World Veterinary Day was celebrated on 28th April, 2018 by the Gollis University and Somaliland Integrated Livestock and Fisheries Organization (SILFO), Hargeisa, Somaliland.

The theme of the celebration was “The Role of the Veterinary Profession in Sustainable Development to Improve Livelihoods, Food Security and Safety” to discuss about the role of Veterinarians for sustainable livestock development in Somaliland and Somalia. The program was held at Gollis University New campus which located at downtown with seminars, exhibition and students’-scientists’ interaction on the theme area.

Around 100 people including Gollis University President with senior staffs, Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, SILFO Chairperson, Ministry of Livestock and Fishery Development Senior Staff, Vet Students, Veterinary Officers, and Scientists, International and Local NGOs and Vet technicians attended the celebration. There are various activities were during and after the celebration undertaken such as Mass Treatment of Livestock (Deworming), Seminar and Workshop.
Gollis University was the first institution celebrated world Veterinary Day by the year of 2014 were the theme was “Animal Welfare”. This year 2018 Gollis University in collaboration with Somaliland Integrated Livestock and Fisheries Organization -SILFO-, we celebrated 18th Anniversary of the World Veterinary Day. This year’s the theme “The Role of the Veterinary Profession in Sustainable Development to improve livelihoods, food security and safety”.

Gollis University together with SILFO Launched Workshop Program enlightening how to overcome frequently Drought which devastates livelihoods and half population of Somali Community and how to improve Food Security and Safety by Producing very qualified Veterinary Public Health Personnel. Since population are increasing rapidly and natural resource are depleting through human activities such as deforestation, land degradation, urbanization and illegal ranges there are profound effect on ecosystem and withdraw proper livelihood.

Over and above, Gollis University and SILFO jointly implemented a huge Camel Deworming in the outskirt of Hargeisa where approximately 1,082 camels were dewormed.

Enclosing Poster of WVD
“The Role of the Veterinary Profession in Sustainable Development to Improve Livelihoods, Food Security and Safety”.

A large part of the world population lives in rural areas where animals are indispensable for their livelihood and access to food. Many farmers in these areas depend on animals as the main source of income. For numerous households, animals are also the best means to preserve the necessary resources to cope with agricultural crises, to exit poverty, or to help to keep the soil fertile and provide traction for ploughing and transport.

It is estimated that the world population will reach 9.7 billion people by 2050 and the demand for animal protein and by-products will grow respectively. By preventing and controlling animal diseases, veterinarians play a crucial role in securing sufficient and safe high-quality food, improving the health and welfare of people and animals. They contribute to ensure the existence of sufficient resources for future generations by supporting the development of sustainable, responsible and efficient livestock production systems. Furthermore, the veterinary profession is responsible for the control and inspection of animal products at all stages “from farm to fork” to guarantee safe food to the world population. It also positively impacts a wide range of employment fields that deliver services for the benefit of society and all animals.

These activities will contribute to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals such as poverty, zero hunger, good health and economic growth.