



WORLD VETERINARY  
ASSOCIATION



INFONEWS

## Message from the WVA President



Dear colleagues,

Happy New Year! First, I want to thank you for your membership this past year. Without a strong membership, the WVA cannot be as effective as the global voice of veterinary medicine. The WVA had a very busy and productive year in 2015 as you have seen from the Info-News issued every 2-3 weeks. WVA priorities this year will include:

- Engaging the private sector more effectively on zoonosis education, including Rabies prevention and control as part of the EndRabiesNow campaign, and initiating more awareness and education campaigns on other zoonotic diseases.
- Highlighting 2016 as the Year for Veterinary Continuing Education with many opportunities for both in-person and online learning and networking.
- Continued promotion of the WVA “brand” and of the veterinary medical profession as the trusted source for information about animal health and welfare, and related public health around the world.

*Once again, I wish you all a wonderful and successful 2016.*

## WVA Communications Survey Results



WVA received 29 responses from its members about the issue of WVA communication. Overall, it appears that WVA is meeting most of the members’ expectations. More than 90% of the responses see a value in WVA membership in helping veterinarians with its activities and programmes. WVA members prefer to receive information every 1-4 weeks through a variety of methods (e.g. e-mail, social media, website, etc). WVA members value the articles, mostly those relating to WVA relationships and activities with other international organizations. WVA encourages you to provide a link to the WVA website on your association websites for interested members. Sharing the WVA Info-News with your members will help them to see the value of your WVA membership and the contributions of your Association to the global veterinary voice on issues that impact your members and the role of veterinary medicine around the world. The full report of the Communication survey will be sent to you soon.

## WVA Year of Continuing Education



2016 will be the WVA Year of Continuing Education with many opportunities for lifelong learning worldwide. Events include the official launch of the WVA Global Online Continuing Education Portal, WVA participation in the OIE 4<sup>th</sup> Conference on Veterinary Education (June 22-24, 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand), the PANVET Congress and associated WVA General Assembly (October 3-7, 2016 in Panama), the 2nd WVA/WMA Global Conference on One Health and the World Veterinary Day 2016 with the theme of “Continuing Education with a One Health Focus”. In addition, the WVA will continue to prepare together with the Korean VMA the 33<sup>rd</sup> WVA Congress to be held in August 2017 in Incheon, Korea. **Please mark your calendar for these major events.**

## Community-based Rabies Prevention and Control programs

WVA will be looking for two WVA Member associations in areas with high rabies risk where WVA can help to facilitate effective rabies prevention and control programs through the regional veterinary medical association and more actively engage the private sector of veterinarians. Some of the significant proven requirements for success include:

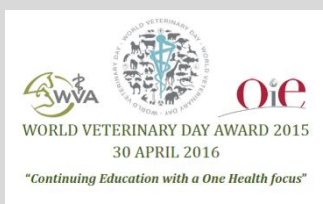


- A WVA Member veterinary medical association
- A willingness of private practitioners from the community to engage in this initiative
- A commitment by the national government to support elimination of dog-mediated human rabies in their country

- A working relationship with the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Agriculture (livestock)
- A partnership with local animal welfare organizations or local units of international organizations with animal welfare interests
- A public education network
- The ability for surveillance and monitoring of canine rabies cases and human exposure
- Eligibility for OIE vaccine bank distribution

A proposal for a pilot project on Community-based Rabies Prevention and Control programs is being finalized by the WVA Working Group on Zoonotic Diseases.

## World Veterinary Day 2016



The theme for the 2016 World Veterinary Day, to be celebrated 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016, is “**Continuing Education with a One Health Focus**”. The World Veterinary Day Award is prepared by the WVA and the World Organization of Animal Health (OIE). The WVD Award of 1000 USD will be presented at the OIE General Assembly in May in Paris to a WVA Member with the best nomination highlighting continuing education activities or programs with a One Health Focus. In addition, this year WVA is partnering with Henry Schein Animal Health around the world to increase emphasis on the importance of the One Health approach through continuing education.

**Thank you for your membership. We need your expertise and participation for the world to hear our message about our role as veterinarians for the global public good. We need your input as Constituent Members or Observers for our discussions. Don't be left out of the process!**

**Please forward this info-news to your individual members**

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