



SCOTLAND

A new life science cluster for startups and growing companies is created at Merck's shuttered Newhouse research facility. Merck donated the site, which closed in July 2010, complete with purpose-built laboratories and offices, including equipment and a library of 100,000 compounds, to BioCity Scotland, a joint venture between BioCity Nottingham and Roslin BioCentre.



GERMANY

Engineering firm M+W Group of Stuttgart and GE Healthcare of Buckinghamshire, UK, partner to help emerging countries to develop manufacturing capabilities for biopharmaceuticals, including vaccines, insulin and biosimilars. The companies will finance and construct manufacturing plants, as well as train staff.



FRANCE

President Nicolas Sarkozy accepts new legislation to reform the French Health Products Safety Agency (AFSSAPS) and reorganize it into the new National Agency for the Safety of Medicines and Health Products (ANSM). The new law includes measures to increase postmarketing surveillance and pharmacovigilance and to prevent conflict of interest by requiring companies to disclose to ANSM payments to health professionals, medical students, patient and professional organizations, and the press.



BRAZIL

Biotech investor Steve Burrill raises a \$125 million fund to invest in life science companies in Brazil, including those in therapeutics, diagnostics, medical devices, healthcare services, biofuels and digital health. The fund is aiming for a total size of \$200 million.



MALAYSIA

A center dedicated to improving plants and seafood development will be established. The Centre for Marker Discovery and Validation will use marker-assisted selection and high-throughput genotyping platforms to advance Malaysia's agriculture and aquaculture industries. It is a joint venture between the Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute and BiotechCorp, a government science agency.



ARGENTINA

Local biotech companies forge a new entity aimed at representing industry's interests in policy discussions with government. The new body met with Science Minister Lino Barañao in December to discuss the implementation of regulations approved by Congress in 2007.