

By-Laws

CHAPTER 1 - MEMBERSHIP AND OBSERVER STATUS

1.1 National Members

- 1.1.1 Only countries which are recognized by the United Nations may be represented by national organisations or groups of national organisations which are accepted by the Council as representing the profession in each country. In the absence of such an organization and if its functions are performed by a governmental agency this is eligible for membership. Each country can only be represented by one membership.
- 1.1.2 National organisations or groups of national organisations, representing a country, must fulfil the following membership criteria:
 - a. Only countries which are recognized by the United Nations may be represented by national organisations or groups of national organisations which are accepted by the Council as representing the profession in each country.
 - b. The overall majority of members must be veterinarians.
 - c. Membership must be open to all veterinarians in the country.

1.2 Associate Members

The Council may accept the associate membership of world and regional international organisations of veterinary specialists or related groups, regional veterinary organisations as well of veterinary organisations from countries.

- 1.2.1 Specialist organisations must fulfil the following membership criteria:
 - 1.2.1.1 the majority of members must be veterinarians
 - 1.2.1.2 membership of not less than 250 members from at least 10 different countries of which the national organisations are members of WVA
 - 1.2.1.3 associate member accepted prior to 1999 must have a membership of at least 100 from at least six different countries of which the national organisations are members of the WVA
 - 1.2.1.4 the World Veterinary Association must be kept informed about any changes of the statutes of associate members

- 1.2.2 Regional veterinary organisations must fulfil the following membership criteria:
- 1.2.2.1 the majority of members must be veterinarians
 - 1.2.2.2 membership of not less than 250 members from at least 6 different countries of which the national organisations are members of the WVA or membership of not less than 10 veterinary organisations of which at least 6 must be national member organisations of the WVA
 - 1.2.2.3 the World Veterinary Association must be kept informed about any changes of the statutes of associate members.
- 1.2.3 Veterinary organisations from countries where no national organisation or group of national organisations exist may apply to become associate country members of the WVA.
- 1.2.3.1 In a country where an Associate Country Member is the accepted National Delegation of a country AND another application from a similar organisation from the same country is received, it will be the responsibility of the two (or more) associate country members to decide on the composition of their National Delegation and name the National Delegate.
 - 1.2.3.2 Associate country veterinary organisations must fulfil the following membership criteria:
 - a. The majority of members must be veterinarians.
 - b. The membership must not be less than 250 paid-up members.
 - c. Membership must be open to all veterinarians in the country and
 - d. The association shall not be a specialist veterinary organisation of which a world international organisation (animal species or veterinary speciality/discipline) is member of the WVA.

1.3 Affiliated Members

The Council may accept affiliated membership of national, regional or international enterprises and organizations related to veterinary science, the veterinary profession and related subjects.

1.4 Observer Members

The Council may grant observer status to international organizations, whether or not they have veterinarians as members.

1.5 Honorary Members

Nomination for honorary membership for distinguished persons shall be made by a national or international organization to the Executive Committee who shall decide on submission to the Council for approval.

1.6 Individual Members

All licensed veterinarians, irrespective of being a member of a national/specialist veterinary organisation or not, may apply directly to the Secretariat for individual membership. An application form for membership shall be supplied by the Secretariat.

1.7 Applications for Membership

Applications for membership shall be made on a special form supplied by the Secretariat. After due consideration, the Executive Committee shall make a recommendation to the Council including allocation to one of the regions described in Appendix 1. In the case of associate members, the association's objects and/or speciality, composition, aims and objectives must be acceptable to the Council. Individual membership will be granted by the Secretariat.

1.8 Membership shall be deemed as effective from the date of payment of subscription to the Association.

1.9 Membership of the Association shall terminate:

1.9.1 By voluntary resignation.

1.9.2 If a member fails to pay its subscription for a period of two years, unless a special reason for non-payment is given and a respite is accepted by the Council.

1.9.3 By failing to abide by the Constitution and By-laws.

A vote of termination in accordance with point 1.9.3 may only be taken by the Presidents Assembly after the member under discussion has had the opportunity to state its case.

1.10 Readmission of members

Members may be readmitted by the Council on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, providing they have met any previous obligations.

CHAPTER 2 - VOTING

2.1 Presidents Assembly

Each national member and country associate member has the following number of votes allocated* according to the average amount of the annual membership paid during the three full calendar years immediately preceding a Presidents' Assembly. The number of votes shall be based on the actual amount paid per annum, which takes into account any extraordinary decreases in subscription granted by Council for a particular year(s).

| 2.1.1 Average Membership fee paid | National/Associate | Number of votes |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|
| | Country members | Associate members |
| <u>Minimum fee up to 5% of maximum fee</u> | <u>1</u> | |
| <u>Minimum fee up to 10% of maximum fee</u> | | <u>1</u> |
| <u>5,1% to 10% of maximum fee</u> | <u>2</u> | |
| <u>10,1% to 20% of maximum fee</u> | | <u>2</u> |
| <u>10,1% to 15% of maximum fee</u> | <u>3</u> | |
| <u>15,1% to 20% of maximum fee</u> | <u>4</u> | |
| <u>20,1% to 25% of maximum fee</u> | <u>5</u> | |
| <u>25,1% to 30% of maximum fee</u> | <u>6</u> | |
| <u>30,1% to 35% of maximum fee</u> | <u>7</u> | |
| <u>35,1% to 40% of maximum fee</u> | <u>8</u> | |
| <u>40,1% to 45% of maximum fee</u> | <u>9</u> | |
| <u>45,1% to 50% of maximum fee</u> | <u>10</u> | |
| <u>50,1% to 55% of maximum fee</u> | <u>11</u> | |
| <u>55,1% to 60% of maximum fee</u> | <u>12</u> | |
| <u>60,1% to 65% of maximum fee</u> | <u>13</u> | |
| <u>65,1% to 70% of maximum fee</u> | <u>14</u> | |
| <u>70,1% to 75% of maximum fee</u> | <u>15</u> | |
| <u>75,1% to 80% of maximum fee</u> | <u>16</u> | |
| <u>80,1% to 85% of maximum fee</u> | <u>17</u> | |
| <u>85,1% to 90% of maximum fee</u> | <u>18</u> | |
| <u>90,1% to 95% of maximum fee</u> | <u>19</u> | |
| <u>95,1% to 100% of maximum fee</u> | <u>20</u> | |

2.1.2 In the case of associate members the number of votes allocated is based on 50% of the average membership fee paid, with a maximum of US\$ 5 000

2.1.3 Honorary, Affiliated, Observer and Individual members have no voting or nomination rights, but they have the right to speak.

----- 0 -----

*Allocated voting refers to the number of votes a national member association has in the Assembly. Allocated voting may mean the same as weighted voting. All member countries of WVA are represented by a national delegation in the Presidents' Assembly, but they do not have the same number of votes, and that is known as weighted voting; the number of votes each national organisation has depends on the allocation shown in 2.11.

2.1.4 Decisions regarding:

- 1) Termination of membership (except voluntary resignation);
- 2) Amendments of the Constitution, By-laws or Congress Rules;
- 3) Dissolution of the Association

require two thirds of the allocated votes cast. In all other cases, decisions shall be taken with simple majority of the allocated votes cast. A secret vote will be taken if so wished by any voting delegate. Proxy voting is not allowed.

2.1.5 No decision of the Presidents Assembly may be made unless there is available a quorum of one third of the number of allocated votes to national members.

2.1.6 When a President of an Association is unable to attend the Presidents Assembly meeting, the President should appoint from within the same association or body an alternate whose name should be notified to the Secretariat in advance of the Assembly meeting.

2.1.7 The Vice-Presidents and the Immediate Past President do not vote.

2.1.8 The President does not vote, except in case a vote is equally divided. In that case the President shall have a casting vote.

2.1.9 The Associations from which the President of WVA and the Vice-Presidents of WVA are originating shall nominate new representatives of the Presidents Assembly.

2.2 The Council

2.2.1 Councillors including President, Vice-Presidents and Immediate Past President have one vote each. Proxy voting is not allowed.

2.2.2 No decisions of the Council may be made unless there is a quorum of at least half of the total number of Councillors including President and Vice-Presidents.

2.2.3 In the case a vote is equally divided, the President shall have a casting vote.

2.2.4 Voting can take place by a written procedure. E-mail voting is considered a written procedure.

2.3 Executive Committee

2.3.1 President, Immediate Past President and Vice-Presidents have one vote each. Proxy voting is not allowed.

- 2.3.2 No decisions of the Executive Committee may be made unless three members of the Executive Committee are present.
- 2.3.3 In the case a vote is equally divided, the President shall have a casting vote.
- 2.3.4 Voting can take place by written procedure or at telephone conferences. E-mail voting is considered a written procedure.

CHAPTER 3 - FUNCTIONS OF THE ORGANS; SITE OF THE SECRETARIAT

3.1 The Presidents Assembly shall meet at least once every third year at the venue of the World Veterinary Congress to:

- 3.1.1 consider the progress made towards achieving the goals of the WVA based upon a report from the Council and the Executive Committee;
- 3.1.2 consider new goals and activities of WVA;
- 3.1.3 define policies for WVA;
- 3.1.4 discuss and approve a 3-year financial report from the Council;
- 3.1.5 approve the subscriptions for the coming 3-year period based on the recommendation received from the Council;
- 3.1.6 consider and approve Resolutions;
- 3.1.7 elect officers and councillors;
- 3.1.8 determine the site of coming World Veterinary Congress;
- 3.1.9 amend the Constitution, By-Laws, Congress Rules and Guidelines, if necessary;

3.2 Extraordinary meetings may be held if requested by ten representatives or at the request of the Council.

3.3 The Council

3.4

The Council acts on behalf of the Presidents Assembly between meetings. The Council shall meet at least once a year. In years of World Veterinary Congresses the Council meets before and after the Presidents Assembly meeting. In years without World Veterinary Congresses the Council meets in conjunction with a regional congress or regional meeting:

- 3.3.1 to advise the Presidents Assembly on any matters submitted to it;
- 3.3.2 to make recommendations regarding the items to be discussed by the Presidents Assembly;
- 3.3.3 to approve the minutes of the meetings of the Council of the previous year
- 3.3.4 to discuss and approve committee and regional reports and appoint committee members;
- 3.3.5 to discuss and approve policy and position statements produced by the technical committees;
- 3.3.6 to implement policies defined by the Presidents Assembly;
- 3.3.7 to discuss and approve the audited accounts of WVA, discuss and recommend a budget and a subscription rate;

- 3.3.8 to appoint auditor;
- 3.3.9 to grant membership of national, associate, affiliate and observer members;
- 3.3.10 to elect Honorary Members;
- 3.3.11 to select award winners;
- 3.3.12 to have the Resolutions of Congresses (Presidents Assemblies) executed and report on activities and results at the next Presidents Assembly meeting.

3.4 Executive Committee (EXCOM)

The Executive Committee is the executive organ of the Association. It meets at least twice a year. Among its functions are:

- 3.4.1 To advise the Council on subjects submitted to it.
- 3.4.2 To report to the Council and the Presidents Assembly on the progress of the WVA.
- 3.4.3 To make recommendations regarding items to be discussed in the Council and the Presidents Assembly.
- 3.4.4 To recommend to the Council and to the Presidents Assembly actions for accomplishing the objectives of the Association.
- 3.4.5 To act in emergency situations on behalf of the Presidents Assembly and/or the Council.
- 3.4.6 To approve the Minutes of its meetings.
- 3.4.7 To recommend the organisation providing the secretariat function for WVA to the Council.

- 3.5** The organisation providing the secretariat function for WVA shall be decided by the Council following a recommendation from the Executive Committee.

CHAPTER 4 - NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

4.1 President

- 4.1.1 The two Vice-Presidents shall be automatic nominees for the position of the President. However, these nominations shall not exclude other candidates from nomination. Nomination of the President must be written on formal nomination paper and must be forwarded to the Secretariat at least 4 months prior to the Presidents Assembly meeting. Only the President of a national or an associate member association or their designated representative member of the Presidents Assembly can be nominated. Only national members and associate members have the right to nominate candidates.
- 4.1.2 Nominations other than the Vice-Presidents must be endorsed by the national or associate member associations of the nominee and one more member association.
- 4.1.3 The election of President takes place at the Presidents Assembly by secret ballot. Each representative can vote for one candidate. Each member has votes in accordance with Chapter 2. Voting cards with votes for more than one candidate or with no candidate will not be valid.

- 4.1.4 A nominee is elected if that nominee gets more than 50% of the votes cast. If no candidate has more than 50% of the votes cast, new election rounds will take place with all candidates except the candidate(s) with the least votes cast. Election rounds will be continued until one candidate has met the requirement of having more than 50% of the votes cast.
- 4.1.5 The President can serve one term of three years and can not be re-elected. The term starts the day after the conclusion of the congress and ends the last day of the next consecutive congress.

4.2 Vice-Presidents

- 4.2.1 Nomination of Vice-Presidents must be written on formal nomination paper and must be forwarded to the Secretariat at least 4 months prior to the Presidents Assembly meeting. Only the President of a national or an associate member association or their designated representative member of the Presidents Assembly can be nominated. Only national members and associate members have the right to nominate candidates.
- 4.2.2 Nominations must be endorsed by a national and/or an associate member association.
- 4.2.3 Elections take place at the Presidents Assembly at a secret ballot. Each representative may vote for a number of different candidates up to a maximum of the number of candidates to be elected. The number of allocated votes will be in accordance with Chapter 2. Voting cards with no names or more than the number of candidates to be elected will not be valid.
- 4.2.4 If no candidates have more than 50% of the votes counted, new election rounds will take place with all candidate(s) except the candidate with the least votes cast. Election rounds will be continued until one or two candidates have met the requirement of having more than 50% of the votes counted or there are only two candidates left. In the case where one or both of the remaining two candidates have received less than 50% of the votes in the final round, both of the two remaining candidates will be deemed to be elected as the Vice-Presidents.
- 4.2.5 The Vice-Presidents serve a term of three years and may be re-elected only once. The term starts the day after the congress of election and ends the last day of the next consecutive congress.

4.3 Immediate Past President

- 4.3.1 The outgoing President shall be the automatic nominee for the position of Immediate Past President.
- 4.3.2 The outgoing President is elected in this position if he/she gets more than 50% of the votes cast by secret ballot by the Presidents' Assembly.
- 4.3.3 The Immediate Past President serves one term of 3 years, immediately following his/her term of office of President. The term starts the day after the election of the President and ends the last day of the next consecutive congress.

CHAPTER 5 - NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS

- 5.1** Each region as described in Appendix 1 of the By-laws can elect one councillor for each beginning 25 votes of the national members in the region.

| Votes in region | No. of councillors |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1 - 25 | 1 |
| 26 - 50 | 2 |
| 51 - 75 | 3 |
| 76 - 100 | 4 |
| 101 - 125 | 5 |
| 126 - 150 | 6 |
| to be continued | to be continued |

- 5.2** Notwithstanding article 5.1, no present region as of 31 May 1997 will be represented by less than two councillors provided a minimum of two member countries from that region are represented.
- 5.3** Each group of associate members as described in Annex 1 of the By-laws can elect one councillor
- 5.4** Nomination of councillors must be written on formal nomination paper and must be forwarded to the Secretariat at least 4 months prior to the Presidents Assembly. Only the President of a national or an associate member association or their designated representative member of the Presidents Assembly can be nominated. The nominations must be endorsed by the national or associate member association of the nominee.
- 5.5** The election method of councillors corresponds to the procedure described in Chapter 4.2.3 and 4.2.4.
- 5.6** Councillors serve for one term of three years. Re-election can take place twice. The term starts the day after the congress of election and terminates the last day of the next consecutive congress.

CHAPTER 6 - REPLACEMENT OF OFFICERS

- 6.1** The President, the Immediate Past President and the Vice-Presidents shall be substituted in the Presidents Assembly as they can not represent a national or associate member association.
- 6.2** If the President is unable to act, the most senior Vice-President or if equal seniority the Vice-President who is chairperson of the Policy Committee shall act as President until the next Presidents Assembly. The Council shall among its members elect an acting Vice-President until the next Presidents Assembly. This Vice-President can not be elected as President unless nominated by the Council
- 6.3** If a Vice-President is unable to act, the Council shall among its members elect an acting Vice-President until the next Presidents Assembly. This Vice-President can not be elected as President unless nominated by the Council.
- 6.4** If a councillor is unable to act, the councillor will be substituted by the candidate from the same region with the highest number of votes among the candidates not elected. If such a candidate does not exist, the national or specialist association from which the councillor was elected will be asked to appoint an acting councillor until the next Presidents Assembly.
- 6.5** A President, Immediate Past President, Vice-President or Councillor may only be removed from office by a majority vote of the Presidents Assembly.

CHAPTER 7 - DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND COUNCILLORS

- 7.1** The duties of the President are:
- 7.1.1 To promote the activities of the Association throughout the world.
 - 7.1.2 To represent the Association throughout the world.
 - 7.1.3 To preside over the meetings of the Presidents Assembly, Council and Executive Committee.
 - 7.1.4 To prepare an annual report on the Association's preceding year and make it available to the Council members 2 weeks prior to the Council meeting.
 - 7.1.5 To work with the chairperson of the Finance Committee to prepare an annual budget for the next fiscal year and report on the finances of the previous year.
- 7.2** The duties of the Immediate Past President are:
- 7.2.1 To assist the President in executing the decisions of the Presidents Assembly, Council and the Executive Committee.
 - 7.2.2 The Immediate Past President may fulfil any function which can be fulfilled by a Councillor.
 - 7.2.3 To act as a Special Ambassador of the WVA at the request of the President.

7.3 The duties of the Vice-Presidents are:

- 7.3.1 To act as chairpersons of the administrative committees
- 7.3.2 To assist the President in executing the decisions of the Presidents Assembly, Council and the Executive Committee.

7.4 Secretariat:

- 7.4.1 The secretariat will either be in house under the direction of the President or outsourced by contract signed by WVA President after approval of the secretarial body by WVA Council and the wording of the contract by the WVA EXCOM.
- 7.4.2 If the Secretariat is outsourced, the contracted organisation solving the secretariat function for WVA will be responsible for nominating staff, responsible to WVA to fulfil the following duties of the secretariat:
 - 7.4.2.1 Overall responsibility for the WVA Secretariat
 - 7.4.2.2 Overall responsibility for driving the political process within WVA
 - 7.4.2.3 Overall financial responsibility
 - 7.4.2.4 Overall responsibility for a high level of internal and external communication
 - 7.4.2.5 Membership maintenance and development

7.5 Duties of the Delegates to the Presidents Assembly:

- 7.5.1 To promote the activities of the WVA in their country.
- 7.5.2 To provide information about the national association.
- 7.5.3 To ensure that the subscriptions are promptly paid.
- 7.5.4 To make efforts to encourage associations to join the WVA.
- 7.5.5 Approve the Council financial report of the WVA.
- 7.5.6 Decide subscription rates.
- 7.5.7 Conduct Elections.

7.6 Duties of the Councillors:

- 7.6.1 To represent WVA in their region.
- 7.6.2 To promote WVC in their region and participate actively in them.
- 7.6.3 To maintain regular contact with veterinary associations in their region.
- 7.6.4 Provide the Council with a written report on their activities in the region.
- 7.6.5 Control finances of WVA.
- 7.6.6 Appoint auditor
- 7.6.7 Grant WVA membership to applicants.
- 7.6.8 In regions with more than one councillor, the councillors are expected to cooperate and allocate the above-mentioned duties among themselves.

7.7 The President of the current and next World Veterinary Congress shall be a member ex officio of the Presidents Assembly and the President of the current Congress shall report yearly to the Council as an ex officio member of the Council.

CHAPTER 8 - FINANCE

8.1 Association Fund

The fund of the Association is constituted from annual subscriptions of national, associate affiliated and individual members, income from the Association's capital, from congresses, donations and any other income that may be derived from global organizations in recognition of the international value of the veterinary contribution to animal and human health and welfare.

8.2 Subscription

8.2.1 National, Associate, Affiliate and Individual members shall pay into the Fund of the Association the subscriptions which shall become due on 1st January of each year or, in the case of members joining during the year, from the date of joining*).

8.2.2 The subscription system and the rate of subscriptions shall be determined by the Presidents Assembly based on the recommendation of the Council with special consideration being given to those countries defined by the United Nations as developing countries. The subscriptions of such countries may be reduced if the Presidents Assembly so decide.

8.3 Finance Committee

8.3.1 The chairperson of the Finance Committee shall be one of the two Vice-Presidents (see Article 8.2 of the WVA Constitution).

8.3.2 The Finance Committee shall meet once a year in conjunction with the meeting of the Council.

8.3.3 Two members shall be appointed by the Council among councillors to administer the fund of the Association, to consider all financial matters affecting the Association and report to the Council.

8.3.4 The chairperson of the Finance Committee shall be responsible for controlling all income and expenditures. All main account cheques must be signed by two of the following three: the chairperson of the Finance Committee, the WVA President, the Executive Secretary. No one is allowed to sign reimbursement for their own expenses.

***) Explanatory Note**

New members will not be charged the full annual membership fee if they join the WVA during the fiscal year. The membership fee to be paid by new members will be calculated proportionally from the month of joining (pro rata).

- 8.3.5 The Secretariat shall be funded from the main bank account. Secretariat cheques may be signed by two of the following three: the Executive Secretary, the President of the WVA, the chairperson of the Finance Committee. No one is allowed to sign reimbursement for their own expenses.
- 8.3.6 The chairperson of the Finance Committee shall prepare a budget for the next fiscal year and present it to the Council.
- 8.3.7 The US dollar shall be the official currency of the WVA.

8.4 Auditor

Every year the Accounts of the Association will be examined by a qualified auditor who shall be proposed by the Executive Committee and appointed by the Council. This expert shall present a statement which is submitted to the Finance Committee, the Executive Committee and the Council, along with the annual report of the Secretariat.

8.5 Accounts of the Association

At the annual meeting of the Council, a motion may be put forward to pass the Association's accounts. After adoption, the Executive Committee is discharged from all liability for the year in question. If the accounts are not approved, they shall be referred to the Finance Committee who shall submit a report to the Council. If the accounts are still not approved, the Presidents Assembly shall be called during which the question of removal from office of members of the Executive Committee shall be discussed.

8.6 Use of the Fund

The Fund of the Association meets the expenses approved by the Council.

8.7 Non-payment of subscriptions

If the subscriptions of a National, Associate or Affiliated member for any year but the current have not been paid by the time of nomination for election at the Presidents Assembly, the member shall not be allowed to vote and the region will have the number of councillors corresponding to the numbers of votes for which the subscription has been paid by the countries in the region. Exceptions may be permitted at the discretion of the Presidents Assembly.

- 8.8** A national member which is in arrears with its subscription can not be considered as host for a World Veterinary Congress.
- 8.9** A national or associate member in arrears with its subscription can not nominate candidates for office or Council and their representatives in the Presidents Assembly can not be nominated for office or Council.
- 8.10** An Individual member in arrears with its subscription can not speak in the Presidents' Assembly and other member benefits shall also be suspended until payment is made.

CHAPTER 9 - COMMITTEES

9.1 Administrative Committees

The Finance and Policy Committees shall each be composed of two Councillors and one Vice-President who shall chair the committee.

9.2 Technical Committees

- 9.2.1 Education and Development
- 9.2.2 Animal Welfare and Animal Health
- 9.2.3 Veterinary Public Health
- 9.2.4 Veterinary support during Disaster and Emergencies
- 9.2.5 Any other committee approved by the Presidents Assembly

These committees may be activated by EXCOM, either by its own decision or following a request from Council, if there is a specific need for one or more of the Technical Committees referred to in 9.2.1 to 9.2.4. Committee members shall be nominated by the Executive Committee for Council approval. Nominations may also come from the floor.

A copy of all correspondence and a record of all business undertaken by each committee shall be forwarded to the WVA Secretariat within one calendar month of it taking place.

9.3 Special or Ad Hoc Committees

- 9.3.1 There must be a need for the committee.
- 9.3.2 There must be a sunset date.
- 9.3.3 There must be a cost projection.
- 9.3.4 Committees must submit written reports to the Executive Committee every four months and to the Council annually.
- 9.3.5 Members shall be named by the WVA President with Executive Committee approval.

CHAPTER 10 – WORLD VETERINARY ASSOCIATION SPECIAL AWARD

10.1 DESCRIPTION OF AWARD

The WVA Special Award is based on:

- 10.1.1 outstanding and exemplary service by a veterinarian to the veterinary profession, either by his/her contributions to national, regional or international veterinary organisations to build and promote the standards of competence and the rights of veterinarians for the benefit of the profession, or by having a significant impact through her/his contributions in furthering goodwill and understanding between members of the profession as well as between veterinarians and members of the general public on a national, regional or international level;
- 10.1.2 outstanding scientific achievements which had a significant impact on the advancement of veterinary science in general or which were major accomplishments concerning the wellbeing of animals and man and the environment we live in.

10.2 SELECTION PROTOCOL

- 10.2.1 Nominations are open only to members of national and affiliated member associations of the WVA.

Current members of the EXCOM are not eligible for nomination.

Nominations should consist of:

- i) a full curriculum vitae
- ii) a detailed description of contributions and achievements relating to the criteria as detailed in 1.1 and 1.2 above;
- iii) a synopsis of the above;
- iv) a letter of support

As Award recipients will be expected to be present at the World Veterinary Congress, their agreement to be nominated should be obtained.

- 10.2.2 There will be an Awards Committee, which will consist of the President of the WVA and four members of the WVA Council. The President will chair the Committee.
- 10.2.3 The Executive Secretary will call for nominations at least 18 months prior to the Award presentation, and will forward them to the members of the Awards Committee. Nominations will be accepted from national delegates of the Presidents' Assembly, Councillors or Presidents' of national and affiliated member organisations. Nominations should be received by the Secretary at least 15 months prior to the Award presentation.

Unsuccessful nominations will remain under consideration for the following WVC, and will then be removed from the list of nominees. Veterinary individuals or groups may be renominated.

- 10.2.4 When directed by the President, each Committee member (including the President) will score all current nominees for the appropriate Award in order of preference: 1 for first choice, 2 for second choice etc. The President will collate the committee members' preferences by adding together the scores of each nominee. The nominee with the lowest score will be the recipient. In the event of a tie, the President shall have a casting vote.

Each committee member may also indicate if he/she believes there is no suitable nominee for the Award. If the majority of the relevant committee is in agreement, then the Award shall not be presented at that WVC.

- 10.2.5 The Award recipients' name will be announced by the President during the Opening Ceremony of the WVC. The Executive Secretary will inform the recipient at least 6 months prior to the WVC.
- 10.2.6 The Award recipient will be provided with free registration for the WVC at which her/his Award is presented, together with two invitations to the main social events.
- 10.2.7 The Award recipient will be requested to present a short presentation of not more than 15 minutes, during the Opening Ceremony of the WVC, highlighting issues which led to her/him receiving the award.

CHAPTER 11 - AMENDMENTS

The By-laws and/or the regional structure described in Appendix 1 may be amended by the Presidents Assembly provided

- 11.1 written notice of the amendments is circulated to the members at least four months prior to the meeting at which they are to be considered.
- 11.2 two thirds of the votes cast by the members present and voting are in favour of the amendments.

CHAPTER 12 - FINAL REGULATION

These By-laws were adopted by the Presidents' Assembly of the Association in Minneapolis 19 July 2005 and take precedence over all former ones.

WVA Regional Structure

Europe

Albania
Austria
Belgium
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Rep.
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Israel
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
The Netherlands
Norway
Portugal
Romania
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
United Kingdom

North America (2 Councillors)

Canada
USA

Middle East/North Africa

Algeria
Egypt
Iran
Iraq
Jordan
Kuwait
Lebanon
Libya
Morocco
Saudi Arabia
Syria
Tunisia
Yemen

Latin America

Jamaica
Mexico
Panama
St. Kitts & Nevis

Africa

Benin
Burundi
Cameroun
DR Congo
Ethiopia
Ghana
Kenya
Mali
Mauritius
Namibia
Nigeria
Senegal
South Africa
Sudan
Tanzania

East Asia & Oceania

Australia
Japan
Korea
Malaysia
Nepal
New Zealand
Singapore
Taiwan
Thailand

30 July 2008

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Animal Species Related Scientific Veterinary Associations (1 Councillor)

Ibero American Association for Animal Production (I.A.A.A.R.)

International Association of Colleges of Laboratory Animal Medicine (I.A.C.L.A.M)

World Association of Wildlife Veterinarians (W.A.W.V.)

Discipline Related Scientific Veterinary Associations (1 Councillor)

International Society for Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics (I.S.V.E.E.)

International Society of Animal Clinical Biochemistry (I.S.A.C.B.)

World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology (W.A.A.V.P.)

World Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine (W.A.H.V.M.)

World Association of Veterinary Pathologists (W.A.V.P.)

Regional Veterinary Organisations (1 Councillor)

African Veterinary Association (A.V.A.)

Euro-Arab Veterinary Association (E.A.V.A.)

Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (F.V.E.)

General Federation of Arab Veterinarians (G.F.A.V.)

30 July 2008