



World Veterinary Association

www.worldvet.org

Newsletter

No. 19 – February 2010

From the President



Dear colleagues and friends,

With this first Newsletter of the year I would like to wish you all the best for 2010, especially good health, prosperity and happiness.

I myself experienced just recently how crucial these things are in life, as my wife is just recovering from severe pneumonia. My best wishes also go to our Past-President Leon Russell, who will hopefully soon recover from his current health problems.

2010 will bring some fruitful changes for our Association. The new WVA secretariat in Brussels has just started its work and I am looking forward to continue the good co-operation with our Executive Secretary Jan Vaarten and our Veterinary Policy Advisor Nancy De Briyne. Some minor issues still have to be resolved for the transition of our statutes from Danish to Belgian law, but this will not influence our work.

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A first announcement for an extraordinary Presidential Assembly in May 2010 was sent to you already. The main issue we will have to discuss now is the Strategy plan and the Action plan for the next five years. We've received many constructive remarks from our members and will translate these into actions.

In early March the WVA EXCOM will have its first meeting in 2010 and will also visit the WVC 2011 organisation in South Africa. This visit, 18 months before the Congress, is in accordance to the WVC Congress rules. A report of the visit will be published in our March April newsletter.

If you as members would like to raise topics for the WVA EXCOM meeting agenda, please feel free to let us know, as we want you to be actively involved.

The invitation for the World Veterinary Day Award 2010 nominations was sent out in December. The theme for this year is based on the

**'One World - One Health' concept:
One World-One Health: more
cooperation between veterinarians
and physicians.**

The recent outbreaks of Q-fever in the Netherlands in animals and humans are just one example of why this topic is so important.

2010 will be the year to meet, to make plans, and to revise our strategy and actions, but also to be very active in the area of policymaking. Especially two policies with global impact will need our full attention: the policy about antimicrobial resistance and the prudent use of antimicrobials. But also Veterinary Education will be high on our agenda, bearing in mind already that in 2011 we will celebrate 250 years of veterinary education (Vet 2011).

**With its policies and actions, WVA
has to be visible on a global scale.**

**Dr Tjeerd Jorna
WVA President**

Earthquake in Haiti

The WVA expresses its sincere sympathy with the Haitian people for the serious consequences they are currently experiencing as a result of the earthquake from 12 January.

The WVA has been reporting developments on its website. We have received offers from veterinarians wanting to help. They have been referred to the World Society for the Protection of Animals and the American Veterinary Medical Association.

This disaster has seen an immediate international response from a number of organizations.

While it is important that the initial focus is on the people involved, it is important that veterinary assistance is high on the list of aid. Animals are also affected. There is early need for food and water safety for the inhabitants to prevent further consequences in the days and weeks following a disaster of this magnitude.

Early planning and assistance is also required to re-establish local agriculture to provide for on-going production of food supplies.

WVA-OIE - World Veterinary Day - AWARD 2010

World Veterinary Day was instigated by the World Veterinary Association in 2000 to be celebrated annually on the last Saturday of April. In 2008 the WVA and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) agreed on the creation of the World Veterinary Day Award aimed at rewarding the most successful celebration of the veterinary profession by national veterinary associations, alone, or in cooperation with any other selected veterinary body.

The 2010 Award will be delivered at the 78th OIE World Assembly to be held in Paris, France on 23-28 May 2010.

The prize: US\$ 1,000 will be donated to the winner.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

National veterinary associations that celebrate World veterinary day alone or in cooperation with others can participate in the competition of being selected WVD award winner of the year by sending in a completed application form (see instructions below).

THEME FOR THE YEAR 2010

**One World, One Health:
more cooperation between
veterinarians and physicians**

The much publicised concept "One World, One Health" indicates that the world has awakened to the link between animal diseases and public health.

It has long been known that 60% of known infectious diseases are common to humans and animals (whether domestic or wild); 75% of recent emerging human diseases came from animals and 80% of the pathogens that could potentially be used in bioterrorism are zoonotic. It is also known that human populations need a regular diet of protein particularly from milk, eggs or meat, and that a deficiency can also be a public health problem.

The unprecedented movement of commodities and people between nations provides opportunities for pathogens to spread and multiply.



Further, climate change can enable pathogens to extend their range, notably through vectors, such as insects colonising new areas that up until a few years ago were too cold for them to survive the winter.

The only way to minimize the impact of these new hazards is to adapt the existing systems of animal and public health governance at world, regional and national levels in a harmonised and coordinated manner. From the animal health perspective, "One World, One Health" should eventually lead all countries to make a firm commitment to establishing mechanisms for the early detection of disease outbreaks, as well as allowing rapid implementation, by veterinarians, of any required preventive or therapeutic measure directed to animals.

From the human health perspective, "One World, One Health" should induce all countries to adopt a united approach by veterinarians and human physicians for the control of zoonotic diseases, especially with regard to the prevention and post-exposure treatment of these diseases.

The 2010 Award will reward the veterinary association that best publicises the theme by involving all stakeholders in the organisation of events along with all other stakeholders such as the media and the general public.

TOOLKIT FOR APPLICANTS

This could be accomplished via public events organised with support of the media, open days, competitions or any event that creates attention and delivers a message to a large number of people in an interesting, entertaining and stimulating way (using, for example, musical and gastronomic events as a support).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICATION

The application for the award must include:

- Name of the individual veterinarian representing the veterinary association involved
- Country and e-mail address
- Number of veterinarians members of the applicant association
- The specific audience attending the event and the attendance rate
- Press coverage received
- Number of non veterinarians and veterinarians attracted to the event
- Number of stakeholders involved in the organisation of the event and number of stakeholders attracted to the event
- Proposed actions to be taken as a follow up

SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Copies of posters, stickers, photographs, press releases, TV spots etc.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications should be submitted by 1 May 2010 to the World Veterinary Association: secretariat@worldvet.org

World Veterinary Association Secretariat

The Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) is now hosting the Secretariat of the World Veterinary Association (WVA). This will continue the work of the Danish Veterinary Association in Copenhagen, who hosted the WVA Secretariat since 1994.



FVE President Walter Winding (left) and WVA President Tjeerd Jorna after signing the contract for the WVA Secretariat.

Both professional veterinary organisations are looking forward to a fruitful cooperation. *'In a globalised world strong co-operation between the European Federation and the World Veterinary Association are needed, not least underlining the 'One World - One Health' concept'* said Walter Winding.

The move from Copenhagen saw the end of an era as the WVA bid “farewell” to Executive Secretary Dr Lars Holsaae and Secretary Birgitte Sørensen. A formal farewell will occur during the next WVA meetings in Paris in late May.



Former Secretary Birgitte Sørensen



Former Executive Secretary Dr Lars Holsaae

WVA OFFICERS

President: Dr Tjeerd Jorna (The Netherlands)

Vice-Presidents: Dr Duane Landals (Canada); Dr Faouzi Kechrid (Tunisia)

Immediate Past President: Prof Leon Russell (USA)

Secretariat: Dr Jan Vaarten (Executive Secretary); Dr Nancy De Briyne (Veterinary Policy Advisor)

Communications Director: Dr Jim Edwards

Newsletter Editors: Dr Jim Edwards, Mr Bob Stevenson

Vet 2011 Celebration Planning



Vet 2011 is a celebration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the world's first veterinary school in 1761 in Lyon, France. The Alfort veterinary school, near Paris, came three years later. Both were founded by Frenchman Claude Bourgelat.

Comité Vet 2011 has been recruiting members since this past year in an effort to designate 2011 as World Veterinary Year. So far, organizing committees have formed at the local, national, and international levels. The AVMA is an associate member of Vet 2011, along with the Association des Anciens Elèves et Amis de l'Ecole Nationale Vétérinaire de Lyon, the Australian Veterinary Association, the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe, the African Veterinary Association, the Federation of Asian Veterinary Associations and the World Veterinary Association.

World Veterinary Year would be commemorated with special events highlighting the contributions veterinary medicine has made to animal and public health.

To serve as a link for Vet 2011 events globally, the French committee is planning to produce a film on the life of Bourgelat and the birth of the veterinary profession at the end of the 18th century. The film will be offered to TV channels and event organizers. Merial has signed on to sponsor the film's script.

The AVMA will seek a congressional resolution honoring the 250th world anniversary of the veterinary profession. The congressional resolution would acknowledge the contributions of the veterinary profession while recognizing the importance of this momentous milestone.

Dr Faouzi Kechrid represented the WVA at the VET2011 Executive Council Meeting in Lyon, 13th and 14th January. President Dr Jorna was not able to attend this event.

Dr Bernard Vallat and Dr J.F Chary chaired this meeting attended particularly by the OIE, WVA, FVE, AVMA, Australian veterinary Association, African Veterinary Association, Euro-Arab Veterinary Association, AEEV, French veterinary school Deans and representatives from the French profession.

Visit www.vet2011.org for more information.

2010: United Nations International Year of Biodiversity



The United Nations declared 2010 to be the International Year of Biodiversity. It is a celebration of life on earth and of the value of biodiversity for our lives. The world is invited to take action in 2010 to safeguard the variety of life on earth: biodiversity. The goal is to increase public awareness of the topic of biodiversity with its many facets.

Chinese Veterinary Medical Association Launched

Source: JAVMA, February 1, 2010

"This is an important event for veterinary medicine across the globe." said AVMA CEO W. Ron DeHaven as he congratulated one of the world's ancient cultures on forming its first national veterinary association.

In Beijing for the launch of the history-making Chinese Veterinary Medical Association, Dr. DeHaven as a guest speaker at the inaugural seminar, shared words of inspiration and a pledge of collaboration.



AVMA CEO W. Ron DeHaven and Chinese VMA Chairman Jia Youlin

Chinese veterinarians already have local organizations such as the Beijing Small Animal Veterinary Association, but the Chinese VMA is their first national association. Government approval was required to establish it.

Dr. Jia Youlin is the new association's chairman. Dr. Jia was the director of the Veterinary Bureau of China's Ministry of Agriculture. When Dr. Jia retired, he took on the challenge of forming a national association.

Through an interpreter, Dr. Jia told JAVMA, "The establishment of the Chinese Veterinary Medical Association is regarded as a great, joyous event for Chinese veterinarians and also as a symbolic event in the history of the development of Chinese veterinary medical science, and it provides a new platform that will accelerate the development of a modern Chinese veterinary health service."

As of mid-December, 1,940 individual members and 370 corporate members had joined the association, and more than 500 Chinese veterinarians from 31 provinces and municipalities attended the inaugural meeting.

Dr. Jia said that Chinese veterinarians expect their new association to regulate entry qualifications for new veterinarians, improve industrial standards, regulate professional conduct, build a platform for information exchange, and protect the legitimate rights and interests of veterinarians.

In the U.S, being a veterinarian carries a degree of public credibility and prestige. In China, human medicine is more revered and was the first choice of many students who instead wound up in veterinary school. Often a student "chooses" to study veterinary medicine because he or she scores low in the university qualification examinations.

Dr. DeHaven said the Chinese VMA wants to increase the regard for veterinarians in their society. With public officials from many disciplines present at the inaugural seminar, he emphasized the importance of veterinarians not only to animal health but also to food safety and public health.

"By serving animals, we serve all of society," he said. "Nowhere is that more important than in China, with 1.3 billion people and a rapidly increasing standard of living. You now have 40 million pets—and that is growing 8 percent a year—and you are the world's most rapidly growing consumer of meat.

"It is veterinarians who will provide quality care to your pets and ensure a safe, affordable, abundant supply of animal-based food."

A strong motivation for forming the Chinese VMA was to have a body similar to the AVMA that could accredit China's veterinary schools to ensure a consistent quality of veterinary education throughout the country. The new association is also looking to the AVMA to share its experience

in enhancing the standard of veterinary care and raising the level of education.



"Modern veterinary practice in China is yet at its starting stage," Dr. Jia stated in his meeting speech. "Both our veterinary education level and our overall technical capacity of veterinarians are greatly inferior to the international level. The qualifications of our veterinary-major graduates are not acknowledged by most countries."

Dr. Jia said that formation of the Chinese VMA will facilitate development of veterinary associations throughout China, optimize the country's veterinary system, and narrow the gap in veterinary education and practice between China and other countries.

The dean of the China Agricultural University College of Veterinary Medicine in Beijing, Dr. Wang Ming, estimated that there are anywhere from 300,000 to a million veterinarians in China.

Dr. DeHaven explained. "The reason they don't know how many veterinarians there are is that there has not been a quality assurance program to test them and establish a minimum standard, no AVMA that would track those kinds of numbers. There are 55 veterinary schools in China, and by their own admission, these run the gamut from very good to very poor in terms of quality of education.

"This visit highlighted for me the importance of the initiative that the OIE is currently undertaking to create a global minimum standard for veterinary education."

With China's largely agriculture-based economy, most veterinary schools concentrate on teaching farm animal medicine. Interestingly, the college at Beijing was built in a rural agricultural community but has become enveloped in an

urban environment. The college now runs just a small animal teaching hospital, which provides the only clinical experience its students receive. Throughout the country, each school's location determines the experience its students will receive.

Although the percentage of government veterinarians is higher in China than in the U.S., Dr. DeHaven said many practices are privately owned—both food animal and small animal, especially in rural areas. Some Chinese veterinarians are considered specialists, but there is no pathway by which they become board-certified.

Vice Minister of Agriculture Gao Hongbin told the gathering that the veterinary system is being reformed by separating law enforcement from service. Surveilling and fighting serious disease threats will be the responsibility of one team of official veterinarians whose work is administered by the government. Providing technical and clinical services will be the responsibility of the other team, licensed veterinarians whose work is administered by the Chinese VMA.

Dr. DeHaven told the seminar audience, "We are a small profession, and healthy animals are critical for healthy people, so we need to work together for the health of all animals—pets; livestock, poultry, and fish; and wildlife."

Drs. Jia and DeHaven envision the two associations arranging exchange programs involving their staff members, their publications, and their association activities as well as student internships.

What kind of relationship would Dr. Jia like to see between Chinese and U.S. veterinarians? Dr. Jia told JAVMA, "One world, one health. I hope that Chinese veterinarians and American veterinarians will deepen mutual understanding, maintain good communication, and strive for a closer cooperation.

Footnote:

President Tjeerd Jorna has welcomed the formation of the Chinese Veterinary Medical Association and looks forward to its active participation in the WVA.

New European Commission

"The underlying theme of my work will be Patients First, Consumers First", John Dalli, Commissioner-designate for Health and consumer policy has told MEPs. He said his vision would be that "European Citizens live a longer and healthier life" and that he wanted "well-informed consumers who can take educated decisions on the goods and services they consume". Furthermore, a focus on prevention would be necessary to secure sustainability in the health sector.

In discussion, MEPs from the committees on the environment, public health and food safety, on the internal market and consumer protection and on agriculture, questioned Mr Dalli on issues such as patient rights, the pharmaceutical package, legislation on food derived from cloned animals, genetically modified organisms, the proposal on food information for consumers, protection of children and the question of collective redress.

Mr Dalli hoped that within one year we can come up with a report on how to tackle the issue of cloned animals.

Asked on how he would deal with the treatment of GMOs, Dalli said that "the basis of our decisions is science", but that it would be "extra important to ensure that the advice given is independent". He would study the possibility of regular reviews of independence in the different agencies, he added.

On the issue of labelling GMO feed, as requested by Parliament, Mr Dalli promised, "to actively consider and discuss every aspect of the problem".

"Animals treated with hormones are not allowed to be imported to the EU" and Mr Dalli "would defend this position internationally". He said he would prefer to "push to have high protection everywhere".

Honour for former WVA President

Dr Jim Edwards has been appointed an "Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit" (ONZM) in the New Year Honours for 2010, for services to the Veterinary Profession and to the Community.

Dr Edwards has been involved in the veterinary profession nationally and internationally since he graduated from Massey University 37 years ago. He served two terms as the President of the New Zealand Veterinary Association. He was President of the World Veterinary Association (WVA) from 1999 - 2002 and President of the Federation of Asian Veterinary Associations from 2006 – 2008.

Vets receive Australia Day Honours

The national contribution made by the veterinary profession is reflected in this year's Australia Day Honours with four Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) members receiving awards.

Dr Mark Lawrie, AVA President, said: "We are very proud of the achievements of these four outstanding individuals.

"Their contributions highlight how important veterinarians are to our agricultural industries in preventing and responding to disease, and to Australian communities."

The AVA members who have received Australia Day Honours are:

Dr Helen Scott-Orr and **Dr Hugh Millar** received a Public Service Medal for outstanding public service.

Dr Ted Fisher was awarded the Order of Australia Medal.

Dr Julian Mullins was recognised for over 50 years of work in veterinary science.

FAO State of Food and Agriculture

"Livestock in the balance"



The State of Food and Agriculture, FAO's major annual flagship publication, aims at bringing to a wider audience balanced science-based assessments of important issues in the field of food and agriculture. Each edition of the report contains a comprehensive, yet easily accessible, overview of a selected topic of major relevance for rural and agricultural development and for global food security.

Livestock contribute 40 percent of the global value of agricultural output and support the livelihoods and food security of almost a billion people. Rapidly rising incomes and urbanization, combined with underlying population growth, are driving demand for meat and other animal products in many developing countries. Supply-side factors, such as the globalization of supply chains for feed, genetic stock and other technologies, are further transforming the structure of the sector.

The rapid growth and transformation of the livestock sector have been taking place in an institutional void. The speed of change has often significantly outpaced the capacity of governments and societies to provide the necessary policy and regulatory framework to ensure an appropriate balance between the provision of private and public goods. The result has been systemic failures, apparent in social exclusion, widespread environmental damage and threats to human health.

A growing divide is emerging: large-scale industrial producers serve dynamic growing markets, whereas traditional pastoralists and smallholders, while often continuing to support local livelihoods and provide food security, risk marginalization. In many parts of the world, the transformation of the livestock sector, in the absence of strong governance, is resulting in market failures related to natural-resource use and public health.

National Policy Workshop – Beijing



Dr Duane Landals (Vice President, World Veterinary Association) traveled to China to participate in a National Policy Workshop from January 23rd to 31st, 2010. The theme of the workshop being the contribution of Institutionalized Extension Systems to the Effective development and implementation of Veterinary Public Health Policies in the Peoples Republic of China.

Through this annual national workshop, policy-makers hope to gain an improved level of awareness with respect to current national and international initiatives in policies related to animal health, animal welfare and public health.

Institutions such as government, academia and industry have a role to play in veterinary extension and policy development. The interaction among these institutions, worldwide, is a challenge that can be facilitated by and contribute to efficient policies. The implementation of these policies needs solid financial mechanisms to achieve sustainability of the veterinary extension systems. The workshop is facilitated by international and Chinese experts to promote understanding of veterinary extension and its link to policy issues.

Dr. Landals had an opportunity to:

- a) Make presentations related to The role of Veterinary Associations in global health;
- b) Participate in panel discussions; and,
- c) Conduct follow-up meetings with Chinese organizations and specialists.

Asian Vultures on the Brink of Second Disaster Research Identifies New Drug Threat to Beleaguered Birds

For every 1000 Oriental white-backed vultures occurring in southern Asia in the 1980s only one remains today because of the lethal effects of diclofenac - a drug used to treat livestock - on vultures. Alarming, researchers looking into safe alternatives have now identified that a second, livestock treatment in Asia - ketoprofen - is also lethal to the birds. Vultures feeding on the carcasses of recently-treated livestock suffer acute kidney failure within days of exposure.

Following this discovery, The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), the Bombay Natural History Society and Bird Conservation Nepal – the RSPB's Indian and Nepalese partners - are calling for tighter controls on the use of this second drug in veterinary use in southern Asia. The organisations, working together under the BirdLife International partnership, are keen to see the promotion of drugs that are safe, and currently the only similar livestock treatment known to have no harmful effects on the continent's vultures or other scavenging birds is meloxicam. Meloxicam is no longer under patent and is currently manufactured by at least 20 companies in South Asia.

Richard Cuthbert is an RSPB scientist investigating the causes of the declines of three species of Critically Endangered vulture in southern Asia. He said: "From millions of individuals in the 1980s, vultures have simply disappeared from large swathes of India, Pakistan and Nepal and at least three species have been brought to the brink of extinction. The rate of decline of these magnificent birds is staggering. For the Oriental white-backed vultures, for every two birds alive last year, one will now be dead, and this is all because of the birds' inability to cope with these drugs in livestock carcasses, the birds' principal food source."

He added: "Everyone interested in conservation, quite rightly knows about the plight of India's tigers, but in the race towards extinction the vultures will get there far sooner!"

Dr Vibhu Prakash, Director of the Vulture Programme of the Bombay Natural History Society in India, added: "Only meloxicam has been established as a safe alternative for vultures, while at the same time being an effective drug for treating cattle. We would like to see other safe alternatives, but it should be the responsibility of the Indian pharmaceutical industry to test these to determine their safety to vultures."

The research shows that ketoprofen is lethal to the birds in the dosages that would be administered to livestock to reduce pain and swelling of those animals suffering from rheumatism or arthritis. Worryingly, researchers have already recorded the drug in one in 200 carcasses in southern Asia, with 70 per cent of those occurring in potentially lethal concentrations.

The authors add that ketoprofen could already be contributing to further declines of the remaining vulture populations caused by diclofenac, and this is a trend likely to increase if ketoprofen replaces diclofenac. In addition to ketoprofen and diclofenac, other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs sold by veterinary pharmacies for treating livestock include meloxicam, phenylbutazone, analgin, nimesulide, flunixin and ibuprofen. Just three of these have been tested to determine their effects on vultures. Diclofenac and ketoprofen cause lethal kidney failure and only meloxicam is known to be safe.

Three species of griffon-type vulture are facing extinction in south Asia: the Oriental white-backed vulture; the long-billed vulture; and the slender-billed vulture.

The South African study involved using closely-related Cape griffon and African white-backed vultures. Both of these species were known to be susceptible to diclofenac.

BVA Sends Strong Message on Anthelmintic Use



British Veterinary Association

The British Veterinary Association (BVA) has launched a guidance poster containing powerful messages to vets to encourage the responsible use of anthelmintics in grazing animals, following ongoing concern about the development of resistance to these medicines.

Anthelmintics are used throughout the world for the treatment of worms and other endoparasites in sheep, cattle, goats and horses, as well as in companion animals, but misuse in grazing animals, leading to resistance, is an increasing problem, which has now become a serious threat to the health and welfare of the animals.

In response to growing concerns the BVA's Medicines Group has produced a poster that will be distributed to BVA members inside the Veterinary Record (23 January 2010 issue) and will be available to download from the BVA website.

The poster, accompanied by additional online guidance, clearly outlines Do's and Don'ts in the use of anthelmintics and carries the strong message "Think Twice Before Prescribing Anthelmintics". The poster is intended for display in veterinary practices as a reminder to vets and their clients of the need for responsible use of these medicinal products.

The poster carries advice on encouraging farm health planning and worming strategies, targeting the drug used to the parasite, the importance of not underdosing, quarantining incoming animals, and investigating and reporting suspected cases of resistance to the

Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD). It clearly tells vets not to treat unnecessarily and not to blanket treat.

Launching the poster, Peter Jones, Chair of the BVA's Medicines Group, said:

"Every use of anthelmintics increases the risk of resistance developing. Veterinary surgeons have a duty to ensure anthelmintic use is judicious and limited to circumstances when treatment can be effective, targeted and based on sound veterinary diagnosis.

"The BVA advises all vets to work with their farming clients to develop a farm health plan that encompasses an effective worming strategy and a full grazing management programme to reduce the need for treatment.

"Vets must also promote good worming practice to ensure dosage is based on accurate weight measurements. Underdosing is a major factor in the development of resistance."

Professor Bill Reilly, President of the BVA, added:

"Action to minimise the development of resistance is urgent and essential and we hope this poster will serve as a constant reminder to vets to think twice before prescribing anthelmintics."

The launch of the poster follows the success and appreciation of the BVA's 8-point plan for the responsible use of antimicrobials poster, launched in November, which was welcomed by many interested parties in the UK and by the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE). It is currently being considered for use in other European countries.

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

Official Inauguration of the new OIE Sub regional representation for North Africa



Dr Faouzi Kechrid, WVA Vice-President reports that this ceremony was held in Tunis on Tuesday January 26th and involved the OIE Director General Dr Bernard Vallat, Dr Monique Eloit OIE Deputy Director General, The Ministries of Agriculture and CVO's from Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Tunisia, Egypt, Italy, France, Spain and Portugal as well as the representative of international organizations, press media, drug companies and local veterinarians.

The North African OIE Sub Regional Representation in Tunis will complete the previous OIE Worldwide representation in Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, Eastern Europe and the Middle East.

The Tunis OIE Representation is composed by:

OIE Representative for North Africa: Dr Faouzi Kechrid, Tunisia

OIE Technical Advisors: Dr Vincent Brioude, France and Dr Antonio Petrini, Italy,

Administrative and Financial assistants: Mrs Mouna Bousleuh and Mrs Imen Kammoun.

More information on: www.oie.int
(Regional Representations)

New Board Elected at the FAFVAC

During the FECAVA, AFVAC Congress held in Lille France last month the FAFVAC (Federation des Associations Francophones Veterinaires pour Animaux de Compagnie) created in 2005 elected during its general assembly its new board 2009-2013:
President: Prof Maurice Roze, France
Vice President: Dr Faouzi Kechrid, Tunisia
Dr Marcel Renard, Belgium

Dr J.F Rousselot, France
General Secretary: Dr Isabel Becquart, Switzerland
Treasurer: Dr Michel Lammertyn, France
Deputy Treasurer: Dr Michel De Bielderling, Belgium

More information on: www.fafvac.org

World Union of Professions (UMPL)

Union Mondiale des Professions Libérales (UMPL) During its General Assembly held in Paris, the UMPL has elected its new 2010-2014 Board:

Chairman: Mr Francisco Antonio FEIJO, Brazil
Vice President: Dr Faouzi Kechrid, Tunisia, representing medical professions

Support for Rural Veterinary Workforce



The New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA) is pleased with the changes made to the voluntary veterinary bonding scheme announced recently by Agriculture Minister David Carter.

NZVA president Richard Wild said "The NZVA believes the voluntary bonding scheme is an important component of an overall strategy to ensure New Zealand has a veterinary workforce that is serving the needs of the agriculture industry, which is so important to New Zealand's economy".

The NZVA along with the Veterinary Council, and the veterinary school at the Palmerston North campus of Massey University, have been looking closely at the rural veterinary workforce issues both in New Zealand and overseas. There are similar challenges in countries such as Australia, Canada, the UK and USA and NZVA has been working closely with the veterinary associations in those countries on strategies to address the problem.

An Overview on Brazilian Veterinary Education

Rafael Gianella Mondadori, MV, MMV, PhD
President of Veterinary Medicine Education Committee
Federal Council of Veterinary Medicine

History

Throughout 300 years after discovering (1500), there was no higher education institution in Brazil. Only in 1812 the Prince edited a document suggesting the creation of a training course in agriculture, but, animal studies have not developed at this time. The first Veterinary Medicine and Agriculture School in Brazil was founded in 1910. In 1913 the course began its activities, forming the first class of veterinarians in 1917.

Between 1910 and late 1930's there were six courses of Veterinary Medicine in Brazil. The abolition of slavery, occurred in 1888, and the good performance of agriculture, motivated the evolution of veterinary education at this earliest times. Due this evolution, in 1933, was enacted the first regulation of the veterinary profession and the professionals were obligated to register in the veterinary statutory body.

Currently the Brazilian Veterinary Medicine is regulated by a law enacted in 1968. This law, besides to determine which professional activities may be performed by the veterinary doctor, also regulates the country's veterinary statutory body.

Current Status of Veterinary Medicine Schools

Presently, Brazil has approximately 160 schools of veterinary medicine. Figure 1 shows the number of new veterinary medicine courses created between 1910 and 2007. Approximately 60% of these courses are in private higher education institutions. The remaining 40% are in Public Universities, where the students do not pay any fees, and all financial resources necessary to maintain the course

is provided by federal, state or local government, depending on the nature of institution subordination.

Every year, veterinary medicine schools enroll between 10 and 11 thousand new students. A total number of 43 thousand students are enrolled in veterinary medicine courses around the country, allowing, between 5,500 and 6,000 persons graduate in veterinary medicine each year.

As stated by Brazilian legislation, all institutions must be submitted to a governmental accreditation processes, and, all veterinary courses need to follow minimum of 4,500 hours (five years) of actual student work, and follow a specific law which defines the skills and competencies which should be developed by the students during the course.

The Brazilian national veterinary medicine curriculum guidelines stipulates that the veterinarian must have a general, humane, critical and reflective formation, being able to understand and interpret the needs of individuals, social groups and communities, with respect to professional activities, within their specific fields of expertise in animal health and veterinary clinic; environmental sanitation and preventive veterinary medicine, public health and animal products inspection and technology; animal production and reproduction; ecology and environmental protection. Be informed of social, cultural and political facts of economy, government agriculture and agribusiness. Capacity of logical reasoning, observation, interpretation and analysis of data and information, as well as, essential knowledge in Veterinary Medicine, for identify and solve problems.

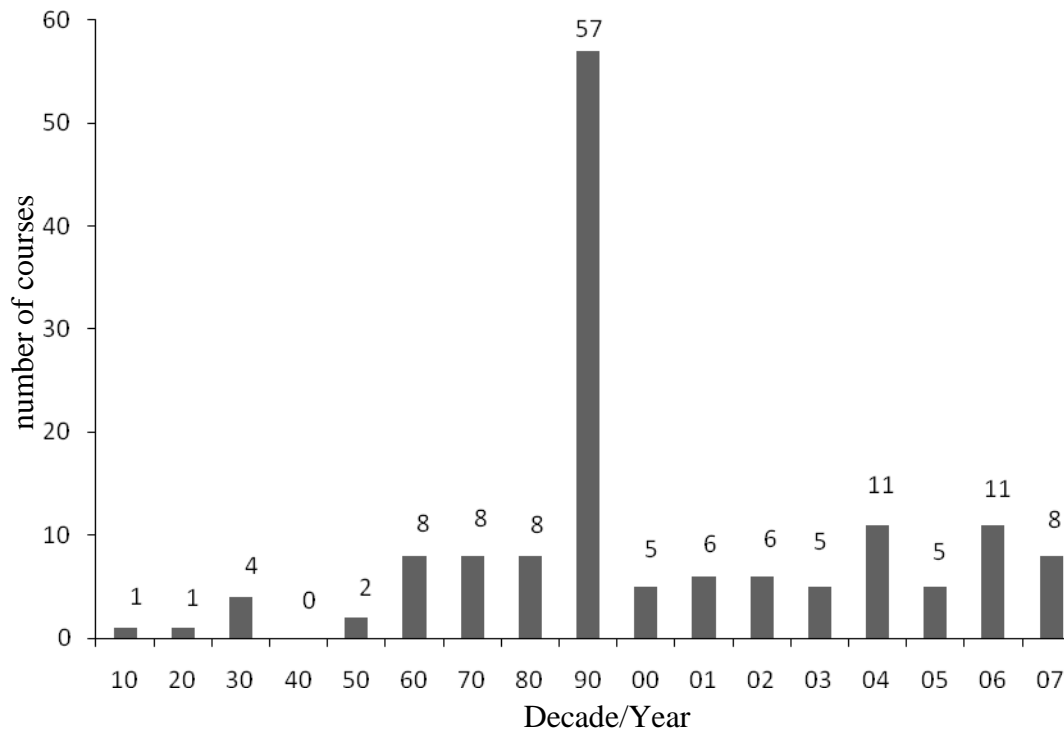


Figure 1 – Number of new veterinary medicine courses created between 1910 and 2007.

Governmental Accreditation

As determined by legislation, all Brazilian veterinary medicine courses must be periodically evaluated by the Ministry of Education. Every three years, the junior and senior students are submitted to a national examination to assess their knowledge and expertise. Simultaneously, Schools of Veterinary Medicine are also evaluated on three parameters: (1) didactic-educational organization; (2) teaching, students and technical-administrative staff; and (3) facilities. An important remark, this evaluation process do follow some legal requirements, specifically: (1) the procedures, data and evaluation results are public; (2) the identity and diversity of institutions and courses are respected; and (3) the participation of students, teachers, technical-administrative staff and civil society is required.

Based on this assessment each course receives a concept ranged from 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent). Courses with grade 1 and 2 receive external evaluation commission in order to suggest the deficiencies which should be corrected. The legislation also determines that permanency of serious deficiencies can result in course accreditations' cancellation.

Current Status of Veterinary Statutory body

As previously mentioned, Brazilian veterinary statutory body is governed by a law of 1968 which outlines the system, and determines that each federal unit has its regional statutory body. To practice veterinary medicine, every person who finished the course must enroll in these institutions which have function in monitoring professional practice, protecting society from illegal practice. It is also important to mention that the regional statutory bodies are part of a national system - the Federal Council of Veterinary Medicine - which is the highest organ of profession decision-making in Brazil. Currently, in Brazil, there are around 75 thousand active vets.

Final remarks

Brazilian veterinary medicine is still not centenary, but already has a solid legal organization that allows, considering her particular evolutionary process, concrete progress which seeks to avoid social and cultural losses, creating a solid foundation for the refinement of teaching and professional practice in the country.

News from the Canadian Veterinary Reserve (CVR)



CANADIAN VETERINARY
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE
DES MÉDECINS VÉTÉRINAIRES



John Drake
Chair, CVR Advisory Board

The Canadian Veterinary Reserve (CVR) was created as an initiative of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) and supported and funded by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) in October, 2006, to respond to major emergencies involving animals.

The CVR is a pool of trained non-government veterinarians ready to assist first responders in large scale animal emergencies. In Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) outbreaks or other natural or man-made disasters, the urgent requirement for human resources can sometimes exceed

what governments and government agencies can be realistically expected to provide. The CVR, therefore, offers an invaluable “surge capacity” to the people “on the ground” so that animal emergencies can be dealt with as quickly, effectively, and completely as possible. If the crisis is prolonged, government first responders also require relief and rest.

The CVR has adopted an “all hazards” approach in developing the CVR’s veterinary surge capacity. The objective is to develop and maintain a trained veterinary medical capacity to respond to any and all emergencies affecting animal health and welfare, both in Canada, and eventually elsewhere in the world, if requested.

In October 2009, 47 veterinarians participated in the fifth week long CFIA-led FAD training course, held for the first time in Ottawa’s Fallowfield CFIA Laboratory. The previous four training sessions were in Winnipeg at the National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease. This has augmented the CVR’s emergency capacity to 206 trained Reservists. The CVMA-CVR database consists of a total of 418 member veterinarians, which means that approximately half have been trained formally so far, mainly for FAD outbreaks.

The CVR will be offering two webinars between January and March 2010, primarily targeting CVR members who have not yet had any in-person training. In addition to this, the CVR has scheduled a pilot “all hazard” training session for about 15 veterinarians in early 2010.

Disclaimer

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30th World Veterinary Congress

AFRICA IS CALLING YOU

10-14 October 2011

Caring for animals: healthy communities

30th WORLD VETERINARY CONGRESS 2011

Cape Town, South Africa

Exhibition & Sponsorship Launch

You are invited to attend the launch for the 30th World veterinary Congress where the exhibition floor plan and exciting sponsorship opportunities will be announced.

KEY DATES:	
Call for Abstracts	July 2010
Abstract Submission	November 2010
Registrations open	October 2010

Date: 3 March 2010
Place: Cape Town International Convention Centre
Time: 10h00
Duration: ±4 hours
RSVP: Petrie Vogel before 15 February 2010
petrie@savetcon.co.za

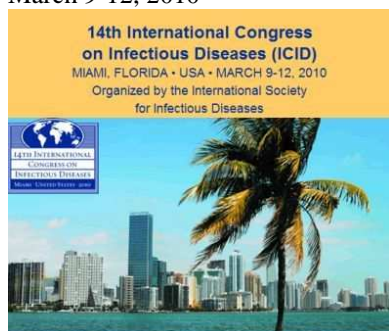
The World Veterinary Congress will encompass a broad spectrum of veterinary endeavour and species. From anaestheiology to zoo animal medicine, avians to zebras.

www.worldvetcongress2011.com

Conferences and Congresses

2010
 **International Society for
Influenza and other
Respiratory Virus Diseases**
**International Symposium on Neglected
Influenza Viruses conference**
3rd – 5th February, 2010
Amelia Island, Florida USA
Registration and Call for abstracts:
[https://www.isirv.org/events/neglected-
influenza/overview](https://www.isirv.org/events/neglected-influenza/overview)

14th ICID - Miami, Florida, USA March 9-12, 2010



http://www.isid.org/14th_ICID/

8th Annual Scientific Conference of Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Bangladesh.

16-17 March, 2010

The theme of this year's conference is
"Networking for promoting change towards
One World One Health".

Please see details on:

<http://www.onehealthinitiative.com/events.php>

Foot and mouth disease (FMD) International Symposium and Workshop Integrating Science and Management



For further information, please visit the
symposium Website at:

<http://www.FMD2010.com.au/>

24th NKVet Symposium 2010, Copenhagen.



April 19-20, 2010.
Databases in Veterinary
Medicine – Validation,
harmonisation and
application

Further information: www.ddd.dk/nkvet2010

World Veterinary Day



Saturday 24th April, 2010

Theme:

**One World, One Health:
more cooperation between
veterinarians and
physicians**

Applications should be

submitted by 1 May 2010 to:

secretariat@worldvet.org

Pan Pacific Veterinary Conference 2010



23rd - 28th May 2010

Brisbane, Australia

For further information:

<http://www.panpac2010.com/>

2nd European Symposium on Porcine Health Management

Pig Health, Performance and Welfare

26th – 28th May, 2010 in Hannover, Germany.



<http://www.esphm.tiho-bakum.de/>

International Symposium on “Health and Reproduction of Asian Elephants”

May 31st – June 2nd, 2010 at Chiang Mai, Thailand



http://www.asianelephantresearch.com/elephants_symposium/

62nd CVMA Convention



CANADIAN VETERINARY
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE
DES MÉDECINS VÉTÉRINAIRES

July 7th to 10th, 2010 Calgary, Alberta

Best Medicine Practices – Timely Topics

For more information, visit

www.canadianveterinarians.net and click on the Calgary 2010 icon.



1st – 3rd September 2010

National Veterinary Institute
Uppsala, Sweden

More information and registration at:
http://tiny.cc/SVA_Climate2010

26th Biennial CBVMA Conference

CBVMA

CARIBBEAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

November 3rd – 6th, 2010

Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort in Ocho Rios,
Jamaica.

Please visit: www.cbvma.org.

XXVI World Buiatrics Congress

Exploring Global Buiatric Science & Practice

14th – 18th November, 2010



<http://www2.kenes.com/buiatrics2010/Pages/Home.aspx>

First OIE Global Conference on Veterinary Legislation

Djerba Tunisia on 7th – 9th December 2010



http://www.oie.int/eng/A_LEG_VET2010/ENG_first%20announcement.pdf

2011

2011 Veterinary World Cup of Cricket

7th - 11th February, 2011, Palmerston North,
New Zealand. Further information at:

www.vetcricquet.com.

Contact Dave West at:

D.M.West@massey.ac.nz.

16th FAVA Congress



February 16 to 18, 2011
Cebu City, The Philippines

World conference on veterinary education

12-16 May, 2011
2011 will be the 250th
anniversary of veterinary
education, marking the world's
first veterinary school in Lyon, France. For
more information please contact:
staff@vet2011.org or www.2011vet.org



30th World Veterinary Congress Cape Town 2011

More information at:

www.worldvetcongress2011.com