Biogen Announces Board Chair Transition

February 11, 2026

Caroline Dorsa to retire from the Biogen Board of Directors; Dr. Maria C. Freire, Director since 2021, elected as new Chair

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Feb. 11, 2026 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Biogen Inc. (Nasdaq: BIIB) today announced that the Board of Directors has elected Dr. Maria C. Freire as Chair of the Board of Directors, effective immediately following the Company's 2026 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the "Annual Meeting"), scheduled to take place on June 9, 2026. Dr. Freire will succeed Caroline Dorsa who has decided to retire from the Biogen Board of Directors and not to stand for reelection at the Annual Meeting. Dr. Freire joined the Biogen Board in 2021 and serves on the Corporate Governance Committee and on the Compensation and Management Development Committee.

Ms. Dorsa said: "It has been an honor to serve on the Board of Biogen for the past sixteen years. I am proud of the groundbreaking science and innovative medicines the Company has pioneered. I want to extend my gratitude to Chris Viehbacher, Biogen's CEO, for his strong collaboration and partnership. Under Chris' leadership and renewed focus on value creation and sustainable growth, Biogen's portfolio has transformed while continuing to deliver first-in-class therapies. With multiple opportunities ahead, we are at a pivotal moment for the Company, and I believe this is the right time for new Board leadership. As I step down, I am confident that the Board will thrive under Maria's leadership and will continue to collaborate effectively with Chris and the Management team."

Ms. Dorsa added: "Maria is a highly respected and appreciated member of the Board and a member of the Corporate Governance Committee and the Compensation and Management Development Committee. She will continue to guide Biogen into its next growth chapter and to support the advancement of the Company's renewed pipeline. Her extensive scientific background, encompassing early research into commercialization, along with her deep understanding of public health and policy challenges, has proven invaluable since she joined the Biogen Board."

Dr. Freire said: "It is a great privilege to succeed Caroline with whom I have worked closely since 2021. The Board has undergone significant changes under her leadership, and I look forward to continuing collaboration with my fellow Board members and the Management team to further advance Biogen's mission. With my in-depth knowledge of the Company and its strategy, I am excited about the opportunities ahead. We are embarking on a new chapter for Biogen, having established a robust foundation for sustainable growth and entering a catalyst-rich period with several readouts in the next 18 months, including potentially enabling filing in lupus and nephrology."

Christopher A. Viehbacher, President and Chief Executive Officer of Biogen, said: "I would like to thank Caroline on behalf of the entire Biogen team for her visionary leadership in driving innovation and creating shareholder value as Chair of our Board of Directors, as Past-Chair of the Audit Committee and as a Board member. During her tenure as Chair of the Board, Caroline fostered a culture of rigor, transparency and trust. I would like to express my gratitude to Caroline for being always available and for her counsel and guidance. With Maria's broad expertise in science and drug development, she is a natural successor to Caroline, bringing important perspective at this pivotal time for Biogen. I look forward to continuing to work with her and the rest of the Board to advance our long-term growth strategy."

Dr. Freire brings to the Biogen Board extensive experience in biomedical innovation, drug development, public–private partnerships, and science policy, with a career spanning biotechnology, global health, and life sciences infrastructure. She has a distinguished record of overseeing complex, mission-critical organizations with a focus on long-term value creation and patient-centric outcomes.

Dr. Freire is Founder and Principal of The Freire Group, a strategic advisory firm serving life sciences organizations. In addition to Biogen, she currently serves on the boards of Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Inc., Exelixis, Inc., and Keystone Symposia on Molecular and Cell Biology, and is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and the Council on Foreign Relations.

Previously, Dr. Freire served as President and Executive Director of the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH), where she led large-scale public–private partnerships advancing research and clinical development across oncology, neurodegenerative diseases, autoimmune disorders, and infectious diseases, and managed complex multi-stakeholder collaborations involving government, industry, and philanthropy.

Earlier, Dr. Freire was President and Chief Executive Officer of the Global Alliance for TB Drug Development (TB Alliance), where she built and led a sustainable drug development organization that advanced a range of compounds through the drug development pathway, including pretomanid from preclinical research into clinical trials, (demonstrating capital-efficient development and strategic portfolio management). Pretomanid is now approved for the treatment of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB).

She previously served as President of the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation, which administers the internationally recognized Lasker Awards, and as Director of the Office of Technology Transfer at the National Institutes of Health, where she oversaw intellectual property strategy, licensing, and industry partnerships.

Dr. Freire has served on and chaired the Science Board of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, was a member of the World Health Organization Commission on Intellectual Property Rights, Innovation and Public Health, and was appointed to the United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Access to Medicines. Her honors include the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary's Award for Distinguished Service, the Arthur S. Flemming Award, and the Bayh-Dole Award.

Dr. Freire holds a B.S. from Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia in Lima, Peru, and a Ph.D. in Biophysics from the University of Virginia.

About Biogen
Founded in 1978, Biogen is a leading biotechnology Company that pioneers innovative science to deliver new medicines to transform patients' lives and to create value for shareholders and our communities. We apply deep understanding of human biology and leverage different modalities to advance first-in-class treatments or therapies that deliver superior outcomes. Our approach is to take bold risks, balanced with return on investment to deliver long-term growth.

We routinely post information that may be important to investors on our website at www.biogen.com. Follow us on social media - Facebook, LinkedIn, X, YouTube.

Biogen Safe Harbor
This news release contains forward-looking statements, relating to, among others, changes to our board of directors, including the chair of our board; our strategy and plans; potential of, and expectations for, our commercial business and pipeline programs; capital allocation and investment strategy; clinical development programs, clinical trials, and data readouts and presentations; regulatory discussions, submissions, filings, and approvals; the potential benefits, safety, and efficacy of our and our collaboration partners' products and investigational therapies; the anticipated benefits and potential of investments or acquisitions; optimization of our cost structure including our "Fit for Growth" program; the goal of creating long-term sustainable growth; the impact from potential tariffs; productivity of our R&D pipeline, collaborations, and business development activities; and our future financial and operating results. These forward-looking statements may be accompanied by such words as "aim," "anticipate," "assume," "believe," "contemplate," "continue," "could," "estimate," "expect," "forecast," "goal," "guidance," "hope," "intend," "may," "objective," "outlook," "plan," "possible," "potential," "predict," "project," "prospect," "should," "target," "will," "would" or the negative of these words or other words and terms of similar meaning. Drug development and commercialization involve a high degree of risk, and only a small number of research and development programs result in commercialization of a product. Results in early-stage clinical trials may not be indicative of full results or results from later stage or larger scale clinical trials and do not ensure regulatory approval. You should not place undue reliance on these statements. Given their forward-looking nature, these statements involve substantial risks and uncertainties that may be based on inaccurate assumptions and could cause actual results to differ materially from those reflected in such statements.

These forward-looking statements are based on management's current beliefs and assumptions and on information currently available to management. Given their nature, we cannot assure that any outcome expressed in these forward-looking statements will be realized in whole or in part. We caution that these statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, many of which are outside of our control and could cause future events or results to differ materially from those stated or implied in this document, including, among others, uncertainty of our long-term success in developing, licensing, or acquiring other product candidates or additional indications for existing products; expectations, plans, prospects and timing of actions relating to product approvals, approvals of additional indications for our existing products, sales, pricing, growth, reimbursement and launch of our marketed and pipeline products; the potential impact of increased product competition in the biopharmaceutical and healthcare industry, as well as any other markets in which we compete, including increased competition from new originator therapies, generics, prodrugs and biosimilars of existing products and products approved under abbreviated regulatory pathways; our ability to effectively implement our corporate strategy; difficulties in obtaining and maintaining adequate coverage, pricing, and reimbursement for our products; the drivers for growing our business, including our dependence on collaborators and other third parties for the development, regulatory approval, and commercialization of products and other aspects of our business, which are outside of our full control; risks related to commercialization of biosimilars, which is subject to such risks related to our reliance on third-parties, intellectual property, competitive and market challenges and regulatory compliance; the risk that positive results in a clinical trial may not be replicated in subsequent or confirmatory trials or success in early stage clinical trials may not be predictive of results in later stage or large scale clinical trials or trials in other potential indications; risks associated with clinical trials, including our ability to adequately manage clinical activities, unexpected concerns that may arise from additional data or analysis obtained during clinical trials, regulatory authorities may require additional information or further studies, or may fail to approve or may delay approval of our drug candidates; and the occurrence of adverse safety events, restrictions on use with our products, or product liability claims; and any other risks and uncertainties that are described in other reports we have filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, which are available on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

These statements speak only as of the date of this press release and are based on information and estimates available to us at this time. Should known or unknown risks or uncertainties materialize or should underlying assumptions prove inaccurate, actual results could vary materially from past results and those anticipated, estimated or projected. Investors are cautioned not to put undue reliance on forward-looking statements. A further list and description of risks, uncertainties and other matters can be found in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2025. Except as required by law, we do not undertake any obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements whether as a result of any new information, future events, changed circumstances or otherwise.

Digital Media Disclosure
From time to time, we have used, or expect in the future to use, our investor relations website (investors.biogen.com), the Biogen LinkedIn account (linkedin.com/company/biogen-) and the Biogen X account (https://x.com/biogen) as a means of disclosing information to the public in a broad, non-exclusionary manner, including for purposes of the SEC's Regulation Fair Disclosure (Reg FD). Accordingly, investors should monitor our investor relations website and these social media channels in addition to our press releases, SEC filings, public conference calls and websites, as the information posted on them could be material to investors.

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