CLAIMS

1. An antibody directed against ICOS, wherein said antibody is selected from the group consisting of Icos 53-3, Icos 88-2 and Icos 92-17, respectively obtainable from the hybridoma deposited at the CNCM on July 2, 2009 under the accession numbers CNCM I-4176, CNCM I-4177, CNCM I 4178 and derivatives thereof.

2. An antibody directed against ICOS, wherein said antibody has the following 6 CDRs:

	Amino acid sequence
H-CDR1	GYSFTSYWIN (SEQ ID NO:23)
H-CDR2	NIYPSDSYTNYNQMFKD (SEQ ID NO:24)
H-CDR3	WNLSYYFDNNYYLDY (SEQ ID NO:25)
L-CDR1	RSSKSLLHSNGNTYLY (SEQ ID NO :26)
L-CDR2	RMSNLAS (SEQ ID NO :27)
L-CDR3	MQHLEYPWT (SEQ ID NO :28)

3. An antibody according to claim 2, wherein the nucleotidic sequences encoding the 6 CDRs are the following:

	DNA sequence
H-CDR1	GGCTACAGTTTCACCAGCTACTGGATAAAC (SEQ ID NO:17)
H-CDR2	AATATTTATCCTTCTGATAGTTATACTAACTACAATCAAATGTTCAAGGAC (SEQ ID NO:18)
H-CDR3	TGGAATCTTTCTTATTACTTCGATAATAACTACTACTTGGACTAC (SEQ ID NO:19)
L-CDR1	AGGTCTAGTAAGAGTCTCCTGCATAGTAATGGCAACACTTACTTGTAT (SEQ ID NO:20)
L-CDR2	CGGATGTCCAACCTTGCCTCA (SEQ ID NO:21)
L-CDR3	ATGCAACATCTAGAATATCCGTGGACG (SEQ ID NO:22)

4. The antibody according to any one of claims 1 to 3 for use as a medicament.

5. The antibody according to claim 4, for use for treating a disease or a condition associated with or caused by an excessive immune response.

6. The antibody according to claim 5, wherein said disease is selected from the group consisting of autoimmune diseases, transplantation rejection or a graft versus host disease.

7. The antibody according to claim 5, wherein said disease is an inflammatory disorder.

8. The antibody according to claim 7, wherein said inflammatory disorder is selected in the group consisting of inflammatory disorder of the nervous system, mucosal inflammatory disease, inflammatory skin disease and autoimmune arthritis.

9. The antibody according to claim 7, wherein said inflammatory disorder is selected from multiple sclerosis, inflammatory bowel disease, asthma or tonsillitis, dermatitis, psoriasis, contact hypersensitivity and rheumatoid arthritis.

10. Use of an antibody according to any one of claims 1 to 3 in the manufacture of a medicament for treating a disease or a condition associated with or caused by an excessive immune response.

11. The use according to claim 10, wherein said disease is selected from the group consisting of autoimmune diseases, transplantation rejection or a graft versus host disease.

12. The use according to claim 10, wherein said disease is an inflammatory disorder.

13. The use according to claim 12, wherein said inflammatory disorder is selected in the group consisting of inflammatory disorder of the nervous system, mucosal inflammatory disease, inflammatory skin disease and autoimmune arthritis.

14. The use according to claim 12, wherein said inflammatory disorder is selected from multiple sclerosis, inflammatory bowel disease, asthma or tonsillitis, dermatitis, psoriasis, contact hypersensitivity and rheumatoid arthritis.