



## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# **CERBA HEALTHCARE and MENALABS partner to expand their presence in the Middle East and Levant**

**Dubai, UAE, June 16<sup>th</sup> 2016:**

CERBA HealthCare and MENALABS Management F.Z. L.L.C jointly announced today that they have established a partnership to accelerate and expand the presence of both companies in the Middle East and Levant regions.

Under the agreement, CERBA HEALTHCARE will own 51% of MENALABS and will operate under the name of MENALABS, A Division of CERBA HEALTHCARE. It will be based in Dubai, UAE. CERBA HEALTHCARE will also participate actively in the future investments required to reinforce the activities of MENALABS in the region.

MENALABS will capitalize on the strong reputation of CERBA HEALTHCARE to provide state-of-the-art clinical diagnostics testing with several patented innovative assays in their portfolio co-developed with prestigious academic research institutes. CERBA HEALTHCARE also provides a comprehensive set of services with unmatched scientific and clinical support, educational and scientific activities.

MENALABS, established in 2014 in Dubai, provides an in-depth set of knowledge and skills to operate clinical laboratories and set Managed Services Contracts in the MEA environment. As of today, MENALABS operates four laboratories in the Emirates, one of them being dedicated to veterinary biology in Sharjah.

“We are delighted by this agreement,” commented Dr Stéphane Chassaing, Chairman, and Bruno Heilmann, Chief Executive Officer of MENALABS. “The combination of CERBA’s expertise as a world known reference laboratory, their superior technical and scientific support capabilities and MENALABS’ track record of establishing profitable operations in the MEA region will bring unprecedented value for the medical communities in a highly demanding environment for state-of-the-art healthcare services. We are now moving in the execution phase of a dynamic development plan that will combine external growth opportunities, geographical expansion and strong organic growth brought by differentiated product and services offers. We expect to deliver best-in-class diagnostic services to the community, high brand recognition, as well as profitable growth.”

“This investment is coming right on time and is perfectly aligned with our long-term strategy,” commented Catherine Courboillet, President and CEO of CERBA HealthCare. “After strengthening our positions in our domestic market, diversifying our activities and making stepwise investments mainly in Europe, we are moving to develop our brand in new territories. In that respect, MENALABS, as a young and agile company with a strong management team, is very well positioned to deliver superior performances given their proven experience of developing profitable business in the MEA region. The expertise and strengths of CERBA HealthCare will be a powerful tool-kit in their hands to leverage opportunities.”

**About CERBA HealthCare**

CERBA HealthCare is a clinical pathology group created in 1967, active in all three sections of the market: routine clinical pathology, specialist clinical pathology and clinical trial pathology. CERBA HealthCare comprises a network of 50 Technical Platforms and over 350 collection centers located primarily in France, as well as elsewhere in Europe and in the United States, South Africa, Australia and China. Recently CERBA HealthCare diversified in the market of the veterinary biology by creating CERBA Vet, a dedicated entity. It has 4200 employees, including 350 clinical pathologists, and carries out over 250,000 laboratory tests daily. In 2015, its consolidated sales amounted to € 605 million.

**About MENALABS Management**

MENALABS is a company established in the UAE bringing in the region two decades of European expertise in the field of Medical Diagnostic and Clinical Laboratories Management. Since its establishment in 2014, we have acquired laboratories in Dubai, Sharjah, Abu Dhabi, and we also took over the management of a One Day Surgery Hospital in Abu Dhabi. We have recently opened our first veterinary laboratory in Sharjah dedicated to equine requirements operating 24/7. Our goal is to create a large network of Laboratories and leverage their operating capacities to bring the highest quality standards in pathology services across the Middle East and Levant either by acquisitions or brought through managed services contracts.

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