

**FUTURAGENE PLC (“FuturaGene” or the “Company”)**

**Board Changes**

Appointment of Dr Stanley Hirsch as Group Chief Executive Officer  
Resignation of Mr Kannan Grant

17<sup>th</sup> August 2007

The Board of FuturaGene, which develops environmentally friendly solutions to both enhance crop yields and allow them to grow in hostile conditions, announces the appointment of Dr Stanley Hirsch, aged 49 as Group Chief Executive Officer with immediate effect. Dr Hirsch will join the board of FuturaGene as an executive director.

Dr. Hirsch is currently Chief Executive Officer of CBD Technologies Inc (“CBD”), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, and has held this position since 1998. Prior to joining CBD he was responsible for business development for a privately held group of healthcare companies, where he oversaw the structuring and managing joint ventures, startup companies, technology licensing and new product acquisitions. Previously, he has also served as general manager of two diagnostics development companies. Dr. Hirsch has been involved in the development of automated systems for plant tissue culture and he is a co-inventor of patents in plant biotechnology and micro-propagation systems. Dr. Hirsch received his D. Phil. from Oxford University in cell biology and immunology.

The Board of FuturaGene also wishes to announce that Mr Kannan Grant has resigned as the CEO of FuturaGene Inc, the Company’s US subsidiary and as a director of the Company with immediate effect. The Board would like to thank Mr Grant for his contribution and wishes him well in all his future pursuits and endeavors.

Commenting on the changes, Mark Pritchard, Chairman of FuturaGene said, 'We are delighted to welcome Stanley to the board of FuturaGene as Group CEO. I believe his appointment will add significant momentum to the commercialisation of our technology portfolio. I also want to personally thank Kannan for his input to the development of the Company’.

In connection with the appointment of Dr Hirsch, set out below are his current directorships:

Foamix Limited  
Rimonyx Pharmaceuticals Limited

Under the terms of the merger agreement between FuturaGene and CBD and subject to approval by the Israeli tax authorities, Dr Hirsch will be eligible for the award of 153,450

ordinary shares in FuturaGene (representing 0.36% of the issued share capital). Such grant is contingent on the continuing service of Dr Hirsch in CBD and his role in the integration of the merger with FuturaGene. The shares form part of the 4.95m shares issued by FuturaGene as consideration for the acquisition of CBD. In the event that any additional shares are issued as deferred consideration shares under the merger agreement Dr Hirsch will be eligible to receive the award of a maximum of 293,480 additional shares (representing 0.69% of the issued share capital).

In addition and also subject to the approval of the Israeli tax authorities, Dr Hirsch will be eligible for the award of a 3 year option over 250,000 new ordinary shares at an exercise price of 61p per share.

There is no further information to be disclosed in accordance with paragraph (g) of Schedule 2 of the AIM rules.

ENDS

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Notes to Editors

FuturaGene is a leading agricultural biotechnology company focused on research, development, and commercialisation of technologies that play key roles in substantially improving agronomic traits of value in plants. FuturaGene has actively licensed intellectual property from leading universities in the field of abiotic stress and is exploiting the synergies of these technologies with the cell wall modification platform of CBD [Technologies, Inc.](#) (a wholly owned subsidiary) in forestry, food and biofuel crops.

The Company's technology comprises of a licensed patented portfolio of genes which enhance the function of genes already present in the plant through over expression of these genes. FuturaGene has identified genes which confer enhanced tolerance and enable plants to withstand extreme environmental stresses such as cold, drought, and high salt concentrations. The Company has wholly owned subsidiaries in USA, China and Israel.