours worked.



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Set out below is a list of the names of all of the Directors of the Company who served on the Board as at 31 December 2008. Biographical details for each of the Directors are contained on pages 84 and 85 of the Annual Report. The names and biographical details of the Directors seeking election or re-election at the 2009 Annual General Meeting appear on page 5 of the Notice of Annual General Meeting and Shareholders' Circular.

**1. LOUIS SCHWEITZER<sup>1</sup> (66)**

Non-Executive Chairman,  
Chairman of the Nomination and Governance Committee and Member of the Remuneration Committee

**2. DAVID BRENNAN<sup>1</sup> (55)**

Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer

**3. SIMON LOWTH<sup>1</sup> (47)**

Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer

**4. MARCUS WALLENBERG<sup>1</sup> (52)**

Non-Executive Director

**5. JOHN VARLEY<sup>1</sup> (52)**

Non-Executive Director,  
Chairman of the Remuneration Committee and Member of the Nomination and Governance Committee

**6. JOHN BUCHANAN<sup>1</sup> (65)**

Non-Executive Director,  
Chairman of the Audit Committee and Member of the Remuneration Committee

**7. JOHN PATTERSON CBE FRCP<sup>2</sup> (61)**

Executive Director, Development and Member of the Science Committee

**8. HÅKAN MOGREN KBE<sup>2</sup> (64)**

Non-Executive Deputy Chairman and Member of the Nomination and Governance Committee

**9. MICHELE HOOPER<sup>1</sup> (57)**

Senior Non-Executive Director, Member of the Audit Committee and the Nomination and Governance Committee

**10. DAME NANCY ROTHWELL<sup>1</sup> (53)**

Non-Executive Director,  
Chairman of the Science Committee and Member of the Remuneration Committee

**11. JANE HENNEY<sup>1</sup> (61)**

Non-Executive Director,  
Member of the Audit Committee, the Nomination and Governance Committee and the Science Committee

**12. BO ANGELIN<sup>1</sup> (59)**

Non-Executive Director and Member of the Science Committee

**13. JEAN-PHILIPPE COURTOIS<sup>1,3</sup> (48)**

Non-Executive Director and Member of the Audit Committee

**14. RUDY MARKHAM<sup>1,3</sup> (62)**

Non-Executive Director and Member of the Audit Committee

<sup>1</sup> Director will submit him/herself for election or re-election at the 2009 Annual General Meeting.

<sup>2</sup> Director will not submit himself for re-election at the 2009 Annual General Meeting.

<sup>3</sup> Director joined the Board during 2008.

## GOVERNANCE

Throughout 2008, the Board complied with all of the requirements of the UK Combined Code on Corporate Governance. As required by principle C2 of the Combined Code, the Board conducted a review of the effectiveness of the Group's system of internal control and concluded that it remained effective. For more information about how corporate governance operates within the Group, a discussion of risk management and a list of the principal risks and uncertainties facing the Group, please refer to pages 74 to 96 of the Annual Report.

## REMUNERATION

## POLICY AND PRACTICE

The Board is committed to maintaining a dynamic performance culture, in which the Group can compete strongly by employing and developing the best talent, and where every employee is clear about the Group's objectives, how their work will impact on those objectives and how they will benefit from achieving high levels of performance.

Consistent with this approach, the Board has confirmed that the Company's overall remuneration policy and purpose is to:

- > Attract and retain people of the quality necessary to sustain AstraZeneca as one of the best pharmaceutical companies in the world.
- > Enable AstraZeneca to employ the best people and to develop the best talent by recognising and rewarding superior performance.
- > Motivate these people in order to achieve the level of performance necessary to create sustained growth in shareholder value through time.

- > Align the interests of employees with those of shareholders.
- > Align individual and team reward with business performance at each level.
- > Encourage employees to perform to their fullest capacity.
- > Create pay structures that are fair, equitable and internally consistent.
- > Ensure that pay structures are both competitive and cost effective in each of the relevant employment markets.
- > Ensure proper balance of fixed and variable performance-related pay.

## COMPONENTS OF REMUNERATION

During 2008, the components of employee remuneration (including that of the Executive Directors and Senior Executive Team members) comprised fixed and variable (ie performance-related) elements, as illustrated below.

- > Annual salary – based on conditions in the relevant geographic market and the value of an individual's sustained personal performance to the business, resulting from their ability and experience.
- > Pension arrangements – appropriate to the relevant national market.
- > Benefits (such as healthcare) – cost-effective and compatible with relevant welfare arrangements.
- > Short-term bonus – a lump sum payment related to the targeted achievement of corporate, functional and individual goals, measured over a year and contained within a specific plan. The corporate goals are derived from the annual financial targets set by the Board and take into account external expectations of performance. The functional goals are agreed by the Remuneration Committee at the start of

the year. These functional goals are derived from the Business Scorecard, the key elements of which are set out in the strategy, goals and performance measurement table on page 6, and are monitored thereafter as part of a Quarterly Business Review. Individual goals are based on annual objectives, which are linked to functional goals.

- > Long-term incentive arrangements – for selected groups, targeted at the achievement of strategic objectives closely aligned with the interests of shareholders, namely the AstraZeneca Performance Share Plan (PSP), and the AstraZeneca Share Option Plan, and in line with market practice. Some individuals (primarily those based in the

US, but excluding Executive Directors) participate in the Restricted Stock Unit Award Plan.

- > Share participation – various plans provide the opportunity for employees to take a personal stake in the Company's wealth creation as shareholders.

The way in which these elements of remuneration were combined and applied varied according to a range of factors including specific business needs and practices in different geographic markets, although, in general, the more senior the role within the business, the greater the proportion of total remuneration was made up from variable pay.

In the tables that follow, details relating to the remuneration of the Directors are set out.

## DIRECTORS' BENEFICIAL INTERESTS IN SHARES

	Beneficial Interest in Ordinary Shares at 1 January 2008 or (if later) appointment date	Change to beneficial interest	Beneficial Interest in Ordinary Shares at 31 December 2008 or (if earlier) resignation date
Louis Schweitzer	4,000	–	4,000
Håkan Mogren	62,164	–	62,164
David Brennan	115,644	(2,796) <sup>1</sup>	112,848 <sup>2</sup>
Simon Lowth	850	–	850
John Patterson	8,015	625	8,640
Bo Angelin	500	–	500
John Buchanan	2,500	–	2,500
Jean-Philippe Courtois <sup>3</sup>	–	500	500
Jane Henney	500	–	500
Michele Hooper	500	–	500
Rudy Markham <sup>4</sup>	1,137	–	1,137
Nancy Rothwell	500	–	500
John Varley	500	–	500
Marcus Wallenberg	67,264	–	67,264

<sup>1</sup> This figure represents the difference between the net number of ADSs acquired by David Brennan from the vesting of his 2005 award under the US Executive Performance Share Plan and the net reduction in his notional beneficial interest in ADSs held within the unissued stock plans.

<sup>2</sup> The total number of Ordinary Shares and ADSs in which David Brennan has an interest (including potential interests in unreleased shares held in Company plans) has increased in 2008 by 147,683 to 508,822 as at 31 December 2008.

<sup>3</sup> Part year only as appointed Director on 18 February 2008.

<sup>4</sup> Part year only as appointed Director on 12 September 2008.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' SALARIES 2009

Executive Director	Annual salary in 2008 £	Annual salary in 2009 £	% Increase
David Brennan	972,900	972,900	0
John Patterson <sup>1</sup>	540,000	540,000	0
Simon Lowth	550,000	550,000	0

<sup>1</sup> John Patterson will retire from the Board on 31 March 2009.

## BONUS RANGES FOR 2009

Executive Director	Bonus range for 2009 %
David Brennan	0 – 180
John Patterson <sup>1</sup>	0 – 150
Simon Lowth	0 – 150

<sup>1</sup> John Patterson's bonus for 2009 will be considered by the Remuneration Committee in January 2010, when performance outcomes are known and, to the extent that any bonus is payable, will be based on his eligible earnings for the period in 2009 prior to retirement.

## BONUS OUTCOMES FOR 2008

Executive Director	Short-term bonus (delivered as a combination of cash and shares, as shown in the table of emoluments) <sup>1</sup> £000	Percentage of salary %
David Brennan	1,295	133
John Patterson	522	97
Simon Lowth	704	128

<sup>1</sup> Bonuses of Executive Directors are not pensionable.

## DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION FOR 2008

	Salary and fees \$000	Bonuses: <sup>1</sup> Cash & Shares \$000	Taxable Benefits & others \$000	Total 2008 \$000	Salary and fees £000	Bonuses: <sup>1</sup> Cash & Shares £000	Taxable Benefits & others £000	Total 2008 £000
Louis Schweitzer <sup>2</sup>	567	–	–	567	303	–	–	303
David Brennan	1,822	2,425	445 <sup>3</sup>	4,692	973	1,295	238 <sup>3</sup>	2,506
John Patterson	1,011	978	35 <sup>4,5</sup>	2,024	540	522	19 <sup>4,5</sup>	1,081
Simon Lowth	1,030	1,318	94 <sup>5</sup>	2,442	550	704	50 <sup>5</sup>	1,304
Bo Angelin <sup>2</sup>	118	–	–	118	63	–	–	63
John Buchanan <sup>2</sup>	180	–	–	180	96	–	–	96
Jean-Philippe Courtois <sup>2,6</sup>	109	–	–	109	58	–	–	58
Jane Henney <sup>2</sup>	142	–	–	142	76	–	–	76
Michele Hooper <sup>2</sup>	169	–	–	169	90	–	–	90
Rudy Markham <sup>7</sup>	43	–	–	43	23	–	–	23
Håkan Mogren <sup>2</sup>	187	–	–	187	100	–	–	100
Nancy Rothwell <sup>2</sup>	150	–	–	150	80	–	–	80
John Varley <sup>2</sup>	155	–	–	155	83	–	–	83
Marcus Wallenberg <sup>2</sup>	99	–	–	99	53	–	–	53
Total	5,782	4,721	574	11,077	3,088	2,521	307	5,916

<sup>1</sup> These figures include that portion of the 2008 bonuses required to be deferred into shares to be held for a three-year period.

<sup>2</sup> Fees applicable to all Non-Executive Directors increased during the year, effective from the AGM on 24 April 2008.

<sup>3</sup> Included in this figure are relocation allowances, a car allowance and cash payments in respect of dividends accrued on vesting of a 2005 US performance share plan award.

<sup>4</sup> Includes a deduction of £11,000 (\$21,000) in respect of member contributions paid through the AstraZeneca Defined Benefit Programme paid through salary sacrifice.

<sup>5</sup> Includes remaining cash following selection of benefits within AstraZeneca's UK flexible benefits programme.

<sup>6</sup> Part year only as appointed Director on 18 February 2008.

<sup>7</sup> Part year only as appointed Director on 12 September 2008.

**DIVIDEND PAYMENTS AND DATES**

For Ordinary Shares listed on the London and Stockholm Stock Exchanges and ADRs listed on the New York Stock Exchange, the record date for the second interim dividend for 2008, payable on 16 March 2009, is 6 February 2009 and the ex-dividend date is 4 February 2009.

The record date for the first interim dividend for 2009, payable on 14 September 2009, is 7 August 2009.

Future dividends will normally be paid as follows:

First interim:  
Announced in July and paid in September.

Second interim:  
Announced in January and paid in March..

**RESULTS**

Unaudited trading results of AstraZeneca in respect of the first three months of 2009 will be published on 30 April 2009 and results in respect of the first six months of 2009 will be published on 30 July 2009.

**TRADE MARKS**

Trade marks of the AstraZeneca group of companies appear throughout this document in italics. AstraZeneca, the AstraZeneca logotype and the AstraZeneca symbol are all trade marks of the AstraZeneca group of companies.

**STATEMENTS OF DATES**

Except as otherwise stated, references to days and/or months in this document are references to days and/or months in 2008.

**PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT**

This booklet contains information, including financial information, extracted from the Annual Report for AstraZeneca PLC (variously referred to herein as the 'Company', the 'Group', 'us' and 'our'). This information is provided solely for the convenience of current and future members of the Company and is only intended to introduce the information contained in the Annual Report. Consequently, it should not be read as a substitute for the Annual Report itself. It is not intended to satisfy any statutory and/or regulatory requirements in the United Kingdom or elsewhere. Accordingly, it should only be read in conjunction with the Annual Report. Neither AstraZeneca PLC nor any of its consolidated subsidiaries, Directors or officers shall be liable for the consequence of any action taken solely in reliance on the information contained herein. A copy of the Annual Report is available at [astrazeneca.com/annualreport2008](http://astrazeneca.com/annualreport2008) or by request from the Company Secretary.

**CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

The purpose of this document is to provide information to the members of the Company. In order, among other things, to utilise the 'safe harbour' provisions of the US Private Securities Litigation Reform Act 1995 and, to the extent applicable, the UK Companies Act 2006, we are providing the following cautionary statement: This document contains certain forward-looking statements with respect to the operations, performance and financial condition of the Group. Although we believe our expectations are based on reasonable assumptions, any forward-looking statements, by their nature, involve risks and uncertainties and may be influenced by factors that could cause actual outcomes and results to be materially different from those predicted. The forward-looking statements reflect knowledge and information available at the date of the preparation of the Annual Report and the Company undertakes no obligation to update these forward-looking statements. We identify the forward-looking statements by using the words 'anticipates', 'believes', 'expects', 'intends' and similar expressions in such statements. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in forward-looking statements, certain of which are beyond our control, include, among other things, those factors identified in the Principal Risks and Uncertainties section on pages 74 to 82 of the Annual Report. Nothing in this document nor in the Annual Report should be construed as a profit forecast.

**INCLUSION OF REPORTED, CONSTANT EXCHANGE RATE AND CORE FINANCIAL MEASURES**

Throughout this document the following measures are referred to:

- > Reported performance. Reported performance takes into account all the factors (including those which we cannot influence, principally currency exchange rates) that have affected the results of our business as reflected in our Group Financial Statements prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union and as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.
- > Core financial measures. This is a non-GAAP measure because unlike reported performance it cannot be derived directly from the information in the Group's Financial Statements. This measure is adjusted to exclude certain significant items, such as charges and provisions related to restructuring and synergy programmes, amortisation and the impairment of the significant intangibles arising from corporate acquisitions and those related to our current and future exit arrangements with Merck in the US, and other specified items. A reconciliation between reported performance and core performance is provided on page 34 of the Annual Report.
- > Constant exchange rate (CER) growth rates. This is also a non-GAAP measure. This measure removes the effects of currency movements (by retranslating the current year's performance at previous years' exchange rates and adjusting for other exchange effects, including hedging). A reconciliation of reported results adjusted for the impact of currency movements is provided on page 33 of the Annual Report.

Throughout this document, growth rates are expressed at CER unless otherwise stated.

# CONTACT INFORMATION

## REGISTERED OFFICE AND CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS

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