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## Following its successful rights issue, Expres<sup>2</sup>ion finalises the AdaptVac joint venture

**Hørsholm, Denmark, October 2, 2017 – Today, Expres<sup>2</sup>ion Biotech Holding AB announces that the fully owned subsidiary Expres<sup>2</sup>ion Biotechnologies ApS (“Expres<sup>2</sup>ion”) and NextGen Vaccines ApS (“NextGen”) have finalised all agreements for the AdaptVac ApS (“AdaptVac”) joint venture following the successful share issue in August 2017. In addition, Expres<sup>2</sup>ion expects AdaptVac to release additional information on animal data and its primary breast cancer vaccine candidate within the following weeks.**

AdaptVac was formed to combine the unique Expres<sup>2</sup> protein development and production platform with the ground-breaking Virus-Like Particle (VLP) technology developed by the founders of NextGen, a spinoff from the University of Copenhagen. AdaptVac is owned in equal parts by Expres<sup>2</sup>ion and NextGen and has been operating under interim management since its foundation June 2017. At a founding meeting today, Dr. Wian de Jong from Expres<sup>2</sup>ion was appointed CEO, whereas Dr. Adam F.S. Pedersen from NextGen was appointed CSO of the company. Dr. Steen Klysner from Expres<sup>2</sup>ion was appointed Chairman of the Board, which has equal representation from Expres<sup>2</sup>ion and NextGen.

*“Both companies see a big opportunity in combining our cost and time effective Expres<sup>2</sup> development platform with the Virus-Like Particle technology that enables the use of vaccines and vaccine-like treatments in radical new ways. With these tools, we are also aiming to disrupt the very notion of how to treat common non-contagious diseases such as cancer and allergy”, says Dr. Steen Klysner, Expres<sup>2</sup>ion's CEO.*

Steen Klysner further explains why AdaptVac has chosen breast cancer as its lead development project:

*“If we can utilise the advantages of a vaccine-like treatment, such as using a simple needle injection in the patient to trigger the immune system to effectively fight the cancer tumour, it would be a major shift from the costly and resource-demanding treatments that are dominating the market today”.*

### **Strong market potential in breast cancer**

Breast cancer is a widespread oncology indication affecting more than 1.3 million worldwide annually and resulting in more than 450,000 deaths (Tao, 2015: [www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25543329](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25543329)). The most common treatment today is based on monoclonal antibodies, where the dominating therapy HERCEPTIN (trastuzumab) generates annual global sales of US\$ 7 billion. The target product profile of AdaptVac's lead breast cancer prototype is tailored to be highly competitive both in terms of cost and efficacy, thus aiming at a significant market share.

### **About AdaptVac ApS**

AdaptVac is a new joint venture between Expres<sup>2</sup>ion Biotechnologies and NextGen Vaccines, combining Expres<sup>2</sup>ions platform with novel proprietary and ground-breaking Virus-Like Particle (VLP) technology, developed at the University of Copenhagen. The company aims to accelerate the development of highly efficient therapeutic and prophylactic vaccines within high value segments of oncology, infectious diseases and immunological disorders.

### **About NextGen Vaccines ApS**

NextGen Vaccines ApS was founded by researchers from the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences in Copenhagen University. It has developed a patented technology that enables the development of an entirely

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new class of vaccines. The method may be used broadly for effective treatment of both serious infectious diseases (e.g. Zika Virus, Human Papillomavirus and Malaria) and non-contagious diseases, including cancer and allergy.

#### **Certified Adviser**

Sedermora Fondkommission is appointed as Certified Adviser for ExpreS<sup>2</sup>ion.

#### **For further information about ExpreS<sup>2</sup>ion Biotech Holding AB, please contact:**

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*This press release contains information that ExpreS<sup>2</sup>ion is obligated to make public pursuant to the EU Market Abuse Regulation. The information was submitted for publication through the agency of the contact person set out above on October 2, 2017.*

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ExpreS<sup>2</sup>ion Biotechnologies ApS, is a fully owned Danish subsidiary of ExpreS<sup>2</sup>ion Biotech Holding AB with company register number 559033-3729. The subsidiary has developed a unique platform technology, ExpreS<sup>2</sup>, enabling cost effective development and robust production of complex proteins for new vaccines and diagnostics for e.g. Malaria and Zika. Since founded in 2010, the company has used its patented ExpreS<sup>2</sup> platform to produce more than 250 proteins in collaborations with research institutions and biopharmaceutical companies, with a superior efficiency and success rate.