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KeyGene™ establishes a Joint Lab for Plant Molecular Breeding with the Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences (SIBS)

Keygene and SIBS announce the establishment of a Joint Lab for Plant Molecular Breeding within the Institute for Plant Physiology and Ecology of SIBS, a branch of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. The Joint Lab has been established at the premises of SIBS in Shanghai, China and will be used to execute joint research and service activities in the area of plant molecular genetics and breeding,

The Joint Lab was opened at July 12, 2007 by Mr. Frank Heemskerk, minister for Foreign Trade of the Netherlands, Prof. Chen Xiaoya, director of the SIBS Institute of Plant Physiology and Ecology, and Prof. Arjen van Tunen, CEO of Keygene.

Arjen van Tunen, CEO of Keygene states: "We are very pleased with the establishment of the Joint Lab. It provides an excellent opportunity to benefit from the combination of the Molecular Genetics power (with technologies like AFLP®, SNPWave®, CRoPS™ and KeyPoint™) and commercial expertise of Keygene and the Biological and Life Sciences expertises of SIBS particular in Asian Crops. I am confident that this will pave the way for the improvement of vegetable and field crops in a collaborative and innovative way."

About SIBS and the SIBS-Institute of Plant Physiology and Ecology

The Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences (SIBS) represent world leading institutes active in Life Sciences for more than 50 years generating scientific and technological innovations with the aim to raise its international competitiveness. The Institute of Plant Physiology and Ecology is part of SIBS and focuses on cutting edge functional genomics and molecular physiology of plants, microorganisms and insects, plant- insect- microbe interactions and molecular ecology.

About Keygene

Keygene N.V. (www.keygene.com) is an internationally operating R&D company with the mission to be the leading company in developing and applying DNA expertise in the field of molecular genetics for its shareholder breeding companies. Keygene has developed a strong proprietary technology platform based on AFLP®, SNPWave®, CRoPS™ and KeyPoint™. Keygene exploits its proprietary technologies, databases and know-how through contract research and products for applications in the Life Sciences industry and more specifically in innovative breeding applications such as Breeding by Design™. Keygene has five shareholders consisting of major vegetable seed companies: De Ruiter Seeds, ENZA Zaden, Rijk Zwaan, Vilmorin & Cie and Takii & Co. Keygene has more than 100 researchers and staff.

For more information please contact:

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