A message from the WVA President,
Dr Patricia Turner

Dear colleagues,

The past year has been a busy one for the association, aligning the WVA’s work with that of other partners and members to ensure a strong connection and relevance for the organization with current global events. We have continued to emphasize compassion and caring for each other in a time of crisis and uncertainty, as well as the need to ensure the competency of veterinary professionals and new veterinarians to address ongoing and future challenges. Human food insecurity, ongoing natural and man-made disasters, support required for animals and people during conflict and war, a deepened understanding of the importance of the human-animal bond for promoting good mental health, new and emerging diseases, and the ever-present threats from climate change all help to remind us of the critical role of an adaptable and forward-thinking global veterinary workforce for promoting One Health and serving the needs of our communities, wherever we live and practice.

We are looking forward to reconnecting with many of you at the upcoming World Veterinary Association Congress 2022 in Abu Dhabi. The COVID-19 global pandemic has made everyone adept at using online tools for working with and exchanging information with colleagues. Technology has been so important over the past two years for supporting our connections at a critical time, but it can’t replace them entirely. Ultimately, human beings are social creatures who require face-to-face interactions to truly thrive. We do need to begin to reach out and connect within the veterinary community to promote our shared sense of purpose. That said, because improved pandemic and economic conditions are asynchronous around the world, the WVA is excited to offer a hybrid in-person/virtual congress experience in 2022 to ensure that we can maintain our connections with veterinary professionals everywhere!

Yours truly,
Patricia Turner
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Introduction

Since the WVA GA in 2021, the organization has continued to focus its efforts on improving association communications and collaborations while facing global pandemic challenges, implementing the WVA Strategic Plan for 2020-2025, developing a new website, reviewing the organization’s regional structure, planning the WVAC 2022 in a time of uncertainty, and exploring future Secretariat services.

The WVA continues its efforts to unify the veterinary profession amongst different world regions and across veterinary disciplines and to speak with one voice representing the veterinary profession globally. The WVA connects veterinarians with other health professionals via several initiatives and projects and supports the veterinary profession in delivering its responsibilities to benefit society and all animals.

The WVA is striving to fulfil its mission to assure and promote animal health, animal welfare and public health globally through developing and advancing veterinary medicine, the veterinary profession as well as public and private veterinary services.

In 2021, the WVA grew and welcomed six new Member Associations:

- Association Nationale des Docteurs Vétérinaires du Mali
- Federation of Colleges and Associations of Zootechnical Veterinary Doctors in Mexico
- International Veterinary Ultrasound Society
- Israel Veterinary Medical Association
- Saudi Veterinary Medical Society
- Somali Veterinary Professional Organisation

More detailed information on specific topics can be received from the Secretariat or via the WVA website.
WVA Council

In the past year, the WVA Council held one hybrid meeting and five video conferences under the leadership of the WVA President, Dr Patricia Turner.

The main items of discussions in these Council meetings included:

- Tendering the WVA Secretariat contract, including discussion of increasing Secretariat capacity.
- Evaluating WVA Membership categories.
- Increasing WVA membership and improving the association's sustainability.
- Conducting the 2022 WVA elections.
- Listening sessions with WVA members.
- Revising the WVA Communication Strategy and renewing the WVA website.
- Follow-up of the work of WVA, Strategic Focus Groups (Animal Welfare, Pharmaceutical Stewardship, Veterinary Education and One Health).
- Revision of the APM document.
- Review of WVA finances and preparation of the 2023 budget via the Finance Committee.
- Review and publication of WVA position papers, press releases and articles, via the Policy Committee.
- Membership applications and approval of new members.
- Collaborating with WVA Partners on joint projects, statements and press releases.
- Participation in technical advisory groups of WHO, OIE, FAO and other partners.
- Review applications and provide decisions for WVA projects (Global Animal Welfare Awards with Ceva, Veterinary Student Scholarship Program with MSD, List of Essential Medicine with the Brooke, Global Quality Standards for Veterinary Education with AAVMC/CIVME and the OIE, World Veterinary Day Award with HealthforAnimals).
- Preparation, launch, assessment and reports of WVA surveys.
- Launching together with FAO and HealthforAnimals a project on better Veterinary Para-Professional Skills Training in Africa.
- Preparations for organising WVAC2022 in a hybrid format and many other issues.

Click on the underlined dates above to access the meeting reports.
Councillor participation in meetings/conference calls

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<th>Name</th>
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Secretariat

Since 2010, the WVA Secretariat has been hosted by the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) and has been based in Brussels, Belgium. The Secretariat serves as the point of coordination for all WVA activities and communications. It supports the preparation, logistics and follow-up of meetings of the WVA General Assembly, Council, Committees, Standing Committees, Working Groups and global events. The Secretariat supports the implementation of all WVA GA and Council decisions. It is also responsible for WVA’s internal and external communications and the maintenance of the WVA website and social media accounts. When appropriate, member(s) of the Secretariat represents the WVA at conferences and meetings.
Since January 1, 2020, Dr Zeev Noga has fulfilled the position of WVA Executive Secretary. Between March and July 2021, he was assisted by Dr Athanasios Angelou. On 1st October 2021, Ms Emma van Rooijen assumed the role of WVA Policy Officer. The WVA also hosted a veterinary intern in Brussels for 3 months to assist with the delivery of daily tasks. Between August and November 2021, the intern position was held by Ms Lisa Buren, a veterinary student from Utrecht University. The WVA currently is evaluating several proposals for the Secretariat services starting from January 2023.

**WVA Committees and Ad Hoc Committees**

**Finance Committee (FC)**
The WVA Finance Committee (+ ex officio members) met five times by videoconference and had numerous electronic exchanges. The main issues discussed were the WVA’s financial situation, as well as regular and careful evaluation of the association revenues and expenditures, Membership status and fee structure, approval of budgets for WVA projects, Council travel to WVAC2022, preparation of the 2023 budget, evaluation of investment possibilities and banking solutions, and assessment of the financial health and risks of the association. The past year was concluded with a modest surplus for the association largely due to a lack of travel. The FC is continuing to develop an investment plan to support the organisation’s financial future.

**Policy Committee (PC)**
The Policy Committee met twice in 2021 by videoconference but had numerous electronic exchanges to discuss, evaluate, and propose several policy statements to the WVA Council. The PC revised and finalized position and policy statements created by the Strategic Focus Groups on the *Role of the Veterinarian in Animal Welfare*, *Preparation of Veterinary Educators to Innovate*
Veterinary Medical Instruction, the Use of Horses for Production of Biologics and Therapeutics, Pain Management in Farm Animals, One Health Education and Depopulation of animals in disasters and emergencies. The layout of position statements was discussed and change was introduced to emphasise the WVA position by placing it first, followed by a short background section. The PC updated some practices and made extensive use of online editing tools.

Nomination Committee of the WVA Elections

The WVA Nomination Committee met twice by videoconference and had several electronic communications to ensure that nominated candidates were appropriately qualified and to clarify and resolve issues regarding the applications. The Nomination Committee reviewed 24 applications for the positions of President-Elect and Councillors. After an in-depth evaluation, the Nominating Committee approved 22 applications. Two applications were dismissed (one application was received from a member in not-good standing and the second application was incomplete). The Electronic ballot was opened on January 13, 2022. Fifty-nine of 78 WVA Constituent Members cast votes and elected the members of the WVA Council 2022 – 2024 after two election rounds. On February 10, the Chair announced the results of the WVA Elections 2022 and presented the new elected Council 2022-2024. After the announcement, an unsuccessful candidate raised concerns regarding the WVA 2022 election procedures and outcomes. The appeal was evaluated carefully by the WVA Ad Hoc ExCom, which found that the WVA 2022 election procedures had been conducted according to the WVA CBL and APM rules, confirming the election results.

Ad Hoc Executive Committee (AH-ExCom)

In the past year, the AH-ExCom met seven times and had numerous communications to discuss and prepare proposals for Council decisions on various operational issues such as Secretariat services and contract, WVA membership structure and evaluation of applications, WVAC preparations, and evaluation of the WVA elections procedure. As of 30th March 2022, the ExCom will be added permanently into the WVA structure as foreseen in the WVA Constitution and Bylaws approved by WVA GA 2021.
WVA Ad Hoc Working Group on Communication

The WVA Ad Hoc Working Group on Communication (CWG) discussed the development of effective communication and marketing strategies. The CWG evaluated four proposals from professional website companies to renew the WVA website and brand that will be applied to future WVA communications and social media. In December 2021, the WVA Council approved the CWG proposal to contract Group Asis to renew the WVA website. The new WVA website will be revealed during the WVA General Assembly on March 29th in Abu Dhabi, UAE. With the new website, WVA aims to raise the WVA’s global profile and to bring veterinarians together to be more aware and involved in the global veterinary profession and WVA activities.

WVA Strategic Focus Groups

In the past year, WVA Strategic Focus Groups (SFG) continued to use the WVA Strategic Plan 2020-2025 to focus on four priority areas: Animal Welfare, Pharmaceutical Stewardship, Veterinary Education and One Health.

The SFGs generally met by teleconference every 6-8 weeks to revise and prepare WVA position papers, factsheets, statements, press releases and programs for seminars and events. The SFGs also provided advocacy and technical advice, collected data and functioned as a review committee for different award/scholarship projects related to their focus issues. The SFGs reinforce their expertise by welcoming external expert volunteers nominated by WVA member associations. The SFGs established subgroups to focus on specific projects related to the SFG priorities, and these subgroups met at regular intervals between the larger parent SFG meetings.
Animal Welfare (AW-SFG)

Goals

• To raise awareness of current and ongoing animal welfare issues globally.
• To develop and maintain key partnerships with other global AW advocacy groups.
• To promote animal welfare education and training within the veterinary curriculum and as a critical component of veterinary continuing professional development.

Activities

Since May 2021, the AW-SFG met four times, virtually with many interim subgroup meetings and email communications. The AW-SFG and its subgroups worked on several projects and position statements. Key projects include publishing two guidelines papers on the ‘Recommendations for Ensuring Good Welfare of Horses Used for Industrial Blood, Serum, or Urine Production’ and on ‘Pain Management in Farm Animals: Focus on Cattle, Sheep and Pigs’. Based on the above recommendation papers, the AW-SFG prepared Position Statements on ‘Use of Horses for Production of Biologics and Therapeutics’ and ‘Pain management in Farm Animals’. In addition, the AW-SFG prepared Position Statements on Depopulation of Animals in Disasters, ‘Humane Care of Animals Used in Biomedical Research’, and published a Factsheet on ‘Brachycephaly in Dogs’. The AW-SFG also revised the WVA Position Statement on the Role of the Veterinarian in Animal Welfare. The AW-SFG reviewed the nominees for the Ceva-WVA Animal Welfare Awards and selected the final 9 recipients. More details on the award and the recipients are highlighted later in this report.

One Health (OH-SFG)

Goals

• Identify and develop opportunities for veterinary professionals to contribute their expertise and leadership in One Health.
• Facilitate and encourage the capacity building necessary to meet the challenges associated with a One Health approach.
• Develop resources and guidelines for use by veterinary and allied organisations to promote education and advocacy on the importance of One Health.
Activities
The OH-SFG met 5 times by videoconference. The SFG has prepared a position statement on One Health Education that is currently under review. Drs. Deborah Thompson and Christina Pettan-Brewer joined as Ad Hoc expert members. The SFG has published a Factsheet on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza and is working on the revision of the WVA Position Statement on One Health. The OH-SFG also worked on the One Health Summit that will take place during the WVA Congress 2022.

Veterinary Education (VE-SFG)

Goals
- To improve the quality of veterinary education and continuing education for veterinary students, veterinarians, and veterinary para-professionals around the world.
- To improve access to veterinary medical education globally.
- To support OIE Day One competencies in veterinary education.

Activities
The VE-SFG met 4 times by videoconference. The group has prepared a Position Statement on ‘Preparation of veterinary educators to innovate veterinary medical instruction’. The group supported the creation and distribution of an FVE/WVA/Zoetis Veterinary Mental Health Survey focusing on mental health and diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). The findings of the survey have been presented by the FVE and can be found here and the results of this joint project have recently been submitted for publication. A VE-SFG subgroup worked on a joint WVA-CIVME project on Global Quality Standards for Veterinary Education. Subgroup members were split between a global survey activity and another group working on developing global standards for VEE self-assessment. A WVA Seminar on Veterinary Education will be held during the WVA Congress 2022. More information on this project can be found under ‘Collaborations and Projects’. Finally, the VE-SFG was also involved in the evaluation of 530 applications for the 2021 WVA-MSD Scholarships.
Pharmaceutical Stewardship (PS-SFG)

The PS-SFG met twice by videoconference and had numerous email exchanges. The focus of the effort was to launch the ‘Essential Medicines List’ project, in collaboration with the Brooke. More information on this project can be found under ‘Collaborations and Projects’. In addition, the group followed and supported Professor Scott Weese in his work for the Global Leaders Group on AMR. In the following months, a WVA consultative group will be established to support Professor Weese.

Collaborations and Projects

The WVA is committed to the One-Health approach and strives to globally establish effective partnerships to protect animal health, welfare, and public health. The WVA has a Memorandum of Understanding and effectively collaborates with relevant global partners on various One Health issues.

VetsForUkraine - Web Portal to Coordinate Aid by Veterinarians to Help Ukrainian Veterinarians

The WVA supported FVE and FECAVA to develop a web portal as a hub to coordinate aid to help Ukrainian veterinarians, their families, and animals. On this website, the collaborating organisations brought together all the information provided by members and partners in the first days of the conflict.
in Ukraine. The website was developed rapidly and is being updated as information becomes available.

**OIE and WVA Joint Statement**

On July 9, 2021, the WVA and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) published a joint statement urging countries to prioritise COVID-19 vaccination access for veterinary professionals.

Veterinarians serve the health community by working at the animal-human interface. They require priority access to vaccination services to pursue their work, which is central to safeguarding public health. Through the inclusion of veterinarians in priority vaccination access groups, countries support a coordinated One Health response to the COVID-19 crisis. This heightened collaboration between animal and human health professionals is key to overcoming the current pandemic as well as to preventing future outbreaks. Read the full joint statement here.

**Sustainable Business through Training for Veterinary Para-Professionals (VPP)**

The EuFMD (FAO unit), HealthforAnimals and the WVA have continued to work together on Sustainable Business through Training for Veterinary ParaProfessionals.

Since May 2021, all short-listed countries were extensively reviewed and three countries were selected for the project: South Africa, Nigeria, and Uganda. National teams have been formed and have started to work on competency frameworks. The WVA supports the project by providing access to a range of expertise, especially focusing on the training program and business support activities. The next phase will be to establish training programs and analyze educational and
communication platforms and apps. The total duration of the project is 36 months to be finalized by the end of 2023. Learn more about the project by subscribing to the VPP News Letter.

Global Quality Standards for Veterinary Education
In the past year, a VE-SFG subgroup continued to work on the Global Quality Standards for Veterinary Education project through two streams to (1) examine global standards for veterinary education and (2) develop a self-assessment mechanism for veterinary colleges in regions or countries without formal accreditation systems. In May 2021, a survey on quality assessment standards was sent to veterinary colleges around the world to explore current practices for developing and updating veterinary medical curricula as well as evaluating continuing education requirements following graduation. The WVA received ~250 replies to the survey and is currently analysing the data and preparing a summary to be presented at the WVA Seminar on Veterinary Education during the WVAC2022. In parallel, the WVA is finalizing the self-assessment tool for veterinary colleges. In fall 2021, Dr Denise van Eekelen was recruited to provide support for this project.

Global List of Essential Medicines for Food-Producing Animals
WVA and Brooke have continued to work jointly to create a global list of essential veterinary medicines for livestock. The list is intended to be used as a model to assist countries to ensure the availability of high quality and necessary veterinary medicines, support the process of self-evaluation, registration and licensing, and facilitate regulatory oversight of veterinary pharmaceuticals.

Eight groups focusing on aquaculture, bees, equids, large ruminants, porcine, poultry, rabbits and small ruminants have drafted lists. The draft lists have been shared with WVA Member Associations for comment and review. Once finalized, the lists will be published.

Veterinary Student Scholarship Program
More than 530 applications were received for the MSD Animal Health/WVA 2021’s MSD Animal Health/WVA Veterinary Student Scholarship Program. Now in its 5th year, more scholarships than ever were made available to aid veterinary students due to the rising number of excellent applications. After careful evaluation, 80 veterinary students were selected from 47 different countries in Latin America, Africa, North Africa/Middle East, and Asia/Oceania to receive a scholarship of $2,500USD in recognition of their academic achievements and to aid in the development of their academic and future veterinary careers. MSD Animal Health and the WVA are delighted to contribute to the advancement of the global veterinary community through the empowerment of veterinary students. The 6th MSD Animal Health/WVA Veterinary Student Scholarship Program will be launched in spring 2022.
Global Animal Welfare Awards

The WVA and Ceva Animal Health partnered again in 2021 to offer Global Animal Welfare Awards to recognise veterinary welfare champions and showcase the daily dedication of veterinary professionals to protect and improve the well-being of animals. The WVA-Ceva Animal Health Animal Welfare Awards for 2021 will be presented to six veterinarians, one veterinary student, one veterinary nurse, and one veterinary school at the WVA Animal Welfare Awards Ceremony, which will take place in Abu Dhabi, UAE on 29th March 2022. Watch the Global Animal Welfare Awards promotion video here.

World Rabies Day 2021

To celebrate World Rabies Day in 2021, the WVA, together with the World Medical Association published a press release on the theme; Rabies, a serious One Health problem says veterinarians and physicians reminding all that rabies continues to be a serious public health problem in more than 150 countries around the world. It is particularly important in children, who are disproportionately affected by dog bites. On that occasion, the WVA President, Dr Patricia Turner said; Approximately 97% of documented human cases are attributable to dog bites and can be prevented by vaccinating at least 70% of dogs in high-risk areas. The ultimate goal is to control and eliminate dog-mediated rabies, which is one of the few communicable diseases that can be eliminated using currently available vaccines and tools for veterinary and public health interventions.

World Antibiotic Awareness Week

The WVA celebrated the World Antibiotic Awareness Week in a series of publications supporting and raising awareness of antimicrobial resistance and the role of veterinarians in safeguarding animal and human health. On that occasion, the WVA President said; “during World Antimicrobial Awareness Week 2021, the WVA calls on governments, international organisations, communities and veterinarians worldwide to ensure that adequate veterinary care
is widely available”. “For their part, veterinarians must ensure that antimicrobials are used responsibly - overuse and misuse of antimicrobials must be avoided.”

**World Donkey Day**

To celebrate World Donkey Day which occurred on May 8, 2021, the WVA AW-SFG collaborated with Donkey Sanctuary and Brooke to produce a [short video](#) highlighting the global fight to end illegal trade in donkey skins for export and use in Chinese medicinal and cosmetic markets. The video features veterinarian, Dr Anthony Akunzule, based in Ghana, who was a winner of the WVA Global Animal Welfare Awards in 2019, and who pledged to use his prize to champion the cause of donkey welfare in his own country and the rest of the world. A big THANK-YOU goes to our correspondent, Mr Nik Wood, for putting together this great video.

**Calls for Action**

**Action for Animal Health**

*Our health systems won’t prevent pandemics unless the G20 invest in animal health.*

On February 17, 2022, the [Action for Animal Health coalition](#), of which the WVA is a partner, published recommendations for the UN Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) (convened to begin the process of establishing an accord to protect the world from future pandemics). The Coalition calls for INB members to ensure that the accord addresses the prevention of zoonotic disease and involves civil society from human health, animal health and environmental health in the negotiations. These integral recommendations will also have knock-on benefits for improving food security, nutrition, climate resilience and income security for the world’s most marginalized communities. Without more targeted interventions, we risk failing to meet the Sustainable Development Goals. Read the [full recommendations for a new global pandemic treaty](#).
Global Technical and Advisory Platforms

Technical Advisory Group for review of WHO/OIE/FAO Tripartite-endorsed One Health Field Epidemiology Competencies

The WVA was invited and participated in a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to support the work of the WHO/OIE/FAO Tripartite to develop standardized competencies for applied epidemiology for both the public and animal health sectors in the context of One Health, as well as guidance on curricula needed to achieve these competencies, and on methods for testing or ensuring trainees’ command of such competencies.

Civil Society 20 Summit

WVA together with Action for Animal Health Coalition was involved in the preparation of the virtual event during the G20 meeting; Civil Society 20 Summit on operationalizing One Health: making the case for Animal Health. The event took place on 6th October 2021 and experts from civil society discussed the transformative potential of One Health and why robust animal health systems are critical to putting it into practice.

United Nations Food Systems Summit

The United Nations convened the UN Food Systems Summit (FSS) in September 2021 to raise global awareness and shape global commitments that can transform food systems to resolve hunger, reduce diet-related diseases and restore planetary health. The FSS followed action tracks on ensuring access to safe and nutritious food, shifting to sustainable consumption patterns, boosting nature-positive production, advancing equitable livelihoods and building resilience. WVA representation served on the Private Sector Science group that was advisory to the FSS Secretariat Scientific Group, which was preparing and organizing the event program as well as overseeing the development of content related to the action track and ensuring that key issues for that action track were addressed.
Communications

WVA’S Media Channels
The WVA continually updates its media channels with articles, statements and news related to the WVA activities and global veterinary issues.

WVA Newsblast
The WVA communicates regularly with its members and partners via Newsblast to inform the members about the WVA and partners’ activities, in addition to sharing the President’s message about relevant global veterinary matters. In the past year, the WVA published 15 Newsblasts. Recently, the WVA increased the publication frequency of the Newsblasts from monthly 2-3 notices per month.

WVA on social media
The WVA has a new LinkedIn profile and has been working on growing existing accounts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. The statistics show overall growth for all platforms. Looking back at 2021, the total likes on Facebook saw a growth of 4,2% with 32633 likes by the end of December. The number of people reached/month increased as well, with high spikes in July and December.

The goal over the past year has been to share more news and activities on the WVA social media channels as well as to be more consistent with captions and imagery. This strengthens the voice of the WVA and increases brand recognition.
World Veterinary Association Congress

Despite the continuing global pandemic and uncertainties regarding travel restrictions, the WVA and Emirates Veterinary Association have worked hard to prepare the **WVAC2022 in a hybrid format to occur on March 29-31, 2022 in Abu Dhabi, UAE.**

The WVAC2022 Scientific Committee has prepared an excellent **scientific and practical program** focusing on best practices and innovative technology for the veterinary profession. WVAC2022 also includes the WVA Council and GA meetings, the WVA Global Summit meeting on One Health focusing on the **role of private-public partnership in preventing the next pandemic**, an Animal Welfare seminar focusing on **pain management in livestock**, a Veterinary Education seminar focusing on **global quality standards for veterinary education** and the Global Animal Welfare Award Ceremony.

Together with **Taiwan Veterinary Medical Association**, the WVA will resume preparations for the 38th WVAC to take place in Taipei, Taiwan in May 2023. In addition, the WVA together with the **South Africa Veterinary Association** will begin to prepare for the WVAC2024, which will take place in Cape Town, South Africa, from April 14-19, 2024.

WVA Virtual Seminars

**WVA Virtual Seminar on Food Security**
On April 29, 2021, the WVA hosted a global virtual seminar on **Food Security** to raise awareness and to promote the veterinarian’s role in achieving global food security through partnership with other professionals, integrating veterinary expertise into current and future global food security programs and identifying workforce opportunities for veterinary professionals outside of traditional practice roles.

The seminar featured presentations from subject matter experts on recent and novel research findings, highlighting the importance of food security and nutrition globally. The webinar agenda and presentations can be found [HERE](#) and the full recording can be found [HERE](#).
WVA/H4A - Innovation in Veterinary Care Webinar

On June 4th 2021, HealthforAnimals and WVA co-hosted a global webinar on the role of innovation in improving veterinary care. The webinar objectives were to bring together the private sector, veterinarians and International Government Organisations to discuss how these technologies will reach animal caretakers in coming years and help deliver on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Please find hereafter the links to the event video and presentations.

WVA Press Releases

All WVA Press releases can be found HERE.
World Veterinary Day Award

The World Veterinary Day (WVD) is celebrated annually on the last Saturday of April to recognize the work of veterinarians and their contributions to the advancement of animal health, welfare, and public health worldwide. In 2021, the World Veterinary Day Award theme was to recognize the contributions of the veterinary profession to protect animal and human health during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The WVA and HealthforAnimals received several project submissions from Member Associations, each one highlighting impressive work by veterinarians as a response to the ongoing Covid-19 crisis. After careful consideration of the materials submitted by all applicants, the 2021 World Veterinary Day Award was presented to the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) recognizing the development and implementation of an impressive multi-tiered internal and external communications program anchored by a dedicated online Covid-19 Resource Center that was made available to veterinarians around the world in February 2020—three weeks before the WHO’s global pandemic declaration. Read the full report of the WVD Award 2021. The WVD 2022 with the theme of Strengthening Veterinary Resilience will be celebrated on April 30, 2022. Applications are now open for the 2022 WVD Award, which will honour WVA Member activities related to this year’s theme. Applications are due by May 30, 2022.

Participation in Veterinary Events and Advisory Platforms around the World

Over the past year, WVA Officers, Council members, Secretariat staff and WVA Ad Hoc Experts have represented the WVA in numerous virtual veterinary events and technical and advisory platforms as well as in many informal and bilateral meetings. While we have greatly missed meeting up with friends and colleagues from various associations, partner groups, and sponsoring worldwide, we have tried to take advantage of the virtual opportunity to keep our connections and community strong.