To Whom It May Concern

In relationship to the transport of biological material from the Institut Pasteur Korea to the Institut Pasteur in Paris, Institut Pasteur Korea would like to provide the following statement.

Institut Pasteur Korea has reviewed the available evidence together with the internal Safety Committee. Here are the results of this review:

- According to the signed statement of the scientific staff involved in the experiment, samples transferred to Paris contained only non-infected cells.
- Samples were treated with glutaraldehyde fixative according to standard protocols for virus inactivation. This protocol has been published in a peer-reviewed journal (Clin Infect Dis. (2016) 63 (3): 363-369. doi: 10.1093/cid/ciw239) and followed procedures published elsewhere in the literature and acknowledged by collaborators working in the field.
- Prior to shipment, biological samples were transferred outside the laboratory following proper packaging and decontamination procedures. Samples were carried inside a double plastic box, in the baggage hold of the aircraft, not in the cabin.
- Inactivated, non-infectious samples are considered exempted of the dangerous goods regulation as stated in the Korean Technical Standards of Dangerous Goods Transportation, Article 49, which follows the International Air Transport Association (IATA) regulations. This includes "...materials that have neutralized pathogens by treatment or are inactivated ones which do not cause harm anymore." Appendix 24 states that "non-infectious specimen" are allowed in the checked baggage, do not need airline approval nor notification to the captain.
- Samples were received at the Institut Pasteur in Paris intact.

On the basis of these facts, Institut Pasteur Korea has concluded that the risk of contamination was absent.

The conclusions of this review were understood by external auditors form the Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (KCDC) during an on-site, preliminary
visit. The KCDC testified that Institut Pasteur Korea was properly following the High-risk Pathogen Safety Management standards as established in Korea.

Sincerely yours,

Roberto Bruzzone, M.D.

Chief Executive Officer
Institut Pasteur Korea