



WVA NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2020

A MESSAGE FROM THE WVA PRESIDENT: DR. PATRICIA TURNER



Looking Forward to a New Year!

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

What a year 2020 has been for the veterinary profession around the world! Despite the challenges of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the WVA has been busy developing various projects and trying to adapt to more virtual interactions with our members and the global veterinary community. I have highlighted a few of our new activities below.

One project that the WVA is excited to launch in 2021 is being conducted in partnership with the AAVMC's Committee on International Veterinary Medical Education (CIVME). The project will examine global standards for veterinary education to survey veterinary medical colleges around the world about quality assessment standards and strategies used to meet national and regional veterinary workforce needs. The Steering Committee will also be developing a self-assessment tool for veterinary colleges to use in regions or countries without formal accreditation systems. The WVA is very pleased to announce that Lida Anestidou, DVM, MS, PhD will be the Project Coordinator for the Global Quality Standards for Veterinary Education project. Dr. Anestidou is the Founder and Principal of Communities in Science LLC, a consultancy on international development, global partnerships and research training; One Health; biomedical ethics and integrity in science, and Lida brings many years of experience as a Senior Program Officer coordinating international scientific and educational projects for the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to this effort. We look forward to her participation!



The WVA is also delighted to be launching another educational project in 2021 in collaboration with our partners, the FAO and Health for Animals, which is being funded by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. This project will focus on developing sustainable business through training of veterinary paraprofessionals in Africa. The project recognizes the essential role of veterinary paraprofessionals in supporting veterinarians to deliver animal health needs and report key animal diseases at a community level. High quality digital educational materials will be developed and tailored for paraprofessional training in several countries as part of the project.

The WVA's Pharmaceutical Stewardship Strategic Focus Group has partnered with The Brooke to develop a global essential medicines list for large animals. This project is the first step towards ensuring that

veterinary professionals around the world have access to high-quality medicines and therapeutics needed to provide good care to animals.

The WVA recently launched a position statement on the [Global Climate Emergency](#) that was developed by the One Health Strategic Focus Group to draw attention to the role veterinarians must play in addressing this continuing challenge. This group is also working on developing a program for a Food Animal Security Forum to be held for WVA members in the spring of 2021 – more information will be forthcoming in January!

Finally, the Animal Welfare Strategic Focus Group is working on a position statement for [recognition and management of pain in food animals](#) (see page 33) as well as global guidelines for the care and management of horses used for industrial product development.

These are just a few of the many activities in the works, and more information will be available as these activities develop. I hope these highlights will remind our members that the WVA Secretariat, Council and Strategic Focus Group members are constantly thinking about global veterinary needs and how they can be addressed. I would like to thank all of the WVA's partners, sponsors, and volunteers for their ongoing support of the WVA's activities over the past year! We look forward to working with you again in 2021.

On behalf of the WVA Council, I wish you and your families a safe and healthy new year!

**Yours respectfully,
Dr. Patricia Turner
World Veterinary Association, President**

The WVA needs your expertise and opinion in preparing a cohesive global message on our role as veterinarians for the global public good. As Constituent & Observer Members of the WVA, we welcome your input in our discussions! Don't be left out of the process!

PLEASE FORWARD THIS INFO-NEWS TO YOUR MEMBERS

If interested in learning more, please contact:

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