



World Veterinary Association

www.worldvet.org

Newsletter

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WVA Election



The Presidents' Assembly has elected Dr Tjeerd Jorna as the President to lead the WVA through until the 2011 Congress in Capetown.

President Jorna is to be supported by Vice-Presidents Dr Duane Landals (right) from Canada and Dr Faouzi Kechrid (left) from Tunisia.

The first World Veterinary Day Award



The first WVA-OIE World Veterinary Day Award was presented to the Kenyan Veterinary Association, represented by its President Dr Christopher Wanga at the 29th World Veterinary Congress in Vancouver.

The OIE together with the World Veterinary Association created the World Veterinary Day Award to formally recognize the most successful celebration of the contribution of veterinarians for the benefit of society, whether these activities are carried out by

national veterinary associations, alone, or in cooperation with other veterinary bodies.

By celebrating the World Veterinary Day each year on the last Saturday in April, all veterinarians have the opportunity to highlight and illustrate in their countries the different roles they play and the challenges they face today.

“I am happy to say that the Kenya Veterinary Association (KVA) best met the criteria of the Award by celebrating the diversity of the profession with excellent coverage of different subjects such as the regulatory aspects of the profession, clinical and rural practice, wildlife, food safety, food security, animal health and animal welfare”, said Prof Leon Russell, the President of the WVA, at the official award ceremony. “The World Veterinary Day Award is a unique opportunity to promote and illustrate the crucial role of veterinarians and I trust it will become an even more celebrated event around the world in the years to come”, he added.



The delighted members of the Kenyan Veterinary Association with former WVA President Dr Jim Edwards and his wife Pam who first proposed the concept of World Veterinary Day.

From the new President



Dr Tjeerd Jorna

It is my great pleasure to have been elected as your new President for the coming three years. For me the 30th of July 2008 was a great day. I thank all the members and veterinarians of the WVA for the confidence that they have handed to me to do the task and to guide you as best I can.

Because I was not a Vice-President previously, I would like to introduce myself to all members and veterinarians who could not be present in Vancouver at the Presidents' Assembly.

I qualified in 1967 at the veterinary school of Utrecht in the Netherlands and worked immediately for 7 years in the Department of Internal Medicine Large Animals and did my research for my Ph.D. During 16 years I was a bovine veterinarian in a regional Herd Health Centre and became diplomat Bovine Herd Health Management. I completed this part of my career as secretary general of the Dutch Veterinary Association [KNMvD] for 14 years. From 2003-2007 I was the President of the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe [FVE].

I have been involved in WVA since 1990, participating in all Presidential Assemblies of both WVA and WVC. I was an active member of the Financial Committee till 1999 and participated in the restructure of WVA under former Presidents Rantsios and Edwards. I have experienced a lot of good things and some not so good things in

WVA. I know 18 years of the history out of 145 years.

That was the past but it is important to look to the future for there is a lot to do both in and for WVA and for the vets all over the world. But first I would like to thank the former EXCOM-board and the Councillors for all the efforts they have given to WVA. Human interest and to recognize people are both very important.. Especially I would like to thank Dr. Johnson Chiang for fulfilling his duties to WVA and for his efforts. I hope he has no bad feelings after so closely losing the democratic election and I would like to have good cooperation with him in the near future.

I would like to encourage Past President Leon Russell, thanking him for the leadership of WVA during the last three years. It was not always easy. I would also like to encourage Faouzi Kechrid, elected again as Vice-President, and Duane Landals as new elected Vice-President, to do the task together for the benefit of WVA.

What is the main task?

We have to unite all veterinarians all over the world and make them aware what WVA is doing for the vets. So we need to communicate about all issues with the individual Vet, wherever they are and whatever their type of work. They have to know what policy WVA is presenting to the community and what contacts we have with world organizations like OIE, FAO, WHO, WMA, IFAH, etc which can be for the benefit of all vets. So they know what they are paying for.

Also we have to restore or to strengthen our contacts with our sister-organizations. I have already established good relationships with WSAVA.

The important issues where WVA has to focus its efforts are the global animal health control of emerging diseases and zoonoses, global animal welfare and global public

health. The last one is for the benefit of all beings on earth and that's why we focus on ONE WORLD, ONE MEDICINE, ONE HEALTH, initiated by Roger K. Mahr.

We have to oversee animal behaviour and disease spread in relation to climate change and environmental influence.

To monitor and to diagnose diseases the "vet in the field" is very important. They have to diagnose outbreaks of emerging diseases before official governmental veterinary services take over. That requires that all veterinarians are well educated. We as the profession, have to ask for the day-one skills of education and to promote continuous

education. We have to make the policy for a global accreditation system for education as the guarantee of the quality of the profession. In a global structure of veterinary services and with good cooperation with the World Animal Health Organization we can prevent pandemics and even epidemics.

In realising that the WVA has to be a professional organization, I would like to put in place, with the good cooperation of all of you, a bottom-up strategy plan. It is my pleasure to guide you in this process.
Dr. Tjeerd Jorna,
President

OIE leader earns first Penn Vet World Award

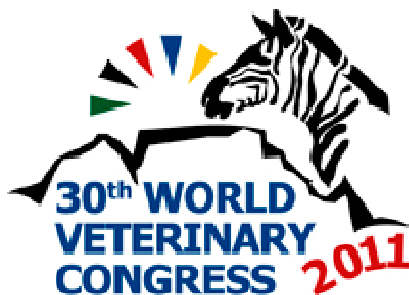


Dr. Bernard Vallat was the first recipient of the Penn Vet World Award.

The award is given annually to a veterinarian who has dramatically changed the practice and image of the profession and substantially influenced the lives and careers of others, and provides \$100,000 in unrestricted funding to the recipient.

The award is underwritten by the Vernon and Shirley Hill Foundation. Dr. Vallat was selected by a jury led by Dr. Alan M. Kelly, Dean Emeritus of the University of the Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Vallat was presented the award April 29 during a ceremony at Irvine Auditorium on the Penn campus.

Start planning now to attend



30th WORLD VETERINARY CONGRESS
Cape Town, South Africa

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“Thank You For Attending”



**Dr. Duane Landals B.Sc. Ag. DVM
Chair, 29th World Veterinary Congress**

Exceeding the expectations of the organizers, the 29th World Veterinary Congress held during July in Vancouver, Canada, has drawn to a close. This event, occurring around the world every three years, was presented on behalf of the World Veterinary Association by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association.

During the five years of planning and preparation, the organizing team had an opportunity to pull together a world class group of speakers representing veterinarians in both private clinical practice and public practice. Following the theme “**Celebrate Our Diversity**” the program succeeded in bridging the wide range of employment fields that veterinarians find themselves in.

The opening session of the Congress entitled “**One World, One Health, One Medicine**” certainly turned out to be one of the highlights of the event. Focusing on the convergence of animal and human health, the very capable and well known speakers provided an enlightened and motivational launch to the rest of the weeks programming.

With delegate numbers approaching 3000 from several dozen countries, the fifteen or so simultaneous educational streams were well attended. Judging by a significant level of interaction with the speakers, and the level of excitement in the hall ways and exhibit area, registrants appeared to be getting their money’s worth.

The World Veterinary Congress is not only an opportunity to exchange information on the most recent veterinary research or techniques but is a forum for veterinary leaders from around the world to meet. The synergy of this leadership is evident by the list of participating organizations. These include: Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Representatives were also present from: American Veterinary Medical Association, Federation of Veterinarians of Europe, International Federation of Animal Health and many others.

The hosting of the World Veterinary Association’s Presidents Assembly, International Veterinary Officers Council, North American Veterinary Leaders and other leadership meetings insured the Congress had a truly international flavor.

The next World Veterinary Congress will be held in 2011 in Cape Town, South Africa. The organizers of the upcoming event very generously provided an invitation with a remarkable presentation on South Africa, complete with authentic Zulu dancers. It was a fitting parallel to the Hida dancers performing at the opening ceremony and a fitting closure to a very rewarding event.

As Chair of the 29th World Veterinary Congress, I would like to sincerely thank everyone who contributed to making this an occasion to remember. Special recognition is due to all the delegates who were able to take the time to attend. As a newly elected Vice President of the World Veterinary Association, I can assure you that I am committed to helping make future World Veterinary Congresses even more memorable.

The 29th World Veterinary Congress calls on veterinarians to take more action



3000 participants attended the 29th World Veterinary Congress which took place this year in Vancouver (Canada) from 27-31 July 2008. World renowned scientists in animal production, animal health and welfare gathered at this major event along with rural and urban veterinary practitioners, representatives from the public Veterinary Services and from academia, and veterinary students from all around the globe.

Under the common theme of “**Celebrate our diversity**” the five days of intensive discussions focused on the new concept of “One World One Health”. Veterinarians are professionals who through control and eradication of infectious animal diseases - including those transmissible to humans provide a benefit of international and intergenerational scope, considered as a Global Public Good.

With almost 75% of emerging animal diseases having a zoonotic potential, it is timely to address a broader concept of health where scientific disciplines are no longer being segmented.

“Today’s globalised world needs a global strategy for managing growing risks at the human-animal interface and the veterinary profession has a key role to play in this”, said OIE Director General, Dr Bernard Vallat during his keynote address at the Congress.

Further commenting on the need for countries worldwide to have appropriate veterinary legislation in place, Dr Vallat indicated that “the time has come to develop a new leadership in global and national animal health

governance, where the alliance between the public and private sector and cooperation with medical bodies are key for the prevention and control of animal diseases and zoonoses”.

But good national veterinary governance linked to effective international veterinary coordination also starts way upstream with appropriate veterinary education. Almost 100 countries in the world are poor countries where veterinary education criteria do not yet meet the basic and rapidly evolving needs. There was consensus among participants to urgently harmonise and improve veterinary curricula worldwide and to ask national governments and donors to prioritise investments accordingly in order to meet the increasing worldwide demand for “new veterinarians”, including those needed for the public sector.

“The OIE sees the harmonisation and quality of veterinary curricula as a crucial component of sound national animal health systems. We therefore have taken the concrete action to gather the deans of the veterinary faculties of the world at an international conference next year at OIE Headquarters, to start exploring how minimal requirements of veterinary knowledge can be harmonised and to seek consensus from the veterinary education community as well as from national policy makers in this respect.”, said Dr Vallat.

The first World Veterinary Day Award



Dr Russell and Dr Vallat presenting the World Veterinary Day Award to the Kenyan Veterinary Association representatives

One World – One Health



**Lonnie J. King DVM, MS, MPA
CDC, Atlanta, GA**

The health of all individuals is influenced by the health of the people and animals around us, as well as the environment in which we all live. The reverse is also true in that anthropogenic factors are largely responsible for the degradation of our environment and also responsible for the creation of new conditions that favor emerging and re-emerging diseases of animals.

To promote and protect the public health of any country and contribute to improving the health of others around the world, we must change the paradigm that has driven how we traditionally approach public health and disease control. To effectively address the new and changing health challenges of today, we must begin thinking in terms of our profound interdependence. We must recognize and work within the context of our being a part of a larger ecological system that links all of these components together in a constant changing dynamic. Metaphorically, we must now view the world of health through a global “kaleidoscope” in which the chambers constantly change to produce new images or conditions that often reveal radically new reflections of global health.

There is now a new and exciting revival of the concept of “One Health”, which is defined as the collaborative efforts of multiple disciplines – working locally, nationally and globally, to attain optimal health for people, animals and

our environment. The convergence and interactions of humans, animals and the environment is unprecedented, complex and increasingly more unpredictable. “One Health” is the appropriate mindset to both better understand the challenges of our interconnectiveness and also to help create more effective intervention and prevention strategies to improve health in all three domains.

To effectively address the growing number of emerging, re-emerging and intentionally transmitted infectious-disease threats that we face today, we need to become actively engaged with understanding and treating the pathogens causing diseases not only as they exist within the human domain, but also as they are maintained and interfaced within the animal and environmental domains.

Agricultural production and land use, migration of animals, changing animal ecosystems, built environment, human dislocation and movement—especially to large cities—water contamination, chemical contaminants, and climate change are some of the critical factors that are leading to significant environmental challenges, as well as to potential negative health impacts of people and animals.

Public health is no longer the domain of just human medicine or any single discipline. Instead, it is the work of a broad range of professionals and scientists across veterinary medicine, animal and wildlife health, ecosystem health, social sciences, agriculture, environmental microbiology, biodiversity, epidemiology, clinical medicine and many more. In addition, understanding the integrative relationships and multiple disciplines must also take place in the context of globalization. Our interconnectivity of nature, society and health demands a new understanding and appreciation of the causes and consequences of disease and the need to focus on health in its broadest dimension. It also requires us to reinvent the portfolio and direction of public health practice and research.

Memories of the World Veterinary Congress



The Opening Ceremony
Prof Leon Russell accepts the ceremonial
“Talking Stick”



All the WVA Presidents
President Jorna with (left to right) Dr
Rantsios, Prof Russell, Dr Schneider and Dr
Edwards



Conferences and Congresses

The Second OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare

“Putting the OIE standards to work”

20-22 October 2008

Cairo, Egypt. More information at:

http://www.oie.int/eng/A_AW2008/home.htm

15th Congress of the Federation of Asian Veterinary Associations

27-28-29 October 2008.

Congress activities will take place at the Central World Hotel and Convention Center, Bangkok, Thailand. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.fava2008.com/>

Evolving veterinary education for a safer world

This worldwide conference will take place at the Maison de la Chimie in Paris from 12-14 October 2009.

For more information please contact

s.suarez@oie.int

Newsletter sponsored by the Taiwan Veterinary Medical Association

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WVA to Commemorate the 150th Anniversary at 2013 World Veterinary Congress in Prague