

Press-release

28 September 2007

## New step in implementing Umicore's commitment to sustainable development

International materials-technology group Umicore has made a new important step in implementing its vision on sustainable development by signing an agreement on Friday with two key international trade unions on the global Group-wide implementation of its policies on human rights, equal opportunities, labour conditions, ethical conduct and environmental protection.

The Group has always recognized that its commitment to financial success must also take into account the broader economic, environmental and social impact of its operations, which have been translated in a set of social and environmental targets on which the company reports every year in its "Annual report to shareholders and society".

As Umicore has completed its transformation into an international materials-technology company active on all continents, and employing more than 14,000 people, its social and environmental responsibilities have also become global. The implementation of those duties is part of a framework of constructive internal dialogue and open communication.

The agreement signed today with the International Metalworkers' Federation and the International Federation of Chemical, Energy, Mine and General Workers' Unions will allow both trade unions to participate constructively in the pursuit of these objectives. A joint monitoring committee composed of both parties will see to the implementation of the "Sustainable Development Agreement".

## For more information

### Investor Relations:

Mr. Tim WEEKES – +32 2 227 73 98 – [tim.weekes@umicore.com](mailto:tim.weekes@umicore.com)

Mr. Geoffroy RASKIN – +32 2 227 71 47 – [geoffroy.raskin@umicore.com](mailto:geoffroy.raskin@umicore.com)

### Media:

Mr. Bart CROLS – +32 2 227 71 29 – +32 476 98 01 21 – [bart.crols@umicore.com](mailto:bart.crols@umicore.com)

## Umicore profile

Umicore is a materials technology group. Its activities are centred on four business areas: Advanced Materials, Precious Metals Products and Catalysts, Precious Metals Services and Zinc Specialties. Each business area is divided into market-focused business units.

Umicore focuses on application areas where it knows its expertise in materials science, chemistry and metallurgy can make a real difference, be it in products that are essential to everyday life or those at the cutting edge of new technological developments. Umicore's overriding goal of sustainable value creation is based on this ambition to develop, produce and recycle materials in a way that fulfils its mission: materials for a better life.

The Umicore Group has industrial operations on all continents and serves a global customer base; it generated a turnover of €8.2 billion (€1.7 billion excluding metal) in 2006 and currently employs some 14,000 people.