



WORLD VETERINARY
ASSOCIATION

WVA Activities Report 2016



**We work to
promote animal health,
animal welfare and public
health globally**



Message from the President Dr. René Carlson

It has been my most humble privilege to represent veterinarians working around the world as the President of the World Veterinary Association. Veterinarians and their support teams work tirelessly in challenging environments to prevent disease, diagnose and treat illness and injury, improve animals' welfare, and to provide humans with safe animal sourced foods for families and export. We are highly educated medical professionals serving animals and society in a variety of One Health related fields. I am extremely proud to be a veterinarian and to work on behalf of our veterinary medical profession across such varied species in the animal kingdom. I proudly share the work of veterinarians at every opportunity with others. Many people understand the work of a veterinarian to be directly caring for animals, however in addition, we are dedicated to our work, great project managers, problem-solvers, organizers, policy makers, and advocates for needed change.

The year 2016 was a very productive year as you will see throughout this Activities Report. While we focused on five strategic areas to improve animal welfare, use antimicrobials in animals responsibly, provide consistent and high quality veterinary medical education, increase awareness about zoonotic diseases, and create valuable partnerships in these areas, there are many more areas which need our global veterinary voice. We have a strong World Veterinary Association that works for continued progress and support for our many initiatives to improve the lives of animals and people around the world. There are many challenges, yet with collective efforts together we will make continued and gradual progress. I hope you will find value in this report for our many activities. We look forward to building further relationships and collaborative efforts to improve One Health for all partnerships in these areas and there are many more areas which need our global veterinary voice. You may contact the World Veterinary Association through our Secretariat at Secretariat@worldvet.org, or visit our website at www.worldvet.org and Facebook page. Thank you for your support and interest.

Dr. René CARLSON
President of the World Veterinary Association



Executive Summary

2016 was the Year of "Veterinary Continuing Education" for the World Veterinary Association. The WVA focused its efforts on Continuing Education initiatives on various platforms and events in different regions of the world. At the same time, WVA continued its activities on its other four strategic priorities;

- Zoonosis (mainly on Rabies)
- Animal Welfare,
- Pharmaceutical Stewardship (with continued emphasis on the worldwide threat from Antimicrobial Resistance) and
- Organizational Growth and Partnerships.

With new opportunities and invitations from several groups, the investment in the WVA five strategic priorities started to show its fruits and give rise to the strengthening of the position of the WVA as the voice of the veterinary profession around the world. WVA Officers, Councilors and Staff were invited to actively participate and deliver the WVA positions and activities in a large number of veterinary events around the world.

In 2016, the WVA reinforced its expertise by welcoming external experts to the WVA Policy Committee and Working Groups (WG) on WVA Priority Issues to support the work of the WVA on its position papers and projects. WVA revised this year many of its position papers to maintain their usefulness to WVA members, by keeping them updated, relevant, accurate and easily accessed by members and the public. In addition, the WVA published several statements and press releases on its media channels.

The WVA continued its collaboration plans and activities with International Organizations, NGOs, Industry and relevant stakeholders to strengthen the veterinary profession on its wide aspects and to have effective communication and collaboration mechanisms implementing the One Health Concept. WVA prepared and organized several global events, such as the 2nd Global Conference on One Health in collaboration with the World Medical Association (WMA) and the Seminar on Animal Welfare with the Asociación Panamericana de Ciencias Veterinarias (PANVET).

Since September 2015, WVA welcomed 12 new constituent and observer members that joined the WVA. In total, WVA has now 89 member associations from 6 geographic regions. This report summarizes WVA's activities and initiatives taken since the General Assembly (GA) on 14th September 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey. More detailed information on specific topics can be received from the secretariat or via the WVA website www.worldvet.org.

INTRODUCTION



In 1863, Dr J. Gamgee convened a first International Veterinary Congress. This initiative grew into the World Veterinary Association (WVA) today. A global association that represents 500.000 veterinarians around the world through its 89 member associations. The WVA continues the ambition of Dr Gamgee to bring veterinarians from all over the world together, to share experiences, to exchange ideas and to join forces for the promotion and development of veterinary medicine. WVA offers advocacy, support, and education with a variety of partners for focused global veterinary issues. WVA defends the interest of the health and welfare of animals and people, as well as the interest of its member organizations and their members.

More than ever, veterinary medicine is a global matter. Prevention and control of diseases, food security, food safety, animal welfare and availability of medicinal products have all become global issues, which need a global approach. Regardless of all achievements made over the years, international veterinary collaboration is increasingly crucial for the promotion of the health for human, animal and the environment under the One Health Approach.

WVA CONSTITUENT MEMBERS



Africa

1. Ethiopian Veterinary Association
2. Gambia Veterinary Medical Association
3. Ghana Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA)
4. Kenya Veterinary Association
5. Mauritius Veterinary Association
6. Nigerian Veterinary Medical Association
7. Ordem dos Médicos Veterinários de Angola (OVMA) - Angola
8. Ordre des Docteurs Vétérinaires du Sénégal (ODVS) – Senegal
9. Ordre National des Vétérinaires du MALI
10. South Africa Veterinary Association
11. South African Veterinary Council
12. Sudan Veterinary Medical Association
13. The Veterinary Association of Zambia
14. Uganda Veterinary Association (UVA)
15. Veterinary Association of Namibia

Asia & Oceania

1. Afghanistan Veterinary Association (AVA)
2. Association of Veterinarians of Tajikistan
3. Australian Veterinary Association (AVA)
4. Indian Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Research
5. Indian Veterinary Association, Kerala
6. Japan Veterinary Medical Association
7. Korean Veterinary Medical Association
8. Kyrgyzstan Veterinary Statutory Body
9. Malaysia Veterinary Association
10. Mongolian Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA)
11. Myanmar Veterinary Association
12. Nepal Veterinary Association
13. New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA)
14. Philippine Veterinary Medical Association (PVMA)

15. Taiwan Veterinary Medical Association
16. The Thai Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA)

Latin America

1. Asociación de Médicos Veterinarios de Colombia (AMEVEC)
2. Asociación de Médicos Veterinarios del Perú
3. Brazilian Society of Veterinary Medicine (SBMV)
4. Colegio de Medicos Veterinarios de Costa Rica
5. Colegio de Veterinarios de Bolivia
6. Conselho Federal de Medicina Veterinaria de Brazil (CFMV)
7. Jamaica Veterinary Medical Association (JVMA)
8. Veterinary Medical College of Peru

Middle East & North Africa

1. Association Nationale des Vétérinaires du Maroc (ANVM) - Morocco
2. Egyptian Veterinary Medical Association (EVMA)
3. Union Générale des Médecins Vétérinaires de Tunisie

North America

1. American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)
2. Canadian Veterinary Medical Association

Europa

1. Albanian Chamber of Veterinary Surgeon (AChVS)
2. Armenia Small Animal Veterinary Association (ARMSAVA)
3. Association des médecins-vétérinaires du Luxembourg (AMVL) - Luxembourg
4. Asociación Empresarial Veterinaria Española – Spain (2)

5. British Veterinary Association (BVA) - United Kingdom
6. Bundesverband Prakt. Tierärzte e.V.- Germany
7. Chamber of Veterinary Surgeons of the Czech Republic
8. Chamber of veterinary surgeons of Slovakia
9. Conseil national de l'Ordre des vétérinaires - France
10. Consejo General de Colegios de Veterinarios de España – Spain (1)
11. Danish Veterinary Association
12. Den Norske Veterinaerforening - Norway
13. Estonian Veterinary Association
14. Georgian Veterinary Doctors United Association
15. Hellenic Veterinary Medical Society - Greece
16. Icelandic Veterinary Association
17. Lithuanian Veterinary Association (LVGA)
18. Malta Veterinary Association
19. Pancyprrian Veterinary Association – Cyprus
20. Royal Dutch Veterinary Association - The Netherlands
21. Società Italiana di Medicina Veterinaria Preventiva (S.I.Me.Ve.P.) - Italy
22. Société des vétérinaires Suisses (SVS) - Switzerland
23. The General Association of Romanian Veterinarians (GARV)
24. The Swedish Veterinary Association (SVF)
25. Turkish Veterinary Medical Association
26. Veterinary Chamber of Austria
27. Veterinary chamber of Republic of Srpska (Bosnia Herzegovina)
28. Veterinary Chamber of Serbia

International Organizations

1. AVA: African Veterinary Association
2. CVA: Commonwealth Veterinary Association
3. FAVA: Federation of Asian Veterinary Association
4. FVE: Federation of Veterinarians of Europe
5. IACLAM: International Association of Colleges of Laboratory Animal Medicine
6. PANVET: Pan-American Association of Veterinary Sciences
7. WAVLD: World Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians
8. WAVMA: World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association

Observer Members

1. Association of Avian Veterinarians (AAV)
2. The Vitebsk State Academy of Veterinary Medicine, Republic of Belarus
3. HealthforAnimals
4. International Veterinary Students' Association (IVSA)
5. Ordem dos Médicos Veterinários du Portugal
6. World Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine (WAHVM)
7. Zimbabwe Veterinary Association
8. South West Livestock Development Association – Somalia
9. Registered Veterinary Technologists and Technicians of Canada (RVTTC)
10. One Health Brazil Latin America

WVA General Assembly

The General Assembly is the highest governing body of the WVA, both in terms of legislation and decision making. It is composed of registered delegates of Constituent Member organisations.

The WVA holds its General Assembly (GA) on annual basis with the main objectives to:

- consider the progress made towards achieving the WVA strategic goals,
- consider new goals and activities for the WVA,
- suggest areas for policy development,
- approve the WVA budget for the coming year,
- vote on all matters properly brought before the GA.

In 2016, the WVA General Assembly took place on 3rd October 2016 in Panama City, Panama where delegates had the opportunity to hear and respond to comments from the WVA President and Council members about a large number of activities that the WVA delivered during the past year. This included collaboration plans with global partners, WVA projects and the communication strategy. The GA delegates were also informed about the WVA structure, finances and voted on the WVA budget for 2017.



The WVA General Assembly 2017 will take place in Incheon, Korea on Monday, 28th August 2017 during the World Veterinary Congress 2017.



The WVA GA gives the WVA members an opportunity for submitting proposals, in-person discussions and a vote on important issues facing global veterinary medicine.



WVA COUNCIL

The WVA Council comprises the President, President Elect, Immediate Past President, and 14 elected representatives from different world regions and international organizations.

PRESIDENT

Dr René CARLSON (USA)

PRESIDENT ELECT

Dr Johnson CHIANG (Taiwan)

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Dr Faouzi KECHRID (Tunisia)

COUNCILLORS FOR AFRICA

Dr Maria BAPTISTA (Angola)

Dr Oumar TOUNKARA (Mali)

COUNCILLORS FOR AMERICA

(NORTH)

Dr John DRAKE (Canada)

Dr Lyle VOGEL (USA)

COUNCILLOR FOR AMERICA

(LATIN)

Dr Maria Nelly CAJIAO (Colombia)

Dr Joe VARGAS BLANCO (Costa Rica)

COUNCILLOR FOR ASIA and

OCEANIA

Dr Juhyung HUR (Korea)

Dr Achariya SAILASUTA (Thailand)

COUNCILLOR FOR EUROPE

Dr Zoran KATRINKA (Serbia)

Dr Rafael LAGUENS (Spain)

COUNCILLOR FOR MIDDLE EAST

and NORTH AFRICA

Dr Khaled EL HICHERI (Tunisia)

Dr Kamil Naguib METTIAS (Egypt)

COUNCILLOR FOR

INTERNATIONAL REGIONAL

ORGANISATIONS

Dr Sira Abdul RAHMAN (CVA)

COUNCILLOR FOR

INTERNATIONAL DISCIPLINE-

CENTRED ORGANISATIONS

Dr Patricia TURNER (IACLAM)



The WVA is the internationally recognized voice of global veterinary medicine working with partners around the world

In the past year, the WVA Council went through two significant changes in its composition. In November 2015, following the decision of Dr. Guilherme Costa (Brazil) to resign from the position of WVA Councillor for the region of Latin America, Dr. Joe Alejandra Vargas Blanco (Costa Rica) filled in this position. On 10th March 2016, Prof. Farouk El Dessouky (from Egypt), WVA Councillor for Middle East and North Africa region since 2011, passed away. In July 2016, the Egyptian Veterinary Medical Association appointed Prof. Kamil Mettias as acting Councillor for the MENA region. Since the WVA GA meeting in Istanbul, the WVA Council held one physical meeting in Panama City, and 8 teleconferences under the leadership of the WVA President, Dr René Carlson.

Main items discussed and decided by the Council included:

- WVA strategy and priority issues for 2015-2017 and follow up on proposed action plans.
- A call for nomination and selection of experts to the WVA Policy Committee and Advisory Groups on WVA Priority issues.
- A call for nomination and selection of a member association to the WVA Community-based Rabies Prevention program.
- The finances of the WVA, with a special focus on the sustainable future of WVA and the proposal on standard procedure to follow up the outstanding payments.
- The applications of memberships and the approval of 12 new members / observers
- The collaboration plans with WVA Partners (OIE, H4A, WMA, GARC and others).
- The projects and initiatives with the Animal Health Industry (HealthforAnimals, Henry Schein, Merck, Ceva and others).
- The Year for Veterinary Continuing Education and the launch of WVA Platform on Veterinary Education.
- The concept proposal for WVA Veterinary Education Activities.
- The WVA Communication Survey.
- The publications of WVA Statements and Press Releases.
- The organization of global events such as the World Veterinary Day Award 2016, the 2nd WVA-WMA Global Conference on One Health and a Seminar on Animal Welfare.
- The collaboration in planning for the 33rd World Veterinary Congress in South Korea in August 2017 and the 34th World Veterinary Association Congress in Barcelona, Spain in May 2018.
- And many other issues...

Zoonotic disease	10
Pharma Stewardship	7
Animal welfare	8
Educ. of vets around the world	10
Org./Financial WVA stability (incl. Int. Partnerships)	✓

SECRETARIAT and FINANCES

SECRETARIAT

Since 2010 the WVA secretariat is hosted by the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) and is based in Brussels, Belgium. The secretariat is composed of an Executive Secretary, Jan Vaarten and a Veterinary Policy Advisor, Dr Zeev Noga.

The secretariat serves as the connection point for all WVA activities. It supports the preparation, logistic organization and follow-up of meetings of the WVA General Assembly, Council, Committees, Standing Committees, Working Groups and global events and is in-charge of the implementation of all WVA GA and Council decisions. The secretariat is responsible for all WVA internal and external communications. The secretariat is also in charge for the maintenance of the WVA website and the daily updates of the different sections of the website and the WVA Facebook page. The Secretariat is accountable for the WVA financial administration; which task is outsourced to an external financial expert. Where appropriate, member(s) of the secretariat represent the WVA at conferences and meetings.

In January 2016, the WVA Council evaluated the performance of the WVA Secretariat by completing a survey. The results generally were very positive with all (13) categories showing superior performance. There were two areas (making recommendations and budget & management) showing competent performance that meets expectations. The WVA President agreed to meet twice a month with the WVA Executive Secretary, to reach an higher level of management on these areas. Development of a 'Sponsorship strategy' will receive special attention, to gain more support for defined partnerships in common areas of interest.

Our mission is to assure and promote animal health and welfare and public health globally, through developing and advancing veterinary medicine, the veterinary profession as well as public and private



FINANCES



The wish to become more visible and influential on the global stage and to be recognized as the voice of the global veterinary profession required a significant investment for the future of the organization. However, the ambitious WVA goals combined with the increased level of the WVA activities in the last years are not matched by an equal growth of resources which is mainly dependent on members' dues.

During the past year, the WVA took different actions in order to improve the WVA financial situation. For example, the WVA reduced the Council in-person meetings to one meeting per year and created a central calendar of veterinary events to be used as a basis for Council decision regarding the participation of WVA Officers and Councillors on behalf of the WVA. The WVA delivered a 'membership recruitment action plan' in the end of 2015, and invited around 400 veterinary association to join the WVA. The WVA took contacts and arranged meetings with some industry companies to explore sponsorship possibilities and started to plan together with the Standing Committee for the WVAC and ICS (Professional Congresses Organizer) the WVACs 2018-2020. For time being, there is only a slight improvement in the WVA financial situation.

COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Working Groups on WVA Priority Issues

In April 2016, the WVA President held a conference call with the Chairs of the WVA WGs in order to improve the productivity of the WGs to achieve the goals as defined in the WVA Strategy 2015-2017 (adopted in March 2015).

The President made some changes in the WGs compositions to fit better the Councilors according their interest and expertise and to find the best way forward contributing to the work of the different WGs. In addition, in order to increase the expertise of the WGs, the WVA called the WVA constituent members to nominate experts to the WVA Advisory Groups (AG) to support the work of the WGs. This is a great opportunity for WVA members to be involved directly in the drafting process of the WVA policy statements and projects.

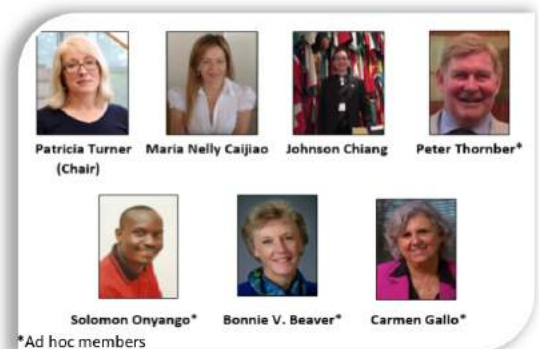
The WVA Council received a large number of applications and selected 16 experts to the AGs. Most of the AG experts are coming from Europe, North America and Oceania regions and there is a need for more experts from Africa, Asia and Latin America regions to join the WVA Advisory Groups on Animal Welfare, Veterinary Education, Pharmaceutical Stewardship and Zoonotic Diseases. In addition, the WVA Council also invited veterinary students (representatives of IVSA) to join and to contribute to the work of the WVA WGs. All the work of the WVA Committees and WGs were supported by the WVA secretariat.

a) Animal Welfare:

The main goals of the Working Group on Animal Welfare are: (1) to raise awareness of current and ongoing animal welfare issues globally, (2) to develop and maintain key partnerships with other global AW advocacy groups and (3) to promote animal welfare education and training within the veterinary curriculum, as a critical component of the continuing development of the veterinary profession.

During 2016, the WG revised the WVA position papers on the *Role of the Veterinarian in Animal Welfare*, on the *Control of Inappropriately Aggressive Dogs* and prepared factsheets on animal welfare issues related to *unowned dogs*, *transportation of food production animals* and on *working equids*.

The WG was involved in the organisation of the WVA-PANVET Seminar on Animal Welfare that took place in Panama City on 4th October 2016 during the PANVET Congress. The WG is now preparing the WVA World Animal Protection Global Seminar on Animal Welfare to be held in Incheon, Korea in August 2017, during the 33rd WVC. The WG Chair and members participated and presented the WVA positions at the International Veterinary Student Association (IVSA) first Animal Welfare Conference in April 2016 and at the 4th OIE conference on AW held in Mexico in December 2016.



The AW-WG focused this year on the revision of the WVA position papers on the *Role of the Veterinarian in Animal Welfare* and on the *Control of Inappropriately Aggressive Dogs*, and is currently developing factsheets on AW issues related to *unowned dogs*, *transportation of food production animals* and *working equids*

COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

b) Zoonotic Diseases:



The main goals of the Working Group on Zoonotic Diseases are: (1) to develop further the WVA Community-based Rabies Prevention and Control Program (in Gambia) as a model to eliminate dog-mediated human rabies in the world, and to attract the attention and the contribution of local, regional and international authorities, organizations and NGOs in the project. In addition, (2) the WG is focusing on the development of educational resources and / or projects relating to Cysticercoids and Leishmaniosis. **During 2016**, Dr. Khaled El Hicheri stepped down as the Chair of the WG and was replaced by Dr. Abdul Rahman. During the past year, the WG revised the WVA position papers on *Dog-mediated Rabies* and *One Health* and focused on the implementation process of the WVA Rabies program.

During the past year,
the WG on Zoonotic Diseases was
involved in the implementation process
of the WVA Rabies program in Gambia
as a model to eliminate dog-mediated
human rabies in the world

c) Veterinary Education:



The main goals of the Working Group on Veterinary Education are (1) to promote the WVA Online Education Portal as the most comprehensive global online resource for continuing education for veterinarians and (2) to expand the WVA role related to veterinary accreditation and core competencies to bring all VEEs around the world up to the basic competency standards.

During 2016, the WG went through some structure changes as the Chair of the WG, Lyle Vogel was moved to chair the Pharmaceutical Stewardship WG and was replaced by Joe Vargas Blanco and Maria Nelly Cajiao as Co-chairs of this WG.

The Veterinary Education WG is
leading the implementation process
of the WVA Long-term project on
Veterinary Education Activities.

The WG is currently revising the WVA position papers on *Identifying a Veterinarian*, *Global Veterinary Day-One Competencies* and is preparing a new position paper on *Veterinary Paraprofessionals*. The WG also promoted massively the WVA on-line Education Platform that was presented in large global events related to veterinary education and received a lot of interest from global organizations and education bodies.

COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

d) Pharmaceutical Stewardship:



The vision of the PSWG is that veterinarians need to:

- understand the importance and concepts of responsible use and disposal of medicines,
- raise awareness for the veterinarians role in decreasing antimicrobial resistance and,
- to keep access for veterinarians to good quality medicines for achieving the best medical care for all animals.

The main goals of the Working Group on Pharmaceutical Stewardship are (1) to advocate for the availability and access to good quality medicines for veterinarians worldwide, (2) promote continuing education in the responsible use and disposal of medicines, (3) support research on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and (4) collaborate in the global networks and framework to decrease the development of AMR.

During 2016, the WVA President stepped down as the Chair of the PS-WG and was replaced by Dr Lyle Vogel. The WG revised the WVA position papers on the *Responsible Use of Antimicrobials* and the *WVA statement in Opposition to International Scheduling of Ketamine*.

The Chair of the WG attended on 21st September 2016, the United Nations General Assembly High-Level Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance. Additionally, the WG contributed to a World Health Organization (WHO) Consultation regarding the WHO draft roadmap to enhance health sector engagement in the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management. The WG is working currently on new ideas to assist the WVA members and veterinarians with pharmaceutical stewardship.

e) Organizational Growth and Partnerships:



To ensure the long-term viability of the WVA, the WVA needs to be financially healthy (annual income and expenses need to be in balance) and should have a reasonable financial reserve to cover unforeseen costs.

The main goals of the Organizational Growth and Partnerships WG are (1) to assure that the WVA is financially healthy, (2) annual income and expenditures are in balance and (3) there is a reasonable financial reserve to cover unforeseen events, thereby ensuring the long-term viability of the WVA.

During 2016, Dr Chiang replaced Dr Drake as the Chair of the OGP-WG. The WG focused on increasing the number of WVA Constituent Members by continuing to raise WVA's profile and actively recruited new members.

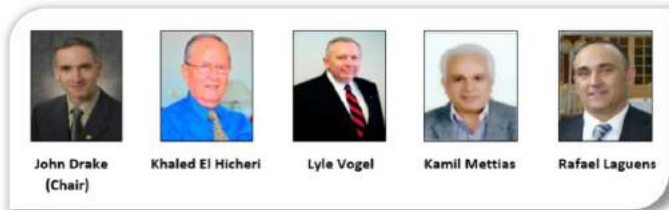
The WVA representatives met and established relationships with several animal health corporates (e.g. the Animal Health departments of Henry Schein, Merck, Merial, Ceva, Bayer and Elanco) and collaborated with some companies on different initiatives and projects.

The WG is currently revising the WVA position papers on the *Joint WVA/WAVMA Policy on Statutory and Regulatory Authority for Aquatic Veterinary Medicine* and the position on *Veterinary Statutory Bodies*.



COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

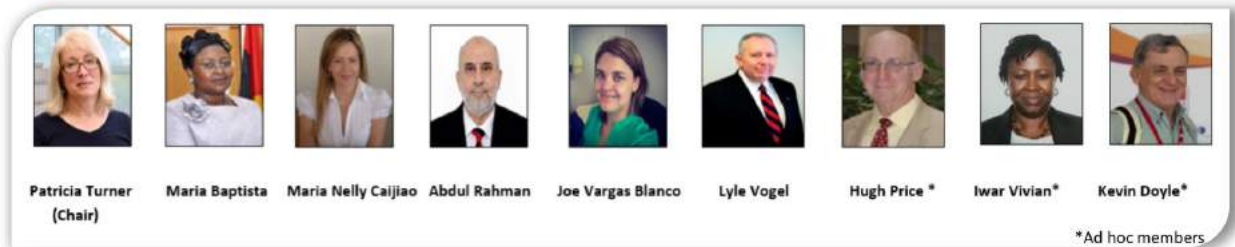
Finances Committee



Assisted by the secretariat, the Finance Committee held regular tele-conferences every 6 weeks (in advance to the Council call conferences) to discuss the actual financial situation, possibilities for non-dues revenues, WVA's investment policy, outstanding income from WVC2015, and to prepare budgets and action plans for the following years.

Reports were presented regularly to the Council for discussion and approval. In addition, the Finance Committee also prepared and proposed to the Council a standard procedure to follow up the outstanding payments to the WVA which was approved by the Council and introduced to the WVA Administrative Procedure Manual (under articles 5.2.2 and 5.2.2.1) in July 2016.

Policy Committee



In February 2016, Dr Zoran Katrinka was replaced by Dr Patricia Turner as the Chair of the Policy Committee (PC). In the end of 2015, the WVA called the WVA constituent members to nominate experts in order to increase the expertise of the PC. The WVA received a number of applications and selected Drs Hugh Price, Iwar Vivian, and Kevin Doyle to support the members of the PC. The PC held regular tele-conferences every 6 weeks to review the current WVA position papers and to develop new policies and position papers together with the WGs on priority issues.

Standing Committee on the Organisation of Future World Veterinary Congresses

During the past year, the Standing Committee made huge progress in preparing the World Veterinary Association Congresses (WVAC) for 2018 – 2020. The WVA Council approved the Standing Committee proposal to hold the WVAC 2018 in Barcelona, Spain, WVAC 2019 in San Jose, Costa Rica and WVAC 2020 in Auckland, New Zealand. The Standing Committee established a Local Committee and held 4 meetings in Spain to prepare the Congress that will take place on 5-9th May 2018.



The selected theme for the WVAC 2018 is **"Caring for Animals = Caring for our Planet"** and the WVAC 2018 website is now available at wvac2018.org



Working Group on Communications

In October 2015, the WVA Council adopted the Communications Working Group (CWG) recommendations and disseminated a survey among the WVA members in order to increase understanding of the CWG about members' needs for communication and translations. The survey final results highlighted that 93% of the respondents are of the opinion that WVA is of help to veterinarians of their association with its activities and programmes. Following the positive outcomes of the survey, the Council agreed in April 2016 to terminate the work of the CWG.

COLLABORATIONS

WVA / WMA 2nd Global Conference on One Health

On 10-11th November 2016, in Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture, Japan, the WVA and the World Medical Association (WMA) in collaboration with Japan Medical (JMA) and Veterinary (JVMA) Associations held the 2nd Global Conference on 'One Health' with the theme: "Moving forward from One Health Concept to One Health Approach". The conference was attended by more than 600 participants from 35 countries around the world with approximately 30 lectures covering different One Health issues.



The aim of the 2GCOH was to strengthen the links and communication between physicians, veterinarians and all appropriate stakeholders, to achieve closer collaboration and to improve the different aspects of health and welfare of humans, animals and the environment. The 2GCOH was opened with the remarkable presence of their Imperial Highnesses, Prince and Princess Akishino. In his address to the 2GCOH delegates, Prince Akishino highlighted the importance of the One Health approach to address public and animal health challenges. **The 2GCOH resulted in the historic signature on the Memorandum of Fukuoka by WVA, WMA, JMA and JVMA.**

The WVA - Merck Animal Health Scholarship program



In June 2016, MSD Animal Health and the WVA launched the *2016 Veterinary Student Scholarship Program* to enhance academic experience and support the quality of education and training for the future veterinarians in the Latin American Region. The WVA and MSD provided \$55,000 to finance eleven scholarship for veterinary students. In December 2016, the WVA and MSD announced the 11 veterinary students from 9 countries in the Latin America Region that have been selected for the 2016 Scholarship Program.

World Animal Vaccination Day

The WVA partnered with HealthforAnimals to initiate World Animal Vaccination Day (WAVD) on 20th April 2016 to be closely associated with the World Health Organization's World Vaccination Week. The aim of the WAVD is to raise awareness of the vital role that vaccines play in protecting the health of animals and, as a result, also people. The 2016 WAVD focused on the importance of cat vaccination and keeping feline vaccinations up to date.



Global Industry Survey on Innovation in Animal Health



During 2015, HealthforAnimals in partnership with the WVA and Animal Pharm, conducted a global survey on innovation in animal health. One hundred fifty-six (156) professionals within the animal health sector completed the survey. Nearly half of the respondents were veterinarians. The survey results can be found on the WVA website.

State of Global Animal Health

WVA and HealthforAnimals share an important priority to increase knowledge and understanding about animal health and animal welfare issues not only among animal health stakeholders and decision-makers, but also outside the animal health arena as animal health affects the health and well-being of humans. Therefore, WVA and HealthforAnimals agreed to produce together a report entitled "The State of Global Animal Health", for wide external usage on the global status of animal health focusing on the main trends affecting global animal health, animal disease developments in different world regions and preventive and disease treatments for animals. The final report is expected to be published in early 2017.



PROJECTS

WVA ONLINE EDUCATION PORTAL

After 18 months of preparation, the WVA Online Education Portal was officially launched in February 2016 and has over 1000 courses uploaded (60% of which are provided free of charge to WVA members) from over 85 respected institutions and individuals. By now, 120 veterinary associations have agreed to provide education portals for their members with various stages of implementation.

Educational materials can be uploaded to the website by experts in the field and viewed for a fee or authors can apply discounts or provide their materials for free to countries with emerging economies to assist with disseminating education.



The aim of this WVA initiative is to provide an up-to-date comprehensive global online source for high quality and readily accessible continuing education for veterinarians and veterinary technicians.

WVA COMMUNITY-BASED RABIES PREVENTION PROGRAMS



In May 2016, the WVA invited member associations from risk areas to express their interest to participate in the WVA Community-based Rabies Prevention Programs. The goal of the WVA program is to help coordinate the activities of all the necessary components through leadership with a WVA member association so all necessary groups are engaged for the long-term to eliminate dog-mediated human rabies by 2030 as part of the Global Alliance for Rabies Control "EndRabiesNow" campaign. In July 2016, the WVA Council evaluated carefully 3 applications which were submitted by the veterinary associations of Afghanistan, Gambia and Mongolia.

The WVA Council decided to approve the application received by Gambia VMA as a starting point for a pilot project. The Council also decided that the applications received from Afghanistan, Mongolia and Uganda (application received after the deadline) will be reconsidered again, once the WVA gets the initial project underway.

WVA LONG-TERM PROJECT ON VETERINARY EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

On 20th July 2016, the WVA Council approved a concept proposal for WVA Veterinary Education Activities. The project's short-term goal is to convene a global working session for accreditors of veterinary programs that will take place during the 33rd WVC in Korea. The mid-term goal is to facilitate the development of a self-assessment tool, and verify the process by which the accreditors would evaluate the Veterinary Education Establishments (VEEs) for compliance with the OIE recommended competencies. The long-term goal is for the WVA to become the voluntary "accreditor" of the accreditors of veterinary programs around the world so that the WVA can trust the evaluation process of an accrediting body for a VEE to be in compliance with the OIE recommended curriculum and competences for national veterinary services. The idea is that a WVA representative would accompany the accreditation team to verify its accreditation process and, if the VEE met the compliance requirements, WVA would offer global recognition to the VEE. This concept is still under discussion to collaborate with VEE programs in developing countries and their accrediting bodies to suggest a process for self-assessment, outcome assessment, and continual improvement for all VEEs to assess Day 1 competencies for all veterinarians.



VVA's Media channels

The VVA continually updates the VVA Website and VVA Facebook page with articles and news related to the VVA activities and global veterinary issues. The VVA website is visited by around 5000 people per month with 77% being new visitors. The VVA Facebook page has around 15.000 followers with an average of 50.000 people reached by VVA posts every month. In 2016, the VVA opened an account on Twitter to communicate on issues related to the VVA global veterinary continuing education platform and on the availability of new veterinary CE courses.



The VVA Info-news is published two times per month and includes articles on the VVA activities in the different veterinary fields, general global veterinary issues, global events and other issues of interest for the veterinary profession. Last but not least, the VVA communicates weekly with its members via electronic mail to inform them about VVA activities and events, inviting them to nominate representatives for different activities, and to provide comments on VVA position papers and to provide useful information regarding veterinary issues.

Advocacy actions

On 16th November 2015, VVA President, Dr René Carlson represented the VVA and the global veterinary profession at the World Health Organisation (WHO) Expert Committee on Drug Dependence (ECDD). Dr Carlson expressed strong opposition to the proposed international restriction of ketamine and presented the VVA Position Statement that was developed with the input of many VVA member associations, and the support of the World Medical Association, the World Small Animal Veterinary Association and HealthforAnimals. The WHO subsequently published a recommendation that ketamine should not be placed under international control by the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs after review of the latest evidence by the WHO ECDD.

VVA Statements, Press Releases and Articles in Journals

In 2016 the VVA published different statements and press releases regarding several veterinary issues, such as; *World Animal Day*, *World Rabies Day*, *World Animal Vaccination Day*, *Statement in Opposition to International Scheduling of Ketamine* and *World Antibiotic Awareness Week*. In addition, VVA Council members published articles in the International Animal Health Journal on different veterinary issues such as; "*Pharmaceutical Stewardship – A Strategic Priority for the VVA*" by VVA President, Dr René Carlson, "*Zoonotic Diseases, the Global Ecosystem and the Human-Animal-Environment Interface*" by VVA Councillor, Dr Zoran Katrinka and "*Care and Welfare Oversight of Agricultural Animals Used in Agricultural Research*" by VVA Councillor, Dr Patricia Turner.

World Veterinary Day Award 2016

A special instrument for the veterinary profession to communicate and reach out to the veterinary communities and society at large, is the World Veterinary Day (WVD) Award. Every year another theme is selected and veterinary associations are invited to organise activities and events to promote the WVD theme and to raise the profile of the veterinary profession. The theme for the WVD Award 2016 "*Continuing Education with a One Health Focus*", was in relation to the VVA Year of Veterinary Continuing Education to recognise not only the veterinary profession, but also the importance of lifelong learning through continuing education, and specifically on the One Health Concept and One Health Approach to any number of global challenges.

There were 25 nominated projects which encompassed many excellent entries making this year's decision more difficult yet especially deserving. The winner was selected according to the quality of the project and related activities, the ability to raise awareness on the topic through communication materials and media coverage in their country, and their capacity to demonstrate a concrete implementation of the 'One Health' approach. On 22nd May 2016, during the 84th OIE General Assembly, the VVA president, Dr René Carlson presented the 2016 World Veterinary Day Award to Jamaica Veterinary Medical Association. On that occasion, the VVA and OIE selected the theme for the WVDA 2017; *Antimicrobial Resistance – from awareness to action*.



COMMUNICATIONS

Participation in veterinary events around the world

The WVA Council members and the Secretariat staff participated and represented the WVA in a large number of veterinary events around the world. In most of these events, the WVA representatives had a slot to present the WVA and its activities. In addition, WVA representatives participated in a large number of informal and bilateral meetings.



2017 Activities

WVA 2017 GOALS

This year, the WVA will emphasize the value of prevention in animal and human health. WVA has stressed the importance of improved animal welfare, access to good quality and proper use of animal medicines (especially antimicrobials), veterinary medical education, and zoonotic diseases. Yet, what will give the most value to all of these issues is quality veterinary education worldwide and emphasis on basic preventive care such as; vaccination, basic disease control, and community education.

To provide the best animal welfare, which includes animal health, we need to focus on better preventive care. WVA needs more consistent veterinary medical education, by introducing an entry level for the veterinary license and assuring core competences globally. This can only be accomplished through accountable accreditation practices, including a self-assessment process to identify curriculum gaps and to continually improve veterinary medical programs. This is the responsibility of every veterinary school delivering a veterinary medical degree in every country around the world. The veterinary profession needs a strong regulatory system in all countries, and a system for continuing education after graduation from a veterinary medical college. WVA will work on these goals together with its members and partners in the coming year.

WVA ELECTIONS 2017

The WVA is delighted to launch the WVA Elections 2017 campaign and to call for WVA Constituent Members to nominate candidates for the positions of WVA President-Elect and Councillors. The WVA Elections 2017 will be conducted via electronic voting system starting on 5th June 2017.

The President-Elect and all positions for 14 WVA Councillors (12 representing 6 regions, 1 representing International Regional Organizations, and 1 representing International Discipline-Centred Organizations) are open for election, or in some cases, re-election. To continue the excellent successes the WVA achieved in recent years, WVA must have a fully committed Council. WVA Constituent Member associations must consider seriously the best candidates for the WVA Council to represent their regions.



WORLD VETERINARY CONGRESS 2017

The 33rd World Veterinary Congress will take place in Incheon, Korea from 27-31 August 2017. It will be featured by state-of-the-art technology, a great scientific program, extensive exhibit hall, a Global Seminar on Animal Welfare, a WVA Summit on One Health in collaboration with the FAO/OIE/WHO Tripartite and an introductory Education Forum to improve veterinary education around the world. The congress will also give a global platform to network with colleagues from around the world in an amazing cultural experience in beautiful Korea.

The WVA is looking forward to welcoming you at the 33rd World Veterinary Congress in Korea!

wvc2017korea.com



33rd WORLD VETERINARY CONGRESS

2017 인천 세계수의사대회

WVC Incheon, KOREA 2017
August 27(SUN) ~ 31(THU), 2017