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***Pfizer issued the following statement in response to legal action taken against the company by the Nigerian government.***

Pfizer continues to emphasize—in the strongest terms—that the 1996 Trovan clinical study was conducted with the full knowledge of the Nigerian government and in a responsible and ethical way consistent with the company's abiding commitment to patient safety. Any allegations in these lawsuits to the contrary are simply untrue—they weren't valid when they were first raised years ago and they're not valid today.

The Trovan study introduced a new meningitis treatment to the region that indisputably helped save the lives of almost 200 children stricken with meningococcal meningitis, a disease that—left untreated—kills four out of every 10 people who contract it. Pfizer always acted in the best interests of the children involved, using the best medical knowledge available.

At the time of the meningitis outbreak in Kano, Trovan was in late stage development. It had been evaluated in 5,000 patients and Pfizer's doctors had solid scientific evidence that it would provide a safe and effective treatment against the deadly disease. At a 94.4% survival rate, Trovan performed at least as well as the best treatment available.

For over 50 years, Pfizer has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to work with the government and people of Nigeria in

support of programs that improve the health standards and accessibility to medical treatment in that country. Pfizer believes this partnership has been mutually beneficial in the past and will continue to be valuable in the future.

It is indeed regrettable that, more than a decade after the meningitis epidemic in Kano, the Nigerian government has taken legal action against Pfizer and others for an effort that provided significant benefit to some of Nigeria's youngest citizens.

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