



Evry, 26 December 2007

PRESS RELEASE

Ketty Schwartz, president of the Scientific Council of the AFM since 1998, has died

It is with deep sadness that the AFM has learned of the death of Ketty Schwartz on 25 December. She had been a member of the AFM's Scientific Council since its creation in 1981, and its president since 7 May 1998. She was also to have been the honorary president of the next AFM-organised international congress of myology – *Myology 2008* – which will take place in Marseille next May.

For Laurence Tiennot-Herment, president of the AFM, and Christian Cottet, director general: "The French scientific community has lost one of its leading researchers, our Scientific Council a great president and our association its most loyal companion and guide. Just as we're setting out on the great turning point towards treatments, her absence will be felt all the more keenly."

The Scientific Council of the AFM

The Scientific Council of the AFM was created in 1981. Composed of researchers and volunteer physicians, its mission is to evaluate the research projects submitted to the AFM in response to its calls for tender and to advise the Association's board of governors, who are responsible for deciding which of the projects to support. It also proposes themes of research to explore and makes *a priori* and *a posteriori* evaluations of the scientific quality of the projects. As well as this, the permanent committee of the Scientific Council meets several times a year to audition researchers concerning far-reaching projects.

In 2007 the Scientific Council of the AFM presided over by Ketty Schwartz consists of 77 members and three commissions subdivided into eight groups: Research commission (Muscle biology, Cell and molecular bases of muscle pathologies, Stem cells and Motoneurons) Development of Therapeutics commission (Human physiology and physiopathology, Gene and cell therapy, and Pharmacology), Medical commission.