

WVA NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2020

A MESSAGE FROM THE WVA PRESIDENT: DR. PATRICIA TURNER



Promoting Diversity and Inclusion Within the Global Veterinary Profession

Dear WVA Members,

Diversity refers to the characteristics and traits that make individuals unique while inclusion refers to social norms and behaviours that make others feel welcome. In 2020, these are critical concepts for veterinary professional associations, veterinarians, veterinary educators, and veterinary students to grapple with, acknowledge, and promote within their associations, workplaces, colleges, and communities. As we have seen recently and continue to see, systematic marginalization of people because of colour, race, gender and gender identity, class or beliefs and the ensuing injustices and inequities that arise, create complex social imbalances resulting in lasting harm to people but also create conditions of social permissiveness for ignoring the needs of animals and the state of our environment. These same type of single dominating visions allow societies to accept conditions for keeping and caring of animals that do not preserve animal integrity and interests, as well as methods of killing animals that do not recognize animal sentience and intelligence. A single-minded bias also allows societies to ignore the loss of habitat and biodiversity for short-term human financial gain. When a One Welfare framework is employed for promoting global human, animal, and environmental health and welfare, it helps to ensure that there can't be a single dominating perspective or point of view. With this approach, human diversity, and more broadly, biodiversity, are seen as necessary for preserving the richness of life on earth. Preserving the dignity and integrity of people, animals, and environments (both social and physical) requires ongoing collaborations and dialogues. While these may seem like lofty aspirations for local, national, and regional governments to grapple with, we all have an individual responsibility to inform ourselves and to consider our own actions and behaviours as they relate to these subjects. Supporting diversity and inclusion is not about adding another layer of 'political correctness' to our associations, workplaces or schools – it requires transformation, a willingness and desire to ask questions and listen to and help others, and an openness to revision of longstanding thoughts and societal beliefs for the greater good. Promoting diversity and inclusion are important for ensuring that the veterinary profession remains relevant and resilient in a changing world.

With sincere regards,

Dr. Patricia Turner

World Veterinary Association, President

WORKING STRATEGICALLY TO SUPPORT OUR MEMBERS

In early February, an ad hoc Strategic Planning Committee of the WVA convened at the WVA's office in Brussels. The purpose was to review member and partner survey responses and to revise the organization's Strategic Plan for the coming five years. This plan was subsequently adopted by the WVA Council and presented to the WVA's General Assembly in April. Please click [HERE](#) to review the WVA's 2020-2025 Strategic Plan, including the new WVA Mission Statement, Vision, Core Values, and Strategic Goals for the next 2 years.



World Veterinary Association (WVA)

Strategic Plan 2020 – 2025

THE WVA AND WFPHA MOU TO PROMOTE PUBLIC HEALTH GLOBALLY

The WVA and the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) recently agreed to work together in the advancement of human and animal health through the global promotion of the One Health approach. Through the established plan for collaboration, the WVA and WFPHA aim to focus on the areas of zoonotic disease prevention, antimicrobial resistance, and advocacy of the One Health concept.



The [WFPHA](#) is an international, nonprofit, nongovernmental organization composed of over 115 member associations – mostly multidisciplinary national public health associations – and represents approximately 5 million public health professionals worldwide.

37TH WORLD VETERINARY ASSOCIATION CONGRESS POSTPONED

Given the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19, including global travel restrictions and the potential for future outbreaks, the Taiwan Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA) has elected to postpone WVAC2021. The WVA and TVMA are working together closely to identify the best possible solution, and will provide additional information as soon as possible. We appreciate your understanding as we navigate this difficult and unprecedented situation.



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:

WVA

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