

COMPUGEN LTD  
Form 20-F  
April 03, 2008

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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

**FORM 20-F**

**REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR (g) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

**OR**

**ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

**OR**

**TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

FOR THE TRANSITION PERIOD FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

**SHELL COMPANY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

DATE OF EVENT REQUIRING THIS SHELL COMPANY REPORT \_\_\_\_\_

COMMISSION FILE NO. 005-60609

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**Compugen Ltd.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter and translation of registrant's name into English)

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Israel

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

**72 Pinchas Rosen Street, Tel Aviv, 69512 Israel**

(Address of principal executive offices)

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**Ronit Lerner, Chief Financial Officer**

**Phone: 03-765-8585, Fax: 03-765-8555**

**72 Pinchas Rosen Street, Tel Aviv, 69512 Israel**

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(Name, Telephone, E-mail and/or Facsimile number and Address of Company Contact Person)

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**Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:**

Ordinary Shares, par value New Israeli Shekels 0.01 per share

(Class of Securities)

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NASDAQ

Global Market

(Name of Exchange)

**Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:**

None

(Title of Class)

**Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act:**

None

Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer's classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report:

28,323,811 Ordinary Shares

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.

Yes  No

If this report is an annual or transition report, indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant: (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days:

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of accelerated filer and large accelerated filer in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer  Non-accelerated filer

Indicate by check mark which basis of accounting the registrant has used to prepare the financial statements included in this filing:

Ronit Lerner, Chief Financial Officer Phone: 03-765-8585, Fax: 03-765-8555 72 Pinchas Rosen Street, Tel Aviv, 69

U.S. GAAP

International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board

Other

If Other has been checked in response to the previous question, indicate by check mark which financial statement item the registrant has elected to follow.

Item 17  Item 18

If this is an annual report, indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes  No

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**CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING  
FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This annual report on Form 20-F includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These statements include words such as may, expect, believe, and intend, and describe opinions about future events. We have based these forward-looking statements on information available to us on the date hereof, and on our current intentions, beliefs, expectations and projections about future events. We assume no obligation to update any such forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions that could cause our actual results to differ materially from our expectations or projections. Factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements include the risk factors set forth under Item 3. Key Information. Risk Factors, the information about us set forth under Item 4. Information about the Company, and information related to our financial condition under Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects.

Compugen Ltd. is referred to in this annual report as we, our, our company or us.

We have prepared our consolidated financial statements in United States dollars and in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. All references herein to dollars or \$ are to United States dollars, and all references to Shekels or NIS are to New Israeli Shekels.

**PART I.**

**ITEM 1. IDENTITY OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND ADVISERS**

Not applicable.

**ITEM 2. OFFER STATISTICS AND EXPECTED TIMETABLE**

Not applicable.

**ITEM 3. KEY INFORMATION**

The following selected consolidated financial data for and as of the five years ended December 31, 2007, are derived from our audited consolidated financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP. The selected consolidated financial data as of December 31, 2007 and 2006 and for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005 have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included elsewhere in this annual report. The selected consolidated financial data as of December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003 and for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003 have been derived from audited consolidated financial statements not included in this annual report. The selected consolidated financial data set forth below should be read in conjunction with and are qualified by reference to Item 5, Operating and Financial Review and Prospects and our consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included elsewhere in this annual report.

**Selected Financial Data**

| Year ended December 31, |      |      |      |      |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| 2004                    | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2003 |
|                         |      |      |      |      |

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Year ended December 31,

(\$ in thousands, except share and per share data)

**Consolidated Statement of Operations Data**

|   |            |            |            |            |            |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Revenues  | \$ 6,776   | \$ 2,630   | \$ 646     | \$ 215     | \$ 180     |
| Total operating expenses *  | 18,717     | 16,585     | 14,229     | 13,213     | 12,640     |
| Operating loss  | (14,216)   | (15,055)   | (13,731)   | (13,004)   | (12,460)   |
| Financial and other income, net   | 2,774      | 1,833      | 900        | 955        | 1,002      |
| Net loss from continuing operations   | (11,442)   | (13,222)   | (12,831)   | (12,049)   | (11,490)   |
| Net loss from discontinued operations   | -          | (500)      | (1,147)    | (971)      | (624)      |
| Net loss available to ordinary shares   | (11,442)   | (13,722)   | (13,978)   | (13,020)   | (12,114)   |
| Basic and diluted net loss per ordinary share from continuing operations                          | \$ (0.43)  | \$ (0.48)  | \$ (0.46)  | \$ (0.44)  | \$ (0.41)  |
| Basic and diluted net loss per ordinary share   | \$ (0.43)  | \$ (0.50)  | \$ (0.50)  | \$ (0.47)  | \$ (0.43)  |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares used in computing basic and diluted net loss per share | 26,409,180 | 27,473,341 | 27,774,535 | 27,985,957 | 28,266,273 |

**Consolidated Balance Sheet Data**

|   |           |           |           |           |           |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Cash and cash equivalents, short-term deposits, marketable securities | \$ 16,707 | \$ 20,574 | \$ 31,821 | \$ 25,403 | \$ 15,082 |
| Long-term deposits and marketable securities                          | 43,803    | 27,854    | 4,983     | 1,000     | 2,080     |
| Total assets  | 67,526    | 55,353    | 42,106    | 30,856    | 21,666    |
| Accumulated deficit   | (92,034)  | (105,756) | (119,734) | (132,754) | (144,926) |
| Total shareholders' equity  | 59,808    | 49,566    | 36,248    | 25,738    | 17,285    |

(\*) Includes stock based compensation see Note 10 of our 2007 consolidated financial statements.

For additional financial information, please see Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects Results of Operations .

**Risk Factors**

Many factors could affect our financial condition, cash flows and results of operations. We are subject to various risks resulting from changing economic, political, social, industry, business and financial conditions. If we do not successfully address the risks to which we are subject, we could experience a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition and our share price may decline. We can give no assurance that we will successfully address any of these risks. The principal risks are described below.

*Factors Related to our Financial Results and Financing Needs*

**We cannot provide assurance that our business model will succeed in generating revenues.**

Our business model is primarily based on receiving revenues in the form of fees, milestones, and royalties and other revenue sharing payments from licensees and co-development partners of drug and diagnostic products based on our product candidate discoveries. From 1997 through 2004 most of our research efforts were targeted at obtaining deeper understandings of selected biological phenomena at the molecular level and creating algorithms and other computational biology tools that would allow the building of predictive models of such phenomena, with the belief that these capabilities would provide a basis for systematic product candidate discovery in the future. During this period we obtained limited revenues by providing certain of these capabilities to third parties in the form of services and software products. In 2004, having achieved what we believed to be the required infrastructure in terms of experienced scientists, computational tools and models, and scientific understandings, we began to focus a portion of our R&D efforts on the creation of field specific discovery platforms intended to provide product candidates, primarily for licensing to third parties, and discontinued commercialization of computational biology tools and services. Accordingly, in 2004, we recognized computational tools and services revenue of approximately \$2.6 million and in 2005 and 2006, we recognized approximately \$646,000 and approximately \$205,000 of such revenue respectively. Our business model now depends on our ability to generate revenues primarily in the form of fees, milestones, and revenue sharing payments from the licensing and commercialization of current and future product candidate discoveries, and our ability to do so remains untested. To date we have received only minimal revenues from the licensing of our initial product candidates, recognizing \$10,000 and \$180,000 of such revenue in 2006 and 2007 respectively. We cannot be certain this business model will generate a stable or significant revenue stream. The inability to derive adequate revenues from our business model would significantly impede improvement in our operating results and liquidity.

**We have a history of losses, we expect to incur future losses and we may never achieve or sustain profitability**

We incurred net losses of approximately \$14 million in 2005, approximately \$13 million in 2006 and approximately \$12 million in 2007. As of December 31, 2007, we had an accumulated deficit of approximately \$145 million. We expect to continue to incur net losses in the future due in part to the costs and expenses associated with our research and discovery activities, including the building and validation of additional discovery platforms. We cannot assure you that we will ever achieve profitability. Even if we do achieve profitability, we may not be able to sustain or increase profitability.

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**We may be required to allocate substantial additional funds in the future to our discovery and validation activities, and we may never be able to achieve profitability.**

Our discovery efforts primarily consist of developing and validating discovery platforms on a field by field basis, and then utilizing these platforms to discover therapeutic and diagnostic product candidate molecules that we believe have potential therapeutic or diagnostic applications. In 2007, as in previous years, we allocated a substantial portion of our cash and other resources to these research, validation and discovery activities and we intend to continue to do so. To date, these activities have generated only negligible revenues. These activities may never generate significant revenues and we may never achieve profitability.

**We will need to raise additional capital. If we are unable to raise additional capital in the future, we may need to curtail or cease operations, and if we do raise additional capital, to the extent such capital is based on the sale of equity, our existing shareholders are likely to experience dilution of their shareholdings.**

As of December 31, 2007, we had cash and cash equivalents, short-term deposits and marketable securities of approximately \$15.1 million, and long-term deposits and marketable securities of approximately \$2.1 million, a reduction of \$9.2 million from December 31, 2006. We do not anticipate that we will achieve profitability in the near future and believe that we will need additional funds to continue financing our discovery, validation, development and commercialization activities. As most of our expenses are incurred in New Israeli Shekels (NIS), our cash position has also been negatively impacted by the recent depreciation of the U.S. dollar against the NIS. To the extent that the U.S. dollar depreciates further against the NIS, we may need to raise additional capital sooner than we had otherwise estimated. If we raise additional capital by issuing equity securities, we expect that our shareholders will experience dilution of their shareholdings.

We cannot provide any assurance that additional financing will be available on terms that are favorable to us, if at all. Our ability to obtain additional financing will be subject to a number of factors, including market conditions, our operating performance and investor sentiment. In particular, the recent downturn in the credit and liquidity markets may restrict our ability to borrow funds or raise capital on favorable terms or at all. If we are unable to obtain the required additional financing on commercially reasonable terms, we may have to curtail or cease our discovery and validation activities, or restrict or cease operations.

**If we are unable to continue to successfully apply for research and development grants, our financial results may be materially harmed.**

We receive research and development grants from the Office of the Chief Scientist of the Israeli Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor, from the Israel-U.S. Bi-national Industrial Research and Development Foundation and from the European Community, under the European Union's 6th Framework Program. In 2007, the grants we received and that accrued totaled approximately \$1.4 million, compared with approximately \$1.7 million in 2006 and approximately \$2.0 million in 2005. Our entitlement to receive these grants is dependent on, among other things, our compliance with the various grants' respective terms and conditions. In addition, the total value of grants that the Office of the Chief Scientist makes available generally, and to each individual grantee, has gradually decreased in recent years and may reduce or eliminate these benefits in the future.

If we do not comply with the terms and conditions of the grants or if we do not succeed in obtaining these or similar grants in the future, or if we will be able to obtain only a reduced amount of grants, we may have to restrict certain research activities.

***Factors Related to our Discovery and Development Activities and to the Commercialization of our Discoveries***

**Our approach to discovering novel therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates is itself novel and has not yet been fully proven or validated and may never lead to marketable products. If this approach does not prove to be successful, our business will be significantly harmed.**

Our method of discovering novel product candidates primarily involves first utilizing our computational biology capabilities and predictive models to generate *in silico* (ie. computers) a large number of potential product candidates in the field of interest. Next we utilize proprietary algorithms and tools and other methodologies to select from this large number of potential product candidates a smaller number of novel molecules that we believe have the highest probability of being product candidates for such field of interest. Some or all of these selected molecules are then synthesized and undergo *in vitro* and/or *in vivo* validation testing. By using this approach, we have successfully validated the predictive capabilities of a number of discovery platforms, and in addition have discovered numerous product candidates in a number of diagnostic and therapeutic areas that were first predicted *in silico* and then initially validated in the laboratory. However, our approach in general has not yet been proven or validated beyond this initial validation and we cannot predict whether any of such discoveries will be suitable for development into therapeutic or diagnostic products or that our discovery method will continue to yield product candidate in these and other fields of interest.

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If we or our licensees and collaborators are not able to find any biological activity for the therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates that we discover, or potential licensees or collaborators do not believe that this is an effective discovery methodology, or our approach is ultimately proven to be ineffective or non-competitive for discovering candidates suitable for development into therapeutic and diagnostic products, or we or our licensees or collaborators fail to commercialize our discoveries, our business will likely be significantly harmed.

**The success of our business largely depends on our discovery platforms and related technologies. The predictive capabilities of our discovery platforms are largely unproven and may never lead to marketable products. If we fail to continue to develop and enhance our discovery platforms, make novel discoveries, or focus on the most promising discoveries, our business will likely be materially harmed.**

Our proprietary discovery platforms are designed to predict, select and validate potential product candidates in the selected field of interest. These discovery platforms essentially model biological processes, whether physiological or pathological. This modeling is partial and might not be sufficient to result in true predictions to the biological processes as they occur naturally. Even if we make true or partially true predictions, we might be able only to repeat discoveries already made by others and not be able to make novel discoveries. This may result either from feeding our discovery platforms with data already used by others or by developing discovery platforms already developed, wholly or partially by others, or from inherent incapacity of the prediction capabilities of our discovery platforms. In addition, since our research and discovery resources are limited we might be able to progress with only a fraction of our discoveries. We currently assess which discoveries to validate based on various criteria. If we fail to select the right candidates to progress with, either due to lack of experience or applying the wrong criteria, the selected candidates may never result in a marketable product. Additionally, we may not be able to make the necessary new developments and enhancements to our discovery platforms and related technologies in order to compete successfully within the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries.

**We rely on access to public and commercial databases to feed our discovery platforms and on the quality of the data available from those databases, and if we are denied access to these databases for any reason or if the quality of available information is poor, or if the quantity of the available information is insufficient, our operations and business may be harmed.**

In the development and validation of our discovery platforms and of the resulting therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates, we rely on our ability to access and use public and commercially available databases. The quality of our platforms and discoveries is in part dependent on the quality and quantity of the data in these databases. If we are denied access to these databases, or if we are granted access to such databases

on terms, which are not commercially reasonable, or if the quality of data available from those databases is poor, or if the quantity of the available information is insufficient, our business and our results of operation may be materially harmed.

**We rely on access to high-quality biological samples supported by detailed clinical records to conduct parts of our discovery activities and to perform experimental analysis and initial clinical validation. If we will fail to identify and purchase such samples for any reason or if the quality of available biological samples is poor, or if the quantity of the available biological samples is insufficient, our discovery and validation capabilities may be harmed.**

In carrying out our discovery and development of therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates, we rely on our ability to access and use commercially available biological samples. The quality of our discoveries is in part dependent on the quality and quantity of available biological samples. If we will fail to identify and purchase such samples for any reason or if the quality of available biological samples is poor, or if the quantity of the available biological samples is insufficient, our discovery and validation capabilities may be harmed.

**There are risks that are inherent in the development and commercialization of therapeutic and diagnostic products, and if these risks materialize, our business and financial results may be materially harmed.**

We face a number of risks of failure that are inherent in the process of developing and commercializing therapeutic and diagnostic products. These risks include, among other risks, the possibility that:

our therapeutic product candidates will be found to be pharmacologically ineffective or toxic or to have other detrimental side effects;

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our diagnostic product candidates will prove to be ineffective in distinguishing between healthy and disease samples or in providing information relating to a patient's response to a drug;

our collaborators will not fully develop or commercialize to the full extent our product candidates for economic reasons, including competition with other product candidates;

our collaborators will fail to receive applicable regulatory approvals;

our collaborators will fail to manufacture these products on a large scale in a cost effective manner;

our collaborators will fail to develop and market products based on our discoveries prior to the successful marketing of competing products by others or prior to expiry of the patents protecting such products;

the development, marketing or sale of our product candidates will fail because they may infringe third party intellectual property rights;

the development, marketing or sale of our product candidates will fail because of our inability or failure to protect or maintain our own intellectual property rights; and/or

once a product is launched in the market, there will be little or no demand for it as a result of its exclusion from health funds reimbursement schemes or as a result of there being alternative products available for sale.

If one or more of these risks or any similar risks materialize, our business and financial results may be materially harmed.

**The pharmaceutical industry may not be willing to consider in-licensing potential products which are at an early stage of their development**

Pharmaceutical and biotechnological companies may not be being willing to in-license product candidates that are at an early stage of their development or at a stage of development that we currently seek to attain for our product candidates. Even if we are successful in commercializing our product candidates at an early stage of development, the consideration that we expect to receive would be relatively low. The consideration that we would expect to receive in consideration for commercializing our products candidates increases commensurately with



the stage of development that we attain for our product candidates.

**We have limited experience in, and limited resources for, the discovery and development of therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates, and if we fail to maintain and/or acquire the appropriate experience, our business may be materially harmed.**

Our experience in the discovery and development of therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates is limited. In order to successfully develop and commercialize therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates, we must either access such expertise via collaborations or improve our internal expertise, capabilities and facilities. We may not be able to maintain and/or engage any or all of the experts that we need in order to do so.

If we fail to have available at the appropriate times all of the required experience and expertise in the discovery and development of therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates, we may be unsuccessful in our discovery and development activities, and as a result our business may be materially harmed.

**We or our collaborators may be unable to obtain regulatory approval of any of our therapeutic or diagnostic candidates, and if we or our collaborators fail to obtain such regulatory approval, our business will be materially harmed.**

Therapeutic or diagnostic product candidates that we or our collaborators develop will likely be subject to extensive governmental regulations relating to development, clinical trials, manufacturing and commercialization. Successful preclinical testing and clinical trials and an extensive regulatory approval process are required to in the United States and in many other foreign jurisdictions before a product can be sold. Satisfaction of these and other regulatory requirements is costly, time consuming, uncertain and subject to unanticipated delays. The time required to obtain Food and Drug Administration and other approvals for therapeutic and diagnostic products is unpredictable but may exceed several years following the commencement of clinical trials. It is possible that none of the product candidates we or our collaborators develop will obtain the appropriate regulatory approvals necessary to begin selling them. Furthermore, because some of the therapeutic products we are intending to develop may represent a newly discovered class of therapeutic products or a new indication or new use for an existing drug, without clear FDA guidelines for development, the FDA may not have established definitive policies, practices or guidelines in relation to these products or uses. The lack of such policies, practices or guidelines may hinder or slow review by the FDA of any regulatory filings that we or our collaborators may submit. Moreover, the FDA may respond to these submissions by defining requirements we may not have anticipated. Such responses could lead to significant delays in the development of our product candidates. Any delay or failure in obtaining required approvals could have a material adverse effect on our ability to generate revenues from a particular product candidate. Furthermore, any regulatory approval to market a product may be subject to limitations on the indicated uses for which we may market the product. These limitations may limit the size of the market for the product. We or our collaborators are also subject to numerous regulatory requirements outside the United States governing the conduct of clinical trials, manufacturing and marketing authorization, pricing and third-party reimbursement. The regulatory approval process outside the United States includes all of the risks associated with FDA approval described above as well as risks attributable to the satisfaction of local regulations in these jurisdictions. Therefore, approval by the FDA does not assure approval by regulatory authorities outside the United States.

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**We have no experience in conducting and managing human trials. If we fail in the conducting of such trials, our business will be materially harmed.**

We have no experience in conducting and managing the clinical trials which will be necessary to obtain regulatory approvals for our therapeutic or diagnostic product candidates. To the extent that we or our licensees choose to rely on third parties for clinical development, our control over these critically important activities will be reduced. Third-party contractors may not complete activities on schedule, or may not conduct clinical trials in accordance with regulatory requirements or our trial design. If these third parties do not successfully carry out their contractual duties or meet expected deadlines, clinical trials could be delayed and our business materially harmed.

**The biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries are highly competitive, and we may be unable to compete effectively.**

The biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries are highly competitive. Numerous entities in the United States, Europe and elsewhere compete with our efforts to discover, validate and partner with licensees and/or collaborators to commercialize therapeutic and diagnostic products or product candidates. Our competitors include pharmaceutical, biotechnology and diagnostic companies, academic and research institutions and governmental and other publicly funded agencies. We face, and expect to continue to face, competition from these entities to the extent that they develop products that have a function similar or identical to the function of our therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates. We also face, and expect to continue to face, competition from entities that seek to develop technologies that enable the discovery of novel therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates.

Many of our competitors benefit from greater market recognition, and have substantially greater financial, technical, human, research and development, and marketing resources than we do. Since we are a small company with limited human resources, we are not able to work with a large number of collaborators in parallel. Our competitors may discover and develop product candidates or market and sell products based on their discoveries, in advance of us or of our collaborators or licensees. They may also obtain patents and other intellectual property rights before us and thereby prevent us from pursuing the development and commercialization of our discoveries. For information about the specific competitors with whom we compete, see Competition under Item 4. Information on the Company.

If we are unable to compete successfully against existing or potential competitors, our financial results and business may be materially harmed.

**The trend towards consolidation in the pharmaceutical, diagnostic and biotechnology industries may adversely affect us.**

There is a trend towards consolidation in the pharmaceutical, diagnostic and biotechnology industries. This consolidation trend may result in the remaining companies having greater financial resources and discovery technological capabilities, thus intensifying competition in these industries. This trend may also result in fewer potential collaborators or licensees for our therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates. Also, if a consolidating company is already doing business with our competitors, we may lose existing licensees or collaborators as a result of such consolidation.

This trend may adversely affect our ability to enter into agreements for the development and commercialization of our product candidates, and as a result may harm our business.

**We depend significantly on collaborators and licensees for the development and commercialization of our therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates, and if we are unable to maintain our existing agreements and enter into additional agreements with collaborators and licensees in the future, our business will likely be materially harmed.**

Our strategy for the development and commercialization of therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates depends on the formation of collaborations or licensing relationships with third parties that have complementary capabilities. We depend significantly on our collaborators and licensees to carry out and/or finance product development and commercialization of our therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates. Potential collaborators and licensees include pharmaceutical, biotechnology and diagnostic companies and academic institutions.

To date, we have granted a small number of licenses for the development and commercialization of our product candidates. Since the beginning of 2007, we have entered into seven (7) new license collaboration agreements for the development and commercialization of a multiple number of our product candidates.

We cannot assure you that any of these agreements will result in the successful development or commercialization of any products based on our discoveries. Further, we cannot assure you that we will succeed in identifying suitable collaborators or licensees or entering into any other agreements with collaborators or licensees for the development and commercialization of our therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates. If we are unable to identify suitable collaborators or licensees or enter into new collaborations or license agreements, our business will likely be materially harmed.

**We may not be able to find collaborators or licensees that will agree to license our discoveries at an early stage, and if we do not find these collaborators or licensees, our business will likely be materially harmed.**

Our strategy for the development and commercialization of therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates is based on our discovery and early stage validation and in some cases, may reach pre-clinical development of those product candidates. We consider early stage development of diagnostic product candidates to be a stage at which their existence is validated. At this stage we may demonstrate that the product candidate is differentially expressed in different physiological conditions, but in any case with no clinical proof. We consider early stage development of therapeutic product candidate, to be a stage at which we show biological activity of that candidate in animal models. We either carry out such early stage validation work ourselves or we engage third parties to provide such validation work but we ordinarily seek to rely on our collaborators and licensees to carry out further product development.

Pharmaceutical and diagnostic companies may be reluctant or refuse to in-license our therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates at these early stages of discovery or validation or may not agree to do so on terms that we would consider commercially desirable.

If we are unable to out-license our discoveries at an early stage, we may need to validate and develop our discoveries ourselves until the candidates attain a more mature stage of development. Such development activities may require us to expend substantial additional financial and

other resources. If we are unable to raise or spend these additional resources, we may have to curtail or cease our discovery and development activities, and as a result our business will likely be materially harmed.

**Our dependence on licensing and collaboration agreements with third parties presents a number of risks, and if one or more of these risks materialize, our business may be materially harmed.**

The risks that we face in connection with our existing collaborations, licenses and other business alliances as well as those that we may enter into the future include, among other things, the following:

we may be unable to comply or fully comply with our obligations under license or collaboration agreements into which we enter, and as a result, we may not generate royalties from such agreements, and our ability to enter into additional agreements may be harmed;

our collaborators may have significant discretion in electing whether to pursue any of the planned activities and the manner in which this will be done;

we may not be able to control our collaborators' or licensees' willingness to pursue development of our product candidates, or the amount of resources that our collaborators will devote to the collaboration;

changes in a collaborator's or a licensee's business strategy may negatively affect its willingness or ability to complete its obligations under its arrangement with us;

ownership of the intellectual property generated under our collaborations may be disputed;

our ownership of rights in any intellectual property or products that may result from our collaborations may depend on additional investment of money that we may not be able nor willing to make;

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prospective collaborators may pursue alternative products or technologies, by internally developing them or by preferring those of our competitors;

disagreements between us and our collaborators may lead to delays in, or termination of, the collaboration; and

our collaborators may fail to develop or commercialize successfully any products based on product candidates to which they have obtained rights from us.

If any of these risks materialize, our business, financial condition and results of operations may be materially harmed.

#### ***Factors Related to our Operations***

**The licensing cycle for our commercial offerings is complex and lengthy and as a result, we may expend substantial funds and management resources with no assurance of success.**

We are required to negotiate agreements containing terms unique to each licensee and collaborator and which suit each licensee's or collaborator's specific discovery, development and business strategies. The accommodation of these requirements mandates a thorough consideration of both the scientific and business aspects of each transaction. As a result, the process of preparing and negotiating our licensing and other agreements is complex, and may take 12 months or longer. These business development and related commercial activities require the input and efforts of our key management personnel.

As a result we believe that we will need to continue to expend substantial funds and management effort into these business development activities with no assurance of successfully entering into agreements with potential collaborators and licensees.

**We may be unable to hire or retain key personnel or sufficiently qualified employees, in which case our business may be harmed.**

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Our business is highly dependent upon the continued services of our senior management and key scientific and technical personnel. While members of our senior management and other key personnel have entered into employment or consulting agreements and non-competition and non-disclosure agreements, we cannot assure you that these key personnel and others will not leave us or compete with us, which could harm our business activities and operations. Within our geographic location, it is difficult to find suitable and highly qualified personnel in certain aspects of our industry.

Furthermore, we do not carry key person life insurance on any member of our senior management.

Our business may be harmed if we are unable to retain our key personnel, or to attract, integrate or retain other highly qualified personnel in the future.

### **Revenues that we may generate from commercialization of our technologies or discoveries may be reduced because of obligations to pay back Israeli governmental grants or other grants that we receive.**

The development of some of our technologies and of the discoveries that we make have been and may in the future be partially funded by governmental grants that we receive from the Office of the Chief Scientist of the Israeli Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor. According to Israeli law, certain restrictions and obligations may be imposed on us in relation to the development and commercialization of discoveries that are financed by these grants. These obligations and restrictions may be imposed if we were to seek to manufacture the technologies or the discoveries outside of Israel or transfer certain of our know-how within or outside of Israel.

We believe that these obligations and restrictions do not apply to us for a number of reasons, including our strategy to license the candidates discovered using our platform technology and not to transfer the know-how subsisting in our platform technologies and discovery platforms. We also believe that these restrictions do not apply to the sale or to the export of product candidates that we develop using or based on our Office of the Chief Scientist-funded platform technologies or discoveries. In addition, due to certain changes to the applicable Israeli law that came into force in June 2005, some of these obligations and restrictions have been amended and reduced in scope.

Nevertheless, if the Office of the Chief Scientist of the Israel Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor adopts a view contrary to our own or if restrictive statutory changes are legislated in the future, our ability to commercialize some of our technologies or discoveries may be limited.

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### **We may be unable to safeguard the integrity, security and confidentiality of our data or third parties' data, and if we are unable to do so, our business may be harmed.**

We rely heavily on the use and manipulation of large amounts of data and on the secure and continuous use of our internal computers, communication networks and software and hardware systems. We have implemented and maintain physical and software security measures to preserve and protect our computers, communication, and hardware and software systems as well as our data and third parties' data. However, these methods may not protect us against fire, storm, flood, power loss, earthquakes, telecommunications failures, physical or software break-ins or similar events. In addition, these measures may not be sufficient to prevent unauthorized access, use or publication of such proprietary data. A party who is able to circumvent our security measures could misappropriate or destroy proprietary information or cause interruptions in our operations. A party who has access to our proprietary data could misappropriate such data, make unauthorized use of or unintentionally destroy all or part of such proprietary data. In addition, a party who obtains unauthorized access to our proprietary data or breaches a confidentiality agreement with us could publish or transfer large portions or all of our proprietary data. Such publication of proprietary data could materially harm our intellectual property position, thereby seriously harming our financial condition. These security problems, if significant, could harm our operations and even cause our business to cease.

### **We may be subject to claims related to hazardous chemicals and biological materials that we use, and these claims may harm our business.**

Our research and development activities in some cases may involve the controlled use of biological and chemical materials, a small amount of which could be hazardous. We cannot eliminate the risk of accidental contamination or discharge of any of these materials. If hazardous biological or chemical materials in our possession were to be improperly used, this could result in harm to persons or property and we could be subject to both civil damages and criminal penalties. In such event, our liability may exceed our insurance coverage.

### **The clinical development and marketing of products based on our discoveries are subject to governmental regulation and the receipt of regulatory approvals, and if we or our collaborators or licensees fail to receive such approvals, our business may be materially harmed.**

The clinical development and marketing of therapeutic and diagnostic products based on our discoveries requires obtaining regulatory approvals to such effect. The process of obtaining regulatory approvals for therapeutic or diagnostic products based on our discoveries in the United States, Israel and in other countries can be lengthy and complex. Changes in legislation and in guidelines and policies made pursuant to such legislation could increase the complexity and the length of the process of obtaining such regulatory approvals. Even if and once we or our collaborators or licensees obtain regulatory approval for products based on our discoveries, these products may be subject to continuous regulatory review. Products based on our discoveries that are found to be unsuitable for human consumption, for example due to the causation of unwanted side effects, may result in the withdrawal of such products from the market.

Neither we, nor our licensees or collaborators, have yet applied for or received any regulatory approvals for any therapeutic or diagnostic products based on our discoveries. Such approvals are also required for conducting clinical trials of products based on our discoveries. We rely on our collaborators and licensees to advance regulatory approval processes. However, we cannot be certain that we or our collaborators or licensees will be able to obtain such approvals for any product or product candidate that we may develop.

If we or our collaborators or licensees fail to obtain required regulatory approvals, our collaborators or licensees may be prevented from marketing therapeutic or diagnostic products based on our discoveries. This will in turn reduce our chances of receiving payment from our collaborators and as a result, our business may be materially harmed.

### ***Factors Related to Intellectual Property***

#### **We may not be able to protect our non-patented proprietary data, technologies or discoveries, and this may materially harm our business.**

We rely heavily on our proprietary know-how and trade secrets that we develop and that are not protectable or protected by patents. The protective measures that we employ may not provide adequate protection for our trade secrets and know-how. Our business collaborators, licensees, employees, advisers and consultants may disclose our proprietary know-how or trade secrets in violation of their obligations to us. We may not be able to meaningfully protect our rights in our proprietary know-how or trade secrets against such unauthorized disclosure and any consequent unauthorized publication.

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If we are not able to adequately protect our proprietary know-how and trade secrets, competitors may be able to develop technologies and resulting discoveries and inventions that are the same or similar to our own discoveries and inventions. This could erode our competitive advantage and materially harm our business.

#### **We may not be able to obtain or maintain patent protection for our inventions and if we fail to do so, our business will likely be materially harmed.**

The success of our business depends, to a large extent, on our ability to obtain and maintain patents that cover our therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates. We have applied for patents covering our therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates as well as aspects of some of our technologies. We have a total of nine patents, of which eight are U.S. patents and one is an Australian patent. We plan to continue to apply for patents as we deem appropriate, but we cannot assure you that our patent applications will be accepted, or that they will be accepted to the extent that we seek.

The process of obtaining patents for inventions that cover our products is uncertain for a number of reasons, including but not limited to:

the patenting of our inventions involves complex legal issues, many of which have not yet been settled;

legislative and judicial changes, or changes in the examination guidelines of governmental patent offices may negatively affect our ability to obtain genes and gene-based patents;

in view of the finite number of human genes, we face intense competition from other biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies who have already sought patent protection relating to gene-based discoveries that we may intend to develop and commercialize;

publication of large amounts of genomic data by non-commercial and commercial entities may hinder our ability to obtain sufficiently broad patent claims for our inventions;

even if we succeed in obtaining patent protection, such protection may not be sufficient to prevent third parties from using our patented inventions; and

even if we succeed in obtaining patent protection, our patents could be partially or wholly invalidated, including by our competitors.

If we do not succeed in obtaining patent protection for our inventions to the fullest extent for which we seek protection, our business and financial results will likely be materially harmed.

**The existence of third party intellectual property rights may prevent us from developing our discoveries or require us to expend financial and other resources to be able to continue to do so.**

In selecting a therapeutic or diagnostic product candidate for development, we take into account, among other considerations, the existence of third party intellectual property rights that may hinder our right to develop and commercialize that product candidate. The human genomic pool is finite. To our knowledge, third parties, including our competitors, have been filing wide patent applications covering an increasing portion of the human genomic pool and the proteins expressed therefrom.

As a result of the existence of such third party intellectual property rights, we have been and may be required further to:

forgo the research, development and commercialization of therapeutic and diagnostic products candidates that we discover, notwithstanding their promising scientific and commercial merits; or

invest substantial management and financial resources to either challenge or in-license such third party intellectual property, and we cannot assure you that we will succeed in doing so on commercially reasonable terms, if at all.

We do not always have available to us, in a timely manner, information of the existence of third party intellectual property rights related to our own discoveries. The content of U.S. and other patent applications remain unavailable to the public for a period of approximately 18 months from their filing date. In some instances, the content of U.S. patent applications remain unavailable to the public until the patents are issued. As a result, we can never be certain that development projects that we commence will be free of third party intellectual property rights. If we become aware of the existence of third party intellectual property rights only after we have commenced a particular development project, we may have to forgo such project after having invested in it substantial resources.

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**We may infringe third party rights and may become involved in litigation, which may materially harm our business.**

If a third party accuses us of infringing its intellectual property rights or if a third party commences litigation against us for the infringement of patent or other intellectual property rights, we may incur significant costs in defending such action, whether or not we ultimately prevail. Typically, patent litigation in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry is expensive. Costs that we incur in defending third party infringement actions would also include diversion of management's and technical personnel's time. In addition, parties making claims against us may be able to obtain injunctive or other equitable relief that could prevent us from further developing our discoveries or commercializing our products. In the event of a successful claim of infringement against us, we may be required to pay damages and obtain one or more licenses from the prevailing third party. If we are not able to obtain these licenses at a reasonable cost, if at all, we could encounter delays in product introductions and loss of substantial resources while we attempt to develop alternative products. Defense of any lawsuit or failure to obtain any of these licenses could prevent us or our partners from commercializing available products and could cause us to incur substantial expenditures.

***Factors Related to our Ordinary Shares***

**Holders of our ordinary shares who are U.S. residents may be required to pay additional U.S. federal income taxes.**

There is a risk that we may be classified as a passive foreign investment company, or PFIC. Our treatment as a PFIC could result in a reduction in the after-tax return to the U.S. holders of our ordinary shares and may cause a reduction in the value of our shares. For U.S. federal income tax purposes, we will be classified as a PFIC for any taxable year in which either: (i) 75% or more of our gross income is passive income or (ii) at least 50% of the average value of our assets for the taxable year produce or are held for the production of passive income. If we were determined to be a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes, highly complex rules would apply to U.S. holders owning our ordinary shares.

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Based on our income, assets, activities and market capitalization, we do not believe that we were a PFIC for the taxable year ended December 31, 2007. However there are no assurances that the United States Internal Revenue Service ( IRS ) will not challenge this conclusion.

U.S. holders should carefully read Taxation, United States Federal Income Tax Consequences under Item 10. Additional Information for a more complete discussion of the U.S. federal income tax risks, including the potential application of the PFIC rules, related to acquiring, owning and disposing of our ordinary shares.

**We have a very limited operating history based on the commercialization aspects of our business model, upon which to base an investment decision or upon which to predict our revenues.**

Our business model depends on our ability to generate revenues primarily in the form of fees, milestones, and revenue sharing payments from the licensing and commercialization of current and future product candidate discoveries, and our ability to do so remains untested. To date we have received only minimal revenues from the licensing of our initial product candidates, recognizing \$180,000 of such revenue in 2007. We cannot be certain that this business model will ever generate a stable or significant revenue stream. Our operating history provides an extremely limited basis for you to assess our ability to commercialize generate significant fee, milestone, and revenue sharing revenues from the licensing and commercialization of our product candidate discoveries, or the advisability of investing in our securities.

**Our share price has been volatile and may be volatile in the future and this could limit investors ability to sell stock at a profit and could limit our ability to successfully raise funds.**

During the last two fiscal years, our stock price on the Nasdaq Global Market has traded at a low of \$1.60 to a high of \$5.20. The volatile price of our stock may make it difficult for investors to predict the value of their investment, to sell shares at a profit at any given time, or to plan purchases and sales in advance. A variety of factors may affect the market price of our ordinary shares including:

delay or failure in initiating, completing or analyzing pre-clinical or clinical trials or the unsatisfactory design or results of these trials;

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achievement or rejection of regulatory approvals by our competitors or us;

announcements of technological innovations or new commercial products by our competitors;

developments concerning proprietary rights, including patents;

developments concerning our collaborations;

regulatory developments in the United States, Israel and other countries;

economic or other crises and other external factors;

period to period fluctuations in our revenues and other results of operations;

changes in financial estimates by securities analysts;

our need to raise additional funds;

our inability to disclose the commercial terms of our commercial collaborations;

our inability to show and accurately predict revenues; and

sales of our ordinary shares.

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We will not be able to control many of these factors, and we believe that period-to-period comparisons of our financial results will not necessarily be indicative of our future performance.

In addition, the stock market in general, and the market for biotechnology companies in particular, has experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations that may have been unrelated or disproportionate to the operating performance of individual companies. These broad market and industry factors may seriously harm the market price of our ordinary shares, regardless of our operating performance.

In addition, the market prices of equity securities of companies that have a significant presence in Israel may also be affected by the changing security situation in the Middle East and particularly in Israel. As a result, these companies may experience difficulties in raising additional financing required to effectively operate and grow their businesses. Such failure and the volatility of the securities market in general, and our share price in particular, may affect our ability to raise additional financing in the future. Market and industry fluctuations may adversely affect the trading price of our ordinary shares, regardless of our actual operating performance.

### **Our share price may decline if our operating results fluctuate and/or if we fail to meet the expectations of the investment community.**

Our quarterly operating results have fluctuated. Since we seek to generate revenues from collaborators and licensees commercializing therapeutic and diagnostic products that are based on our discoveries and which are enabled by the use of the intellectual property, scientific know-how and computational biology capabilities, our quarterly operating results may fluctuate in the future. The fluctuations may result from the extent to which our collaborators and licensees succeed in commercializing our technology.

Our operating results may also fluctuate as a result of, among other things:

inflation/deflation in Israel or changes in the conversion rate between New Israeli Shekel and other currencies;

the outcome and length of conflicts in the Middle East;

the time within which our collaborators and licensees may develop our therapeutic and/or diagnostic product candidates into revenue-producing products; and

our ability to secure research and development grants.

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These fluctuations may cause our share price to fluctuate significantly. If our operating results fail to meet the expectations of the investment community, this may cause reductions in our share price. Quarterly results should not be relied upon as indications of future performance, and comparisons of quarterly results of operations may not be any meaningful indication of our progress in the long term.

### **Provisions of Israeli law may delay, prevent or affect a potential acquisition of all or a significant portion of our shares or assets and therefore depress the price of our shares.**

Israeli corporate law regulates mergers, requires tender offers for acquisitions of shares above specified thresholds, requires special approvals for transactions involving directors, officers or significant shareholders and regulates other matters that may be relevant to these types of transactions. The provisions of Israeli law may delay or prevent an acquisition, or make it less desirable to a potential acquirer, even if such an acquisition would be considered beneficial by a majority of our shareholders, and therefore depress the price of our shares. For information about these limitations, see [Anti-Takeover Provisions under Israeli Law](#) Under Item 10. Additional Information. Furthermore, Israeli tax considerations may make potential transactions undesirable to us or to some of our shareholders.

### ***Risks Relating to Operations in Israel***

#### **Conditions in the Middle East and in Israel may harm our operations.**

Our principal offices and research and development facilities are located in Israel. Accordingly, political, economic and military conditions in Israel may directly affect our operations. Since the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, a number of armed conflicts have taken place between Israel and its Arab neighbors, as well as incidents of civil unrest, military conflicts and terrorist actions. During the summer of 2006, Israel was engaged in an armed conflict with Hezbollah, a Lebanese Islamist Shiite militia group and political party. This conflict involved missile strikes against civilian targets in northern Israel, and negatively affected business conditions in Israel. In addition, Israel and companies



doing business with Israel have, in the past, been the subject of an economic boycott. Although Israel has entered into various agreements with Egypt, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority, Israel has been and is subject to civil unrest and terrorist activity, with varying levels of severity, since September 2000. The election in early 2006 of representatives of the Hamas movement to a majority of seats in the Palestinian Legislative Council, the armed takeover of Gaza by Hamas militants and the tension among the different Palestinian factions may create additional unrest and uncertainty. Any future armed conflicts or political instability in the region may negatively affect business conditions and adversely affect our results of operations. Parties with whom we do business have sometimes declined to travel to Israel during periods of heightened unrest or tension, forcing us to make alternative arrangements when necessary. In addition, the political and security situation in Israel may result in parties with whom we have agreements involving performance in Israel claiming that they are not obligated to perform their commitments under those agreements pursuant to force majeure provisions in the agreements. We cannot give you any assurance that this will continue to be the case. However, if there were to be emergency conditions, some of our key employees may be called to active duty for extended periods of time and could adversely affect our operations. Any hostilities involving Israel or the interruption or curtailment of trade between Israel and its present trading partners could also adversely affect our operations and could make it more difficult for us to raise capital.

Our insurance does not cover losses that may occur as a result of events associated with the security situation in the Middle East. Although the Israeli government currently covers the reinstatement value of direct damages that are caused by terrorist attacks or acts of war, we cannot assure you that this government coverage will be maintained. Any losses or damages incurred by us could have a material adverse effect on our business. Any armed conflicts or political instability in the region would likely negatively affect business conditions and could harm our results of operations.

**Our results of operations may be adversely affected by inflation and/or by a devaluation of the Dollar against the New Israeli Shekel.**

We hold most of our cash, cash equivalents deposits and marketable securities in U.S. dollars but incur a significant portion of our expenses, principally salaries and related personnel expenses and administrative expenses, in New Israeli Shekels. As a result, we are exposed to the risk that the U.S. dollar will be devalued against the New Israeli Shekel. In 2007, and until February 29, 2008, the dollar depreciated against the NIS by approximately 14%. This has impacted us accordingly. Further depreciation could have a material adverse effect on our results of operation and financial condition. However, our operations could also be adversely affected if we will be unable in the future to guard against devaluation of the Dollar against the New Israeli Shekel.

**We may not continue to be entitled to certain tax benefits.**

We are entitled to certain tax benefits under Israeli government programs.

The tax benefits that we are entitled to receive are a function of the Approved Enterprise status of our existing facilities in Israel. For more information, see Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects; Operating Results; Governmental Economic, Fiscal, Monetary or Political Policies that Materially Affected or Could Materially Affect our Operations . To date we have not received any such tax benefits because we have not yet generated any taxable income. To maintain our eligibility for these tax benefits, we must continue to meet certain conditions, including making specified investments in fixed assets and financing a percentage of investments with share capital.

If we cease to become entitled to these tax benefits, we may be required to pay increased taxes on the taxable income that we may generate in the future from funded technology.

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**It may be difficult to enforce a U.S. judgment against us, or our officers and directors or to assert U.S. securities law claims in Israel.**

Service of process upon us, since we are incorporated in Israel, and upon our directors and officers and our Israeli auditors, almost all of whom reside outside the United States, may be difficult to obtain within the United States. In addition, because substantially all of our assets and almost all of our directors and officers are located outside the United States, any judgment obtained in the United States against us or any of our directors and officers may not be collectible within the United States.

ITEM 4. INFORMATION ON THE COMPANY

## History and Development of the Company

Our legal and commercial name is Compugen Ltd. We were established as a corporation and have operated under the laws of the State of Israel since 1993. Our principal offices are located at 72 Pinchas Rosen Street, Tel Aviv 69512, Israel, and our telephone number is +972-3-765-8585. The principal offices of Compugen UK Ltd, a wholly-owned UK subsidiary are located at c/o Levy Cohen & Co., 37 Broadhurst Gardens, London NW6 3QT. The mailing address of Compugen USA, Inc. (formerly known as Compugen, Inc.), our wholly-owned U.S. subsidiary and our agent in the United States, is 560 S. Winchester Blvd., Suite 500, San Jose, California 95128, and its telephone number is (408) 236-7336. Our primary Internet address is [www.cgen.com](http://www.cgen.com). None of the information on our website is incorporated by reference into this annual report.

Our initial business beginning in 1994 was to develop and commercialize a computer hardware system and software applications to accelerate homology searches of biological sequences under the name Bioccelerator to facilitate an understanding of the human genome proteins. Thereafter, we began to develop better algorithms to increase the speed of processing and to cope with the higher level of complexity of life at the molecular level. The initial result of this effort was an understanding that the majority of human genes can express multiple transcripts (i.e. alternative splicing) and therefore multiple proteins.

Beginning with this understanding of alternative splicing, our research efforts were then largely directed to obtaining additional deeper predictive understandings of selected biological phenomena at the molecular level, including how genes express transcripts, how transcripts become proteins, and more recently, how proteins are cleaved to create peptides. These efforts, over more than 10 years, have created a core infrastructure of multidisciplinary and experienced researchers, computational biology systems, tools and algorithms, proprietary understandings and predictive models of key aspects of life at the molecular level. During this period we obtained revenues by providing certain of these capabilities to third parties (including multi-million dollar collaborations with Abbott Laboratories, Human Genome Sciences Inc., Novartis Pharma AG and Warner-Lambert Company, and the United States Patent and Trademark Office) in the form of services and software products.

In 2004, having achieved what we believed to be the required infrastructure in terms of experienced scientists, computational tools and models, and scientific understandings, we began to focus a portion of our R&D efforts on the creation of field specific discovery platforms intended to provide product candidates, primarily for licensing to third parties, and discontinued commercialization of computational biology tools and services. (The Bioccelerator product line was sold in 2003). To support this new focus, during 2003 and 2004 we expanded our biology laboratory by, among other things, expanding its floor space and adding new functions and equipment. During that time, we also recruited experts for the purpose of strengthening our protein expression, production, purification and analysis capabilities. In December 2005, we underwent a re-organization to concentrate on the discovery, validation and commercialization of our therapeutic and diagnostic biomarker product candidates and relevant research and discovery activities. As part of this re-organization we reduced the number of our employees by approximately 25%.

Our business model now depends on our ability to generate future revenues primarily in the form of fees, milestones, and revenue sharing payments from the licensing and commercialization of current and future product candidate discoveries. These product candidate discoveries are based almost entirely on the creation of an increasing inventory of discovery platforms in selected fields of interest.

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We incorporated our wholly-owned U.S. subsidiary, Compugen USA, Inc., in 1997 and in January 2008, we established a wholly-owned UK Subsidiary, Compugen UK Ltd. Our research and discovery, business development and commercial operations are all carried out primarily from our Tel Aviv offices.

In August 2000, we sold 5,000,000 of our ordinary shares in an initial public offering of our shares on the Nasdaq Global Market at \$10.00 per share. In September 2000, we sold an additional 750,000 ordinary shares upon the exercise by our underwriters of their over-allotment option. In January 2002, we listed our shares for trading on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange (TASE).

In 1999, we established a chemistry division to carry out a research program in which we integrated the disciplines of organic chemistry with physics and advanced computational technologies for the development of a method to substantially increase the predictability and success rates of small molecule drug discovery. On August 1, 2004, we transferred all of the assets and liabilities of this division to Keddem Bioscience, a wholly-owned subsidiary. This transfer was part of our continuing efforts to streamline our focus on, and the discovery and development of, novel therapeutic proteins and diagnostic biomarkers through the creation and utilization of field-oriented discovery platforms. In August 2007, we announced that we suspended Keddem's operations. We continue to seek to maximize the value of the intellectual property remaining in Keddem by seeking third party funding, but we can give no assurances that we will succeed.

In 1999, we established a division to utilize our *in silico* predictive discovery capabilities in the agricultural biotechnology field. On January 1, 2002, we transferred this business to Evogene Ltd., in which we have approximately a 10.97% shareholding (TASE: EVGN) for additional

information, see [www.evogene.com](http://www.evogene.com)). For more information about these transactions and our holdings in Evogene, see Item 7, Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions; Related Party Transactions; Evogene Ltd.

## Recent Developments

In February 2007, we announced the development of our G-protein coupled receptor (GPCR) Therapeutic Peptide Ligand discovery platform and eight novel peptides that activate GPCRs discovered through the use of this new platform.

In July 2007, we announced the development of a new discovery platform for the identification of existing drug molecules that are predicted to have important therapeutic indications that are currently not known (New Indications), and the selection at such time, of nine product candidates from the initial use of this platform, three of which successfully completed in vitro screening and advanced to in vivo studies.

In January 2008, we announced results from initial in-vivo validation studies of CGEN-855A and CGEN-855B, two novel peptide agonists of the FPRL1 GPCR, which may serve as anti-inflammatory and cardio-protective drug candidates, discovered using the Company's GPCR ligand discovery platform.

In February 2008, we announced positive in-vivo results for two novel peptide agonists of the MAS GPCR, indicating cardio-protective effects and therapeutic potential for the treatment of various cardiovascular and other pathologies. The two peptides CGEN-856 and CGEN-857 were identified using Compugen's GPCR ligand discovery platform.

In March 2008, we announced the development and validation of our Blockers of Disease-Associated Conformation (DAC Blockers) platform, a discovery platform for the identification of peptides that block proteins from adopting their disease-associated conformations. Two of the predicted therapeutic peptide candidates from the pilot validation run of the platform showed initial experimental verification, one with anti-inflammatory and the other with anti-cancer activities.

On April 1, 2008, we announced the discovery and experimental verification of CGEN-144, a novel variant of Troponin I biomarker, and the signing of a research and license option agreement with Biosite, Inc. We simultaneously announced that a patent for this biomarker was granted by the US Patent and Trademark Office.

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## Business Overview

We are a company that engages in early stage drug and diagnostic discovery. Our business is focused on developing and using our growing inventory of discovery platforms to predict, select and validate therapeutic drug candidates and diagnostic biomarker candidates. Prediction and selection is largely computer based within each platform, while we use experimental biological processes to validate product candidates. We seek to enter into early stage commercial collaborations with third parties to develop drug and diagnostic products based on our candidates under various types of milestone and revenue sharing agreements. Our initial discovery platforms have focused mainly on cancer, cardiovascular and immune-related diseases.

We are focused on and are structured along the lines of our three principal activities: (i) research and discovery; (ii) therapeutics; and (iii) diagnostics.

**Research and Discovery:** Our research and discovery activities consist of two primary and overlapping components. The first is our continuing effort to obtain deeper predictive understandings of important biological phenomena at the molecular level through the analysis of biological data of various types such as DNA or RNA sequences, gene expression data, protein network data, data related to drugs in development and drugs already being commercialized. The second utilizes these understandings, along with field specific information, to develop field-focused discovery platforms. Both components require the use of our extensive base of proprietary algorithms and other computational biology systems and tools.

**Therapeutics and Diagnostics:** In each field, we seek to discover novel candidates that answer unmet medical needs and that may be suitable for further development as therapeutic or diagnostic products. Although each of our platforms is field- or disease-specific, our general approach is not, and can be utilized for numerous applications, both therapeutic and/or diagnostic. At any given time, our discovery efforts may span a number of candidates which may become diagnostic or therapeutic products. Our therapeutic candidates include either novel peptides or proteins that are themselves drug candidates, targets to potential drugs, like specific receptors of cancer cells, or known small molecules with new indications. Our diagnostic biomarkers indicate, among others, the presence or absence of a physiological condition, such as a disease, or a person's predisposition to either acquire a disease or to respond to a therapeutic treatment.

Our business model is based on entering into commercial collaborations with leading diagnostic, biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, as well as academic and medical institutions, which have the ability to support and fund discovery activities as well as commercial development of our early-stage discoveries and candidates from pre-clinical stages for therapeutics or from initial clinical validation for diagnostics. We intend to generate revenues through milestone and royalty based license agreements and joint development agreements with these collaborators. We have entered into several such agreements, but we have not yet recognized significant revenues from these agreements.

### Research and Discovery

We develop predictive biological computer based models and platforms that better enable us to discover potential therapeutic or diagnostic product candidates by analyzing biological data of various types such as DNA or RNA sequences, gene expression data, protein network data and data related to drugs in development and to drugs already being commercialized.

In general, each Compugen discovery platform targets a specific field and consists of three modules: Prediction, Selection and Validation. The first two modules are largely *in silico* (i.e. performed by computer) with the third, being laboratory based *in-vitro* and *in vivo* experimental validation of selected candidates. The Prediction module utilizes our computational biology capabilities and predictive models with field specific information to generate *in silico* a large number (sometimes in the hundreds of thousands) of potential product candidates in the field of interest. Next, the Selection module utilizes proprietary algorithms and tools and other methodologies to select from this large number of potential product candidates a smaller number of molecules (typically in the low hundreds) that we believe have the highest probability of being product candidates for that specific field of interest. Some or all of these selected molecules are then synthesized and undergo *in vitro* and/or *in vivo* validation testing in the third module. By using this systematic approach, we have successfully validated the predictive capabilities of a number of discovery platforms, and in addition have discovered numerous product candidates in a number of diagnostic and therapeutic areas that were first predicted *in silico* and then initially validated in the laboratory.

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Our current inventory of validated discovery platforms is as follows:

**Splice Variant based Therapeutic Proteins:** Alternative Splicing is a biological phenomenon that enables multiple protein products from a single gene. Our historical platform, the LEADS infrastructure platform models this phenomenon by analyzing databases of sequence data, mainly ESTs (Expressed Sequence Tags – short sub-sequences of a transcribed spliced nucleotide sequence) and predicts the collection of human proteins (proteome), among them many potential novel splice variants. In some cases, splice variants could be drug candidates. The LEADS infrastructure platform is used in other discovery platforms as well.

**Nucleic-Acid Disease Markers:** Using the LEADS infrastructure platform in combination with a gene expression database, we can identify RNA sequences found in different levels in pathological as opposed to healthy conditions. These RNA sequences can be used as biomarkers for the diagnosis of specific pathological conditions, such as cancer.

**Protein Disease Markers:** Using the same capabilities as above, we can identify RNA sequences that are translated to proteins secreted to the blood stream under various pathological conditions. Such protein sequences, identified in the bloodstream, can serve as biomarkers for the diagnosis of various diseases. This platform serves as the basis of our collaborations with Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics Inc., Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics (a Johnson & Johnson company) and Biosite.

**Monoclonal Antibody Targets:** This platform predicts the existence of proteins that can serve as targets for antibody therapeutics. It combines several information sources such as the LEADS infrastructure platform, gene expression profiles and protein domains predictions. We have recently begun to experimentally validate drug target candidates which are novel membrane proteins which we believe may serve as targets for antibody therapeutics and may play a role in the treatment of various cancer and autoimmune diseases. This platform is the basis for the drug target discovery program that forms that enables our collaboration with Medarex.

**Nucleic-Acid Preclinical Toxicity Markers:** Using the LEADS infrastructure platform in combination with gene expression experiments designed to identify drug-induced toxicity biomarkers, we can identify high levels of RNA sequences in tissues that were exposed to toxic drug agents. Such RNA sequences can be used as biomarkers for the early detection of toxicity in preclinical trials. This platform serves as the basis of our collaboration with Teva Pharmaceutical Industries.

**Non-SNP Drug Response Markers:** This platform (also called our GeneVa platform ) predicts non-SNP variations in the human genome that could be potential drug response and disease predisposition markers. This platform consists of three components: an atlas component with over 200,000 predicted non-SNP variations, a component that associates variations from this atlas with a certain conditions of interest (eg. response to a drug), and an experimental genotyping component that allows testing of variations on human DNA samples. This platform forms the base of our collaboration with Roche for the identification of drug response markers to anti Rheumatoid Arthritis

drugs.

**GPCR Therapeutic Peptide Ligands:** G-protein coupled receptors (GPCRs) are desirable drug targets – at least 40% of drugs currently in the market are thought to act on GPCRs. This platform aims at finding novel peptide ligand agonists to GPCRs that could become drug candidates. This platform is based on a predicted peptidome and our capability to extract from it, GPCR related peptides. Our peptidome is a collection of thousands of novel human peptide sequences which are expected to correspond to natural peptides, and is based on predicting novel cleavage sites in precursor proteins. Using this proprietary platform, we have identified eight novel peptides that activate GPCRs and progressed with three into in-vivo studies. In addition, we signed a collaboration agreement with Merck to use this platform to target and predict peptides likely to activate selected GPCRs and to validate their agonistic activity.

**New Indications:** This platform predicts new indications for existing drugs. It is based in large part on our recently developed, MED (Mining of Expression Data) infrastructure technology, which allows the integration and subsequent querying of multiple types and sources of data, in particular, gene expression results from tens of thousands DNA chips from around the world, covering hundreds of biological conditions (e.g. disease states). The New Indications discovery platform analyzes vast amounts of information and raw data from many different experimental and drug and disease specific sources, including gene expression, known or predicted protein networks, gene regulation data, known or predicted associations between genes and pathologies and other experimental results. A significant value in discovering a new indication of an existing drug is found in the shortened development time and decreased risk due to the existence of safety, toxicity and other data. The MED infrastructure technology is used in other discovery platforms as well.

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**Disease-Associated Conformation Blocker:** Our newest discovery platform that can identify segments in proteins of interest that, if introduced therapeutically as synthetic peptides, would block specific conformational changes of such proteins, thereby preventing them from adopting disease-associated conformations and related activities. A key capability of this platform is that it enables a proteome wide search for conformational change blocking peptides in human, viral and bacterial proteomes.

## THERAPEUTIC ACTIVITIES

We use our discovery platforms to first predict and then select from among the many predictions, likely novel potential drug candidates. After this in-silico prediction and selection of potential candidates, we perform an initial screening experiment that tests for the predicted biological activity. We then identify potential candidates, and select some for preliminary biological testing (usually in-vitro tests) which serves as validation of the discovery platform itself. Using the in-vitro results, we make an assessment based on an internal set of criteria, whether to proceed to more advanced tests (usually in-vivo tests) which may further demonstrate the potential of the discovery platform and enable us to place those molecules with successful results, in our therapeutic pipeline. We may perform these validation activities of our candidates internally or outsource these activities to a third party.

Our initial therapeutic product candidates include:

CGEN-54 is a splice variant of the MCP-1 chemokine – a possible drug candidate for inflammatory conditions and cancer. Inhibition of CCR2, the receptor for MCP-1, has been shown to have an anti-inflammatory effect. Compugen's variant of MCP-1 is an inhibitor of the CCR2 axis. This protein is currently being evaluated under a collaboration with Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., where it is being tested in multiple inflammatory and cancer models.

CGEN-241 is a splice variant of the MET receptor. The MET receptor is associated with cancer and many MET inhibitors are under development by various pharmaceutical companies, as cancer drugs. Compugen's MET variant is a soluble receptor of MET and has been shown to have an inhibitory effect on the MET pathway.

CGEN-34 is a splice variant of the peptide ANP. This variant is a possible agonist of ANP and is likely to share similar biological properties as ANP, and therefore it could potentially affect the cardiovascular system.

CGEN-855 is an FPRL1 GPCR peptide agonist. Activation of the FPRL1 GPCR has been shown to have anti-inflammatory properties. This peptide, predicted by the GPCR peptide ligand discovery platform, has been shown to activate the FPRL1 receptor. In a study based on an in-vivo model of acute myocardial ischemia-reperfusion injury, CGEN-855 and CGEN-855B (which is a shorter peptide derived from CGEN-855) were both shown to provide significant dose-dependent protection against reperfusion injury and reduce infarct size by up to 36%. In another study, both CGEN-855A and CGEN-855B showed up to 50% inhibition of acute inflammation in a mouse model.

CGEN-856 and CGEN-857 are MAS GPCR peptide agonists. Activation of the MAS GPCR has been shown to have potential cardiovascular therapeutic properties. These peptides, predicted by the GPCR peptide ligand discovery platform, have been shown to activate the MAS receptor. In an in-vivo model of cardiac remodeling, CGEN-856 and CGEN-857 were shown to provide significant cardio protection, as manifested by reduction of both fibrosis and hypertrophy of cardiomyocytes. Very low (sub-nanomolar) concentrations of these peptides showed significant relaxation of rat aorta (a major blood vessel).

CGEN-54 is currently being evaluated under an existing collaboration with Teva Pharmaceutical Industries. We are in differing stages of negotiations with various pharmaceutical and drug development companies regarding other of our therapeutic product candidates.

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## DIAGNOSTIC ACTIVITIES

As with our therapeutic discovery efforts, our diagnostic discovery platforms incorporate the prediction of a large number of possible candidates and then selection of those with apparent higher probabilities. After these steps, we make an assessment, based on the set of criteria set forth below, which candidates to seek to experimentally validate. A candidate is validated by testing it on a set of clinical samples derived from healthy and diseased individuals. Validation may be accomplished using molecular biology techniques and antibody development and immunoassay-based detection assays. Our principal selection criteria to assess whether or not to validate a candidate are:

Novelty and freedom to operate. We select molecules that we predict to be novel and have found to not be covered by third party patents or known patent applications.

Differentiation between disease/pathological and healthy conditions. We select molecules that we predict to be present in different quantities in diseased/pathological and healthy human tissues that allow the development of a test having a diagnostic value.

Biological characteristics. We select molecules that have biological features, which make them suitable for diagnostic detection. For example, in the case of immunoassay-based diagnostic biomarkers, we select molecules that are predicted to be secreted into the blood stream and therefore possibly detectable in blood.

The specific interest of our collaboration partner. The selection of a candidate for validation is often done together with our collaboration partner, based on their diagnostic areas of interest and the specific candidate.

Our diagnostic discovery platforms together with our related technologies and their experimentally validated novel output have already formed the basis for discovery-based collaborations with:

Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics;

Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, a Johnson & Johnson company;

Biosite Incorporated;

Mayo Clinic;

Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd.; and

Roche.

We expect that in 2008 and 2009, as was the case in 2007, we will continue to validate and develop products based on the first wave of discoveries from our immunoassay based diagnostic discovery platforms. We also intend, together with our licensees and collaborators, to continue our discovery activities, which are currently targeted at cancer, cardiovascular and inflammatory diseases, as well as drug-related toxicities, but also extend to other disease areas.

## Our Selected Customers and Collaborators

We have to date entered into a number of agreements under which we have out-licensed novel therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates. We intend to continue to focus on licensing-out our novel therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates, to pharmaceutical, biotechnology and diagnostics companies. We seek to generate revenues from these collaborations primarily in the form of certain predetermined developmental stages and milestones, and royalties from the sales of the drugs and/or diagnostics applications. Under all of the agreements that we have entered to date, we are not subject to any obligation to actually attain developmental, commercialization or other milestones.

On April 1, 2008, we announced the discovery and experimental verification of CGEN-144, a novel variant of Troponin I biomarker, and the signing of a research and license option agreement with Biosite, Inc. We simultaneously announced that a patent for this biomarker was granted by the US Patent and Trademark Office.

In January 2008, we announced our entry into a collaboration with Merck & Co., Inc., targeted at predicting peptides likely to activate selected G-protein coupled receptors (GPCRs) and validating their agonistic activity. The agreement includes an option to Merck for exclusive worldwide licenses for such peptides on a peptide by peptide basis covering the development and commercialization of therapeutic products.

In December 2007, we announced our entry into a collaborative discovery and license agreement with Roche for the identification and validation of genetic variations for the prediction of response to drugs used for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. We plan to utilize our proprietary GeneVa platform to analyze DNA samples and clinical data provided by Roche in order to identify and validate non-SNP (single nucleotide polymorphism) genetic variations that could serve as biomarkers for the predicted response or non-response to selected drugs for treatment of rheumatoid arthritis.

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In August 2007, we announced our entry into an agreement with Teva Pharmaceutical Industries, Ltd. covering CGEN-54, a Compugen-discovered novel splice variant of MCP1. Compugen has begun to provide Teva with research quantities of CGEN-54 and Teva has begun to conduct in vivo validation experiments. Teva has an option to enter into an exclusive, worldwide milestone and royalty-bearing license agreement for the development and commercialization of any resulting products.

In April 2007, we announced our entry into an agreement with Mayo Clinic targeted at discovering and validating novel biomarkers for diagnosing the presence of unstable atherosclerotic plaques in coronary artery disease and cerebrovascular disease. Coronary artery disease (CAD) is the leading cause of death in the developed world. Vulnerable plaque is regarded as the most common cause of complications from CAD and can lead to increased incidence of heart attack and stroke. We expect to utilize our unique discovery platform approach to predict and validate biomarkers related to active atherosclerotic disease, incorporating data derived from biological materials provided by Mayo Clinic, as well as our own proprietary expression and clinical data.

In March 2007, we announced our entry into an agreement with Biosite Incorporated (Biosite) for the development and commercialization of immunoassay diagnostic products. Entering into this agreement was an expansion of our immunoassay diagnostic collaboration with Biosite, which we entered into in June 2005. Under this agreement, Compugen and Biosite expanded the number of potential diagnostic biomarkers that we made available to Biosite for selection. Furthermore, our existing collaboration was expanded to cover additional diagnostic fields such as cardiovascular and oncology. As with the initial agreement, we are entitled to receive milestone payments and royalties from the sale of any products emerging from the collaboration.

In January 2007, we announced our entry into a collaborative agreement with Medarex, Inc. to develop novel monoclonal antibody-based therapeutics for oncology and autoimmune diseases. Under the terms of the agreement, we will share with Medarex discovery, development and commercialization responsibilities on antibody-based therapeutics resulting from the collaboration, and share revenues generated from the sale of such therapeutic products. Under the collaboration, we are utilizing our proprietary antibody-target discovery platform to identify novel drug targets. Medarex plans to develop fully human antibodies against these targets using its proprietary system for developing human antibodies. The collaboration also provides that we may independently pursue diagnostic applications involving certain antibodies and targets.

In January 2007, we also announced our entry into an agreement with Teva Pharmaceutical Industries to collaborate on a project for the discovery of biomarkers for the detection of drug toxicity in preclinical stages of the drug development process. The initial focus of the collaboration will be on biomarkers for the early detection of potential nephrotoxicity (being toxicity to kidney cells). We may jointly choose to expand the scope of the collaboration to include biomarkers for the detection of hepatotoxicity (being toxicity to liver cells) and/or cardiotoxicity (being toxicity to heart cells) in response to drug treatment. We have granted Teva a license to use the discovered markers for research and development activities while retaining commercialization rights for licensing to other companies, as well as rights for internal use. Under the collaboration, we expect to utilize our proprietary computational tools, discovery platforms and nucleic acid testing technologies for the purpose

of predicting and validating toxicity biomarkers. Our integrated analysis will incorporate data derived from biological samples collected by Teva in a preclinical study designed specifically for this project, as well as our proprietary expression and clinical data.

We currently coordinate a consortium funded by the European 6th Framework as part of a three year collaborative project, which commenced on January 1, 2006. The grants we will receive from this project do not bear any repayment royalties. We enjoy the generic knowledge accumulated in the collaborative project and, as a coordinator of this project, receive the consortium funds from the European Commission and distribute those funds to the consortium members based on an agreement among the consortium members.

In June 2005, we announced our entry into a collaboration with Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, Inc, a Johnson & Johnson company, or OCD, for the development and commercialization of immunoassay based diagnostic products that are based on the output of our diagnostic discovery platforms. The terms of this agreement allow OCD to select up to nine diagnostic biomarkers which we will then collaborate on the initial clinical validation of the selected biomarkers. Under the agreement, successfully validated biomarkers will be developed into products and commercialized by OCD. In exchange, we will receive milestone payments and license fees for each commercialized biomarker, in addition to revenue-based royalties. We applied together with OCD for a grant from the Israel-U.S. Bi-national Industrial Research and Development Foundation for contribution to our research and development expenditures under our joint collaborative project. For more information about this grant, see Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects; Research and Development, Patents and Licenses.

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In June 2005, we also announced our entry into a collaboration with Biosite, for the development and commercialization of immunoassay based diagnostic products based on the output of our diagnostic discovery platforms. Under the terms of this agreement, we granted to Biosite an exclusive license in the diagnostic field to use certain of our targets for immunoassay based diagnostic applications. In return for this grant, we are entitled to receive milestone payments and royalties from the sales of each diagnostic product emerging from the collaboration.

In August 2004, we entered into a broad pipeline discovery-based collaboration with Diagnostic Product Corporation, a division of Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics (DPC) for the development and commercialization of certain diagnostic products based on the output of our diagnostic discovery platforms. The terms of this agreement allow DPC to develop and commercialize immunoassay and nucleic-acid based diagnostic products that are based on candidate biomarkers that we already discovered, as well as additional candidates that may arise out of the collaboration. We are entitled to receive milestone payments and royalties from the sales of each diagnostic product emerging from the collaboration. In February 2006, we entered into an expansion agreement with DPC under which we agreed to collaborate in relation to up to an additional five diagnostic product candidates. The terms of the expansion agreement entitle DPC to acquire a license to candidates that Compugen validates using serum samples to be supplied by DPC, in consideration for an option and milestone payments that are in excess of the analogous payments under the original agreement.

## **Our Strategy**

Our mission is to be the world leader in the discovery and licensing of product candidates to the drug and diagnostic industries under milestone and revenue sharing agreements. Our increasing inventory of powerful and proprietary discovery platforms is enabling the predictive discovery field after field of numerous therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates. These discovery platforms are based on our decade-long focus on the predictive understanding of important biological phenomena at the molecular level.

To date, we have commenced implementing this strategy through (i) the successful development and validation of the predictive capabilities of our nine discovery platforms, (ii) the discovery of numerous product candidates in several diagnostic and therapeutic areas that were first predicted and selected *in silico* and then initially validated *in vitro* and/or *in vivo* in the laboratory and (ii) the signing of collaboration and license agreements with Roche, Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics, Inc., Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics (a Johnson & Johnson company), Biosite, and Teva Pharmaceutical Industries, for the development and commercialization of novel diagnostic products and with Merck & Co., Teva Pharmaceutical Industries and Medarex, Inc. for the development and commercialization of therapeutic products.

Our current inventory of validated discovery platforms is as follows:

**Splice Variant based Therapeutic Proteins**

**Nucleic-Acid Disease Markers**

**Protein Disease Markers**

**Monoclonal Antibody Targets**



**Nucleic-Acid Preclinical Toxicity Markers**

**Non-SNP Drug Response Markers**

**GPCR Therapeutic Peptide Ligands**

**New Indications**

**Disease-Associated Conformation Blocker**

**Subsidiaries**

***Keddem Bioscience Ltd.***

In 1999, we established a chemistry division that focused on substantially increasing the predictability and success rates of small molecule drug discovery. On August 1, 2004, we turned this division into a wholly-owned subsidiary, Keddem Bioscience ( Keddem ). For more information on Keddem, see Item 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions; Related Party Transactions; Keddem Bioscience Ltd. .

Keddem experienced recurring losses from operations and had accumulated a deficit of approximately \$2,917,000 at December 31, 2006. This raised substantial doubts about Keddem s ability to continue as a going concern. During the second quarter of 2007, in view of the fact that there were no assurances that additional financing would be achieved, we decided to suspend Keddem s operations and as such, it is reflected as a discontinued operation in our consolidated financial statements. We continue to seek to maximize the value of the intellectual property remaining in Keddem by seeking third party funding, but we can give no assurances that we will succeed.

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***Evogene Ltd.***

In 1999, we established a division to utilize our *in silico* predictive discovery capabilities in the agricultural biotechnology field. On January 1, 2002, we converted this division into a majority-owned subsidiary, Evogene Ltd.

In February, 2006 Evogene entered into an equity investment agreement with certain investors for \$7,000,000, of which approximately \$2,000,000 was originally received as a bridge loan in January 2005. We did not participate in the investment in Evogene under this financing round. Under the equity investment agreement, the investors agreed to convert all outstanding loans into equity. Following the entering into that equity investment agreement, irrevocable proxies that we previously granted to certain investors in Evogene with respect to approximately 50% of our holding in Evogene, empowering them to vote in a manner determined in their discretion, ceased to be of force and effect.

On June 12, 2007, Evogene completed an initial public offering on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. The company sold units consisting of ordinary shares, Series 1 warrants and Series 2 warrants. In total, 3,800,000 shares, 3,900,000 Series 1 warrants and 3,400,000 Series 2 warrants were sold in the offering. In addition, existing shareholders exercised warrants for approximately 2,000,000 ordinary shares, bringing the total new capital raised to approximately \$8,000,000. We did not participate in the investment in Evogene under this public offering. As a result of the units issued in connection with the initial public offering and as of December 31, 2007, we now have the power to vote 10.97% of Evogene s share capital.

Upon Evogene s incorporation on January 1, 2002, we granted a Computational Tools License to Evogene, which license was first extended on August 6, 2003. On August 1, 2004, we entered into a Second Extension Agreement to the Computational Tools License Agreement, with under which the license was extended for two additional years, until December 31, 2007, in consideration of the issuance to us of 350,000 ordinary shares of Evogene. During these two years we were obligated to provide to Evogene limited support services at no additional charge. In May 2007 we entered into a Third Extension to the Computational Tools License Agreement with Evogene, under which we agreed to grant Evogene a license to certain software until December 31, 2014. In consideration for the extension of the license which became effective on January 1, 2008, Evogene agreed to pay us \$150,000 and issue to us 100,000 ordinary shares in Evogene.

In August 2006, we entered into a Software License Agreement with Evogene, under which we agreed to grant Evogene a license to certain software which supports the LEADS technology licensed under the Computational Tools License Agreement. In consideration for the grant of the license, Evogene agreed to issue to us 40,000 ordinary shares before December 31, 2006 and an additional 20,000 ordinary shares within one

month of Evogene entering into its first significant agreement. To date, we have been issued 60,000 ordinary shares under the Software License Agreement

For more information on our holdings in Evogene, see Item 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions; Related Party Transactions; Evogene Ltd.

Evogene is a crop genetics company, focused on the development of improved traits in commercially important plants through gene discovery, genome remodeling and advanced classical breeding techniques. Evogene's current product development efforts are focused on enhanced fiber in cotton, abiotic stress tolerance and nitrogen use efficiency in various crops, and a unique plant platform for the production of therapeutic proteins. For more information, see below Organizational Structure in this Item 4 and Item 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions; Related Party Transactions; Evogene Ltd.

### **Sales, Marketing and Business Development**

Since our incorporation in 1993, we have devoted most of our capital and human resources to obtaining deeper and predictive understandings of important life processes at the molecular level and utilizing these understandings as well as our extensive and growing base of proprietary computational biology systems and tools, to substantially improve important aspects of drug and diagnostic discovery. In recent years, these efforts have focused on the development of field-specific discovery platforms and the prediction, selection and initial validation of numerous drug and diagnostic candidates. Therefore, our principal sales, marketing and business development efforts currently involve licensing or other forms of collaborations with biotech, pharmaceutical and diagnostic companies for the development and commercialization of our product candidates. In earlier years we provided certain of our capabilities in the form of services and software tools to third parties, but these activities were largely discontinued by 2004. In connection with the shift in these activities, we reduced the number of our marketing, sales and business development staff from 19 employees in 2002 to four employees at the end of 2007.

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Our approximate revenues for the year ended December 31, 2007 were \$180,000, all of which were in North America. The approximate geographical breakdown of our revenues for the year ended December 31, 2006 was 7% in North America and 93% in Europe. The approximate geographical breakdown of our revenues for the year ended December 31, 2005 was 65% in North America, 34% in Europe and less than one percent in other countries.

In the United States, we have a business development presence in Rockville, Maryland and until March 2007 we had such a presence in San Jose, California.

### **Raw Materials**

We use a large range of raw materials in our research. For our research and discovery activities, we use biological databases such as databases of ESTs, which are short nucleotide sequences that code for the expression of partial mRNA, databases on DNA sequences gene expression databases, including from microarrays, databases which link proteins to diseases, protein interaction pathway databases and databases that match drugs with their respective targets. We also use a large range of biological reagents such as cell growth media, enzymes, antibodies as well as human tissue samples and cell lines for our therapeutics and diagnostic validation activities.

We rely on the quality and integrity of the raw materials that we use. We have encountered circumstances in which various biological reagents that we acquired were found to be of poor quality. Such circumstances may delay and even interfere with our discovery and development efforts.

### **Intellectual Property Rights**

Our intellectual property assets are our principal assets. These assets include the intellectual property rights subsisting in our proprietary know-how and trade secrets, the copyrights subsisting in our software and related documentation and in our patents and patent applications. We seek to vigorously protect our rights and interests in our intellectual property. We expect that our commercial success will depend on, among other things, our ability to obtain commercially valuable patents especially for our therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates, maintain the confidentiality of our proprietary know-how and trade secrets and otherwise protect our intellectual property.

We seek patent protection for inventions that relate to our therapeutic and diagnostic potential product candidates as well as certain components of our technology platforms. We currently have nine registered patents of which eight are registered in the United States and one is registered in Australia. We have two applications allowed for issuance as a patent by the U.S. Patent and Trademark. We also have 124 pending patent applications, which include 54 patent applications that have been filed in the United States and nine applications that have been filed

under the Patent Cooperation Treaty for which we have not yet designated the countries of filing. We intend to continue to apply for patent protection for our therapeutic and diagnostic inventions, including for related inventions such as antibodies and peptides.

We also seek protection for our proprietary know-how and trade secrets that are not protectable or protected by patents, by way of safeguarding them against unauthorized disclosure. This is done through the extensive use of confidentiality agreements and assignment agreements with our employees, consultants and third parties as well as by technological means. We use license agreements both to access third party technologies and to grant licenses to third parties to exploit our intellectual property rights.

## **Competition**

The biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries are highly competitive. Numerous entities in the United States and elsewhere compete with our efforts to make discoveries and commercialize them. Our competitors include pharmaceutical, biotechnology and diagnostic companies, academic and research institutions and governmental and other publicly funded agencies.

We face, and expect to continue to face, competition from entities that discover and develop products that have a function similar or identical to the function of our therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates. In respect of our diagnostic product candidates, we potentially face competition from any company to the extent that it discovers or develops diagnostic products, and especially, if its products are aimed at diagnosing cancers and cardiovascular diseases as well as toxicity biomarkers. These companies include companies such as Abbott and Bayer as well as diaDexus, Inc., and Celera Diagnostics. In respect of our therapeutic product candidates, our potential competitors comprise companies that develop or commercialize therapeutic protein or peptides such as Amgen, Inc., Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Genentech, Inc., Xencor, Inc. and Zymogenetics, Inc.

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Our discovery program depends, in large part, on our discovery platforms and other technologies and our proprietary data to make inventions and establish intellectual property rights in genes and gene-based products, including mRNAs, proteins and peptides. There are a number of other means by which such inventions and intellectual property can be generated. We believe that our computational technologies, and specifically our discovery platforms, provide us with a competitive advantage in the field of predicting gene-based products, and occasionally gain some information on their biological importance. We believe that this advantage is made possible by the incorporation of ideas and methods from mathematics and computer science into biology, and by the modeling of significant biological phenomena and the resultant better research capabilities that we have developed. Nevertheless, we may lose this advantage if our existing or future competitors make scientific and technological progress. In addition, we may discover and pursue the development of therapeutic or diagnostic product candidates that could conflict with our collaborators' discovery and development plans, including licensees or collaborators to whom we granted in the past a license to use our computational platforms. The prospect of such a conflict arising is particularly pertinent in relation to those collaborators and licensees that received from us a license to use our LEADS computational platform to analyze raw data which is the same or similar to the raw data that we may analyze through LEADS.

## **Government Regulation**

### ***Environmental Regulation***

Some of our research and development activities involve the controlled use of biological and chemical materials, a small amount of which could be considered to be hazardous. We also have the facilities for safe use and handling of radioactive materials, although these facilities are currently not in use. We are subject to Israeli laws and regulations governing the use, storage, handling and disposal of all these materials and resulting waste products. We store relatively small amounts of biological and chemical materials. To our knowledge, we substantially comply with these laws and regulations. However, the risk of accidental contamination or injury from these materials cannot be entirely eliminated. In the event of an accident, we could be held liable for any resulting damages, and any liability could exceed our resources.

### ***Regulation of Use of Human Tissue***

We need to access and use various human or other organisms' tissue samples for the purpose of development and or validation of some of our products. Our access and use of these samples is subject to government regulation, in the United States, Israel and elsewhere and may become subject to further regulation. United States and other governmental agencies may also impose restrictions on the use of data derived from human or other tissue samples. To our knowledge, we substantially comply with these regulatory requirements.

### ***Regulation of Products Developed with the Support of Research and Development Grants***

## Edgar Filing: COMPUGEN LTD - Form 20-F

For a discussion of regulations governing products developed with research and development grants from the Government of Israel, see Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects; Research and Development, Patents and Licenses; Israeli Government Research and Development Programs.

### Organizational Structure

We incorporated our wholly-owned U.S. subsidiary, Compugen USA, Inc., in 1997 and in January 2008, we established a wholly-owned UK Subsidiary, Compugen UK Ltd. Our research and discovery, business development and commercial operations are all carried out primarily from our Tel Aviv offices. We have discontinued the operations of our Israeli subsidiary, Keddem Bioscience Ltd.

As of February 15, 2008, we also held and had the power to vote approximately 10.97% of the outstanding share capital of Evogene Ltd. For more information on Evogene, see Item 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions; Related Party Transactions; Evogene Ltd. Evogene was not consolidated into our consolidated financial statements for the years 2006 and 2007. For an explanation of our reason for not consolidating Evogene into our financial statement, see Item 5. Operating And Financial Review And Prospects; Critical Accounting Policies; Investment in Evogene Ltd. Evogene was formed under the laws of the State of Israel and has its principal place of business in Rehovot, Israel.

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### Property, Plants and Equipment

We lease an aggregate of approximately 28,200 square feet of office and biology laboratory facilities in Tel Aviv, Israel. The leases in Tel Aviv expire in December 2009. We sublease approximately 4,825 square feet of this space to another entity.

Keddem Bioscience leased approximately 7,750 square feet of office and biology laboratory facilities in Ashqelon, Israel. The lease was terminated effective January 2008.

We believe that the facilities that we currently lease are sufficient for at least the next 12 months.

There are no encumbrances on our rights in these leased properties or on any of the equipment that we own.

To our knowledge, there are no environmental issues that affect our use of the properties that we lease.

#### ITEM 4A. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

Not Applicable

#### ITEM 5. OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW AND PROSPECTS

The following discussion of our critical accounting policies and our financial condition and operating results should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and related notes, prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005 respectively, and with any other selected financial data included elsewhere in this annual report.

### Background

We are a company that engages in early stage drug and diagnostic discovery. Our business is focused on developing and using our growing inventory of discovery platforms to predict, select and validate therapeutic drug candidates and diagnostic biomarker candidates. Prediction and selection is largely computer based within each platform, while we use experimental biological processes to validate product candidates. We seek to enter into early stage commercial collaborations with third parties to develop drug and diagnostic products based on our candidates under various types of milestone and revenue sharing agreements. Our initial discovery platforms have focused mainly on cancer, cardiovascular and immune-related diseases.

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We are focused on and are structured along the lines of our three principal activities: (i) research and discovery; (ii) therapeutics; and (iii) diagnostics.

**Research and Discovery:** Our research and discovery activities consist of two primary and overlapping components. The first is our continuing effort to obtain deeper predictive understandings of important biological phenomena at the molecular level through the analysis of biological data of various types such as DNA or RNA sequences, gene expression data, protein network data, data related to drugs in development and drugs already being commercialized. The second utilizes these understandings, along with field specific information, to develop field focused discovery platforms. Both components require the use of our extensive base of proprietary algorithms and other computational biology systems and tools.

**Therapeutics and Diagnostics:** In each field, we seek to discover novel candidates that answer unmet medical needs and that may be suitable for further development as therapeutic or diagnostic products. Although each of our platforms is field- or disease-specific, our general approach is not, and can be utilized for numerous applications, both therapeutic and/or diagnostic. At any given time, our discovery efforts may span a number of candidates which may become diagnostic or therapeutic products. Our therapeutic candidates include either novel peptides or proteins that are themselves drug candidates, targets to potential drugs, like specific receptors of cancer cells, or known small molecules with new indications. Our diagnostic biomarkers indicate, among others, the presence or absence of a physiological condition, such as a disease, or a person's predisposition to either acquire a disease or to respond to a therapeutic treatment.

Our business model is based on entering into commercial collaborations with leading diagnostic, biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, as well as academic and medical institutions, which have the ability to support and fund discovery activities as well as commercial development of our early-stage discoveries and candidates from pre-clinical stages for therapeutics or from initial clinical validation for diagnostics. We intend to generate revenues through milestone and royalty based license agreements and joint development agreements with these collaborators. We have entered into several such agreements, but we have not yet recognized significant revenues from these agreements.

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## OPERATING RESULTS

### Overview

*We have incurred losses and our revenues may not increase over the next few years.*

Since our inception, we have incurred significant losses and, as of December 31, 2007, we had an accumulated deficit of \$145 million. We expect to continue to incur net losses in the foreseeable future.

Prior to 2004, our primary business was to develop and sell hardware and software platforms, tools and databases, in which we incorporated certain aspects of our understandings and/or discoveries and made them available to our customers. For example, in 2004, our revenues were primarily attributable to the commercialization of our legacy products, LEADS platform, Genecarta and OligoLibraries. We no longer pursue the commercialization of these products.

Since we shifted our focus away from commercializing our computationally-based products to the discovery of therapeutic and diagnostic product candidates, our revenues have decreased. Our revenues decreased by approximately 16% in 2007 compared to 2006, and by approximately 67% in 2006 compared to 2005.

*Our net research and development expenses are expected to account for more than 60% of our total operating expenses.*

Our net research and development expenses are expected to be our major operating expense in 2008, accounting for more than 60% of our expected total 2008 operating expenses. Our research and development expenses have always comprised a significant portion of our expenses. In 2005, we increased the resources allocated to research and development in order to advance our internal therapeutic and diagnostic biomarkers pipeline. In 2006, as a result of our December 2005 re-organization, our operating expenses and research and development expenses decreased. In 2007, these expenses continued to be, and we expect will continue to be, our largest operating expense.

*We base our budget and operating expenses on our cash flow.*

We base our budget and operating expenses on our expected cash flow. For a detailed description of our cash and cash equivalents position, see "Liquidity and Capital Resources" in this Item 5.

**Compensation expenses attributed to option grants.**

We recorded compensation expenses of approximately \$378,000 in 2005, approximately \$1.9 million in 2006 and approximately \$2.3 million in 2007, in connection with the grant of share options. These expenses are attributable to options that we granted to our employees and directors and to those of our consultants to whom we granted stock options at the fair market value known on the date of grant. These amounts are amortized over the vesting periods of the individual share options. Based on options granted through December 31, 2007 and on our ordinary share price on that date, we estimate that our future amortization of compensation expenses will be approximately \$2.0 million in 2008, approximately \$1.5 million in 2009 and \$600,000 in 2010. Since January 2006, accounting standard SFAS 123R applied. Standard SFAS 123R determines the accounting treatment for share-based compensation to employees. The above future amortization of compensation expense estimates for 2008 and 2009 reflect the application of this standard. These estimates are subject to the amount of granted options at any given point in time. Our current policy is to grant options at the fair market value known on the date of grant. For more information, see Note 21 of our 2007 consolidated financial statements.

**Impact of Inflation and a Devaluation of the Dollar against the New Israeli Shekel**

We hold most of our cash, cash equivalents deposits and marketable securities in U.S. dollars but incur a significant portion of our expenses, principally salaries and related personnel expenses and administrative expenses, in New Israeli Shekels. As a result, we are exposed to the risk that the US dollar will be devalued against the New Israeli Shekels. In 2007 and until February 29, 2008, the dollar depreciated against the NIS by approximately 14%. This has impacted us accordingly. Further depreciation could have a material adverse effect on our results of operation and financial condition.

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**Critical Accounting Policies**

The preparation of our consolidated financial statements and other financial information appearing in this annual report requires our management to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. We evaluate on an on-going basis these estimates, mainly related to revenues, contingencies, taxation and investment in affiliates.

We base our estimates on our experience and on various assumptions that we believe are reasonable under the circumstances. The results of our estimates form the basis for our management's judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

***Revenue Recognition***

During 2007 we recognized revenues from a collaboration research agreement under which we delivered a number of biomarkers and performed related services to a customer. We recognized revenues from this agreement in accordance with SAB 104 Revenue Recognition and EITF No. 00-21, Revenue Arrangements with Multiple Deliverables .

During the years 2006 and 2005, we generated revenues from license fees for software products, sales of services including maintenance, support, customization, professional services, integration and installation as follows:

We recognized software license revenues in accordance with Statement of Position ( SOP ) 97-2, Software Revenue Recognition ( SOP 97-2 ), as amended and SOP 98-9, Modification of SOP 97-2, Software Revenue Recognition with Respect to Certain Transactions ( SOP 98-9 ). SOP 97-2 generally requires revenues earned on software arrangements involving multiple elements to be allocated to each element based on the relative fair value of the elements. SOP 98-9 requires that revenues be recognized under the Residual Method when vendor specific objective evidence (VSOE) of fair value exists for all undelivered elements and no VSOE exists for the delivered elements and all revenue recognition criteria of SOP 97-2, as amended, are satisfied. Revenues from license fees are recognized when persuasive evidence of an agreement exists, delivery of the product has occurred, no significant obligations with regard to implementation remain, the fee is fixed or determinable, and collectability is probable.

Maintenance and support revenues included in these arrangements are deferred and recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the maintenance and support agreement. The VSOE of fair value of the undelivered elements (maintenance, support and professional services) is determined based on the price charged for the undelivered element when sold separately or based on renewal rate.

We license products on either a perpetual or on a term basis. License revenues arising from the sale of perpetual licenses and term licenses for a period longer than one year are recognized in the accounting period during which the sale took place.

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License revenue arising from a term license for a period of one year or less is recognized over the contractual term of the license.

Revenues from software license fees that involved customization of the our software to customer specific specifications, development services, integration and installation were recognized in accordance with SOP 81-1 Accounting for Performance of Construction-Type and Certain Production-Type Contracts ( SOP 81-1 ), using contract accounting on a percentage of completion method, over the period from signing of the license through to customer acceptance in accordance with the Input Method . The amount of revenue recognized was based on the total license fees under the license agreement and the percentage to completion achieved. The percentage to completion was measured by monitoring progress using records of actual time incurred to date in the project compared to the total estimated project requirement, which corresponds to the costs related to earned revenues. Estimates of total project requirements were based on prior experience of customization, delivery and acceptance of the same or similar technology and were reviewed and updated regularly by management. After delivery, if uncertainty existed about customer acceptance of the software, license revenue is not recognized until acceptance. Provisions for estimated losses on uncompleted contracts are made in the period in which such losses are first determined, in the amount of the estimated loss on the entire contract.

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We believe that the use of the percentage of completion method is appropriate as we have the ability to make reasonably dependable estimates of the extent of progress towards completion, contract revenues and contract costs. In addition, contracts executed include provisions that clearly specify the enforceable rights regarding services to be provided and received by the parties to the contracts, the consideration to be exchanged and the manner and terms of settlement. In all cases, we expect to perform its contractual obligations and its licensees are expected to satisfy their obligations under the contract. In the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005, we recognized revenues in accordance with SOP 81-1 in the amount of \$200,000 and \$170,000 respectively.

Deferred revenues include amounts received from customers for which revenue has not been recognized.

### ***FASB 123R***

On January 1, 2006, we adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004), Share-Based Payment , or SFAS 123(R), which requires the measurement and recognition of compensation expense based on estimated grant date fair values for all share-based payment awards made to employees and directors. For periods beginning in fiscal 2006, SFAS 123(R) supersedes Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees , or APB 25, under which we previously accounted for our share based awards granted to employees and directors, for periods beginning in fiscal 2006. In March 2005, the Securities and Exchange Commission issued Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 107, or SAB 107, relating to SFAS 123(R). We have applied the provisions of SAB 107 in our adoption of SFAS 123(R).

SFAS 123(R) requires companies to estimate the fair value of equity-based payment awards on the date of grant using an option-pricing model. The value of the portion of the award that is ultimately expected to vest is recognized as an expense over the requisite service periods in our consolidated income statement. Prior to the adoption of SFAS 123(R), we accounted for equity-based awards to employees and directors using the intrinsic value method in accordance with APB 25 as allowed under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation , or SFAS 123.

We adopted SFAS 123(R) using the modified prospective transition method, which requires the application of the accounting standard starting from January 1, 2006, the first day of our fiscal year 2006. Under that transition method, compensation cost recognized in 2006 included compensation cost for all share-based payments that were ultimately expected to vest (a) based on the grant date fair value estimated in accordance with the original provisions of SFAS 123 for awards granted prior to, but not yet vested as of January 1, 2006, and (b) based on the grant-date fair value estimated in accordance with the provisions of SFAS 123(R) for awards granted subsequent to January 1, 2006. Results for prior periods have not been restated.

We selected the Black-Scholes model, which is the most common model in use in evaluating stock options. This model evaluates the options as if there is a single exercise point, and thus considers and expected option life (expected term). The input factored in this model is constant for the entire expected life of the option.

Share-based compensation expense recognized under SFAS 123(R) was \$1,933 and \$2,330 for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2007, respectively.

### ***Contingencies***

We periodically estimate the impact of various conditions, situations and/or circumstances involving uncertain outcomes to our financial condition and operating results. These events are called contingencies , and the accounting treatment for such events is prescribed by the

Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 5, Accounting for Contingencies ( SFAS No. 5 ). SFAS No. 5 defines a contingency as an existing condition, situation, or set of circumstances involving uncertainty as to possible gain or loss to an enterprise that will ultimately be resolved when one or more future events occur or fail to occur . Legal proceedings are a form of such contingencies.

We are not currently involved in any legal proceedings and are not required to assess the likelihood of any specific adverse judgments or outcomes of such proceedings or of any potential ranges of probable losses. A determination of the amount of any accruals, if required, for these contingencies would be made after careful analysis. For more information in relation to legal proceedings, see Item 8. Financial Information; Consolidated Statements and Other Financial Information; Legal Proceedings. It is possible, however, that future results of operations for any particular quarter or annual period could be materially affected by changes in our assumptions or as a result of the effectiveness of our strategies related to these legal proceedings.

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### *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes*

In July 2006, the FASB issued Interpretation, or FIN, No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes An Interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109, or FIN 48. FIN 48 provides detailed guidance for the financial statement recognition, measurement and disclosure of uncertain tax positions recognized in an enterprise's financial statements in accordance with SFAS 109. Income tax positions must meet a more-likely-than-not recognition threshold at the effective date to be recognized upon the adoption of FIN 48 and in subsequent periods. We adopted FIN 48 effective January 1, 2007 and the provisions of FIN 48 have been applied to all income tax positions commencing from that date.

### *Investment in Evogene Ltd.*

The investment in Evogene was historically accounted for in accordance with APB 18, The Equity Method of Accounting for Investments in Common Stock . Through February 2006, when Evogene completed a major finance round, we accounted for the investment under the equity method. The finance round resulted in our holdings being diluted to below 20% of Evogene's outstanding stock. On June 12, 2007, Evogene completed an initial public offering on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, raising approximately \$8,000,000. We did not participate in the investment in Evogene under this public offering. As a result, as of December 31, 2007, we have the power to vote approximately 10.97% of Evogene's share capital.

As such, we can not exercise significant influence over operating and financial policies of Evogene and the carrying amount of the investment is currently classified and accounted for as available-for-sale marketable securities in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 115, Accounting for Certain Investments in Debt and Equity Securities (SFAS 115). Securities available for sale are carried at fair value, with the recognized gains and losses reported as a separate component of stockholders' equity under accumulated other comprehensive income in the consolidated balance sheet.

### *Recently Issued Accounting Standards*

In September 2006, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standard, or SFAS, No. 157 Fair Value Measurements, or SFAS No. 157, which defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in generally accepted accounting principles and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. SFAS No. 157 applies to other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements. SFAS No. 157 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007 and interim periods within those fiscal years. We are currently assessing the impact SFAS No. 157 will have on our consolidated financial statements.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities, or SFAS No. 159. SFAS No. 159 permits companies to choose to measure certain financial instruments and certain other items at fair value. SFAS No. 159 requires that unrealized gains and losses on items for which the fair value option has been elected be reported in earnings. SFAS No. 159 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007 and interim periods within those fiscal years, although earlier adoption is permitted. We are currently assessing the impact SFAS No. 159 will have on our consolidated financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141R, Business Combinations, or SFAS 141R. SFAS 141R establishes principles and requirements for how the acquirer of a business recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any non-controlling interest in the acquiree. The statement also provides guidance for recognizing and measuring the goodwill acquired in the business combination and determines what information to disclose to enable users of the financial statement to evaluate the nature and financial effects of the business combination.



SFAS 141R is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008. Accordingly, any business combinations we engage in will be recorded and disclosed following existing GAAP until January 1, 2009. We expect that SFAS No. 141R will have an impact on our consolidated financial statements when effective, but the nature and magnitude of the specific effects will depend upon the nature, terms and size of the acquisitions it consummates after the effective date. We are still assessing the impact of SFAS No. 141R on our future consolidated financial statements.

## Results of Operations

### *Selected Financial Data*

The following discussion and analysis is based on and should be read in connection with our audited consolidated financial statements, including the related notes, contained in Item 18 Financial Statements and the other financial information appearing elsewhere in this annual report.

|  | Year ended December 31,                              |             |             |             |             |
|--|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | 2003   | 2004        | 2005        | 2006        | 2007        |
|  | (US\$ in thousands, except share and per share data) |             |             |             |             |
| <b>Consolidated Statements of Operations Data</b>                        |  |             |             |             |             |
| Revenues   | \$ 6,776   | \$ 2,630    | \$ 646      | \$ 215      | \$ 180      |
| Cost of revenues   | 2,275  | 1,100       | 148         | 6           | -           |
| Research and development expenses  | 13,306   | 11,774      | 11,515      | 10,787      | 9,740       |
| Less - governmental and other grants                                     | (2,050)  | (1,258)     | (1,952)     | (1,670)     | (1,354)     |
| Research and development expenses, net                                   | 11,256   | 10,516      | 9,563       | 9,117       | 8,386       |
| Selling and marketing expenses   | 3,811  | 2,446       | 1,772       | 1,719       | 1,324       |
| General and administrative expenses                                      | 3,650  | 3,623       | 2,894       | 2,377       | 2,930       |
| Total operating expenses *   | 18,717   | 16,585      | 14,229      | 13,213      | 12,640      |
| Operating loss   | (14,216)   | (15,055)    | (13,731)    | (13,004)    | (12,460)    |
| Financial and other income, net  | 2,774  | 1,833       | 900         | 955         | 1,002       |
| Loss before taxes on income  | (11,442)   | (13,222)    | (12,831)    | (12,049)    | (11,458)    |
| Taxes on income  | -  | -           | -           | -           | 32          |
| Loss from continuing operations  | (11,442)   | (13,222)    | (12,831)    | (12,049)    | (11,490)    |
| Loss from discontinued operations  | -  | (500)       | (1,147)     | (971)       | (624)       |
| Net loss   | \$ (11,442)  | \$ (13,722) | \$ (13,978) | \$ (13,020) | \$ (12,114) |
| Basic and diluted net loss per ordinary share from continuing operations | \$ (0.43)  | \$ (0.48)   | \$ (0.46)   | \$ (0.44)   | \$ (0.41)   |

|   | Year ended December 31, |            |            |            |            |
|---|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|   |                         |            |            |            |            |
| Basic and diluted net loss per ordinary share from discontinued operations                        | \$ (0.00)               | \$ (0.02)  | \$ (0.04)  | \$ (0.03)  | \$ (0.02)  |
| Basic and diluted net loss per ordinary share   | \$ (0.43)               | \$ (0.50)  | \$ (0.50)  | \$ (0.47)  | \$ (0.43)  |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares used in computing basic and diluted net loss per share | 26,409,180              | 27,473,341 | 27,774,535 | 27,985,957 | 28,266,273 |

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|  | As of December 31,  |      |      |      |      |
|--|---------------------|------|------|------|------|
|  | 2003                | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|  | (US\$ in thousands) |      |      |      |      |

#### Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:

|   |           |           |           |           |           |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Cash and cash equivalents, short-term deposits, marketable securities and cash held in favor of consortium partners | \$ 16,707 | \$ 20,574 | \$ 31,821 | \$ 25,403 | \$ 15,200 |
| Long-term deposits and marketable securities  | 43,803    | 27,854    | 4,983     | 1,000     | 2,080     |
| Trade receivables and Other accounts receivable   | 1,456     | 1,545     | 676       | 834       | 990       |
| Assets related to discontinued operations   |           |           |           | 401       | 54        |
| Total assets  | 67,526    | 55,353    | 42,106    | 30,856    | 21,666    |
| Accumulated deficit   | (92,034)  | (105,756) | (119,734) | (132,754) | (144,926) |
| Total shareholders' equity  | 59,808    | 49,566    | 36,248    | 25,738    | 17,285    |

(\*) Includes stock based compensation see Note 10 of our 2007 consolidated financial statements.

#### Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

**Revenues.** We have shifted our business model away from the sale of our software products in order to concentrate on identifying therapeutic and diagnostic candidates. As a result, revenues decreased by 16% from approximately \$215,000 in 2006 to approximately \$180,000 in 2007. The decrease in revenues was anticipated and primarily due to decreased sales of Genecarta and related software products and the shift away from commercializing our computational software products. In 2007, we began to recognize revenues based on the new business model which we began to implement in 2004. The \$180,000 of revenue in 2007 was based entirely on our new business model while only \$10,000 of the \$215,000 of 2006 revenue was based on our new business model.

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*Cost of Revenues.* Cost of revenues decreased by 100% to approximately \$0 for 2007 from approximately \$6,000 for 2006. This decrease was primarily due to our cessation of commercializing our legacy products and the fact that we have not yet generated any substantial revenues from sales of product candidates.

*Research and Development Expenses, Net.* Research and development expenses, net decreased by 8%, to approximately \$8.4 million for 2007 from approximately \$9.1 million for 2006. The decrease in our research and development expenses, net, was primarily due to both a reduction in the number of our personnel and related expenses which followed the re-organization that we underwent in December 2005, and a decrease in governmental and other research and development grants that we received.

*Selling and Marketing Expenses.* Selling and marketing expenses decreased by 23% to approximately \$1.3 million for 2007 from approximately \$1.7 million for 2006. This decrease was due to a reduction in the number of our personnel and related expenses. Selling and marketing expenses, as a percentage of revenues, decreased from 800% in 2006 to 736% in 2007.

*General and Administrative Expenses.* General and administrative expenses increased by 23% to approximately \$2.9 million for 2007 from approximately \$2.3 million for 2006. This was primarily due to an increase of approximately \$294,000 of stock based compensation expenses in 2007 compared to 2006 and due to an increase of approximately \$90,000 in corporate communication expenses.

*Financial Income, Net.* Financial income, net, increased by less than one percent to approximately \$868,000 for 2007 from approximately \$866,000 for 2006.

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### **Years Ended December 31, 2006 and 2005**

*Revenues.* Revenues decreased by 67% to approximately \$215,000 in 2006 from approximately \$646,000 in 2005. The decrease in revenues was anticipated and primarily due to decreased sales of LEADS and related products. Revenues from Novartis (with respect to LEADS) represented 93% of our revenues in 2006. Our agreement with Novartis expired in 2006.

*Cost of Revenues.* Cost of revenues decreased by 96% to approximately \$6,000 for 2006 from approximately \$148,000 for 2005. This decrease was primarily due to our cessation of commercializing our legacy products and the fact that we had not yet generated any revenues from product candidates.

*Research and Development Expenses, Net.* Research and development expenses, net decreased by 5%, to approximately \$9.1 million for 2006 from approximately \$9.6 million for 2005. The decrease in our research and development expenses, net, was primarily due to a reduction in the number of our personnel and related expenses which followed the re-organization that we underwent in December 2005. This decrease was partially offset by the decrease in governmental and other research and development grants that we received. Had we not adopted SFAS 123(R), which resulted in an increase of approximately \$1.4 million of stock based compensation in 2006 compared to 2005, the decrease in research and development expenses would have been substantially higher.

*Selling and Marketing Expenses.* Selling and marketing expenses decreased by 3% to approximately \$1.7 million for 2006 from approximately \$1.8 million for 2005. This decrease was due to a reduction in the number of our personnel and related expenses. Had we not adopted SFAS 123(R), which resulted in an increase of approximately \$269,000 of stock based compensation in 2006 compared to 2005, the decrease in selling and marketing expenses would have been substantially higher. Selling and marketing expenses, as a percentage of revenues, increased from 274% in 2005 to 800% in 2006 as a result of decreased revenues.

*General and Administrative Expenses.* General and administrative expenses decreased by 18% to approximately \$2.4 million for 2006 from approximately \$2.9 million for 2005. This decrease was primarily due to a reduction in the number of our personnel and related expenses as a result of the re-organization that we underwent in December 2005.

*Financial Income, Net.* Financial income, net, increased by 27% to approximately \$866,000 for 2006, from approximately \$682,000 for 2005. This increase was attributable mainly to higher interest rates we received on deposits and marketable securities.

### **Governmental Policies that Materially Affected or Could Materially Affect Our Operations**

Until January 2007, Israeli companies were generally subject to income tax at the corporate tax rate of 31%. In January 2007, this was reduced to 29%, and was further reduced to 27% in 2008. The tax rate will be further reduced to 26% in 2009 and to 25% in 2010 and thereafter. However, several investment programs at our facility in Tel Aviv have been granted Approved Enterprise status under which we are eligible for

a reduced rate of corporate tax under the Law for the Encouragement of Capital Investments, 1959. Subject to compliance with applicable requirements, the portion of our profits that may be derived from the approved enterprise programs will be tax-exempt for a period of two years commencing in the first year in which we generate taxable income from the applicable Approved Enterprise. The portion of our profits that may be derived from our approved enterprise programs will be subject, for an additional period of five or eight years, to reduced corporate tax rates of between 10% and 25%. The tax rate within the range of 10% and 25% that may actually become payable is a function of the percentage of non-Israeli investors holding our ordinary shares. These reduced corporate tax rates will cease to apply upon the expiry of the earlier of twelve years from the time at which we attain a prescribed level of investment in our approved enterprise (known as commencement of production ) or 14 years from the date on which we received approval for an Approved Enterprise. The period of tax benefits with respect to our approved enterprise programs has not yet commenced, because we have not yet generated any taxable income. These benefits should result in income recognized by us being tax exempt or taxed at a lower rate for a specified period of time after we begin to report taxable income and exhaust any net operating loss carry-forwards. However, these benefits may not be applied to reduce the U.S. federal tax rate for any income that our U.S. subsidiary may generate. There can be no assurance that such tax benefits will continue in the future at their current levels, if at all.

As of December 31, 2007, we had not generated any taxable income. As of December 31, 2007, our net operating loss carry-forwards for Israeli tax purposes amounted to approximately \$89 million. Under Israeli law, these net-operating losses may be carried forward indefinitely and offset against certain future taxable income.

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At December 31, 2007, the net operating loss carry-forwards of our U.S. subsidiary for Federal Income tax purposes amounted to approximately \$15 million. These losses are available to offset any future U.S. taxable income of our U.S. subsidiary and will expire between the years 2018 and 2027.

Use of our U.S. net operating losses may be subject to substantial annual limitation due to the change in ownership provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and similar state provisions. The annual limitation may result in the expiration of net operating losses before utilization.

For a description of Israel government policies that affect our research and development expenses, and the financing of our research and development, see Research and Development, Patents and Licenses; Research and Development Grants in this Item 5 below.

## LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

In 2007, similar to 2006, our sources of cash came from

Our IPO which took place in August 2000

Revenues generated from milestone payments under existing agreements

Revenues generated from sales

Governmental and other sources of grants

The exercise of employee stock options

Financing income.

We used these funds primarily to finance our business operations.

### *Net Cash Used in Operating Activities*

Net cash used in operating activities was approximately \$11.1 million in 2005, approximately \$9.9 million in 2006 and approximately \$8.4 million in 2007. These amounts were used to fund our net losses for these periods, adjusted for non-cash expenses and changes in operating assets and liabilities including compensation relating to stock options issued to employees. The sources of the cash that we used in our activities through 2007 was the cash we had in the bank, revenues, governmental and other grants that we received, and financing income. We expect that our sources of cash for 2008 will be similar. Our subsidiaries are not restricted from transferring funds to Compugen, although we do not expect any cash to flow in from them.

***Net Cash Provided By Investing Activities***

Net cash used in investing activities consists of proceeds from redemption of deposits and marketable securities, net of purchases of marketable securities and net of purchases of property and equipment. Net cash generated by investing activities was approximately \$15.1 million in 2005, approximately \$7.0 million in 2006 and approximately \$3.2 million in 2007. The decrease in net cash provided by investing activities in 2007 was mainly attributable to reduced proceeds from redemption of deposits and marketable securities.

***Net Cash Provided by Financing Activities***

Our net cash provided by financing activities was approximately \$178,000 in 2005, approximately \$665,000 in 2006 and approximately \$295,000 in 2007. The principal sources of cash provided by financing activities in 2007 were proceeds that we received from the issuance of ordinary shares as result of the exercise of stock options by employees.

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***Net Liquidity***

Liquidity refers to the liquid financial assets we have available to fund our business operations and pay for near term future obligations. These liquid financial assets consist of cash and cash equivalents as well as short-term and long-term deposits and marketable securities. As of December 31, 2007, we had cash and cash equivalents, and short-term deposits and marketable securities of approximately \$15.1 million, and long-term deposits and marketable deposits of approximately \$2.1 million. While we believe that our existing cash and cash equivalents, short-term and long-term deposits and short-term and long-term marketable securities will be sufficient to fund our operations for at least the next twelve months, we expect that we will need to raise additional capital to fund our operations after such time.

**RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, PATENTS AND LICENSES**

We invest heavily in research and development. Research and development expenses, net, were our major operating expenses, representing more than 60% of the total operating expenses for each of, 2005, 2006 and 2007. Our research and development expenses, net, were approximately \$8.4 million in 2007, compared with approximately \$9.1 million in 2006 and approximately \$9.6 million in 2005. As of December 31, 2007, 46 of our employees were engaged in research and development on a full-time basis. This represents approximately 51% of our entire work force.

Consistent with our shift in focus away from selling our computational and software products, we now focus our research efforts on the development of our discovery platforms and related technologies, and the discovery of our therapeutic proteins and diagnostic biomarker product candidates. We expect that in 2008 our research and development expenses net will continue to be our major operating expense, representing more than 60% of our total operating expenses.

We believe that our future success will depend, in large part on our ability to continue to expand our inventory of promising potential therapeutic proteins and diagnostic biomarkers, which we intend to discover through the use of our discovery platforms and related technologies and validate in our and third parties' respective molecular biology laboratories.

***Research and Development Grants***

We participate in programs offered by the Office of the Chief Scientist under the Industry and Trade Ministry of Israel ( OCS ) that supports research and development activities, by the Israel-U.S. Bi-national Industrial Research and Development Foundation ( BIRD ) and by the European Community, under the European Union's Framework Program. We received grants and other forms of consideration from the OCS and BIRD of approximately \$2.0 million in 2005 and grants and other forms of consideration from the OCS, BIRD and European Union of approximately \$1.7 million in 2006 and grants and other forms of consideration from the OCS, BIRD and European Union of approximately \$1.4 million in 2007. We have applied for additional grants from the OCS for research, technological development and demonstration activities for 2008.

***The Office of the Chief Scientist***

We received grants from the OCS for several projects. Under the terms of these grants, we will be required to pay royalties ranging between 3% to 5% of the net sales of products developed from the OCS-funded projects, beginning with the commencement of receipt of revenue with respect to such products and ending when 100% of the dollar value of the grant is repaid (100% plus LIBOR interest applicable to grants received on or after January 1, 1999). As of December 31, 2007, our contingent accrued obligation for royalties, based on royalty-bearing

government grants, net of royalties already paid, totaled approximately \$5.2 million payable out of future net sales of products that were developed under OCS -funded projects.

Israeli law requires that the manufacture of products developed with government grants will be carried out in Israel, unless the OCS provides its approval to the contrary. Following legislative changes to Israeli legislation in 2005, this approval, if provided, is generally conditioned on an increase in the total amount to be repaid to the OCS, to up to 300% of the amount of funds granted. The specific increase within this ceiling would depend on the extent of the manufacturing to be conducted outside of Israel. Alternatively, the restriction on manufacturing outside of Israel shall not apply to the extent that plans to manufacture were disclosed when filing the application for funding (and provided the application was approved based on the information disclosed in the application). We believe that this restriction does not apply to the commercialization through licensing of product candidates that we develop by using or based on our OCS-funded technologies or discoveries. In such circumstances, the OCS will take into account the proposal that OCS-funded projects will have an overseas manufacturing component. Under applicable Israeli law, Israeli government consent is required to transfer to Israeli third parties technologies developed under projects, which the government funded. Transfer of OCS-funded technologies outside of Israel is prohibited, unless conducted in accordance with the restrictions set forth under Israeli law. Israeli law further specifies that both the transfer of know-how as well as the transfer of intellectual property rights in such know-how are subject to the same restrictions. These restrictions do not apply to exports from Israel or the sale of products developed with these technologies.

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In addition to the OCS programs described above, in the past, we participated in a number of research consortia in which Israeli research institutions and high technology companies were members. These types of consortia are devoted to the development of generic technologies in the fields of biotechnology, agricultural biotechnology and pharmaceuticals. No royalties are payable to the OCS with respect to this funding.

In general, any member of a consortium that develops technology in the framework of a consortium retains the intellectual property rights to this technology and all other consortium members have the right to use and implement this technology without having to pay royalties to the developing consortium member, provided that the technology will not be transferred under any circumstances to any entity outside of the consortium.

#### *Bi-national Industrial Research and Development Foundation (BIRD)*

In 2005 we, together with OCD, became jointly entitled to receive from BIRD a grant for our joint collaborative project, according to a budget that was approved by BIRD. The BIRD Foundation's mission is to stimulate, promote and support industrial research and development of mutual benefit to the United States, and to Israel. The BIRD Foundation offers research and development grants of up to one million dollars for a collaboration.

We entered into a tripartite cooperation and project funding agreement with OCD and BIRD based on BIRD's standard terms and conditions. The term of the funded collaborative project is four years. BIRD's standard terms and conditions require its grantees to repay 100% of the grant monies, provided that repayment is made within the first year following expiry of the term of the project. For every year of delay in these repayments, the amounts to be repaid incrementally increase up to an amount of 150% in the fifth year following expiry of the term of the project. All amounts to be repaid to BIRD are subject to us generating revenue from commercializing the funded project and linked to the U.S. consumer price index.

The Governments of Israel and of the United States are each entitled to a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to make and use any products generated from the funded project. Otherwise, neither we nor OCD are subject to any restrictions relating to the ownership or commercialization of the intellectual property and products generated from the funded collaborative project.

As of December 31, 2007, our contingent accrued obligation for royalties, based on royalty-bearing BIRD grant, totaled approximately \$500,000 payable out of future net sales of products that were developed under the BIRD-funded project.

#### *The European Union's 6<sup>th</sup> Framework Program*

In 2005 we joined two research consortia under the European Union's 6<sup>th</sup> Framework Program, which is a program based on the Treaty establishing the European Union, with the aim of promoting research and technology among the European Community members.

We are the appointed coordinator of one of these research consortia, which means that we are the consortium's primary contact with the European Community for the purpose of managing the consortium's progress. This includes a responsibility to distribute the research grant monies to the consortium members and to provide to the European Community reports describing the consortium's progress of the funded research.

The terms of the grant from the European Community do not require us to repay the grant monies that we receive, unless we or any of our consortium members default in our obligations such as carrying out the research that we undertook to perform, or in reporting the progress of the research.

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## TREND INFORMATION

### *Trend towards consolidation*

There is a trend towards consolidation in the pharmaceutical diagnostic and biotechnology industries, which may negatively affect our ability to enter into agreements. This trend often involves larger companies acquiring smaller companies, and this may result in the larger companies having greater financial resources and technological capabilities. This trend towards consolidation in the pharmaceutical diagnostic and biotechnology industries may also result in there being fewer customers for our products and services. Also, if one of the consolidating companies already uses the technologies or services of our competitors, we may lose existing customers as a result of such consolidation.

### *Trend towards making genomic data and related software publicly available*

Large amounts of genomic bioinformatic data are increasingly becoming available to the general public. Following the publication of the first draft of the human genome, there has been an increase in public efforts to develop analysis tools for understanding genomic, functional genomic and proteomic data. These efforts have already resulted and may further result in the future in the development of products, which are competitive to ours and that are available free of charge. Such developments could require us to lower our prices, could cause some of our products to be less commercially viable or to be obsolete, or could assist third parties to discover genes or proteins that are of interest to us.

### *The pharmaceutical industry is generally ready to consider in-licensing potential therapeutic products which are at the early stage of their development*

Pharmaceutical and biotechnological companies are generally ready to consider in-licensing product candidates at a stage of development which is significantly earlier than Phase II or Phase I clinical trials and even at pre-clinical stages. As a result, we are able to seek to enter into agreements relating to the further development and commercialization of our early stage product candidates.

However, there may be a trend towards pharmaceutical and biotechnological companies being willing to in-license only product candidates that are at a stage of development beyond the stage of development that we currently seek to attain for our product candidates, as has been the case in the past. In such circumstances, we may be required to invest a substantial amount of money and other resources in each product candidate, without assurance that its product candidates will be commercialized and the number of product candidates in which we will be able to invest our research and development resources will be limited.

If, consistent with our strategy for commercialization of our diagnostic and therapeutic product candidates, we are successful in commercializing our product candidates at an early stage of development, the consideration that we expect to receive would be relatively low. The consideration that we would expect to receive in consideration for commercializing our products candidates increases commensurately with the stage of development that we attain for our product candidates.

## OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS

We are not a party to any material off-balance-sheet arrangements.

## TABULAR DISCLOSURE OF CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

The table below summarizes our contractual obligations as of December 31, 2007, and should be read together with the accompanying comments that follow.

|  | Payments due by period<br>(US\$ in thousands) |                     |           |           |
|--|---|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
|  | Total   | Less than 1<br>year | 1-3 years | 3-5 years |
|  |   |                     |           |           |

|  | Payments due by period<br>(US\$ in thousands) |     |     |       |
|--|---|-----|-----|-------|
|  | \$  | \$  | \$  | \$    |
| Operating Lease Obligations                                | 1,150   | 575 | 575 | -     |
| Accrued Severance Pay Reflected on our Balance Sheet       | 1,486   | -   | -   | 1,486 |
| Other Long-Term Liabilities Reflected on our Balance Sheet | 60  | 60  | -   | -     |
| Total  | 2,696   | 595 | 615 | 1,486 |

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The above table does not include royalties that we may be required to pay to the OCS or BIRD. For more information, see Research and Development, Patents and Licenses in this Item 5. We are unable to reasonably estimate the time and the amounts that we will eventually be required to pay to the OCS and BIRD, if at all, since these amounts and times depend on our ability to sell products based on the OCS and BIRD-funded technologies and the timing of any such sales.

The above table also does not include contingent contractual obligations or commitments that may crystallize in the future, such as contractual undertakings to pay royalties subject to certain conditions occurring.

#### ITEM 6. DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYEES

##### Directors and Senior Management

The following sets forth information with respect to our directors and executive officers as of March 1, 2008:

| Name                    | Age | Positions   |
|-------------------------|-----|---|
| Prof. Yair Aharonowitz  | 67  | External Director   |
| Prof. Ruth Arnon        | 73  | Director  |
| Martin S. Gerstel       | 66  | Chairman of the Board of Directors                            |
| Alex Kotzer             | 62  | President, Chief Executive Officer, and Director              |
| Dr. Arie Ovadia         | 67  | External Director   |
| Prof. Joshua Shemer     | 59  | External Director   |
| Ronit Lerner            | 38  | Chief Financial Officer                                       |
| Eli Zangvil, M.D.       | 44  | Vice President, Business Development                          |
| Anat Cohen-Dayag, Ph.D. | 41  | Vice President, Diagnostic Biomarkers and Therapeutic Targets |
| Yossi Cohen, M.D.       | 36  | Vice President, Research and Development                      |
| Dorit Amitay            | 40  | Director of Human Resources                                   |

**Yair Aharonowitz, Ph.D.** joined Compugen's board of directors as an external director in July 2007. He is a Professor of Microbiology and Biotechnology at Tel Aviv University (TAU). He was a visiting scientist at Oxford University, an Alberta Heritage Fellow at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, and a visiting professor at the Karolinska Institute and at the University of British Columbia. Professor Aharonowitz's



research interests include the molecular genetics and biosynthesis of antibiotics, molecular biology of microbial pathogens and the development of new targets for new antibiotics. He served as TAU Vice President and Dean for R&D, Chairman of the Department of Microbiology and Biotechnology and Chairman of the Institute of Biotechnology. He is a member of the TAU Executive Council and of the TAU Board of Governors. He served as the Chairman of Ramot Fund for Applied Research, as a member of TAU committee for strategic planning, on the TAU patent committee; he was a member of the National Committee for Biotechnology and served as a member of the Israel Prize committee (life sciences). He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology and a member of the Israeli Society of Microbiology.

**Prof. Ruth Arnon** joined Compugen's board of directors in May 2007. Formerly the Vice-President of the Weizmann Institute of Science (1988-1997), she is a noted immunologist, having joined the Institute in 1960. She served as Head of the Department of Chemical Immunology, Dean of the Faculty of Biology and Director of the Institute's MacArthur Center for Molecular Biology of Tropical Diseases. Prof. Arnon has made significant contributions to the fields of vaccine development, cancer research and to the study of parasitic diseases. Along with Prof. Michael Sela, she developed Copaxone® a drug for the treatment of multiple sclerosis which is presently marketed worldwide. Prof. Arnon is a member of the Israel Academy of Sciences and presently serves as its Vice President. She is an elected member of the European Molecular Biology Organization, served as President of the European Federation of Immunological Societies and as Secretary-General of the International Union of Immunological Societies. Her awards include the Robert Koch Prize in Medical Sciences, Spain's Jiminez Diaz Memorial Prize, France's Legion of Honor, the Hadassah World Organization's Women of Distinction Award, the Wolf Prize for Medicine, the Rothschild Prize for Biology, the Israel Prize and she received an Honorary Doctorate from Ben-Gurion University. Prof. Arnon is the Advisor for Science to the President of Israel and the incumbent of the Paul Ehrlich Chair in Immunochemistry.

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**Martin S. Gerstel** has served as our chairman since August 1997. Prior to 1994, Mr. Gerstel was co-chairman and CEO of ALZA Corporation, which he helped found in 1968. Mr. Gerstel is also the Chairman of Evogene Ltd. and Keddem Bioscience Ltd., co-founder and co-chairman of Itamar Medical, and serves as a director of Yissum Ltd., Yeda Ltd. and the Foundation for the U.S. Foundation for the National Medals of Science and Technology. He is a member of the Board of Governors and the Executive Committee of the Weizmann Institute of Science and the Board of Governors of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and is an advisor to the Burrill Life Science Funds and the board of BIRD Foundation. Mr. Gerstel holds a B.S. from Yale University and an MBA from Stanford University.

**Alex Kotzer** joined Compugen in September 2005 as President and Chief Executive Officer and a director. Mr. Kotzer brings with him over thirty years of senior managerial experience in various industries. Prior to joining Compugen, he served for twelve years at Serono (virt-x: SEO and NYSE: SRA), a global biotechnology leader, headquartered in Switzerland. During his tenure at Serono, Mr. Kotzer held several senior positions, most recently as Vice President of Biotechnology Manufacturing. Previously, Mr. Kotzer was President and Chief Executive Officer of InterPharm, Serono's Israeli affiliate. Before joining Serono, he held a variety of managerial positions in the food and chemical industries. Mr. Kotzer received his B.Sc. in Chemical Engineering from the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology, of Haifa, Israel.

**Dr. Arie Ovadia** joined Compugen's board of directors as an external director in July 2007. He advises major Israeli companies on finance, accounting and valuations, and is a member of the board of directors of several corporations, including Israel Discount Bank, Phoenix Insurance Company, Elite Industries, Israel Petrochemical Industries, ViryaNet and Tadiran Communications. He has taught at New York University, Temple University and, in Israel, at Tel Aviv and Bradford Universities. Dr. Ovadia serves as a member of the Israeli Accounting Board, and is a 14-year member of the Israel Securities Authority. Dr. Ovadia holds an undergraduate degree and an MBA from Tel Aviv University, and earned his PhD in economics from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

**Prof. Joshua Shemer** joined Compugen's board of directors as an external director in July 2007. He is Full Professor of Medicine at the Tel Aviv University and is currently the CEO of Steba Biotech N.V. In addition he is a member of the Board of Directors of Maccabi Healthcare Services and Chairman of Assuta Medical Centers. Prof. Shemer is an Associate Editor at IMAJ and Harefuah, and a member of the Editorial Board of the International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care. He is Director of the Executive Masters Program in Health Sciences at the Multi-disciplinary Program for Emergency & Disaster Management and teaches Medical Technology Management at the Faculty of Business Administration at Tel Aviv University. He was a member and former chairman of the National Public Committee for Updating the National List of Health Services in Israel and the National Council for Trauma of the Israeli Ministry of Health. Most recently, Prof. Shemer was the Director-General of Maccabi Healthcare Services. Prof. Shemer was formerly Director-General of the Ministry of Health and Surgeon General of the Israel Defense Forces Medical Corps. He is a graduate of the Hebrew University and Hadassah School of Medicine and Board certified in Internal Medicine in Israel.

**Ronit Lerner** joined Compugen in April 2007. Prior to joining Compugen, Ms. Lerner was the Chief Financial Officer at Shunra Software Ltd, and before that at BMC Software Israel, a subsidiary of BMC Software, Inc. Prior to BMC, she served as director of M&A and Accounting for ECI Telecom Ltd. and held senior positions with the Israel Accounting Standards board, an affiliate of the Israel Securities Authority, and KPMG. Ms. Lerner currently serves as a director and chairman of the audit committee of Viryanet Ltd. She holds an MBA, with honors, from Bar Ilan University, and a BA in Accounting and Business Administration from the Tel Aviv Management College, and is a certified public accountant in Israel.

**Anat Cohen-Dayag, Ph.D.** joined Compugen in 2002 as Director of Diagnostics, a position she held until 2005 at which time she became Vice President Diagnostic Biomarkers and assumed her current position, Vice President Biomarkers and Drug Targets, in January 2007. Prior to joining Compugen, she was head of research and development and member of the Executive Management at Mindsense Biosystems Ltd. Prior to Mindsense Biosystems, Dr. Cohen-Dayag served as a scientist at the R&D department of Orgenic. Dr. Cohen-Dayag holds a B.Sc. in Biology from the Ben-Gurion University, Israel, and an M.S. in Chemical Immunology and a Ph.D. in Cellular Biology, both from the Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel.

**Yossi Cohen, M.D.** joined Compugen in 2001, holding several senior research and development positions until 2005 at which time he was appointed as Compugen's Vice President, Research and Discovery, and until he assumed his current position, Vice President Research and Development, in January 2007. Dr. Cohen's diverse prior experience includes serving as a physician in the Israel Defense Forces and holding various software development positions in the Israeli hi-tech industry. Dr. Cohen has a B.S. in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from the Tel-Aviv University, Israel, and an M.S. in Neurobiology and an M.D., both from the Hebrew University, Israel.

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**Eli Zangvil, M.D.** joined Compugen in November 2006 as Vice President Business Development. He previously served as Chief Operating Officer of UltraShape headquartered in Tel-Aviv, Israel, and prior to that was Head of Medical Services of the Israeli Defence Force's Central Command where he held the rank of Colonel. Dr. Zangvil holds an M.D. from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and specializes in internal medicine, and a Master's Degree in Health Administration from the Tel-Aviv University, Israel.

**Dorit Amitay** joined Compugen in 2000. She held several positions in Compugen's Human Resources division until 2006 at which time she was appointed as Compugen's Director of Human Resources. Prior to joining Compugen, she was a Placement Manager at an agency for recruitment and placement in the hi-tech industry. Ms. Amitay holds a BA from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and an MBA in Business Administration, both from the Ben-Gurion University, Israel. In addition, Ms. Amitay holds a Certificate in Group Facilitation from the Kibbutzim College of Education, Tel Aviv.

## Compensation

The aggregate compensation paid by us and by our wholly-owned subsidiaries to all persons who served as directors or senior management for the year 2007 (11 persons) was approximately \$1.3 million. This amount includes approximately \$160,000 set aside or accrued to provide pension, severance, retirement or similar benefits.

During 2007, we granted a total of 1,140,000 options to purchase ordinary shares to our directors and senior management, as a group. These options are exercisable at a range of between \$2.21 and \$2.95 per share, and generally expire ten years after their respective dates of grant. As of December 31, 2007, there were a total of 2,740,000 outstanding options to purchase ordinary shares that were granted to our directors and senior management, and 277,100 outstanding options that were granted to the members of our scientific advisory board.

All members of our board of directors who are not our employees or consultants are reimbursed for their expenses for each meeting attended and are eligible to receive share options under our share option plans. The aggregate amount to which all of our non-employee directors were entitled for the year ended December 31, 2007 was approximately \$43,000. These fees are adjusted semi-annually to reflect changes prescribed by regulations under the Israel Companies Law, 5759-1999 (the Companies Law), for payment to external directors. Members of our scientific advisory board receive cash compensation and have been granted and may be granted further stock options for their services.

On July 31, 2007, the shareholders of the Company approved the issuance of 9,262 ordinary shares to our Chief Executive Officer. See Grant to the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Director in this Item 6 below.

### *Approvals Required for Compensation to our Directors*

In accordance with the requirements of Israeli Law, we determine our directors' compensation in the following manner:

first, a proposal for compensation is submitted to our audit committee, which then reviews the proposal;

second, provided that the audit committee approves the proposed compensation, the proposal is then submitted to our board of directors for review, except that a director who is the direct beneficiary of the proposed compensation does not participate in any discussion or voting with respect to such proposal;

finally, if our board of directors approves the proposal, it must then submit its recommendation to our shareholders, which is usually done during our shareholders' general meeting; and

the approval of a majority of our shareholders is required to implement any such compensation proposal.

## Board Practices

### *Election of Directors and Terms of Office*

Our board of directors consisted of six members as at December 31, 2007, including our chairman and chief executive officer. Other than our three external directors, our directors are elected by an ordinary resolution at the annual general meeting of our shareholders.

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Unless they resign before the end of their term or are removed in accordance with our Articles of Association, all our directors, other than our external directors, will serve as directors until our next annual general meeting of shareholders.

Professor Yair Aharonowitz, Dr. Arie Ovadia and Professor Joshua Shemer serve as external directors pursuant to the provisions of the Companies Law for a three-year term ending in July 2010.

None of our directors or officers have any family relationship with any other director or officer.

None of our directors are entitled to receive any severance or similar benefits upon termination of his or her service, except for Mr. Alex Kotzer, who is entitled pursuant to the terms of his employment agreement, to receive severance in the amount of a multiple of six times his gross monthly salary, as may be updated from time to time if the company terminates his employment without justifiable cause or if Mr. Kotzer terminates his employment with good reason. Mr. Alex Kotzer's entitlement to this severance payment is in addition to any severance payment to which he would be entitled to receive under relevant law in such circumstances.

Our Articles of Association permit us to maintain directors' and officers' liability insurance and to indemnify our directors and officers for actions performed on behalf of the company, subject to specified limitations.

### *External and Independent Directors*

The Companies Law requires Israeli companies with shares that have been offered to the public either in or outside of Israel to appoint at least two external directors. No person may be appointed as an external director if that person or that person's relative, partner, employer or any entity under the person's control, has or had, on or within the two years preceding the date of that person's appointment to serve as an external director, had any affiliation with the company or any entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with the company. The term affiliation includes:

- an employment relationship;
- a business or professional relationship maintained on a regular basis;
- control; and
- service as an office holder.

No person may serve as an external director if that person's position or business activities create, or may create, a conflict of interest with that person's responsibilities as an external director or may otherwise interfere with his/her ability to serve as an external director. If, at the time external directors are to be appointed, all current members of the board of directors are of the same gender, then at least one external director must be of the other gender.

The Companies Law requires that at least one external director must have financial and accounting expertise and the other external directors must possess certain professional qualifications that are promulgated by regulations to the Companies Law. These regulations provide that

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external directors must possess a high level of understanding in business matters, to the extent that they are able to read and understand financial statements in depth and to comment on the manner in which financial data is presented. Each company's board of directors must determine each external director's qualifications based on his or her education, experience and skills regarding financial matters and knowledge of financial statements in accordance with the Companies Law and Israeli securities laws.

External directors are to be elected by a majority vote at a shareholders' meeting, provided that either:

the majority of shares voted at the meeting, including at least one-third of the shares held by non-controlling shareholders voted at the meeting, vote in favor of election of the director; abstaining votes shall not be counted in this vote, or

the total number of shares held by non-controlling shareholders voted against the election of the director does not exceed one percent of the aggregate voting rights in the company.

The initial term of an external director is three years and may be extended for an additional three years term. After such additional three year term, their term of service can be renewed for additional periods of up to three years and provided that the audit committee and the board of directors confirms that, in light of the external director's expertise and special contribution to the work of the board of directors and its committees, the reelection for such additional period(s) is beneficial to the company.

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External directors may be removed only by the same percentage of shareholders as is required for their election, or by a court, and then only if the external directors cease to meet the statutory qualifications for their appointment or if they violate their duty of loyalty to the company. Each committee of a company's board of directors must include at least one external director.

An external director is entitled to compensation as provided in regulations adopted under the Companies Law and is otherwise prohibited from receiving any other compensation, directly or indirectly, in connection with service provided as an external director.

Professor Yair Aharonowitz, Dr. Arie Ovadia and Professor Joshua Shemer currently serve as our external directors under Israeli law and as our independent directors under Nasdaq Global Marketplace Rules. They all serve on our audit committee.

In addition to the requirements of the Companies Law as described above, since our shares are listed on the Nasdaq Global Market, a majority of our directors must be independent (as defined by the Nasdaq Global Marketplace Rules), and our audit committee must be comprised of at least three members, all of whom must be independent (subject to limited exceptions).

### *Audit Committee*

We have an audit committee consisting of three independent directors, all of whom are financially literate and one of whom has accounting or related financial management expertise. The members of the Audit Committee are, Dr. Arie Ovadia, who serves as the chairman of our Audit Committee, Professor Yair Aharonowitz, and Professor Joshua Shemer. All of the members of our audit committee qualify as independent directors under the current Nasdaq Global Marketplace Rules. The audit committee has adopted a charter.

The responsibilities of the audit committee include identifying irregularities in the management of the company's business and approving related party transactions as required by law. An audit committee must consist of at least three directors, including all of its external directors. The chairman of the board of directors, any director employed by or otherwise providing services to the company, and a controlling shareholder or any relative of a controlling shareholder, may not be a member of the audit committee. An audit committee may not approve an action or a transaction with a controlling shareholder, or with an office holder, unless at the time of approval two external directors are serving as members of the audit committee and at least one of the external directors was present at the meeting in which an approval was granted.

### *Other Committees*

We do not have a nominating committee which and we do not have a compensation committee. This practice is compliant with Israeli law.

### *Approval of Compensation to Our Officers*

The Companies Law prescribes that compensation to officers must be approved by a company's board of directors. In accordance with Article 52(d) of our Articles of Association, our board of directors authorized and empowered our Chief Executive Officer to appoint office

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holders and determine their terms of employment, without our board of director's approval. Compensation to our officers who serve as members of our board of directors require the approval of our audit committee, the board of directors and shareholders, as specified above.

### *Internal Auditor*

Under the Companies Law, the board of directors must appoint an internal auditor, nominated by the audit committee. The role of the internal auditor is to examine, among other matters, whether the company's actions comply with the law and orderly business procedure. Under the Companies Law, the internal auditor may be an employee of the company but not an office holder, or an affiliate, or a relative of an office holder or affiliate, and he or she may not be the company's independent accountant or its representative. We comply with the requirement of the Companies Law relating to internal auditors. Our internal auditors examine whether our various activities comply with the law and orderly business procedure.

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Our internal auditors, Ezra Yehudah Management Services Ltd., are not employees, affiliates or office holders of the company. They were appointed in 1999.

### *Scientific Advisory Board*

Our scientific advisory board convenes when there is a need to review or consult regarding our therapeutic results and future directions. At the advisory board meetings, we review our ongoing and planned therapeutic projects, experimental results, as well as future discovery directions. We also consult with its individual members when we need advice within their specific expertise. Our scientific advisory board currently includes:

| Name                       | Affiliation   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Nabil Hannah, Ph.D.        | Former Executive Vice President, Research, Biogen Idec Inc.<br>Member, National Academy of Sciences, USA  |
| C. Ronald Kahn, M.D.       | President and Director, Joslin Diabetes Center,<br>Mary K. Iacocca Professor, Harvard Medical School  |
| Joseph Schlessinger, Ph.D. | William H. Prusoff Professor and Chairman of the Department<br>of Pharmacology of the Yale University School of Medicine;<br>Member, National Academy of Sciences, USA                                  |
| Arthur Weiss, M.D., Ph.D.  | Ephraim P. Engleman Distinguished Professor of Rheumatology;<br>Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, University of<br>California, San Francisco;<br>Member, National Academy of Sciences, USA |

### **Employees**

The following table sets out the number of our employees engaged in specified activities, by geographic location at the end of the fiscal years 2005, 2006 and 2007:

|  | December 31,<br>2007 | December 31,<br>2006 | December 31,<br>2005 |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Research &amp; Development</b>            |                      |                      |                      |
| Israel                                       | 52                   | 64                   | 92                   |
| USA  | 0                    | 0                    | 0                    |
| Administration, Accounting<br>and Operations |                      |                      |                      |
| Israel                                       | 17                   | 21                   | 23                   |

|   | December 31,<br>2007 | December 31,<br>2006 | December 31,<br>2005 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| USA   | 0                    | 0                    | 0                    |
| Sales, Marketing, Business<br>Development and Support |                      |                      |                      |
| Israel  | 2                    | 5                    | 0                    |
| USA   | 1                    | 0                    | 5                    |
| United Kingdom  | 0                    |                      | 1                    |
| Total   | 72                   | 90                   | 121                  |

We and our Israeli employees are subject, by an extension order of the Israeli Ministry of Welfare, to a few provisions of collective bargaining agreements between the Histadrut, the General Federation of Labor Unions in Israel and the Coordination Bureau of Economic Organizations, including the Industrialists Associations. These provisions principally concern cost of living increases, recreation pay, travel expenses, vacation pay and other conditions of employment. We provide our employees with benefits and working conditions equal to or above the required minimum. Our employees are not represented by a labor union. We have written employment contracts with each of our employees, and we believe that our relations with our employees are good.

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## Share Ownership

### *Share Ownership by Directors and Senior Management*

All of the persons listed above under the caption *Directors and Senior Management* own ordinary shares and/or options to purchase ordinary shares. Except as set forth in the table below, none of the directors or executive officers owns shares and/or options amounting to 1% or more of the outstanding ordinary shares. The following table sets forth certain information as of February 29, 2008, regarding the beneficial ownership by our directors and executive officers. All numbers quoted in the table are inclusive of options to purchase shares that are exercisable within 60 days after, February 29, 2008.

| Beneficial Owner  | Amount Owned | Percent of Class |
|---|--------------|------------------|
| Martin S. Gerstel <sup>(1)</sup>                              | 1,952,568    | 6.9%             |
| All directors and senior management as a group <sup>(2)</sup> | 3,015,525    | 10.7%            |

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes 550,000 shares held by Shomar Corporation, an affiliate of Mr. Martin S. Gerstel, 618,333 shares held by Merrill Lynch IRA for Martin Gerstel, of which Martin Gerstel is the beneficiary, 534,235 shares held in various brokerage accounts for the benefit of Martin Gerstel and options to purchase 250,000 shares that are exercisable within 60 days of February 29, 2008. Does not include 166,661 options which are vested, of the 500,000 shares granted to Martin Gerstel and approved by the shareholders which are not exercisable if at the time of exercise, the closing price of Compugen's shares is less than \$10.00 per share.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes the shares that are beneficially owned by Martin S. Gerstel as noted on the first row of the above table and options granted to Alex Kotzer which options were approved by the board of directors and are pending approval of the shareholders.

### *Share Option Plans*

We maintain two share option plans for our and our subsidiaries' employees, directors and consultants. In addition to the discussion below, see Note 10 of our 2007 consolidated financial statements.

Our board of directors administers our share option plans and has the authority to designate all terms of the options granted under our plans including the grantees, exercise prices, grant dates, vesting schedules and expiration dates, which may be no more than ten years after the grant date. Options may not be granted with an exercise price of less than the fair market value of our ordinary shares on the date of grant, unless otherwise determined by our board of directors.

#### *Compugen Share Option Plan (1998)*

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The Compugen Share Option Plan (1998) enabled granting options for up to an aggregate of 2,500,000 ordinary shares to our and our subsidiaries employees, directors and consultants. As of February 29, 2008, options to purchase 220,970 ordinary shares granted at a weighted average exercise price of approximately \$2.08 per share, were granted under the plan but remained unexercised. Options to purchase 1,530,414 ordinary shares under the plan have previously been exercised at a weighted average exercise price of approximately \$1.55. If a grantee leaves his or her employment or other relationship with us, the term of his or her unexercised vested options expire 90 days later. On October 22, 2007 the board of directors resolved to cancel the then remaining available for grant options remaining under the 1998 Option Plan and we will therefore not make any further grants under this plan.

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### *Compugen Share Option Plan (2000)*

Under the Compugen Share Option Plan (2000), we may grant options for up to an aggregate of 9,051,103 ordinary shares to our and our subsidiaries employees, directors and consultants. This total number automatically increases on January 1 of every year by the lesser of 1,500,000 shares or 4% of the total number of our then-outstanding shares, or such lower amount as shall be determined by the board of directors. On October 22, 2007, the board of directors resolved not to have an automatic increase for 2008, of the number of shares reserved for issuance under our 2000 Option Plan. If a grantee leaves his or her employment or other relationship with us, or if his or her relationship with us is terminated without cause, the term of his or her unexercised options will expire 90 days later. As of February 29, 2008, options to purchase 6,494,320 ordinary shares at a weighted average exercise price of approximately \$3.36 per share were granted under this plan but remain unexercised. Options to purchase 817,754 ordinary shares under the plan have previously been exercised at a weighted average exercise price of approximately \$3.52, and options to purchase 1,738,939 ordinary shares remain available for future grant.

In 2003, the terms of this plan were modified and we adopted an addendum to this plan to comply with changes in the Israeli tax law relating to the taxation of incentive options to Israeli resident employees. This addendum does not affect grantees that are not residents of Israel.

Our board of directors has elected the Capital Gains Track (as defined in Section 102(b)(2) of the Ordinance) for the grant of options to Israeli grantees. Generally, under the Capital Gains Track, the tax liability to a Grantee resulting from the grant and exercise of options will be postponed until the time that shares that are acquired upon the exercise of options will be sold or released from trust, subject to fulfillment of the requirements of Section 102 of the Ordinance. Entitlement to the benefits under the Capital Gains Track is contingent upon the grantee of options holding them and/or the shares issued upon their exercise for a period of at least 24 months from the time of grant. Under the Capital Gains Track, a fixed rate of 25% applies to gains that are realized from the sale of shares issued upon exercise of options (i.e., for sales proceeds in excess of the exercise price of the options, assuming that the exercise price is equal to the fair market value of the shares on the date of the award), and provided that the sale occurs after the required holding period.

If a grantee sells shares or releases them from trust prior to expiration of the required holding period, the grantee will be subject to income tax on his gains at a rate which is his or her marginal income tax rate (currently up to 47%), as well as payment of associated health tax and national insurance payments. Additionally, in such circumstances, withholding requirements will apply and be carried out by the employing company in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and rules.

Neither we nor the grantee will be liable to pay social benefits payments in connection with the granting or exercise of options that are exercised under the Capital Gains Track mechanism, or upon the sale of the shares underlying such options or upon the release of such shares from the trust, provided that such sale or release occurs after the required holding period. However, if such sale or release occurs before expiry of the required holding period, for which our consent is required, both we and the grantee will bear each of our respective liability to pay social benefits payments.

We will not be entitled to a tax deduction for Israeli income tax purposes with respect to options granted under the Capital Gains Track.

### *Directors Options*

#### *Grants to Non-Management Directors*

On July 31, 2007, our shareholders approved the following grants to the non-management members of our board of directors, in addition to the cash consideration paid to such non-management directors: Each non-management director was granted options to purchase ordinary shares as follows: (i) an initial grant to purchase 40,000 ordinary shares was granted to each non-management director on the following terms:

- (a) the options were to be granted as of the date of the shareholders approval;

(b) each option is exercisable for one ordinary share at an exercise price equal to the closing price on the date of such grant as reported by The Nasdaq Global Market;

(c) the options shall vest as follows: (1) 10,000 options fully vested at time of grant; (2) 10,000 options will vest annually for a period of three years, starting from the first anniversary of the initial grant date; and

(d) any and all other terms and conditions pertaining to the grant of the options shall be in accordance with, and subject to, the Compugen Share Option Plan (2000) and the Company's standard option agreement that were executed by each director and by the Company promptly after the date of the annual meeting of shareholders;

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(ii) On each annual anniversary of the initial grant, an additional annual grant of options to purchase 10,000 ordinary shares to each non-management director then serving on the board of directors, with the following terms:

(a) each option is exercisable for one ordinary share at an exercise price equal to the closing price on the date of such additional grant, as reported by The Nasdaq Global Market;

(b) the options shall vest as follows: 3,333 of the options shall vest on each of the first two anniversary dates of such grant and 3,334 on the third anniversary date; and

(c) any and all other terms and conditions pertaining to the grant of the options shall be in accordance with, and subject to, the Compugen Share Option Plan (2000)".

Notwithstanding (i) and (ii) above, all options granted to non-management directors shall be fully vested immediately upon the completion of one or more of the following events, whether by way of a consolidation, merger or reorganization of the Company or otherwise: (a) a sale of all or substantially all of Company's issued share capital or assets to any other company, entity, person or a group of persons, or (b) the acquisition of more than 50% of Company's equity or voting power by any shareholder or group of shareholders.

Notwithstanding the terms of the Compugen Share Option Plan (2000) all options granted above which shall be vested as of the date of termination of services by a non-management director to the Company, may be exercised within one year after the cessation of his or her term as a director of the Company.

#### *Grant to the Chairman of the Board*

In recognition of the importance of Mr. Gerstel's services to the Company and in consideration of the fact that his compensation is entirely in the form of stock options and not in cash, at the annual general meeting of shareholders held on July 31, 2007, Mr. Gerstel was granted stock options to purchase 500,000 ordinary shares of the Company on the condition, as requested by Mr. Gerstel, that each such option, even if vested, shall not be exercisable if at the time of exercise, the Company's share price is less than \$10.00 per share as reported by The Nasdaq Global Market. Other than this special limitation, these options were granted under the general terms of the Compugen Share Option Plan (2000) and the following terms and conditions:

1. Vesting Schedule: Monthly over a period of 4 years. 83,333 options vested as of August 1, 2007 and the remaining 416,667 options shall vest as follows: 10,416 options vest on a monthly basis over a period of 39 months thereafter, and 10,443 options shall vest in month 40 thereafter.

2. Limitation to exercising vested options: Each vested option shall not be exercisable if at the time of exercise, the closing price of the Company's ordinary shares as reported by The Nasdaq Global Market is less than \$10.00 per ordinary share.

3. Exercise price per option: Each option shall be exercisable for one ordinary share at an exercise price equal to the closing price known at the date of the Shareholder Meeting, as reported by The Nasdaq Global Market

Any and all other terms and conditions pertaining to the grant of the options shall be in accordance with, and subject to, the Compugen Share Option Plan (2000) and the Company's standard option agreement that was executed by the Chairman of the Board and by the Company promptly after the date of the Meeting.



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Except for this aforesaid remuneration, the reimbursement of certain of Mr. Gerstel's reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the performance of his services for the Company, and for remuneration that all of our non-employee directors receive, Mr. Gerstel does not receive any other direct or indirect compensation for his services to us.

### *Grant to the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Director*

For calendar year 2006, Mr. Kotzer requested that a portion of his gross salary (which was previously approved by the shareholders of the Company) be provided to him in the form of ordinary shares and that his salary be determined in New Israeli Shekels. Pursuant to this request, and pursuant to the decision of the shareholders at the Annual General Meeting held on July 31, 2007, the cash portion of Mr. Kotzer's shareholders' approved gross salary for 2006 was reduced by approximately \$28,000.

At the Annual General Meeting held on July 31, 2007, the shareholders of the Company approved the issuance of ordinary shares, in a number equal to (i) \$28,000, divided by (ii) the closing price of the Company's ordinary shares known at the date of the shareholder meeting, as reported by The Nasdaq Global Market, to Mr. Kotzer (the Cash Replacement Shares) as consideration for the deduction of such amount from his 2006 salary.

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The Company's shareholders also approved payment to Mr. Kotzer of a cash bonus, grossed up to cover the taxes payable by Mr. Kotzer as a result of issuing to him the Cash Replacement Shares.

On October 22, 2007, the board of directors approved a grant of 150,000 options to Mr. Kotzer, subject to the approval of the shareholders at the next annual general shareholder meeting.

## ITEM 7. MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

### Major Shareholders

The following table sets forth certain information regarding beneficial ownership of our ordinary shares as of February 29, 2008 by each person who is known by us to own beneficially more than 5% of our outstanding ordinary shares. The voting rights of our major shareholders do not differ from the voting rights of other holders of our ordinary shares.

| <b>Beneficial Owner</b>                | <b>Number of Ordinary Shares Beneficially Owned</b> | <b>Percent of Ownership</b> |
|--|---|-----------------------------|
| Martin Gerstel (1)                     | 1,702,568   | 6.01%                       |
| Clal Industries & Investments Ltd. (2) | 3,017,574   | 10.65%                      |
| AXA Assurances I.A.R.D. Mutuelle (3)   | 4,484,917   | 15.83%                      |

(1) Includes 550,000 shares held by Shomar Corporation, an affiliate of Mr. Martin S. Gerstel, 618,333 shares held by Merrill Lynch IRA for Martin Gerstel, of which Martin Gerstel is the beneficiary and 534,235 shares held in various brokerage accounts for the benefit of Martin Gerstel.

(2) Includes 10,526 shares held by Clal Industries & Investments Ltd. and 3,007,048 shares held by Clal Biotechnology Industries Ltd. Clal Biotechnology Industries Ltd and Clal Industries & Investments Ltd's address is 3 Azrieli Center, Tel Aviv 67023, Israel. This disclosure is based on information disclosed to us by the Legal Department of Clal Industries & Investments Ltd. on March 23, 2008.

(3) This disclosure is based on information disclosed by AXA Assurances I.A.R.D. Mutuelle on Form 13G, filed with the SEC on February 14, 2008.

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As of February 29, 2008, there were a total of 91 holders of record of our ordinary shares, of which 58 were registered with addresses in the United States. Such United States holders were, as of such date, the holders of record of approximately 89% of the outstanding ordinary shares.

### Related Party Transactions

It is our policy to enter into transactions with related parties on terms that, on the whole, are no less favorable than those that would be available from unaffiliated parties. Based on our experience in the business in which we operate and the terms of our transactions with unaffiliated third parties, we believe that all of the transactions described below met our policy standards at the time they occurred.

#### *Evogene Ltd.*

In October 1999, we formed a division focusing on agricultural biotechnology and plant genomics. On January 1, 2002, we turned the business of this division into a majority-owned subsidiary, Evogene.

On June 12, 2007, Evogene successfully completed an initial public offering on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, selling units consisting of ordinary shares, Series 1 warrants and Series 2 warrants. The total new capital raised was approximately \$8,000,000. The full exercise of both series of warrants would approximately generate an additional \$16,800,000 of capital. Compugen did not participate in this investment.

Therefore, as of December 31, 2007, Compugen held 10.97% of Evogene's issued and outstanding share capital. For more information, see Note 1b of our 2007 consolidated financial statements and Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects; Critical Accounting Policies; Investment in Evogene.

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As of December 31, 2007, Martin Gerstel, our chairman of the board, held approximately 3.33 % of Evogene's issued and outstanding share capital (approximately 2.46% of Evogene's share capital, on a fully-diluted basis), and the power to vote approximately 3.33% of Evogene's share capital. Since December 19, 2004, Martin Gerstel has served as the chairman of Evogene's board of directors.

Upon Evogene's incorporation on January 1, 2002, we granted a Computational Tools License to Evogene, which license was first extended on August 6, 2003. On August 1, 2004, we entered into a Second Extension Agreement to the Computational Tools License Agreement, under which the license was extended for two additional years, until December 31, 2007, in consideration of the issuance to us of 350,000 ordinary shares of Evogene. During these two years we were obligated to provide to Evogene limited support services at no additional charge. In May 2007 we entered into a Third Extension to the Computational Tools License Agreement with Evogene, under which we agreed to grant Evogene a license to certain software until December 31, 2014. In consideration for the extension of the license, Evogene agreed to pay us \$150,000 and issue to us 100,000 ordinary shares in Evogene.

In August 2006, we entered into a Software License Agreement with Evogene, under which we agreed to grant Evogene a license to certain software which supports the LEADS technology licensed under the Computational Tools License Agreement. In consideration for the grant of the license, Evogene agreed to issue to us 40,000 ordinary shares before December 31, 2006 and an additional 20,000 ordinary shares within one month of Evogene entering into its first significant agreement. To date, we have been issued 60,000 ordinary shares under the Software License Agreement.

Eli Zangvil, Compugen's VP Business Development, is Compugen's representative on the board of directors of Evogene.

## ITEM 8. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### Consolidated Statements and Other Financial Information

Our consolidated financial statements are included on pages F-1 through F-31 of this annual report.

#### *Legal Proceedings*

Currently, we are not a party to any material pending legal proceedings. There are no legal proceedings pending or, to our knowledge, threatened against us or our subsidiaries and we are not involved in any legal proceedings that our management believes, individually or in the aggregate, would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial conditions or operating results.

**Dividend Distributions**

We have never paid any cash dividends on our ordinary shares, and we do not intend to pay cash dividends on our ordinary shares in the foreseeable future. Our current policy is to retain earnings for use in our business.

In the event that we decide to pay a cash dividend from income that is tax exempt under our approved enterprise status, we would be liable for corporate tax on the amount distributed at the rate of up to 25%, which would be in addition to the tax payable by the dividend payee. See Note 13 of our 2007 Consolidated Financial Statements and Item 10. Taxation. Cash dividends may be paid by an Israeli company only out of retained earnings as calculated under Israeli law. We currently have no retained earnings and do not expect to have any retained earnings in the foreseeable future.

**Significant Changes**

No significant changes have occurred since the date of the consolidated financial statements included in this annual report.

**ITEM 9. THE OFFER AND LISTING****Markets and Share Price History**

The principal trading market for our ordinary shares is the Nasdaq Global Market, where our shares have been listed and traded under the symbol CGEN since our initial public offering in August, 2000. Our shares have also been traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Market under the Hebrew symbol which is equivalent to CGEN since January 7, 2002. The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low reported sales prices of the ordinary shares on the Nasdaq Global Market and on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange:

| <b>Last Six Calendar Months</b>                                 | <b>Nasdaq</b> |            | <b>*TASE</b> |            |
|---|---------------|------------|--------------|------------|
|   | <b>High</b>   | <b>Low</b> | <b>High</b>  | <b>Low</b> |
| February 2008   | \$ 2.750      | \$ 2.450   | \$ 2.793     | \$ 2.311   |
| January 2008  | \$ 2.800      | \$ 1.600   | \$ 2.811     | \$ 1.613   |
| December 2007   | \$ 1.950      | \$ 1.560   | \$ 1.953     | \$ 1.641   |
| November 2007   | \$ 2.330      | \$ 1.560   | \$ 2.371     | \$ 1.653   |
| October 2007  | \$ 2.500      | \$ 2.050   | \$ 2.548     | \$ 2.179   |
| September 2007  | \$ 2.650      | \$ 2.320   | \$ 2.638     | \$ 2.407   |
| <b>Financial Quarters During the Past Two Full Fiscal Years</b> |               |            |              |            |
| Fourth Quarter of 2007  | \$ 2.500      | \$ 1.560   | \$ 2.548     | \$ 1.641   |
| Third Quarter 2007  | \$ 3.160      | \$ 2.290   | \$ 3.012     | \$ 2.407   |
| Second Quarter 2007   | \$ 3.180      | \$ 2.580   | \$ 3.064     | \$ 2.570   |
| First Quarter 2007  | \$ 3.400      | \$ 2.370   | \$ 3.529     | \$ 2.424   |
| Fourth Quarter of 2006  | \$ 3.380      | \$ 2.100   | \$ 3.499     | \$ 2.412   |
| Third Quarter 2006  | \$ 3.050      | \$ 2.420   | \$ 3.018     | \$ 2.383   |
| Second Quarter 2006   | \$ 4.200      | \$ 2.630   | \$ 4.126     | \$ 2.790   |
| First Quarter 2006  | \$ 5.220      | \$ 3.200   | \$ 5.304     | \$ 3.457   |
| <b>Last Five Full Financial Years</b>                           |               |            |              |            |
| 2007  | \$ 3.400      | \$ 1.560   | \$ 3.529     | \$ 1.641   |
| 2006  | \$ 5.220      | \$ 2.100   | \$ 5.304     | \$ 2.383   |
| 2005  | \$ 6.540      | \$ 2.460   | \$ 6.557     | \$ 2.578   |
| 2004  | \$ 8.090      | \$ 3.180   | \$ 8.130     | \$ 3.042   |
| 2003  | \$ 6.300      | \$ 1.500   | \$ 6.086     | \$ 1.505   |

\*the currency by which our stock is traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange is the New Israeli Shekel. The above dollar amounts represent a conversion from New Israeli Shekel to Dollar amounts in accordance with the Dollar New Israeli Shekel conversion rate as of the relevant date of trade.

## ITEM 10. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**Memorandum and Articles of Association***Objects and Purposes of the Company*

We are registered under the Companies Law, 1999 as a public company under the name Compugen Ltd. and public company number 51-177-963-9. The objective stated in our Articles of Association is to engage in any lawful activity.

*Powers of the Directors*

Pursuant to the Companies Law and our Articles of Association, a director is not permitted to vote on a proposal, arrangement or contract in which he or she has a personal interest. Also, the directors may not vote compensation to themselves or any members of their body without the approval of our audit committee and our shareholders at a general meeting. The requirements for approval of certain transactions are set forth below in Item 10. Additional Information; Memorandum and Articles of Association; Approval of Certain Transactions. The powers of our directors to enter into borrowing arrangements on our behalf are limited to the same extent as any other transaction by us.

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*Approval of Certain Transactions*

The Companies Law codifies the fiduciary duties that office holders, including directors and executive officers, owe to a company. An office holder, as defined in the Companies Law, is a director, general manager, chief business manager, deputy general manager, vice general manager, executive vice president, vice president, other manager directly subordinate to the managing director or any other person assuming the responsibilities of any of the foregoing positions without regard to such person's title. An office holder's fiduciary duties consist of a duty of care and a duty of loyalty. The duty of loyalty includes avoiding any conflict of interest between the office holder's position in the company and his personal affairs, avoiding any competition with the company, avoiding exploitation of any business opportunity of the company in order to reap personal gain for himself or others, and revealing to the company any information or documents relating to the company's affairs which the office holder has received due to his position as an office holder. Each person listed in the table under Directors and Senior Management, which is displayed under Item 6. Directors, Senior Management and Employees; Directors and Senior Management, is one of our office holders. Under the Companies Law, all arrangements as to compensation of office holders who are not directors, require approval of the board of directors, or a committee thereof or of persons to whom such power is delegated. Arrangements regarding the compensation of directors also require audit committee and shareholder approval, with the exception of compensation to external directors in the amounts specified in the regulations promulgated under the Companies Law, all as described in Item 6. Directors and Senior Management; Compensation.

The Companies Law requires that an office holder promptly discloses any personal interest that he or she may have and all related material information known to him or her, in connection with any existing or proposed transaction by the company. The disclosure must be made to our board of directors or shareholders prior to the meeting at which the transaction is to be discussed. In addition, if the transaction is an extraordinary transaction, as defined under the Companies Law, the office holder must also disclose any personal interest held by the office holder's spouse, siblings, parents, grandparents, descendants, spouse's descendants and the spouses of any of the foregoing, or by any corporation in which the office holder is a five percent (5%) or greater shareholder, or holder of five percent (5%) or more of the voting power, director or general manager or in which he or she has the right to appoint at least one director or the general manager. An extraordinary transaction is defined as a transaction not in the ordinary course of business, not on market terms, or that is likely to have a material impact on the company's profitability, assets or liabilities.

In the case of a transaction which is not an extraordinary transaction, after the office holder complies with the above disclosure requirement, only board of directors' approval is required unless the Articles of Association of the company provide otherwise. A transaction must not be adverse to the company's interest. If the transaction is an extraordinary transaction, then, in addition to any approval required by the Articles of Association, the transaction must also be approved by the audit committee and by the board of directors, and under specified circumstances, by a meeting of the shareholders. An office holder who has a personal interest in a matter that is considered at a meeting of the board of directors or the audit committee may not be present at this meeting or vote on this matter.

The Companies Law applies the same disclosure requirements to a controlling shareholder of a public company, which is defined as a shareholder who has the ability to direct the activities of a company, other than in circumstances where this power derives solely from the shareholder's position on the board of directors or any other position with the company, and includes a shareholder that holds 25% or more of the voting rights if no other shareholder owns more than 50% of the voting rights in the company. Extraordinary transactions with a controlling shareholder or in which a controlling shareholder has a personal interest, and the terms of compensation of a controlling shareholder who is an

office holder, require the approval of the audit committee, the board of directors and the shareholders of the company.

The shareholders' approval must either include at least one-third of the disinterested shareholders who are present, in person or by proxy, at the meeting, or, alternatively, the total shareholdings of the disinterested shareholders who vote against the transaction must not represent more than one percent (1%) of the voting rights in the company.

In addition, a private placement of securities that will increase the relative holdings of a shareholder that holds five percent (5%) or more of the company's outstanding share capital, assuming the exercise by such person of all of the convertible securities into shares held by that person, or that will cause any person to become a holder of more than five percent (5%) of the company's outstanding share capital, requires approval by the board of directors and the shareholders of the company. However, subject to certain exceptions, shareholder approval will not be required if the aggregate number of shares issued pursuant to such private placement, assuming the exercise of all of the convertible securities into shares being sold in such a private placement, comprises less than twenty percent (20%) of the voting rights in a company prior to the consummation of the private placement.

Under the Companies Law, a shareholder has a duty to act in good faith towards the company and other shareholders and refrain from abusing his power in the company. Shareholders' voting powers includes their power to vote in the general meetings of shareholders on the following matters:

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- any amendment to the Articles of Association;
- an increase of the company's authorized share capital;
- a merger; and
- approval of interested party transactions.

In addition, any controlling shareholder, any shareholder who knows it can determine the outcome of a shareholders vote and any shareholder who, under our Articles of Association, can appoint or prevent the appointment of an office holder, is under a duty to act with fairness towards the company. The Companies Law does not describe the substance of this duty. The Companies Law requires that specified types of transactions, actions and arrangements be approved as provided for in a company's articles of association and in some circumstances by the audit committee, by the board of directors and by the shareholders. In general, the vote required by the audit committee and the board of directors for approval of these matters, in each case, is a majority of the disinterested directors participating in a duly convened meeting.

For information concerning the direct and indirect personal interests of some of our office holders and principal shareholders in transactions with us, see Item 7. Major Shareholders; Related Party Transactions above.

#### ***Rights Attached to Ordinary Shares***

Our authorized share capital consists of 50,000,000 ordinary shares, par value NIS 0.01 per share. Holders of ordinary shares have one vote per share, and are entitled to participate equally in the payment of dividends and share distributions and, in the event of our liquidation, in the distribution of assets after satisfaction of liabilities to creditors. No preferred shares are currently authorized. All outstanding ordinary shares are validly issued and fully paid.

#### ***Transfer of Shares***

Fully paid ordinary shares are issued in registered form and may be freely transferred under our Articles of Association unless the transfer is restricted or prohibited by another instrument.

#### ***Dividend and Liquidation Rights***

We may declare a dividend to be paid to the shareholders of our ordinary shares according to their rights and interests in our profits. In the event of our liquidation, after satisfaction of liabilities to creditors, our assets will be distributed to the shareholders of our ordinary shares in proportion to the nominal value of their shareholdings. This right may be affected by the grant of preferential dividend or distribution rights to the shareholders of a class of shares with preferential rights that may be authorized in the future. Pursuant to Israel's securities laws, a company

registering its shares for trade on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange (TASE) may not have more than one class of shares for a period of one year following registration, after which it is permitted to issue preference shares. Under the Companies Law, the declaration of a dividend does not require the approval of the shareholders of the company, unless the company's Articles of Association require otherwise. Our Articles of Association provide that the board of directors may declare and distribute dividends without the approval of the shareholders.

To date, we have not declared or distributed any dividend.

### ***Annual and Special General Meetings***

We must hold our annual general meeting of shareholders each year no later than 15 months from the last annual meeting, at a time and place determined by the board of directors, upon at least 21 days' prior notice to our shareholders. The board of directors may, whenever it thinks fit, convene a special meeting as may be determined by the board of directors. The board of directors shall be obligated to convene a special meeting, as may be determined by the board of directors, upon requisition in writing in accordance with the Companies Law. Not less than twenty-one (21) days' prior notice, or thirty-five (35) days' prior notice to the extent required under regulations promulgated under the Companies Law, shall be given of every general meeting. Each such notice shall specify the place and the time of the meeting and the general nature of each item to be acted upon thereat, as well as any other information required by the Companies Law or any regulation promulgated thereunder, said notice to be given to all shareholders who will be entitled to attend and vote at such meeting and delivered or publicized in any manner permitted under the Companies Law.

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The quorum required for a meeting of shareholders consists of at least two shareholders present in person or by proxy who hold or represent between them at least 33.3% of the issued share capital. A meeting adjourned for lack of a quorum generally is adjourned to the same day in the following week at the same time and place or any time and place as the directors designate in a notice to the shareholders. At the reconvened meeting, the required quorum consists of any two members present in person or by proxy.

### ***Voting Rights***

Our ordinary shares do not have cumulative voting rights in the election of directors. As a result, the holders of ordinary shares that represent more than 50% of the voting power represented at a shareholders meeting have the power to elect all of our directors, except the external directors whose election requires a special majority as described under the section entitled "Item 6. Directors, Senior Management and Employees; Board Practices; External and Independent Directors."

Holders of ordinary shares have one vote for each ordinary share held on all matters submitted to a vote of shareholders. Shareholders may vote in person or by proxy. These voting rights may be affected by the grant of any special voting rights to the holders of a class of shares with preferential rights that may be authorized in the future.

Under the Companies Law, unless otherwise provided in the Articles of Association or by applicable law, all resolutions of the shareholders require a simple majority and all shareholders' meetings require prior notice of at least 21 days. Our Articles of Association provide that, except with respect to matters which require the approval of a special majority under the Companies Law, all decisions may be made by a simple majority of the voting power represented at the meeting, in person, by proxy or by proxy card, and voting thereon. See "Item 10. Additional Information; Memorandum and Articles of Association; Approval of Certain Transactions" above for certain duties of shareholders towards the company.

### ***Limitations on the Rights to Own Securities***

The ownership or voting of ordinary shares by non-residents of Israel is not restricted in any way by our articles of association or the laws of the State of Israel, except that nationals of countries which are, or have been, in a state of war with Israel may not be recognized as owners of our shares.

### ***Anti-Takeover Provisions under Israeli Law***

The Companies Law provides that an acquisition of shares in a public company must be made by means of a tender offer if, as a result of such acquisition, the purchaser would become shareholder with over 25% of the voting rights in the company. This rule does not apply if there is already another shareholder of the company with 25% or more of the voting rights. Similarly, the Companies Law provides that an acquisition of shares in a public company must be made by means of a tender offer if, as a result of the acquisition, the purchaser's shareholdings would entitle the purchaser to over 45% of the voting rights in the company, unless there is a shareholder with 50% or more of the voting rights in the company. These rules do not apply if the acquisition is made by way of a merger.

Finally, in general, Israeli tax law treats specified acquisitions less favorably than does U.S. tax law. However, Israeli tax law provides for tax deferral in specified acquisitions, including transactions where the consideration for the sale of shares is the receipt of shares of the acquiring company.

### Exchange Controls

Under Israeli Law, Israeli non-residents who purchase ordinary shares with certain non-Israeli currencies (including dollars) may freely repatriate in such non-Israeli currencies all amounts received in Israeli currency in respect of the ordinary shares, whether as a dividend, as a liquidating distribution, or as proceeds from any sale in Israel of the ordinary shares, provided in each case that any applicable Israeli income tax is paid or withheld on such amounts. The conversion into the non-Israeli currency must be made at the rate of exchange prevailing at the time of conversion. Under Israeli law, both residents and non-residents of Israel may freely hold, vote and trade ordinary shares.

### Taxation

The following discussion of Israeli and United States tax consequences material to our shareholders is not intended and should not be construed as legal or professional tax advice and does not exhaust all possible tax considerations. To the extent that the discussion is based on new tax legislation, which has not been subject to judicial or administrative interpretation, the views expressed in the discussion might not be accepted by the tax authorities in question.

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**We urge shareholders and prospective purchasers of our ordinary shares to consult their own tax advisers as to the U.S., Israeli, or other tax consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of ordinary shares, including, in particular, the effect of any foreign, state or local taxes.**

#### *Israeli Taxation and Investment Programs*

The following is a summary of the principal tax laws applicable to companies in Israel, including special reference to their effect on us, and Israeli government programs benefiting us. This section also contains a discussion of the material Israeli tax consequences to you if you acquire Ordinary Shares of our company. This summary does not discuss all the acts of Israeli tax law that may be relevant to you in light of your personal investment circumstances or if you are subject to special treatment under Israeli law. To the extent that the discussion is based on new tax legislation which has not been subject to judicial or administrative interpretation, we cannot assure you that the views expressed in this discussion will be accepted by the tax authorities. The discussion should not be understood as legal or professional tax advice and is not exhaustive of all possible tax considerations.

#### *General Corporate Tax Structure*

Generally, Israeli companies are subject to Corporate Tax on their taxable income. The applicable rates are as follows: in 2006 31%, in 2007 29%, in 2008 27%, in 2009 26% and in 2010 and thereafter 25%. However, the effective tax rate payable by a company which derives income from an approved enterprise (as further discussed below) may be considerably less.

#### *Tax Benefits under the Law for the Encouragement of Industry (Taxes), 1969*

The Law for the Encouragement of Industry (Taxes), 1969, generally referred to as the Industry Encouragement Law, provides several tax benefits for industrial companies. An industrial company is defined as a company resident in Israel, at least 90% of the income of which in a given tax year exclusive of income from specified government loans, capital gains, interest and dividends, is derived from an industrial enterprise owned by it. An industrial enterprise is defined as an enterprise whose major activity in a given tax year is industrial production activity.

Under the Industry Encouragement Law, industrial companies are entitled to a number of corporate tax benefits, including:

deduction of purchase of know-how and patents and/or right to use a patent over an eight-year period ;

the right to elect, under specified conditions, to file a consolidated tax return with additional related Israeli industrial companies and an industrial holding company;

accelerated depreciation rates on equipment and buildings; and

deductibility of expenses related to a public offering on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange and as of January 1, 2003, on recognized stock markets outside of Israel, are deductible in equal amounts over three years.

Under some tax laws and regulations, an industrial enterprise may be eligible for special depreciation rates for machinery, equipment and buildings. These rates differ based on various factors, including the date the operations begin and the number of work shifts. An industrial company owning an approved enterprise may choose between these special depreciation rates and the depreciation rates available to the approved enterprise.

Eligibility for benefits under the Industry Encouragement Law is not subject to receipt of prior approval from any governmental authority.

We believe that we currently qualify as an industrial company within the definition of the Industry Encouragement Law. We cannot assure you that the Israeli tax authorities will agree that we qualify, or, if we qualify, that we will continue to qualify as an industrial company or that the benefits described above will be available to us in the future.

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*Tax Benefits Under the Law for the Encouragement of Capital Investments, 1959*

*Tax benefits prior the 2005 amendment*

The Law for the Encouragement of Capital Investments, 1959, as amended (effective as of April 1, 2005) (the Investments Law ), provides that a proposed capital investment in eligible facilities may, upon application to the Investment Center of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce of the State of Israel, be designated as an approved enterprise.

The Investments Law provides that an approved enterprise is eligible for tax benefits on taxable income derived from its approved enterprise programs. The tax benefits under the Investments Law also apply to income generated by a company from the grant of a right of use with respect to know-how developed by the approved enterprise, income generated from royalties, and income derived from a service which is ancillary to such right of use or royalties, provided that such income is generated within the approved enterprise's ordinary course of business. If a company has more than one approval or only a portion of its capital investments are approved, its effective tax rate is the result of a weighted average of the applicable rates. The tax benefits under the Investments Law are not, generally, available with respect to income derived from products manufactured outside of Israel. In addition, the tax benefits available to an approved enterprise are contingent upon the fulfillment of conditions stipulated in the Investments Law and regulations and the criteria set forth in the specific certificate of approval, as described above. In the event that a company does not meet these conditions, it would be required to refund the amount of tax benefits, plus a consumer price index linkage adjustment and interest.

The Investments Law also provides that an approved enterprise is entitled to accelerated depreciation on its property and equipment that are included in an approved enterprise program in the first five years of using the equipment.

Taxable income of a company derived from an approved enterprise is subject to corporate tax at the maximum rate of 25%, rather than the regular corporate tax rate, for the benefit period. This period is ordinarily seven years commencing with the year in which the approved enterprise first generates taxable income, and is limited to 12 years from commencement of production or 14 years from the date of approval, whichever is earlier. The year's limitation does not apply to the exemption period.

However, a company may elect to receive an alternative package of benefits under which (a) its undistributed income derived from the approved enterprise will be exempt from corporate tax for a period of between two and ten years from the first year it derives taxable income under the program, depending on the geographic location of the approved enterprise within Israel, and (b) it will be eligible for reduced tax rates for the remainder of the benefits period. We have elected the alternative benefits package.

A company that has elected the alternative package of benefits that subsequently pays a dividend out of income derived from the approved enterprise during the tax exemption period will be subject to corporate tax in respect of the amount distributed, including any taxes thereon, at the rate which would have been applicable had it not elected the alternative package of benefits, generally 10%-25%, depending on the percentage of the company's ordinary shares held by foreign shareholders. The dividend recipient is subject to withholding tax at the rate of 15% applicable to dividends from approved enterprises, if the dividend is distributed during the tax exemption period or within twelve years thereafter. The company must withhold this tax at source.



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A company that has an approved enterprise program is eligible for further tax benefits if it qualifies as a foreign investors company. A foreign investors company is a company which more than 25% of its share capital and combined share and loan capital is owned by non-Israeli residents. A company that qualifies as a foreign investors company and has an approved enterprise program is eligible for tax benefits for a ten-year benefit period. As specified above, depending on the geographic location of the approved enterprise within Israel, income derived from the approved enterprise program may be exempt from tax on its undistributed income for a period of between two to ten years, and will be subject to a reduced tax rate for the remainder of the benefits period. The tax rate for the remainder of the benefits period will be 25%, unless the level of foreign investment exceeds 49%, in which case the tax rate will be 20% if the foreign investment is more than 49% and less than 74%; 15% if more than 74% and less than 90%; and 10% if 90% or more.

Subject to applicable provisions concerning income under the alternative package of benefits, dividends paid by a company are considered to be attributable to income received from the entire company and the company's effective tax rate is the result of a weighted average of the various applicable tax rates, excluding any tax-exempt income. Under the Investments Law, a company that has elected the alternative package of benefits is not obligated to distribute retained profits, and may generally decide from which year's profits to declare dividends. We currently intend to reinvest any income derived from our approved enterprise program and not to distribute such income as a dividend.

Currently we have two approved enterprises programs under the Investment Law. Both are under the alternative benefits program and in both cases, the tax benefits period for these programs has not yet begun.

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### *Tax benefits under the 2005 Amendment*

A 2005 amendment to the Investments Law included revisions to the criteria for investments qualified to receive tax benefits as an Approved Enterprise. The amendment applies to new investment programs and investment programs commencing after 2004, and does not apply to investment programs approved prior to December 31, 2004. However, a company that was granted benefits according to section 51 of the Investment Law would not be allowed to commence production for a period of 3 years from the company's previous year of commencement of benefits under the investment law (prior the amendment).

Under the amended law, a company wishing to receive the tax benefits afforded under the law is required to select the tax year from which the period of benefits under the Investment Law are to commence by notifying the Israeli Tax Authority within 12 months of the end of that year.

Our company will continue to enjoy its current tax benefits in accordance with the provisions of the Investment Law prior to its revision, but if our company is granted any new benefits in the future they will be subject to the provisions of the amended Investment Law. Therefore, the following discussion is a summary of the Investment Law prior to its amendment as well as the relevant changes contained in the new legislation.

The amendment simplifies the approval process: according the amendment, only Approved Enterprises receiving cash grants require the approval of the Investment Center. The Investment Center will be entitled, to approve such programs only until the end of 2007.

The Amendment does not apply to benefits included in any certificate of approval that was granted before the Amendment came into effect, which will remain subject to the provisions of the Investment Law as they were on the date of such approval.

Tax benefits are available under the Amendment to production facilities (or other eligible facilities), which are generally required to derive more than 25% of their business income from export (referred to as a Benefited Enterprise). In order to receive the tax benefits, the Amendment states that the company must make an investment in the Benefited Enterprise exceeding a certain percentage or a minimum amount specified in the Law. Such investment may be made over a period of no more than three years ending at the end of the year in which the company requested to have the tax benefits apply to the Benefited Enterprise (the Year of Election). Where the company requests to have the tax benefits apply to an expansion of existing facilities, then only the expansion will be considered a Benefited Enterprise and the company's effective tax rate will be the result of a weighted combination of the applicable rates. In this case, the minimum investment required in order to qualify as a Benefited Enterprise is required to exceed a certain percentage or a minimum amount of the company's production assets before the expansion.

The duration of tax benefits is subject to a limitation of the earlier of 7 to 10 years from the Commencement Year, or 12 years from the first day of the Year of Election. The tax benefits granted to a Benefited Enterprise are determined according to one of the following new tax routes, which may be applicable to us:

Similar to the currently available alternative route, exemption from corporate tax on undistributed income for a period of two to ten years, depending on the geographic location of the Benefited Enterprise within Israel, and a reduced corporate tax rate of 10%

to 25% for the remainder of the benefits period, depending on the level of foreign investment in each year. Benefits may be granted for a term of seven to ten years, depending on the level of foreign investment in the company. If the company pays a dividend out of income derived from the Benefited Enterprise during the tax exemption period, such income will be subject to corporate tax at the applicable rate (10%-25%) in respect of the gross amount of the dividend that we may distribute. The company is required to withhold tax at the source at a rate of 15% from any dividends distributed from income derived from the Benefited Enterprise; and

A special tax route, which enables companies owning facilities in certain geographical locations in Israel to pay corporate tax at the rate of 11.5% on income of the Benefited Enterprise. The benefits period is ten years. Upon payment of dividends, the company is required to withhold tax at source at a rate of 15% for Israeli residents and at a rate of 4% for foreign residents.

Generally, a company that is Abundant in Foreign Investment (as defined in the Investments Law) is entitled to an extension of the benefits period by an additional five years, depending on the rate of its income that is derived in foreign currency.

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The Amendment changes the definition of "foreign investment" in the Investments Law so that the definition now requires a minimal investment of NIS 5 million by foreign investors. Furthermore, such definition now also includes the purchase of shares of a company from another shareholder, provided that the company's outstanding and paid-up share capital exceeds NIS 5 million. Such changes to the aforementioned definition will take effect retroactively from 2003.

The Amendment will apply to approved enterprise programs in which the year of election under the Investments Law is 2004 or later, unless such programs received approval from the Investment Center on or prior to December 31, 2004, in which case the Amendment provides that terms and benefits included in any certificate of approval already granted will remain subject to the provisions of the law as they were on the date of such approval.

#### Special Provisions Relating to Measurement of Taxable Income

Our company is taxed under the Income Tax Law (Inflationary Adjustments), 1985, generally referred to as the Inflationary Adjustments Law. The Inflationary Adjustments Law is highly complex and represents an attempt to overcome the problems presented to a traditional tax system by an economy undergoing rapid inflation. Its features, which are material to us, are summarized as follows:

Where a company's equity, as calculated under the Inflationary Adjustments Law, exceeds the depreciated cost of its fixed assets (as defined in the Inflationary Adjustments Law), a deduction from taxable income is permitted equal to the excess multiplied by the applicable annual rate of inflation. The maximum deduction permitted in any single tax year is 70% of taxable income, with the unused portion permitted to be carried forward, linked to the Israeli consumer price index. The unused portion that was carried forward may be deductible in full in the following year.

Where a company's depreciated cost of fixed assets exceeds its equity, then the excess multiplied by the applicable annual rate of inflation is added to taxable income. (hereinafter: "Inflation supplement"). Note, the inflation supplement will only be added to the corporate income but not to other incomes such as capital gains.

Subject to specified limitations, depreciation deductions on fixed assets and losses carried forward are adjusted for inflation based on the change in the consumer price index.

In the event that the Israeli consumer price index did not rise in a particular year by 3.0%, then the Israeli government may decide that some or all of the provisions of the Inflationary Adjustments Law shall not apply with respect to such fiscal year, or that the rate of increase of the Israeli consumer price index relating to such fiscal year shall be deemed to be 0%, and to make the adjustments required to be made as a result of such determination

In early 2008, the Inflationary Adjustments Law was amended with the result being that its scope will be significantly limited beginning in 2008. Please see Note 13 to our consolidated financial statements for additional details.

#### *Tax Benefits of Research and Development*

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Israeli tax law permits, under some conditions, a tax deduction in the year incurred for expenditures, including capital expenditures, in scientific research and development projects, if the expenditures are approved by the relevant government ministry and if the research and development is for the promotion of the enterprise and is carried out by, or on behalf of, a company seeking the deduction.

The OCS has approved some of our research and development programs and we have been able to deduct, for tax purposes, a portion of our research and development expenses net of the grants received. Other research and development expenses that are not approved may be deducted for tax purposes in 3 equal installments during a 3-year period.

### *Capital Gains Tax on Sales of Our Ordinary Shares*

Israeli law generally imposes a capital gains tax on the sale of any capital assets by residents of Israel, as defined for Israeli tax purposes, and on the sale of assets located in Israel, including shares in Israeli companies, by both residents and non-residents of Israel, unless a specific exemption is available or unless a tax treaty between Israel and the shareholder's country of residence provides otherwise. The law distinguishes between real gain and inflationary surplus. The inflationary surplus is a portion of the total capital gain which is equivalent to the increase of the relevant asset's purchase price which is attributable to the increase in the Israeli consumer price index or, in certain circumstances, a foreign currency exchange rate, between the date of purchase and the date of sale. The real gain is the excess of the total capital gain over the inflationary surplus.

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Generally, until the 2006 tax year, capital gains tax was imposed on Israeli resident individuals at a rate of 15% on real gains derived on or after January 1, 2003, from the sale of shares in, among others, Israeli companies publicly traded on Nasdaq or on a recognized stock exchange or regulated market in a country that has a treaty for the prevention of double taxation with Israel. This tax rate was contingent upon the shareholder not claiming a deduction for financing expenses in connection with such shares (in which case the gain was generally be taxed at a rate of 25%), and did not apply to: (i) the sale of shares to a relative (as defined in the Israeli Income Tax Ordinance); (ii) the sale of shares by dealers in securities; (iii) the sale of shares by shareholders that report in accordance with the Inflationary Adjustments Law (that were taxed at corporate tax rates for corporations and at marginal tax rates for individuals); or (iv) the sale of shares by shareholders who acquired their shares prior to an initial public offering (which shares may be subject to a different tax arrangement).

As of January 1, 2006, the tax rate applicable to capital gains derived from the sale of shares, whether listed on a stock market or not, is 20% for Israeli individuals, unless such shareholder claims a deduction for financing expenses in connection with such shares, in which case the gain will generally be taxed at a rate of 25%. Additionally, if such shareholder is considered a material shareholder at any time during the 12-month period preceding such sale, i.e., such shareholder holds directly or indirectly, including with others, at least 10% of any means of control in the company, the tax rate shall be 25%. Israeli companies are subject to the Corporate Tax rate on capital gains derived from the sale of shares, unless such companies were not subject to the Adjustments Law (or certain regulations) at the time of publication of the aforementioned amendment to the Tax Ordinance that came into effect on January 1, 2006, in which case the applicable tax rate is 25%. However, the foregoing tax rates do not apply to: (i) dealers in securities; and (ii) shareholders who acquired their shares prior to an initial public offering (which shares may be subject to a different tax arrangement).

The tax basis of shares acquired prior to January 1, 2003 will be determined in accordance with the average closing share price in the three trading days preceding January 1, 2003. However, a request may be made to the tax authorities to consider the actual adjusted cost of the shares as the tax basis if it is higher than such average price.

Non-Israeli residents are exempt from Israeli capital gains tax on any gains derived from the sale of shares of Israeli companies publicly traded on a recognized stock exchange or regulated market outside of Israel, provided however that such capital gains are not derived from a permanent establishment in Israel, such shareholders are not subject to the Adjustments Law, and such shareholders did not acquire their shares prior to an initial public offering. However, non-Israeli corporations will not be entitled to such exemption if an Israeli resident (i) has a controlling interest of 25% or more in such non-Israeli corporation, or (ii) is the beneficiary or is entitled to 25% or more of the revenues or profits of such non-Israeli corporation, whether directly or indirectly.

In some instances where our shareholders may be liable to Israeli tax on the sale of their ordinary shares, the payment of the consideration may be subject to the withholding of Israeli tax at the source.

Pursuant to the Convention Between the government of the United States of America and the government of Israel with Respect to Taxes on Income, as amended (the U.S.-Israel Tax Treaty), the sale, exchange or disposition of ordinary shares by a person who (i) holds the ordinary shares as a capital asset, (ii) qualifies as a resident of the United States within the meaning of the U.S.-Israel Tax Treaty and (iii) is entitled to claim the benefits afforded to such person by the U.S.-Israel Tax Treaty, generally, will not be subject to the Israeli capital gains tax. Such exemption will not apply if (i) such Treaty U.S. Resident holds, directly or indirectly, shares representing 10% or more of our voting power

during any part of the 12-month period preceding such sale, exchange or disposition, subject to certain conditions, or (ii) the capital gains from such sale, exchange or disposition can be allocated to a permanent establishment in Israel. In such case, the sale, exchange or disposition of ordinary shares would be subject to Israeli tax, to the extent applicable; however, under the U.S.-Israel Tax Treaty, such Treaty U.S. Resident would be permitted to claim a credit for such taxes against the U.S. federal income tax imposed with respect to such sale, exchange or disposition, subject to the limitations in U.S. laws applicable to foreign tax credits. The U.S.-Israel Tax Treaty does not relate to U.S. state or local taxes.

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*Taxation of Non-Resident Holders of Shares*

Non-residents of Israel are subject to income tax on income accrued or derived from sources in Israel. Such sources of income include passive income such as dividends, royalties and interest, as well as non-passive income from services rendered in Israel. On distributions of dividends other than bonus shares, or stock dividends, income tax is withheld at the source at the following rates: (i) for dividends distributed prior to January 1, 2006 25%; (ii) for dividends distributed on or after January 1, 2006 20%, or 25% for a shareholder that is considered a material shareholder at any time during the 12-month period preceding such distribution, unless a different rate is provided in a treaty between Israel and the shareholder's country of residence. Under the U.S.-Israel Tax Treaty, the maximum tax on dividends paid to a holder of ordinary shares who is a Treaty U.S. Resident is 25%. However, under the Investments Law, dividends generated by an Approved Enterprise (or Benefited Enterprise) are taxed at the rate of 15%. Furthermore, dividends not generated by an Approved Enterprise (or Benefited Enterprise) paid to a U.S. corporation holding at least 10% of our issued voting power during the part of the tax year which precedes the date of payment of the dividend and during the whole of its prior tax year, are generally taxed at a rate of 12.5%.

For information with respect to the applicability of Israeli capital gains taxes on the sale of ordinary shares by United States residents, see above Capital Gains Tax on Sales of Our Ordinary Shares.

*United States Federal Income Tax Considerations*

Subject to the limitations described below, the following discussion summarizes certain U.S. federal income tax consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of our ordinary shares to a U.S. holder that owns our ordinary shares as a capital asset (generally, for investment). A U.S. holder is a holder of our ordinary shares that is:

an individual citizen or resident of the United States;

a corporation (or other entity taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes) created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States, any state or political subdivision thereof or the District of Columbia;

an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income tax regardless of its source; or

a trust if (i) a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over its administration and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all of its substantial decisions or (ii) that has in effect a valid election under applicable U.S. Treasury Regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.

If a partnership (or any other entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) holds our ordinary shares, the tax treatment of the partnership and a partner in such partnership will generally depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Such a partner or partnership should consult its tax advisor as to its tax consequences.

Certain aspects of U.S. federal income taxes relevant to a holder of our ordinary shares that is not a U.S. holder (a Non-U.S. holder) are also discussed below.

This discussion is based on current provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), current and proposed Treasury Regulations, and administrative and judicial decisions as of the date of this annual report, all of which are subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis. This discussion does not address all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that may be relevant to any particular U.S. holder in light of the holder's individual circumstances. In particular, this discussion does not address the potential application of the alternative minimum tax or the U.S. federal income tax consequences to U.S. holders that are subject to special treatment, including U.S. holders that:

are broker-dealers or insurance companies;

have elected mark-to-market accounting;

are tax-exempt organizations or retirement plans;

are grantor trusts;

are certain former citizens or long-term residents of the United States;

are financial institutions or financial services entities;

hold ordinary shares as part of a straddle, hedge or conversion transaction with other investments;

acquired their ordinary shares upon the exercise of employee stock options or otherwise as compensation;

are real estate investment trusts or regulated investment companies;

own directly, indirectly or by attribution at least 10% of our voting power; or

have a functional currency that is not the U.S. dollar.

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This discussion is not a comprehensive description of all of the tax considerations that may be relevant to each person's decision to purchase our ordinary shares. For example, this discussion does not address any aspect of state, local or non-U.S. tax laws or the possible application of United States federal gift or estate taxes.

**Each holder of our ordinary shares is advised to consult his or her own tax advisor with respect to the specific tax consequences to him or her of purchasing, owning or disposing of our ordinary shares, including the applicability and effect of federal, state, local and foreign income and other tax laws to his or her particular circumstances.**

*Taxation of Distributions Paid on Ordinary Shares*

Subject to the discussion below under Tax Consequences if We Are a Passive Foreign Investment Company, a U.S. holder will be required to include in gross income as dividend income the amount of any distribution paid on our ordinary shares, including any non-U.S. taxes withheld from the amount paid, on the date the distribution is received to the extent the distribution is paid out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, as determined for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Distributions in excess of earnings and profits will be applied against and will reduce the U.S. holder's tax basis in its ordinary shares and, to the extent in excess of that basis, will be treated as gain from the sale or exchange of ordinary shares. The dividend portion of such distribution generally will not qualify for the dividends received deduction otherwise available to corporations.

Dividends that are received by U.S. holders that are individuals, estates or trusts will be taxed at the rate applicable to long-term capital gains (currently a maximum rate of 15% for taxable years beginning on or before December 31, 2010), provided that such dividends meet the requirements of qualified dividend income. Dividends that fail to meet such requirements, and dividends received by corporate U.S. holders, are taxed at ordinary income rates. No dividend received by a U.S. holder will be a qualified dividend if (1) the U.S. holder held the ordinary share with respect to which the dividend was paid for less than 61 days during the 121-day period beginning on the date that is 60 days before the ex-dividend date with respect to such dividend, excluding for this purpose, under the rules of Code Section 246(c), any period during which the U.S. holder has an option to sell, is under a contractual obligation to sell, has made and not closed a short sale of, is the grantor of a deep-in-the-money or otherwise nonqualified option to buy, or has otherwise diminished its risk of loss by holding other positions with respect to, such ordinary share (or substantially identical securities) or (2) the U.S. holder is under an obligation (pursuant to a short sale or otherwise) to make related payments with respect to positions in property substantially similar or related to the ordinary share with respect to which the dividend is paid. If we were to be a passive foreign investment company (as such term is defined in the Code) for any taxable year, dividends paid on our ordinary shares in such year or in the following taxable year would not be qualified dividends. See the discussion below regarding our passive foreign investment company status under Tax Consequences if We Are a Passive Foreign Investment Company. In addition, a non-corporate U.S. holder will be able to take a qualified dividend into account in determining its deductible investment interest (which is generally limited to its net investment income) only if it elects to do so; in such case the dividend will be taxed at ordinary income rates.

Distributions of current or accumulated earnings and profits paid in foreign currency to a U.S. holder (including any non-U.S. taxes withheld from the distributions) will be includible in the income of a U.S. holder in a dollar amount calculated by reference to the exchange rate on the date of the distribution. A U.S. holder that receives a foreign currency distribution and converts the foreign currency into dollars after the date of distribution will have foreign exchange gain or loss based on any appreciation or depreciation in the value of the foreign currency against the dollar, which will generally be U.S. source ordinary income or loss.

U.S. holders will have the option of claiming the amount of any non-U.S. income taxes withheld at source either as a deduction from gross income or as a dollar-for-dollar credit against their U.S. federal income tax liability. Individuals who do not claim itemized deductions, but instead utilize the standard deduction, may not claim a deduction for the amount of the non-U.S. income taxes withheld, but the amount may be claimed as a credit against the individual's U.S. federal income tax liability. The amount of non-U.S. income taxes that may be claimed as a credit in any taxable year is subject to complex limitations and restrictions, which must be determined on an individual basis by each shareholder. These limitations include rules which limit foreign tax credits allowable for specific classes of income to the U.S. federal income taxes otherwise payable on each such class of income. The total amount of allowable foreign tax credits in any taxable year cannot exceed the pre-credit U.S. tax liability for the taxable year attributable to non-U.S. source taxable income. Distributions of current or accumulated earnings and profits will generally be non-U.S. source passive income for U.S. foreign tax credit purposes; however, special rules will apply if we are a United States-owned foreign corporation. In that case, distributions of current or accumulated earnings and profits will be treated as U.S. source and non-U.S. source income in proportion to our earnings and profits in the taxable year of the distribution allocable to U.S. and non-U.S. sources. We will be treated as a United States-owned foreign corporation as long as stock representing 50% or more of the voting power or value of our ordinary shares is owned, directly or indirectly, by United States persons. Non-U.S. taxes allocable to the portion of our distributions treated as from U.S. sources under these rules may not be creditable against a U.S. holder's U.S. federal income tax liability on such portion.

A U.S. holder will be denied a foreign tax credit for non-U.S. income taxes withheld from a dividend received on the ordinary shares if (1) the U.S. holder has not held the ordinary shares for at least 16 days of the 31-day period beginning on the date which is 15 days before the ex-dividend date with respect to such dividend or (2) to the extent the U.S. holder is under an obligation to make related payments with respect to positions in substantially similar or related property. Any days during which a U.S. holder has substantially diminished its risk of loss on the ordinary shares are not counted toward meeting the required 16-day holding period.

#### *Taxation of the Disposition of Ordinary Shares*

Subject to the discussion below under *Tax Consequences if We Are a Passive Foreign Investment Company*, upon the sale, exchange or other disposition of our ordinary shares, a U.S. holder will recognize capital gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between the U.S. holder's basis in the ordinary shares, which is usually the cost to the U.S. holder of the ordinary shares, and the amount realized on the disposition. A disposition of ordinary shares will be considered to occur on the trade date, regardless of the U.S. holder's method of accounting. Capital gain from the sale, exchange or other disposition of ordinary shares held more than one year will be long-term capital gain and may, in the case of non-corporate U.S. holders, be subject to a reduced rate of taxation (long-term capital gains are currently taxable at a maximum rate of 15% for taxable years beginning on or before December 31, 2010). Gain or loss recognized by a U.S. holder on a sale, exchange or other disposition of ordinary shares will generally be treated as U.S. source income for U.S. foreign tax credit purposes. The deductibility of a capital loss recognized on the sale, exchange or other disposition of ordinary shares is subject to limitations.

A U.S. holder that uses the cash method of accounting calculates the dollar value of the proceeds received on the sale as of the date that the sale settles. However, a U.S. holder that uses the accrual method of accounting is required to calculate the value of the proceeds of the sale as of the trade date and may therefore realize foreign currency gain or loss. A U.S. holder may avoid realizing foreign currency gain or loss by electing to use the settlement date to determine the proceeds of sale for purposes of calculating the foreign currency gain or loss. In addition, a U.S. holder that receives foreign currency upon disposition of ordinary shares and converts the foreign currency into dollars after the settlement date or trade date (whichever date the U.S. holder is required to use to calculate the value of the proceeds of sale) will have foreign exchange gain or loss based on any appreciation or depreciation in the value of the foreign currency against the dollar, which will generally be U.S. source ordinary income or loss.

#### *Tax Consequences if We Are a Passive Foreign Investment Company*

For U.S. federal income tax purposes, we will be classified as a passive foreign investment company, or PFIC, for any taxable year in which either, after applying certain look-thru rules, (i) 75% or more of our gross income is passive income or (ii) at least 50% of the average value of our total assets for the taxable year produce or are held for the production of passive income. For this purpose, cash is considered to be an asset which produces passive income. Passive income includes dividends, interest, royalties, rents, annuities and the excess of gains over losses from the disposition of certain assets which produce passive income.

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Based on our income, assets, activities and market capitalization, we do not believe that we were a PFIC for the taxable year ended December 31, 2007. However, there can be no assurances that the United States Internal Revenue Service ( IRS ) will not challenge this conclusion. There is a risk that we were a PFIC for the taxable years 2001, 2002 and 2003 as a result of our substantial cash position and the performance of our ordinary shares during those taxable years. If we were a PFIC during 2001, 2002 and 2003, U.S. holders who acquired or held our ordinary shares during those taxable years generally will be subject to the PFIC rules described below regardless of whether we were a PFIC for 2007. However, if we were not a PFIC for 2007, U.S. holders who acquired our ordinary shares in 2007 will not be subject to the PFIC rules unless we are classified as a PFIC in future years. The tests for determining PFIC status are applied annually and it is difficult to make accurate predictions of our future income, assets, activities and market capitalization, which are relevant to this determination.

If we are a PFIC, a U.S. holder of our ordinary shares could be subject to increased tax liability upon the sale or other disposition (including gifts) of its ordinary shares or upon the receipt of amounts treated as excess distributions, which could result in a reduction in the after-tax return to such U.S. holder. In general, an excess distribution is the amount of distributions received during a taxable year that exceed 125% of the average amount of distributions received by a U.S. holder in respect of the ordinary shares during the preceding three taxable years, or if shorter, during the U.S. holder's holding period prior to the taxable year of the distribution. Under these rules, the excess distribution and any gain on the disposition of ordinary shares would be allocated ratably over the U.S. holder's holding period for the ordinary shares. The amount allocated to the current taxable year and any taxable year prior to the first taxable year in which we were a PFIC would be taxed as ordinary income. The amount allocated to each of the other taxable years would be subject to tax at the highest marginal rate in effect for the applicable class of taxpayer for that taxable year, and an interest charge for the deemed deferral benefit would be imposed on the resulting tax allocated to such other taxable years. The tax liability with respect to the amount allocated to taxable years prior to the year of the disposition or distribution cannot be offset by net operating losses. In addition, holders of stock in a PFIC may not receive a step-up in basis on PFIC shares acquired from a decedent.

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As an alternative to the tax treatment described above, a U.S. holder could elect to treat us as a qualified electing fund ( QEF ), in which case the U.S. holder would be required to include in income, for each taxable year that we are a PFIC, its pro rata share of our ordinary earnings as ordinary income and its pro rata share of our net capital gains as long-term capital gain, subject to a separate election to defer payment of taxes which deferral is subject to an interest charge. Any income inclusion will be required whether or not such U.S. holder owns our ordinary shares for an entire taxable year or at the end of our taxable year. The amount so includable will be determined without regard to our prior year losses or the amount of cash distributions, if any, received from us. Special rules apply if a U.S. holder makes a QEF election after the first taxable year in its holding period in which we are a PFIC. We will supply U.S. holders that make a request in writing with the information needed to report income and gain under a QEF election if we are a PFIC. A U.S. holder's tax basis in its ordinary shares will increase by any amount included in income and decrease by any amounts not included in income when distributed because such amounts were previously taxed under the QEF rules. So long as a U.S. holder's QEF election is in effect with respect to the entire holding period for its ordinary shares, any gain or loss realized by such holder on the disposition of its ordinary shares held as a capital asset ordinarily would be capital gain or loss. Such capital gain or loss ordinarily would be long-term if such U.S. holder had held such ordinary shares for more than one year at the time of the disposition. For non-corporate U.S. holders, long-term capital gain is generally subject to a maximum federal income tax rate of 15% for taxable years beginning on or before December 31, 2010. The QEF election is made on a shareholder-by-shareholder basis, applies to all ordinary shares held or subsequently acquired by an electing U.S. holder and can be revoked only with the consent of the IRS.

As an alternative to making a QEF election, a U.S. holder of PFIC stock which is marketable stock (e.g., regularly traded on the Nasdaq Global Market) may in certain circumstances avoid certain of the tax consequences generally applicable to holders of stock in a PFIC by electing to mark the stock to market as of the beginning of such U.S. holder's holding period for the ordinary shares. As a result of such an election, in any taxable year that we are a PFIC, a U.S. holder would generally be required to report gain or loss to the extent of the difference between the fair market value of the ordinary shares at the end of the taxable year and such U.S. holder's tax basis in its ordinary shares at that time. Any gain under this computation, and any gain on an actual disposition of the ordinary shares, would be treated as ordinary income. Any loss under this computation, and any loss on an actual disposition of the ordinary shares, generally would be treated as ordinary loss to the extent of the cumulative net-mark-to-market gain previously included. Any remaining loss from marking ordinary shares to market will not be allowed, and any remaining loss from an actual disposition of ordinary shares generally would be capital loss. A U.S. holder's tax basis in its ordinary shares is adjusted annually for any gain or loss recognized under the mark-to-market election. There can be no assurances that there will be sufficient trading volume with respect to the ordinary shares for the ordinary shares to be considered regularly traded or that our ordinary shares will continue to trade on the Nasdaq Global Market. Accordingly, there are no assurances that the ordinary shares will be marketable stock for these purposes. As with a QEF election, a mark-to-market election is made on a shareholder-by-shareholder basis, applies to all ordinary shares held or subsequently acquired by an electing U.S. holder and can only be revoked with consent of the IRS (except to the extent the ordinary shares no longer constitute marketable stock).

**The U.S. federal income tax consequences to a U.S. holder if we were to be a PFIC are complex. A U.S. holder should consult with his or her own advisor with regard to those consequences, as well as with regard to whether he or she should make either of the elections described above.**

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### *Tax Consequences for Non-U.S. Holders of Ordinary Shares*

Except as described in Information Reporting and Backup Withholding below, a Non-U.S. holder of ordinary shares generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax on the payment of dividends on, and the proceeds from the disposition of, our ordinary shares, unless, in the case of U.S. federal income taxes:

the item is effectively connected with the conduct by the Non-U.S. holder of a trade or business in the United States and in the case of a resident of a country which has a treaty with the United States, the item is attributable to a permanent establishment in the United States, or in the case of an individual, the item is attributable to a fixed place of business in the United States; or

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the Non-U.S. holder is an individual who holds the ordinary shares as a capital asset and is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of the disposition and certain other conditions are met.

### *Information Reporting and Backup Withholding*

U.S. holders generally are subject to information reporting requirements with respect to dividends paid in the United States on, or proceeds from the disposition of, our ordinary shares. In addition, a U.S. holder may be subject, under certain circumstances, to backup withholding at a rate of up to 28% with respect to dividends paid on, or proceeds from the disposition of, our ordinary shares unless the U.S. holder provides proof of an applicable exemption or correct taxpayer identification number and otherwise complies with applicable requirements of the backup withholding rules. A U.S. holder of our ordinary shares who provides an incorrect taxpayer identification number may be subject to penalties imposed by the IRS. Amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules are not an additional tax and may be refunded or credited against the U.S. holder's federal income tax liability, provided the required information is furnished to the IRS.

Non-U.S. holders generally are not subject to information reporting or backup withholding with respect to dividends paid on, or proceeds from the disposition of, our ordinary shares, provided that the Non-U.S. holder provides its taxpayer identification number, certifies to its foreign status, or establishes another exemption to the information reporting or back-up withholding requirements.

### **Documents on Display**

We are required to file reports and other information with the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the regulations thereunder applicable to foreign private issuers. You may inspect and copy reports and other information filed by us with the SEC at the SEC's public reference facilities described below. Although as a foreign private issuer we are not required to file periodic information as frequently or as promptly as United States companies, we generally announce publicly our quarterly and year-end results promptly and file periodic information with the SEC under cover of Form 6-K. As a foreign private issuer, we are also exempt from the rules under the Exchange Act prescribing the furnishing and content of proxy statements and our officers, directors and principal shareholders are exempt from the reporting and other provisions in Section 16 of the Exchange Act.

You may review a copy of our filings with the SEC, including any exhibits and schedules, at the SEC's public reference facilities in 100F Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549 and at offices of the Israel Securities Authority at 22 Kanfei Nesharim St., Jerusalem, Israel. You may also obtain copies of such materials from the Public Reference Section of the SEC, 100 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549, at prescribed rates. You may call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference rooms. As a foreign private issuer we were only required to file through the SEC's EDGAR system as of November 2002. Our periodic filings are therefore available on the SEC's Website [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) from that date. You may read and copy any reports, statements or other information that we file with the SEC, through the SEC's EDGAR system available on the SEC's website and at the SEC facilities listed above. These SEC filings are also available to the public on the Israel Securities Authority's website at [www.isa.gov.il](http://www.isa.gov.il) and from commercial document retrieval services.

Any statement in this annual report about any of our contracts or other documents is not necessarily complete. If the contract or document is filed as an exhibit to this annual report, the contract or document is deemed to modify the description contained in this annual report. We urge you to review the exhibits themselves for a complete description of the contract or document.

ITEM 11. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK



We are exposed to a variety of risks, including changes in interest rates and foreign currency exchange risk and inflation.

**Interest Rate Risk**

As of December 31, 2007, we had \$15.1 million in cash, cash equivalents, deposits and marketable securities. We invest our cash surplus in bank deposits and marketable securities. Since these investments typically carry fixed interest rate, and since our policy and practice is to hold these investments to maturity, financial income over the holding period is not sensitive to changes in interest rates. For more information, see Note 5 of our 2007 consolidated financial statements.

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**Foreign Currency Exchange Risk and Inflation**

We hold most of our cash, cash equivalents deposits and marketable securities in U.S. dollars but incur a significant portion of our expenses, principally salaries and related personnel expenses and administrative expenses, in New Israeli Shekels. As a result, we are exposed to the risk that the U.S. dollar will be devalued against the New Israeli Shekel. In 2007, and until February 29, 2008, the dollar depreciated against the NIS by approximately 14%. This has impacted us accordingly. Further depreciation could have a material adverse effect on our results of operation and financial condition. However, our operations could also be adversely affected if we will be unable in the future to guard against devaluation of the dollar against the New Israeli Shekel.

ITEM 12. DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES OTHER THAN EQUITY SECURITIES

Not applicable.

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**PART II**

ITEM 13. DEFAULTS, DIVIDEND ARREARAGES AND DELINQUENCIES

None.

ITEM 14. MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS TO THE RIGHTS OF SECURITY HOLDERS AND USE OF PROCEEDS

**Material Modifications to the Rights of Security Holders**

None.

**Use of Proceeds**

None.

ITEM 15T. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

## Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our disclosure controls and procedures are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports we are required to file are recorded, processed, summarized and reported on a timely basis. Under the supervision of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, we conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures, as such term is defined under Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act). Based on this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this annual report. Our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have also concluded that there were no significant changes in our internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect the internal controls subsequent to that date of evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

## Management Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Our board of directors and audit committee are responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Our internal control system was designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of our consolidated financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Under the supervision of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, we conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined under Rule 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) promulgated under the Exchange Act. In making this assessment, we used the criteria established in Internal Control – Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). Based on this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of the end of the period covered by this annual report.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, all internal control systems no matter how well designed have inherent limitations. Therefore, even those systems determined to be effective may not prevent or detect misstatements and can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation and presentation. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

## Firm Report of the Registered Public Accounting Firm

This annual report does not include an attestation report of our registered public accounting firm assessing our internal control over financial reporting. Our management's report was not subject to attestation by our registered public accounting firm pursuant to current rules of the SEC that permit us to provide only the management's report in this annual report.

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## Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the period covered by this report that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

ITEM 16. RESERVED

ITEM 16A. AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT

Our board of directors has determined that each of Prof. Yair Aharonowitz, Mr. Arie Ovadia and Prof. Joshua Shemer qualifies as an independent director and Mr. Arie Ovadia qualifies as a financial expert as defined by the Nasdaq Marketplace Rules.

ITEM 16B. CODE OF ETHICS

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Our board of directors adopted a code of ethics that applies to our chief executive officer, chief financial officer, controller, and other persons performing similar functions.

The code of ethics is posted on our website, addressed [www.cgen.com](http://www.cgen.com).

### ITEM 16C. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

The following table presents the fees paid to our external auditors for professional services rendered in the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006:

|                    | <u>2007</u>       | <u>2006</u>      |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Audit Fees         | \$ 65,000         | \$ 55,000        |
| Audit Related Fees | \$ 15,000         |                  |
| Tax Fees           | \$ 10,000         | \$ 10,000        |
| All Other Fees     | \$ 10,000         | \$ 10,000        |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>\$ 100,000</b> | <b>\$ 75,000</b> |

Audit Fees are fees for professional services rendered by our principal accountant in connection with the audit of our consolidated annual financial statements and review of our unaudited interim financial statements, including valuation of options granted to chairman of the board in 2007;

Audit Related Fees are fees for professional services rendered by our principal accountant in connection with the audit and other assignments, relating to internal accounting functions and procedures;

Tax Fees are fees for services rendered by our principal accountant in connection with tax compliance, tax planning and tax advice; and

All Other Fees are fees for other consulting services rendered by our principal accountant to us including tax rulings for re-pricing of options in 2006 and preparation of response letter to SEC in 2007.

### ITEM 16D. EXEMPTIONS FROM THE LISTING STANDARDS FOR AUDIT COMMITTEES

None.

### ITEM 16E. PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES BY THE ISSUER AND AFFILIATED PURCHASERS

None.

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## PART III

### ITEM 17. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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We have elected to furnish financial statements and related information specified in Item 18.

### ITEM 18. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

See pages F-1 to F-31.

### ITEM 19. EXHIBITS

#### Index to Exhibits

| Exhibit Number | Description   |
|----------------|---|
| *1.1           | Form of Articles of Association of Issuer   |
| 12.1           | Certification by Chief Executive Officer pursuant to section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.                                       |
| 12.2           | Certification by Chief Financial Officer pursuant to section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.                                       |
| 13.1           | Certification by Chief Executive Officer pursuant to section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.                                       |
| 13.2           | Certification by Chief Financial Officer pursuant to section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.                                       |
| 15.1           | Consent of Kost Forer Gabbay & Kasierer, a member of Ernst & Young Global, dated March 31, 2008.  |
| 15.2           | Consent of Kesselman & Kesselman, member of PriceWaterhouseCoopers, independent auditors of Keddem Bioscience, dated March 31, 2008.      |
| 15.3           | Audit Report by Kesselman & Kesselman, member of PriceWaterhouseCoopers, independent auditors of Keddem Bioscience, dated March 13, 2008. |

\* Filed as exhibit to our registration statement on Form F-1, registration number 333-12316, as amended, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and is hereby incorporated by reference.

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### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant hereby certifies that it meets all the requirements for filing on Form 20-F and has duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the city of Tel Aviv, State of Israel, on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2008.

**COMPUGEN LTD.**

By: /s/ Mr. Alex Kotzer

Alex Kotzer  
President, Chief Executive Officer and Director  
April 2, 2008

SIGNATURES

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**COMPUGEN LTD. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2007**  
**U.S. DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS**

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**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

**To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of**

**COMPUGEN LTD.**

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Compugen Ltd. ( the Company ) and its subsidiaries as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the related consolidated statements of operations, changes in shareholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2007. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We did not audit the financial statements of Keddem BioScience Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary, for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005 which statements reflect total assets constituting 0% and 2% as of December 31, 2007 and 2006 and no revenues, in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively, of the related consolidated totals. Those statements were audited by other auditors whose unqualified report which has been furnished to us included an explanatory paragraph on circumstances which raise substantial doubts on Keddem BioScience Ltd.'s ability to continue as a going concern. Our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for Keddem BioScience Ltd. is based solely on the report of the other auditors.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. We were not engaged to perform an audit of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits and the report of the other auditors provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

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In our opinion, based on our audits and the report of the other auditors, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the Company and its subsidiaries as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the consolidated results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2007, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

As discussed in Note 21 to the consolidated financial statements, in 2006 the company adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards Board No. 123 (R), Share-Based Payment .

As discussed in Note 13i to the consolidated financial statements, in 2007 the Company adopted Statement of FIN No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes- an interpretation of FASB Statement No.109".

Tel-Aviv, Israel  
March 31, 2008

KOST FORER GABBAY & KASIERER  
A Member of Ernst & Young Global

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### COMPUGEN LTD. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

#### CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

U.S. dollars in thousands (except share and per share data)

|  |      | December 31,     |                  |
|--|------|------------------|------------------|
|  | Note | 2007             | 2006             |
| <b>ASSETS</b>  |      |                  |                  |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>   |      |                  |                  |
| Cash and cash equivalents                                      | 4    | \$ 1,298         | \$ 6,251         |
| Cash held in favor of other consortium partners                | 3    | 118              | -                |
| Short-term deposits and marketable securities held to maturity | 5    | 13,784           | 19,152           |
| Trade receivables  |      | 40               | 10               |
| Other accounts receivable and prepaid expenses                 | 6    | 950              | 824              |
| Assets related to discontinued operations                      |      | 54               | 401              |
|  |      | 16,244           | 26,638           |
| <b>Total current assets</b>                                    |      | <b>16,244</b>    | <b>26,638</b>    |
| <b>LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS:</b>                                  |      |                  |                  |
| Long-term deposits and marketable securities held to maturity  | 5    | 2,080            | 1,000            |
| Long-term lease deposits                                       |      | 33               | 40               |
| Investment in Evogene, net                                     | 1b   | 510              | -                |
| Severance pay fund   |      | 1,382            | 1,330            |
|  |      | 4,005            | 2,370            |
| <b>PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET</b>                             | 7    | <b>1,417</b>     | <b>1,848</b>     |
| <b>Total assets</b>  |      | <b>\$ 21,666</b> | <b>\$ 30,856</b> |

|  | December 31,     |                  |
|--|------------------|------------------|
|  | 2007             | 2006             |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>  |                  |                  |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES:</b>  |                  |                  |
| Trade payables   | \$ 881           | \$ 803           |
| Other accounts payable and accrued expenses  | 8 1,860          | 1,991            |
| Deferred revenue   | 150              | 75               |
| Liabilities related to discontinued operations   | 4                | 287              |
| <b>Total current liabilities</b>   | <b>2,895</b>     | <b>3,156</b>     |
| <b>LONG-TERM LIABILITIES:</b>  |                  |                  |
| Long-term accounts payable   | -                | 60               |
| Accrued severance pay  | 1,486            | 1,436            |
| Excess of losses over investment in Evogene  | 1b -             | 466              |
| <b>Total long-term liabilities</b>   | <b>1,486</b>     | <b>1,962</b>     |
| <b>COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES</b>   | <b>9, 3</b>      |                  |
| <b>SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY:</b>   | <b>10</b>        |                  |
| Share capital:   |                  |                  |
| Ordinary shares of NIS 0.01 par value; 50,000,000 shares authorized at December 31, 2007 and 2006; and 28,323,811 and 28,162,202 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively | 77               | 76               |
| Additional paid-in capital   | 161,158          | 158,416          |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income   | 976              | -                |
| Accumulated deficit  | (144,926)        | (132,754)        |
| <b>Total shareholders' equity</b>  | <b>17,285</b>    | <b>25,738</b>    |
| <b>Total liabilities and shareholders' equity</b>  | <b>\$ 21,666</b> | <b>\$ 30,856</b> |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

U.S. dollars in thousands (except share and per share data)

Year ended December 31,

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|   | Note | 2007          | 2006          | 2005          |
|---|------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Revenues  |      | \$ 180        | \$ 215        | \$ 646        |
| Cost of revenues  |      | -             | 6             | 148           |
| Research and development expenses, net of governmental and other grants amounted to \$ 1,354, \$ 1,670 and \$ 1,952 for the years 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively | 3    | 8,386         | 9,117         | 9,563         |
| Selling and marketing expenses  |      | 1,324         | 1,719         | 1,772         |
| General and administrative expenses   |      | 2,930         | 2,377         | 2,894         |
| <b>Total operating expenses *)</b>  |      | <b>12,640</b> | <b>13,213</b> | <b>14,229</b> |
| Operating loss  |      | (12,460)      | (13,004)      | (13,731)      |
| Financial income, net   | 12   | 868           | 866           | 682           |
| Other income, net   |      | 134           | 89            | 218           |
| Loss before taxes on income   |      | (11,458)      | (12,049)      | (12,831)      |
| Taxes on income   |      | 32            | -             | -             |
| Loss from continuing operations   |      | \$ (11,490)   | \$ (12,049)   | \$ (12,831)   |
| Loss from discontinued operations   | 1c   | (624)         | (971)         | (1,147)       |
| Net loss  |      | \$ (12,114)   | \$ (13,020)   | \$ (13,978)   |
| Basic and diluted net loss per share from continuing operations   |      | \$ (0.41)     | \$ (0.44)     | \$ (0.46)     |
| Basic and diluted net loss per share from discontinued operations   |      | \$ (0.02)     | \$ (0.03)     | \$ (0.04)     |
| Basic and diluted net loss per share  |      | \$ (0.43)     | \$ (0.47)     | \$ (0.50)     |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares used in computing basic and diluted net loss per share   |      | 28,266,273    | 27,985,957    | 27,774,535    |

\*) Includes stock based compensation, see Note 10.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.



## COMPUGEN LTD. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

## STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

U.S. dollars in thousands (except share and per share data)

|  | Ordinary shares |        | Additional<br>paid-in<br>capital | Accumulated<br>other<br>comprehensive<br>income | Total other<br>comprehensive<br>loss | Deferred<br>stock<br>compensation | Accumulated<br>deficit | Total<br>shareholders'<br>equity |
|--|-----------------|--------|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  | Number          | Amount |                                  |   |                                      |                                   |                        |                                  |
| Balance as of January 1, 2005  | 27,726,022      | \$ 74  | \$ 155,444                       | -   |                                      | \$ (196)                          | \$ (105,756)           | \$ 49,566                        |
| Employee options exercised   | 120,398         | 1      | 281                              | -   |                                      | -                                 | -                      | 282                              |
| Amortization of deferred stock<br>compensation, net of reversal due to<br>forfeitures  | -               | -      | -                                | -   |                                      | (24)                              | -                      | (24)                             |
| Stock-based compensation   | -               | -      | 396                              | -   |                                      | -                                 | -                      | 396                              |
| Stock-based compensation relating to<br>options and warrants issued to scientific<br>advisory board members, consultants and<br>others | -               | -      | 6                                | -   |                                      | -                                 | -                      | 6                                |
| Forfeited options  | -               | -      | (204)                            | -   |                                      | 204                               | -                      | -                                |
| Net loss   | -               | -      | -                                | -   | (13,978)                             | -                                 | (13,978)               | (13,978)                         |
| Balance as of December 31, 2005  | 27,846,420      | 75     | 155,923                          | -   | (13,978)                             | (16)                              | (119,734)              | 36,248                           |
| Employee options exercised   | 315,782         | 1      | 560                              | -   |                                      | -                                 | -                      | 561                              |
| Reclassification due to adoption of<br>SFAS 123(R)   | -               | -      | (16)                             | -   |                                      | 16                                | -                      | -                                |
| Stock-based compensation relating to<br>options and warrants issued to scientific<br>advisory board members and<br>consultants         | -               | -      | (47)                             | -   |                                      | -                                 | -                      | (47)                             |
| Stock-based compensation relating to<br>options issued to employees  | -               | -      | 1,996                            | -   |                                      | -                                 | -                      | 1,996                            |
| Net loss   | -               | -      | -                                | -   | (13,020)                             | -                                 | (13,020)               | (13,020)                         |
| Balance as of December 31, 2006  | 28,162,202      | 76     | 158,416                          | -   | (13,020)                             | -                                 | (132,754)              | 25,738                           |
| Employee options exercised   | 152,347         | 1      | 294                              | -   |                                      | -                                 | -                      | 295                              |
| Stock-based compensation related to<br>the<br>issuance of shares to the CEO  | 9,262           | *)     | 28                               | -   |                                      | -                                 | -                      | 28                               |
| Stock-based compensation relating to<br>options and warrants issued to scientific<br>advisory board members and<br>consultants         | -               | -      | 28                               | -   |                                      | -                                 | -                      | 28                               |
| Stock-based compensation relating to<br>options issued to employees  | -               | -      | -                                | -   |                                      | -                                 | -                      | -                                |