



WORLD VETERINARY ASSOCIATION (WVA)



**2025-2030
STRATEGY**

A **GLOBAL VISION** FOR THE VETERINARY PROFESSION

The **World Veterinary Association (WVA)** brings together veterinarians from all over the world. This plan explains the WVA's five-year strategic plan including its mission, vision, core values, and five-year strategic goals the WVA is committed to in support of the veterinarian profession, animal health, and the planet. The strategy was developed through consultations with WVA member associations, Working Groups, WVA partners, and members of the animal health community and represents a cohesive global vision for the WVA's role.





MISSION

To lead the veterinary profession globally through collaboration, promotion, partnership, and advocacy for animal health and welfare, one health, and veterinary education.

VISION

The World Veterinary Association is recognized and respected by its members and partners as the trusted and influential voice of global veterinary medicine.

CORE VALUES

.KNOWLEDGE

The WVA provides evidence-based statements and guidelines on relevant veterinary and public health issues in collaboration with our members.

.COLLABORATION

The WVA provides its members with valuable resources, a global veterinary network, a unified voice in the global veterinary arena, and is a reliable partner for issues relating to international veterinary medicine and education

.AGILITY

The WVA is proactive and responsive to member issues.

.TRANSPARENCY

WVA activities are carried out in an independent, ethical, and professionally responsible manner, in the best interest of WVA members, partners, and society.

.RESPECT

The WVA fosters a conscious and inclusive environment wherein each individual is accepted, valued, and treated with respect.

ABOUT WVA

The WVA was established out of the first international veterinary congress convened by Dr. J Gamgee in Hamburg in 1863. Since that time the WVA has grown to represent over 500,000 veterinarians from over 90 member associations. The WVA continues to build on Dr. Gamgee's ambition to unite veterinarians from around the world to share experiences, exchange ideas, to unify for the advancement of the veterinary profession. The WVA defends the interest of its member organizations and their general body members and holds the need for international consonance in veterinary medicine to be self-evident. Disease control and prevention, food safety and security, animal welfare, the availability of medicinal products, and the ecological impact of human and animal health systems, are all issues that necessitate a global approach. Through promotion and practice of the One Health concept, the WVA strives to protect the health and welfare of humans, animals, and the environment. The WVA partners with relevant organizations and authorities to offer advocacy, support, and education on global veterinary issues.

The WVA is an association of associations, engaging with the veterinary community through veterinary associations representing countries, regions, and specialties within the profession. Along with Constituent Members WVA also has Observers and Honorary members including veterinary technician associations and individuals who participate in WVA activities and provide comments but are not voting members.

WVA is governed through the General Assembly (GA) of member associations, the WVA Council, and the Executive Committee.

- The GA is comprised of Constituent Member delegates, which meets regularly to discuss activities of the WVA and opportunities for WVA to represent the global veterinary profession.
- The WVA Council is the executive body of the WVA and is made up of the President, President-Elect, Immediate Past-President, and fourteen Councillors elected to represent regions and international organizations. There are two Councillors from each of the WVA's six regions (**Africa, Asia and Oceania, Europe, Latin America, Middle East and North Africa, and North America**), one Councillor elected to represent international discipline/activity centered organizations, and one Councillor representing international, regional organizations. The Council meets regularly to advance the strategic goals of the WVA through Working Groups and Committees.
- The Executive Committee includes the President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, Chair of the Finance Committee, Chair of the Policy Committee, and the Executive Secretary of the WVA. The Executive Committee acts on behalf of the council between meetings for timely matters to ensure the work of WVA continues to advance.

The WVA aims to lead the global veterinary profession and engage with members through its four priority areas of work: **Animal Welfare, Medicines Stewardship, One Health, and Veterinary Profession and Education**. WVA maintains working groups in each of these areas which are populated by Councillors and ad hoc member experts from WVA Constituent Members. WVA is responsible for notable global veterinary efforts such as World Veterinary Day, the World Veterinary Association Congress, veterinary webinars, and position statements to advance the profession of veterinary medicine.

From 2025-2030 the WVA aspires to strengthen and deliver value to its members while maintaining a leading role in advocating and advancing the veterinary profession globally. Each of the five-year strategic goals are underpinned by one-to-two-year actions which will be reviewed annually by the Council and updated to ensure progress toward the five-year strategic goals (**see annex 1**).

THE WVA
AIMS TO
LEAD THE
GLOBAL
VETERINARY
PROFESSION
AND ENGAGE
WITH
MEMBERS
THROUGH
ITS FOUR
PRIORITY
AREAS
OF WORK



**ANIMAL
WELFARE**

**MEDICINES
STEWARDSHIP**

**ONE
HEALTH**

**VETERINARY
PROFESSION
AND EDUCATION**

worldvet.org

2025-2030 STRATEGIC GOALS

ANIMAL WELFARE

- To raise awareness through education and publications on contemporary and sustainable prioritized animal welfare issues globally, informed by the latest scientific knowledge and ethical considerations.
- To advocate for the integration of One Health and One Welfare through partnerships and leadership
- Promote veterinary leadership and professional responsibility (duty) in animal welfare. Motivate and assist veterinary associations to develop their own animal welfare strategy
- Promote animal welfare into cross-cutting global priorities (climate, AMR, SDGs, food systems)

MEDICINES STEWARDSHIP

- Promote veterinary pharmaceutical stewardship, including responsible use of antimicrobials, anthelmintics, and other therapeutics.
- Advocate for improved access to and rational use of essential veterinary medicines globally.
- Increase awareness and action on environmental impacts of veterinary medicinal products, including waste disposal.

ONE HEALTH

- Establish and strengthen collaborations with health and environment sectors to elevate veterinary leadership in the global One Health movement.
- Provide guidance on One Health implementation while empowering veterinarians and students as community leaders and OH advocates.
- Develop and promote guidance on environmental sustainability and climate action within veterinary medicine and practice.
- Revive and institutionalize the WVA/WMA Global One Health Conferences as key platforms for cross-sectoral policy and action.
- Increase veterinary participation and leadership in global and national One Health plans.
- Convene a Global One Health Forum to coordinate efforts, share knowledge, and shape global veterinary contributions to One Health.

VETERINARY PROFESSION AND EDUCATION

- Advance Global Access to Quality Veterinary Education and Lifelong Learning
- Empower a Diverse and Inclusive Veterinary Workforce & Teams
- Foster Innovation and Ethical Use of Emerging Technologies in Veterinary Education
- Promote Sustainability and Well-being in Veterinary Education and Practice
- Enhance the Visibility and Global Perception of the Veterinary Profession

WVA OVERARCHING GOALS

- Improve sustainability of WVA from a financial and membership management perspective
- Make WVAC a more recognised and well attended global conference by the global veterinary community
- Increase the number of WVA member associations
- Enhance operational and WVA Secretariat efficiency
- Review the WVA's Administrative Procedures Manual (APM) to modernize administrative procedures, review deadlines, and make WVA increasingly agile.

HOW THE PLAN WILL WORK

.TIMELINE

The five-year strategic goals are broken down into a series of short-term (1-2 years) actions for steady progress.

.WORKING TOGETHER

The WVA will collaborate with member associations and other partners across animal health and veterinary medicine to take the actions outlined and achieve the 2030 goals.

.CHECKING PROGRESS

Through the Council, Working Groups and the GA the strategy and actions will be reviewed regularly, and if required actions and goals will be updated and added as annexes to this strategy document. The WVA Annual report will be regular check point for revision and the Council's mid-year meeting will provide an interim check point.

CONCLUSION

This 2025-2030 strategy is a guide for the World Veterinary Association as it supports veterinarians and animal health all over the world. By focusing on these important areas and working together, the WVA hopes to make a better future for animals, people, and the environment.

With everyone's effort, new ideas, and dedication, the WVA will help build a stronger and more successful veterinary community for years to come.

ANNEX 1

Five-year strategic goals broken down into actions (**1–2-year goals**), grouped by priority area of work, as approved in 2025:

PRIORITY AREA OF WORK	FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC GOAL	ACTIONS (1–2-YEAR GOALS)
<p>ANIMAL WELFARE</p>	<p>1. To raise awareness through education and publications on contemporary and sustainable prioritized animal welfare issues globally, informed by the latest scientific knowledge and ethical considerations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start working to publish a PS on Sentience of animals • Finalize and disseminate a PS on Transport of Animals • AW Seminar • Finalize and promote FS on Brachycephaly in Dogs.
	<p>2. To advocate for the integration of One Health and One Welfare through partnerships and leadership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to global forums (e.g., UNEP, FAO) • Foster global collaboration by working with other AW and international organization to harmonize animal welfare standards • Factsheet on Free-Roaming Cats, incorporating both animal welfare and ecological perspectives
	<p>3. Promote veterinary leadership and professional responsibility (duty) in animal welfare. Motivate and assist veterinary associations to develop their own animal welfare strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the WVA Policy on the Role of the Veterinarian in Animal Welfare. • Create a toolkit or checklist to help national associations develop their own AW strategies
	<p>4. Promote animal welfare into cross-cutting global priorities (climate, AMR, SDGs, food systems)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue engagement with AMR MSH Platform policy work on AW strategy to tackle/reduce AMR • Emphasizing the necessity of essential therapies, including antibiotics, even with stricter medicines stewardship • Follow up/strengthen WVA advocacy around role of AW in UNEP • Identify at least one future policy topic (e.g. wildlife trade) to develop a WVA position or factsheet on

PRIORITY AREA OF WORK	FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC GOAL	ACTIONS (1–2-YEAR GOALS)
MEDICINES STEWARDSHIP	1. Promote veterinary pharmaceutical stewardship, including responsible use of antimicrobials, anthelmintics, and other therapeutics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership at AMR MSH Platform • Advocacy around IPEA • Collaboration on the update of the Global Action Plan • Review AMU Guidelines to include IPC prevention/ best practices leading to responsible use of AM • Mapping educational need in collaboration with a financial partner
	2. Advocate for better access to and rational use of essential veterinary medicines globally.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize 2 more species EVML • Select ½ members or region to support their national EVML + seeking financial partner • Collaborate with regional organizations (FVE) in the development of their EVML • Review and update the WVA Position Statement on Availability of Veterinary Pharmaceuticals • Work on triangulation WOA/WHO/WVA AMR chapter
	3. Increase awareness and action on environmental impacts of veterinary medicinal products, including waste disposal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint PS/comms on pharmaceutical pollution. (Build on Survey WSAVA) • Include disposal topics in AMU.
	4. Medicines Stewardship Seminar	

PRIORITY AREA OF WORK	FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC GOAL	ACTIONS (1–2-YEAR GOALS)
<p>ONE HEALTH</p>	<p>1. Establish and strengthen collaborations with health and environment sectors to elevate veterinary leadership in the global One Health movement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Position statement on environmental sustainability of veterinary practice • Mapping of environmental and health orgs to potentially partner with as initial step
	<p>2. Provide guidance on One Health implementation while empowering veterinarians and students as community leaders and OH advocates.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct the global knowledge assessment survey and publish its results and make recommendations (do all this along with our colleagues at WVA, WADEM, ICN, etc.) • Initiate a call for One Health case studies from WVA members and affiliates, with the goal of compiling a digital resource. • Joint communication on rabies
	<p>3. Develop and promote guidance on environmental sustainability and climate action within veterinary medicine and practice</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PS on environmental pillar OH/Draft and circulate a WVA position statement on veterinary environmental sustainability and its relevance to One Health • Position statement on environmental sustainability of veterinary practice • Engage with veterinary schools and student associations (e.g., IVSA) to develop training or outreach initiatives that promote One Health understanding and action among emerging professionals.
	<p>4. Revive and institutionalize the WVA/WMA Global One Health Conferences as key platforms for cross-sectoral policy and action.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signature of a new MOU • Initiate discussions with WMA
	<p>5. Increase veterinary participation and leadership in global and national One Health plans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in UNGA 2026 on PPR • Initiate a call for One Health case studies from WVA members and affiliates, with the goal of compiling a digital resource • Follow-up advocacy on Pandemic Treaty implementation.
	<p>6. Convene a Global One Health Forum to coordinate efforts, share knowledge, and shape global veterinary contributions to One Health</p>	

PRIORITY AREA OF WORK	FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC GOAL	ACTIONS (1–2-YEAR GOALS)
VETERINARY PROFESSION AND EDUCATION	1. Advance Global Access to Quality Veterinary Education and Lifelong Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue the Global Veterinary Standards Project and findings in at least 3 papers as required • Select topics of relevance and facilitators for the VE Seminars • Finalize, Crosscheck, and Complete the global VEE List in at least 2 WVA Regions • Engage with other stakeholders to work and complete the global VEE List • Initiate collaborations with VEEs, VSBs, and other partners
	2. Empower a Diverse and Inclusive Veterinary Workforce & Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backstop the EduVet/Erasmus+ project • Continue the VPP project • Initiate promotion and awareness activities within the WVA regions • Collaborate more with member national veterinary associations
	3. Foster Innovation and Ethical Use of Emerging Technologies in Veterinary Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WVA fact sheet or position statement on AI in veterinary education and its ethical, regional, and practical dimensions • PS on the Preparation of veterinary educators to innovate veterinary medical instruction • Revision of the PS on Telemedicine.
	4. Promote Sustainability and Well-being in Veterinary Education and Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete scholarships • PS on Mental health • PS on gender/minority issues in veterinary education and practice • Collaborative Project on gender/minority issues in veterinary education and practice
	5. Enhance the Visibility and Global Perception of the Veterinary Profession	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping initiatives and narratives

PRIORITY AREA OF WORK	FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC GOAL	ACTIONS (1–2-YEAR GOALS)
OPERATIONAL WVA	1. Sustainability (financial and membership management) and Growth (in number of member associations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased collaboration (joint position statements, events etc) • Increased information sharing with member associations (consider how to share more on meetings, discussions, more frequent updates on WVA) utilizing virtual platforms for town-hall type session between GAs • Attain 3 high level sponsors for WVA (mapping of potential partners as initial step)
	2. Operational and secretariat efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role definition and hiring additional staff
	3. Review the Administrative Procedures Manual (APM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First draft of the new APM ready by 2026, approved in 2027

