



## WVA Policy Statements

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The purpose of an organisation is defined by its Mission, Vision and Goals. To achieve them, there is a need for a coherent set of *decisions* and *actions* with common long-term objectives, relevant to the Veterinary Profession worldwide. WVA devises its policies as a projected program comprising desired objectives and the means to achieve them.

Over the years the World Veterinary Association has developed, adopted and implemented several policy or position statements. These are supported by a variety of discussion papers on various topics relevant to veterinary medicine in many fields. It is an important task for an association like the WVA to provide leadership through this mechanism. These documents and the more comprehensive "Introduction to policy" are available on our website [www.worldvet.org](http://www.worldvet.org).

To maintain their usefulness to members, it is essential that such publications be relevant, accurate and easily accessed by members and the public. This is obtained by reviewing the policy and position documents and the consequent reformatting, revising, republishing or discarding them on an individual basis as necessary.

During the Strategic planning session in March 2015, the WVA Council has pinpointed four critical thematic areas:

1. Zoonotic diseases (with initial emphasis on rabies);
2. Education of all veterinarians;
3. Animal Welfare and
4. Pharmaceutical stewardship.

The WVA Policy Committee has decided to review the current and develop new policies and position papers dealing with the four WVA strategic themes.

As the global professional organization, WVA is always ready to detect important issues, which emerge in this dynamic world and profession. In identifying topics that require clear policies and guidance, WVA is open to input by its member associations, individual members and other international organisations.