

Short History of the

World

Veterinary

Association

1863-2005

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Introduction

The early history of the World Veterinary Association (WVA), founded in 1959 as a continuation of the Permanent Committee for the International Veterinary Congresses, is in fact the history of these Congresses. Only after the Congress in Stockholm (1953) activities other than those relating to the organisation of the World Veterinary Congresses, such as the publication of a preliminary List of Diseases of Animals, a Catalogue of Veterinary Films and Films of Veterinary Interest and the WVA News items were initiated.

Phase I. Initiation and development of the International Veterinary Congresses

The International (World) Veterinary Congresses (IVC) has contributed a great deal to the progress of veterinary science and practice throughout the world.

I IVC, Hamburg, Germany, 1863

It was Professor John Gamgee from the Veterinary College of Edinburgh (1831-1894) who took the initiative in April 1863 to invite the professors of veterinary medicine and the veterinarians from all European countries to a general meeting in Hamburg, Germany, 14-18 July 1863, mainly to discuss a system to combat epizootic diseases and to devise common rules for the import and export of cattle, and recommend their adoption by all European states. Questions relating to these subjects were the main topics of many ensuing Congresses as well. The reason why Gamgee chose a town outside Great Britain as the site of the first Congress, is not known. Perhaps his idea did not find enough support in his home country. At the first Congress, Gamgee was accompanied by only one British colleague and for a long time, the British participation in the Congresses remained noticeably poor.

The President of the first Congress was Dr Eduard Hering, Director of the Veterinary School of Stuttgart, Germany. The following countries were represented: Austria, Denmark, England, Germany, Hungary, Luxemburg, Norway, Switzerland, Russia and Sweden and the total number of participants was 103. One of the main topics was rinderpest.

This Congress was particularly important because of its Resolutions naming the zoonoses, which could be controlled by state regulation. The same zoonoses were to be included in the Zoonoses Act of the Prussian Government 12 years later.

The attention of Governments was drawn to the indispensability of statistics on zoonoses, as well as the importance of strict state control (enforced by law) of transport of animals and infiltration of zoonoses from abroad. In other words, for the first time the representatives of the governments were introduced to the principles of veterinary legislation.

¹ By Mr. E. Aalbers, Secretary-General, WVA (1991-1994) and Dr Bent Christensen, Editor, WVA Bulletin (1994-2002).

II IVC, Vienna, Austria, 1865

The 2nd Congress took place in Vienna, Austria 21-27 August 1865. The President of the Congress was Dr Von Hering (Germany) and the Vice-President, Dr M.Fr. Röhl (Austria). The Emperor Franz Joseph made an important financial contribution to the event. Once again, the main topics were devoted to controlling epizootic diseases, in particular rabies. Furthermore there was a discussion about public liability in cattle trade. There were 170 participants from 15 countries of whom 74 were from Germany and 69 from Austria-Hungary.

III IVC, Zürich, Switzerland, 1867

The 3rd Congress was held in Zürich, Switzerland 2-7 September 1867 under the presidency of Dr R. Zangger, Director of the local Veterinary School. 188 participants attended from 16 countries, with 76 coming from Germany and 72 from Switzerland.

This Congress marked an important step forward because of governmental recognition and an extension of the scope of activities. It was the Swiss government itself that had invited all European governments to take part and the President of Switzerland in person extended greetings to the Congress.

The Congress not only dealt with zoonoses (in particular rinderpest) but also with organised meat inspection, preliminary veterinary training and veterinary education, protection of the title “veterinarian” and the right of veterinarians to dispense medicines themselves (Right of Dispensation). Following this Congress, there was a long interruption caused by the Franco-German War. This proved to be no great inconvenience, because the interval between the first three Congresses appeared to have been too short. In fact, in Zürich a recommendation was made by Dr Gerlach that there be a 10 year interval between Congresses.

IV IVC, Brussels, Belgium, 1883

The 4th Congress in Brussels 10-16 September 1883 was held in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the Veterinary School of Cureghem and its Director, Dr A. Thiernes. was named President of the Congress. Honorary President was the Minister of Agriculture, Delwart, who had founded the School. For the first time a Congress gained the royal seal when King Leopold II of Belgium accepted its patronage. Also for the first time there were more than 300 participants though the local character was still dominant as 217 of the delegates were Belgians. Henry Bouley, General Inspector of the Veterinary Schools and President of the “Institut de France” represented the French veterinarians, amongst others. Among the German participants were Professor Müller, an anatomist from Berlin who spoke 7 languages and Dr Lydtin who spoke French and acted as a translator. The topics of the Congress were: organisation of the veterinary service, veterinary education, the right of dispensation and pulmonary infections (the main topic) and (for the first time), tuberculosis and meat and milk inspection of animals suffering from tuberculosis. An important document about tuberculosis written by Dr Lydtin served as a basis for discussion at the next Congress.

V IVC, Paris, France, 1889

Held in Paris 2-8 September 1889, the 5th Congress boasted 635 participants from 19 countries including Egypt and USA. 465 delegates attended from France. Due to political tension and relevant

recommendations by the Government, only 3 German veterinarians were in attendance. Chaveau, General Inspector of the Veterinary Schools was elected President of the Congress. The late Dr Bouley (1814-1883) was honoured with the unveiling of a monument. The Secretary of the Congress was Dr Nocard. The discussions dealt with tuberculosis, international sanitary service, and indemnifications in case of enforced slaughter, contagious peripneumonia and meat inspection. The Congress unanimously recommended the enforced control of tuberculosis by law but overstated their concerns in proposing a resolution that meat of animals infected with tuberculosis should be banned for human consumption regardless of the degree of infection.

Drs Nocard (France) and Perroncito (Italy) had opposed, in vain, this recommendation, which would have proved impossible to carry out. During the discussion on the topic “meat inspection”, the inspection of live animals was demanded. For the next Congress, the Swiss Government was asked to indicate a site.

VI IVC, Bern, Switzerland, 1895

The 6th Congress was held in Bern 16-21 September 1895. Although it did not have more participants than the previous Congress, it was more international in its makeup with almost all European countries represented. The President of the Congress was Dr Potterat, Dr Noyer was Secretary. Drs Berdez and Nocard served as Presidents of sessions. Robert Koch, Louis Pasteur and Röhl were elected Honorary Members of the Congress. The main topics were vaccination and vaccines. Discussions were held about tuberculosis and mallein, a preventive vaccination against rabies, black leg, contagious pleuropneumonia, tetanus, red fever and swine zoonoses. For the first time Lorenz' red fever vaccination was given support.

Moreover, the establishment of an international zoonoses convention was discussed. The anatomists met to decide about a standard nomenclature. The Congress was concluded with a banquet at the Kurhaus in Interlaken where the Congress members had a breathtaking view of the brilliant snow capped Jungfrau Mountain.

VII WVC, Baden-Baden, Germany, 1899

The 7th Congress was held in Baden-Baden, Germany 7-12 August 1899. The number of participants was 958 of whom 462 came from abroad. This was the first “World Veterinary Congress”, since delegations from 16 non-European countries were present. Among the participants were well known veterinarians like Chaveau, Nocard and Arloin (France), Degive (Belgium), Perroncito (Italy), Potterat, Ness and Noyer (Switzerland), Hutyra (Hungary), Bang (Denmark), Malm (Norway), Kjerrulf (Sweden), Cope (UK) and Moergoard (USA). Furthermore, Löffler (Germany), discoverer of the Glanders bacillus and the vaccine against foot-and-mouth disease,

Lorenz (Netherlands) who discovered the vaccine against Red Fever, Lothes, Ostertag, Schutz and Siedamgrotsky (Germany). Chaveau and Lydtin were elected Honorary Members of the Congress. Hutyra put forward a draft of an international veterinary convention regarding the transport of animals, but this project was not accepted owing to differences in legislation in the different countries still considered to be too great. Löffler explained his immunisation against foot-and mouth disease. Swine zoonoses, preventive vaccination against Red Fever (Lorenz vaccine) and the control of Tuberculosis were extensively discussed. Finally, the Congress demanded a pre university education of at least four years as the basis for veterinary studies. For the first time English was admitted as an official Congress language.

VIII WVC, Budapest, Hungary, 1906

The 8th Congress took place in Budapest 3-9 September 1906. Archduke Joseph at Buda Castle received the participants. The Congress was organised by Franz Hutyra. There were 1,404 participants from all over the world. For the first time, the topics were discussed in four sections of which the section on veterinary and sanitary legislation was the largest. Topics of discussion included: cattle insurance, a standard scheme for diagnosis and zoonoses, tuberculosis, tuberculine, mallein, vaccination against foot-and-mouth disease, zoonoses of swine, including hog cholera, the control of rabies, and the treatment of tropical diseases including protozoan diseases. In a Resolution, the right of veterinary schools to grant the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree was demanded.

Phase II. Creation and activities of the Permanent Committee

A far-reaching decision of historical importance taken at the 8th Congress was the establishment of a Permanent Committee as an organisational link between Congresses. It was Reinhold Schmalz who put forward the relative proposal in which he also recommended that the Congresses should not concentrate one-sidedly on zoonoses and veterinary legislation but should instead embrace the whole field of veterinary science, including veterinary surgery.

It was now the task of the Permanent Committee to prepare the next Congress. Members of the Permanent Committee included the two organisers of the Budapest Congress, two representatives of the country where the next Congress was to be held and one representative of each of the (regularly) participating countries. Dr Lydtin (Germany) became the first President of the Committee. Professor de Hutyra was elected Vice-President and Dr de Jong (the Netherlands) Secretary-Treasurer.

The following 17 countries were elected to stand on the Permanent Committee: Austria (Dr Binder); Belgium (Dr Degive); Bulgaria (Dr Tuleff); Denmark (Dr Bang); Germany: (Dr Lydtin) France (Dr Arloing); Hungary (Drs Hutyra and Von Ratz); Italy (Dr Perroncito); Netherlands (Drs Wirtz and de Jong); Norway (Dr Malm); Romania (Dr Locusteanu); Russia (Dr Happich); Serbia (Dr Popovic); South Africa (Dr Theiler); Sweden (Dr Kjerrulf); Switzerland (Dr Hess); USA (Dr Pearsen). These countries may be considered as founding members of the World Veterinary Association.

The high point of the social programme of the Congress was a boat trip by night on the Danube.

IX WVC, Schevening, The Netherlands, 1909

The 9th Congress was held at the Dutch seaside resort of Scheveningen, near The Hague 13-18 September 1909. It was the last Congress before the First World War. The President of the Congress was Professor W.C.Schimmel. There were 1458 Congress members from all over the world.

There were six plenary sessions and sectional meetings dealing with 32 topics. The control of swine, rindertuberculosis, transport of meat and milk and disposal of carcasses were dealt with in the plenary sessions. The Congress demanded laws to protect the practice of veterinary medicine and the right to grant the DVM degree. At the sectional meetings, control of the transport of animals other than cattle was discussed, papers on ichthyology were recommended and a recommendation was made condemning excessive breeding of cattle solely for milk production. Concerning tropical

diseases, a committee was elected to draft rules for hygiene in connection with sea transport of animals. The standard scheme for periodical diagnosis of zoonoses, drafted by Drs Binder, Leclainche and Ostertag was adopted.

The Bureau of the Permanent Committee was composed of: Dr A. Lydtin (Germany), President; Dr F. Hutyra (Hungary) and Drs Arloing (France), Vice-Presidents; Dr D.A. de Jong (Netherlands), General Secretary; and Dr E. de Ráts (Hungary), Deputy Secretary. Dr L. Van Es was elected the representative of the USA.

On 1 January 1914 the Permanent Committee established its Secretariat at the Ministry of Agriculture in The Hague, The Netherlands.

X WVC, London, Great Britain, 1914

The 10th Congress in London, which was to be held 3-6 August 1914, was formally opened, but after considering the international situation it was closed immediately. No scientific sessions were held.

In 1917, Dr Schmalz asked the President and Vice-Presidents to dissolve the Permanent Committee. After some hesitation, Dr Lydtin resigned as President. In 1925 the General Secretary, Professor de Jong, died and the work at the Secretariat of the Permanent Committee came to a complete standstill.

In 1928, at the initiative of Professor de Blicke (The Netherlands), an invitation to revive the Permanent Committee was forwarded to the remaining six members. On 14 May of that year a meeting was held in Paris at which the representatives of many countries were present. The Permanent Committee was reformed with Professor Hutyra (Hungary) elected President and Professor Leclainche, Vice-President. Professor de Blicke became Secretary-Treasurer and Professor Stang (Germany), Deputy Secretary. It was decided to hold the next Congress in London in 1930, 21 years after the last Congress.

XI WVC, London, Great Britain, 1930

1922 participants attended the 11th Congress in London 4-9 August 1930 from 40 countries and 20 British dominions, colonies or dependencies. Sir John MacFadyean, President of the Organising Committee, was elected President of the Congress. Professor Bang from Copenhagen was made an Honorary Member. Many topics were discussed including foot-and-mouth disease, contagious abortion and breeding diseases, spreading of black leg by raw products, rinderpest, fowl plague, the task of the veterinarian regarding animal production and veterinary public health, particularly in view of transport of meat and milk were discussed. The necessity for state regulation of health conditions of domestic animals was accepted. Professor Leclainche (France) gave credit to Professor Von Ostertag (Germany) for his initiative regarding modern food control legislation, which was an example for all other governments. Drs Hutyra and Marek received the "Budapest Prize" (founded from surplus money of the Congress held in Budapest) for their publication "Special Pathology and Therapy". An invitation from Dr Mohler, Chief, Bureau of Animal Industry, Washington on behalf of the American Veterinary Medical Association to hold the next Congress in the USA was accepted. The social programme of the XXIth Congress was excellent and culminated in the reception and ball hosted by the Lord Mayor and the City Corporation in the Guild Hall.

XII WVC, New York, U.S.A., 1934.

The 12th Congress was held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City 13-18 August 1934. The total attendance was 1820 including 216 from 40 countries outside the USA. The Congress was very well organised by a Committee of 73 under the presidency of Dr A. Eichhorn, Director of the New York Veterinary Department. Dr John Mohler was elected President of the Congress. The Proceedings consisted of 92 presented in three plenary sessions and many sectional meetings. The first session offered two important lectures by Dr Mohler about the relationship between veterinary science and public health. The social programme was pleasantly varied. There were many receptions, official dinners and a Congress banquet.

For the first time in the history of the International Veterinary Congresses, the President of the Congress formally recognised the influence of women in the field of veterinary medicine in a specially prepared address on the opening day of the Congress.

At the New York Congress, the Permanent Committee was reorganised and consisted of 40 veterinarians from 35 countries. Professor Leclainche (France) was elected President, Dr Mohler (USA) and Sir John McFadyean (Great Britain) Vice-Presidents. Professor de Blicke remained Secretary Treasurer and Professor, Dr V. Stang (Germany) was elected Deputy Secretary.

XIII WVC, Zürich-Interlaken, Switzerland, 1938.

The 13th Congress was held at Zürich and Interlaken 21-27 August 1938. This was the third Congress in Switzerland. There were 2,090 participants of whom 655 from 58 countries outside Switzerland. Professor, Dr Flückiger was President of the Congress and Dr E. Graub its Secretary General. Ten sectional sessions were held and 8 Resolutions were adopted, among which a recommendation to the Governments not to exclude veterinarians from collaborating in the field of animal breeding.

It was decided to hold the 14th Congress in Berlin in 1942. Obviously, this Congress did not take place because of the Second World War.

Between 1934 and 1938, the Permanent Committee was mainly engaged in the preparation of the 13th Congress and the designation of representatives of various member countries. However, the Committee also discussed a way to deal with the Resolutions submitted at Congresses and the establishment of the "Committee Hall" (an international body for the control of parasitic diseases), created to implement a Resolution adopted at the New York Congress. Dr Du Toit (South Africa) suggested there be drawn up an international list of animal diseases.

The stipulation in the Congress rules that the expenses of the Secretariat in the interval between Congresses were to be paid by the last Congress, proved to be unsatisfactory and suggestions were made to change the Rule in question. At the 2nd meeting of the Permanent Committee during the 13th Congress in Switzerland, the following Resolution was adopted:

"In order that the International Veterinary Congresses may be held in all countries, it is resolved that in future, the cost of printing and that of the Bureau of the Permanent Committee shall be met by contributions from all participating countries, and the amount of these dues shall be proportional to the number of veterinarians, members of the Veterinary Medical Association of each country. Instructions will be issued by the Permanent Committee".

Although, generally speaking, the delegates agreed to the principle of a “per capita” rate, it was decided to defer a decision until the next Congress and it was not until the 14th Congress in London 1949 that a system of payment of contribution “per capita” was adopted.

At a meeting in Paris in May 1947, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Permanent Committee, Professor de Blicq, presented a report about the activities during the period 1938-1947. This report dealt with the appointment of representatives on the Permanent Committee and with the difficult financial position of the Secretariat. London was unanimously chosen as site of the 14th International Veterinary Congress.

XIV WVC, London, Great Britain, 1949

The 14th Congress was held 8-13 August 1949. Its President was Sir Daniel Cabot; Professor J.B. Buxton was Vice-President and Dr W.T. Wooldridge Secretary. The scientific programme featured 4 plenary sessions and 8 sectional meetings. There were 1461 participants from 53 countries. The Congress approved fourteen resolutions. One of these called upon the Permanent Committee to come up with a proposal for a wide distribution of veterinary educational films in the member-countries sponsored by the governments of these countries.

At the 14th International Veterinary Congress it was also agreed that member-countries would contribute to the Congress Fund on the basis of 1 shilling per graduate veterinarian in the country, member of the national veterinary organisation. From these contributions the expenses of the Secretariat would be paid as well as, if necessary, the printing costs, either in part or in full, of the Congress Proceedings. An Association Fund Committee would be created to administer these funds. Following the Congress of London, no meeting of the Permanent Committee was held until May 1952. Apart from considering matters of a financial nature relating to payment of dues, the general arrangements for Congresses and amendments of the statutes and bylaws were discussed. Attention was also paid to reports of the Committee for the Compilation of a List of Animal Diseases, the Committee on the Control of Parasitic Diseases and to the collection of data on veterinary films. There was also a proposal to use only one working language, English, but it was recognised that this would be difficult to realise.

XV WVC, Stockholm, Sweden, 1953

The 15th Congress held in Stockholm, Sweden, the Swedish Minister of Agriculture opened 9-15 August 1953 after Mr Axel Alegren, President of the Organising Committee, had welcomed the delegates. A festive flavour was added to the opening ceremonies with the performance by the orchestra of the Swedish Broadcasting Corporation of two works of Swedish composers, the “Swedish Festival Overture” and the “Festival Polonaise”. Dr Karl Eriksson was elected President of the Congress and Dr A. Isaksson Secretary-General. The scientific programme featured four plenary sessions (not including the opening and closing session) as well as eight sectional meetings. The number of participants was 1134. The Congress was rounded off by the traditional receptions, excursions, banquets and other social gatherings.

At the meetings of the Permanent Committee held at the 15th International Congress in Stockholm, the Secretary-Treasurer was authorised to continue the work on the compilation of a List of Animal Diseases. A long discussion was held regarding this List. Mr. Pool (UK) headed the project. Thirteen subcommittees had been formed to represent the different fields of veterinary medicine. A preliminary report had been made in English only, but it was felt that the final Manual should be a

polyglot dictionary to be sold. Professor Beveridge explained the critic of the Australian National Committee, which had also sent a report.

At the third meeting of the Permanent Committee held in Stockholm 15th August 1953, Professor de Blicck presented his resignation as Secretary-Treasurer of the Permanent Committee and Professor Jac. Jansen (who was not present) was elected his successor. Professor de Blicck became Deputy Secretary in order to acquaint Professor Jansen with the work of the Secretariat.

Spanish was accepted as an official Congress language.

Phase III. Creation and development of the World Veterinary Association

Professor Hjärre and Dr Alegren (Sweden) felt that the Permanent Committee should stimulate the foundation of international associations of veterinary specialists and proposed to establish an International Veterinary Union with national veterinary associations and international specialist associations as members. This proposal was favourably received. In a Resolution, the Congress recommended the formation of an Animal Production Organisation to become affiliated to the International Veterinary Congresses (IVC). In 1955 the bylaws of the IVC were amended in order to facilitate the affiliation of international associations of veterinary specialists and in 1958 it was the President of the Permanent Committee, Professor Beveridge, who proposed a name change from “Permanent Committee for the International Veterinary Congresses” to “Council of the World Veterinary Association”. Although this proposal was favourably received, it was finally decided to keep the name “Permanent Committee” (instead of “Council”). This was the birth of the “World Veterinary Association”.

Professor Hermsdorff (Sweden) put forward a project for a monthly International Journal of Veterinary Medicine as the official journal of the Permanent Committee for the International Veterinary Congresses. One year later this proposal was rejected because it was considered that such a journal would be too expensive to produce and would probably end up being a duplication of national veterinary journals.

The Stockholm Congress chose Argentina as the country to organise the 16th International Congress to be held in 1957. Unfortunately, owing to a change of government in that country, the invitation had to be withdrawn in 1956. Several countries (Austria, Chile, France, Portugal, Spain and the USSR) showed their interest in taking Argentina’s place. The Permanent Committee accepted a firm invitation from Chile but also that country had to withdraw the invitation owing to rivalry between different national veterinary associations. Finally, it was decided to accept the invitation from Spain and Madrid was chosen as the site of the 16th International Veterinary Congress.

XVI WVC Madrid, Spain, 1959

This Congress was held from 21-27 May 1959 at the campus of the University of Madrid, “The Complutense”. The scientific programme was divided into five sections, covering all aspects of veterinary science and practice. The Spanish Minister of Agriculture presided over the Congress, and the Secretary-General was Dr Pedro Carda. Approximately 2000 participants from 52 countries took part in the Congress.

Honorary Members of the Madrid Congress included Professor Verge (France), Professor Manninger (Hungary), Professor de Blicck (Netherlands), Sir Daniel Cabot (Great Britain),

Professor W.I.B. Beveridge (Australia), and Professor Jac. Jansen (Denmark), and Professor K. Wagener (Germany). The Congress in Madrid was an important landmark in the evolution of the International Veterinary Congresses into a World Veterinary Association.

Two proposals put forward at the meeting of the Permanent Committee in 1954 merit attention, namely: a suggestion by Dr Willems (Belgium) that speakers at Congresses deal only with new developments rather than merely reading their papers. This idea was not put into practice and it was not until the Congress of Paris in 1967, upon the initiative of Professor Beveridge, that the scientific programme was organised for the first time along the lines of symposia at which speakers from different countries would deal with new developments in the various fields.

The second proposal, presented by the Dutch national committee, was a recommendation that there be simultaneous translation at all meetings as well as during the sections. This was put into practice at the Congress in Madrid in 1959, but proved very expensive. Part of these costs, Dfls. 75.000 — 7 1/2 times more than the grant to the Stockholm Congress, was paid from the Association Fund. In 1955, the Permanent Committee decided to establish official relations with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). This led to the “specialised consultative status” granted by FAO in 1955 and official relations with WHO as from 1956. Apart from these organisations, the Permanent Committee of the IVC and later on the World Veterinary Association (WVA) have maintained, during many years, very good relations with the “Office International des Epizooties” (OIE) in Paris. Once a year, except in the years when a World Veterinary Congress is held, this organisation kindly allowed the WVA to hold the meetings of the Permanent Committee (at present “General Assembly”), the Executive Bureau, the Association Fund Committee (at present “Finance Committee as well as other committee meetings at the OIE headquarters. The WVA maintains relations with a good number of international bodies with interests related to those of the WVA. Such organisations have been offered “observer status” (reciprocal representation at meetings).

In 1954, Sir Daniel Cabot (England) resigned as President of the Permanent Committee, also in that year, “Intervet” was founded as an organisation to safeguard and promote the interests of practising veterinarians in response to a feeling by many that the International Veterinary Congresses (IVC) only brought together teachers and specialists. It was feared that “Intervet” could become a competitive body for the IVC, but this was not the case, and it was dissolved a few years later.

In May 1957, Professor W.I.B. Beveridge (Australia) was elected President of the Permanent Committee. In that year the IVC had 39 member countries. Also in 1957, a preliminary List of Diseases of Animals was finally completed. Not everybody agreed with this project and there were differences of opinion regarding the language in which the list would be written. Some were in favour of Latin, but it appeared that this would be a very cumbersome working language. Others preferred a polyglot dictionary, and still others felt that the project was too expensive. Although a small majority authorised Mr Pool (UK) to go ahead with the preparations for the final list, it was agreed that first of all prospective buyers should be found and no more than 2000 copies printed. A few years later the project was definitively abandoned owing to lack of interest.

In 1959, eleven headings for sections of Congresses and for international specialist associations were proposed by Professor Beveridge and adopted. This cleared the way for these associations to become affiliated with the WVA. A model of statutes for the specialist associations was drawn up and included in it were the conditions for Associate Membership of the WVA.

The Permanent Committee also accepted a draft Constitution of the WVA. This draft was subsequently modified and improved with the help of a professor of international law at the

University of Utrecht (the Netherlands), and in 1962 the Permanent Committee accepted the final Constitution and Rules of the WVA.

In 1960 the International Association for Animal Production and the World Veterinary Poultry Association were the first specialist associations admitted to the WVA as associate members.

In March 1960 the first issue of the WVA “News Items” was published. This publication, dealing with news of the Association and the Congresses proved to be a useful tool in disseminating information on the activities of the Association.

An appendix to the List of Veterinary Films (first published in 1959) was issued and in 1963 a World Catalogue of Veterinary Films and Films of Veterinary Interest was published. It was decided not to extend the activities of the WVA for the time being. In 1961 and 1962, for the first time a Scientific Programme Advisory Committee (SPAC) consisting of the President and the Secretary-Treasurer of the Permanent Committee, one representative of each associate member and three veterinarians elected from amongst the members of the Permanent Committee, met with representatives of the Organising Committee of the 17th World Veterinary Congress in order to plan the international scientific programme of the Congress.

XVII WVC, Hanover, Germany, 1963

The 17th World Veterinary Congress took place in Hanover, Germany 14-21 August 1963 and marked the centenary of the International Veterinary Congresses. There were almost 5,000 participants 2000 of who came from 71 countries outside Germany. In honour of Professor John Gamgee, initiator of the Congresses, a gold medal was designed to serve as an award to selected veterinarians in recognition of their outstanding services to veterinary science and the profession. The first recipient was Sir Thomas Dalling (FAO) in 1963.

The year 1963 was proclaimed “World Animal Health Year” and papers were presented on this topic, as well as on the subjects: “100 years of Veterinary Congresses”, “the Development of Veterinary Science in the last 100 years”, “the Development of the Veterinary Profession in the Last 100 Years,” “John Gamgee’s Contribution to International Veterinary Science” and on the renowned veterinarians: August Lydtin, Friedrich Müssemeier, Robert von Ostertag and John Robbins Mohler. These were all published in the Centenary Brochure of the Hanover Congress (Editor Ladstetter GmbH., Hamburg-Wandsbeck). Professor Wagener, Dean of the Veterinary School, was elected President of the Congress. Professor Merkt was its Secretary-General.

In Hanover, the Permanent Committee decided to increase the “per capita” subscription from 1 Shilling to 1½ Shilling as from 1st August 1965. Paris was chosen as the site of the XVIII World Veterinary Congress. Professor Skrjabin (USSR) was elected Honorary Member of the Congress. In 1964 the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology was admitted as an Associate Member.

XVIII WVC Paris, France, 1967

The 18th World Veterinary Congress, held in Paris (France) 17-22 July 1967 was opened by France’s then Minister for Agriculture, Edgar Faure. Professor D. Graziosi (Italy) was elected President of the Congress. There were more than 4,000 participants from 65 countries. President of the Organising Committee was Professor R. Vuillaume and one of the Congress Secretaries was Professor Pilet. The Associate Members of the WVA were given more freedom to organise their

relevant sections. Russian was admitted as an official Congress language and for the first time there was simultaneous translation in Russian in one hall. An innovation at this Congress was the presentation each morning of free printed brochures of the discussions at the sessions of the previous day.

Mexico City was chosen as the site of the 19th World Veterinary Congress. An outstanding feature of the social programme was the Opera “Carmen” at the Paris Opera House.

Between the Congress in Paris and that in Mexico-City, the Permanent Committee’s Secretariat was actively engaged in the preparations of the 19th Congress. The Secretary-Treasurer, Professor Jansen, accompanied by two Congress organisers: Professor Vuillaume and Professor Merkt and the Administrative Director of the Secretariat, Mr Aalbers, went to Mexico-City in 1970 to give advice to the organising committee and assist with the preparations.

In 1971, on the invitation of Drs Velazquez and Arenas, Chairman and Secretary-General of the Organising Committee respectively, Mr. Aalbers again travelled to Mexico three months before the Congress to further assist in the preparations.

XIX WVC, Mexico, 1971

The 19th World Veterinary Congress, held from 16-21 August 1971, featured two plenary sessions on animal health programmes in the international movement of animals and on rabies. The “Unidad de Congresos del Centro Médico Nacional” offered adequate facilities. More than 700 main papers and short communications from 64 countries were presented. The President of Mexico, Lic, opened the Congress. Echevarría Alvarez. The opening session was followed by a plenary session on the importance of the veterinary profession and its role in society. The social programme offered many interesting functions. Professor J.F Figueroa (Peru), Vice-President of the WVA since 1967, was elected President of the Congress. Thessaloniki was chosen as site of the 20th Congress. Professor Beveridge was re-elected WVA President. Dr S.F. Scheidy (USA) and Professor R. Vuillaume (France) were elected Vice-Presidents. Dr A.D. Tretyakov (USSR) and Dr J.F. Figueroa were re elected as such. Professor Jac. Jansen retired as Secretary-Treasurer and was elected Honorary Member of the WVA. He was succeeded by Dr M. Leuenberger (Switzerland). In October 1971 the Secretariat of the Permanent Committee moved to Geneva, Switzerland.

In Mexico, two proposals were presented by the USA, namely:

- To set a maximum subscription of 16,500 Swiss Francs (on the basis of 11.000 veterinarians)
- Have a system of weighted voting, in accordance with the number of veterinarians represented by each national member.

Some representatives on the Permanent Committee objected to the way office bearers were nominated and called for a different procedure. In order to study the American proposals and to make recommendations for other changes in the WVA Constitution and Rules, a small subcommittee was formed consisting of two representatives of national members and three representatives of associates. A final report of this committee was presented to the Permanent Committee in 1973. Their recommendations to give the associate members a free hand in organising their own sections at the World Veterinary Congresses, to give no more grants to the Congresses, to have a new procedure for the election of WVA officers (proposal of Dr Scheidy, USA) and to elect an additional Vice-President to represent member-countries in the Far East and Pacific Regions (proposal by New Zealand) were accepted. The two American proposals regarding

maximum subscriptions and voting rights were rejected by the Permanent Committee in 1973 but later accepted in 1975.

In 1972 a proposal was submitted by the new Secretary-Treasurer to increase the “per capita” rate of subscriptions from 0,75 Dutch guilders to 1,50 Swiss Francs. The Permanent Committee examined this proposal and a vote by correspondence was held. The result was positive. It was decided to increase the dues accordingly, as from 1st August 1972. Furthermore it was agreed to change the subscription year to coincide with the financial year and to waive the contribution for the period 1st August 1972-31st December 1972.

In April 1975 the WVA Secretariat initiated the publication of a bi-monthly “News Letter” to fill the gap between the May and December issues of the “News Items.” From 1977 until 1987 Dr Figueroa, Vice-President of the WVA, included part of these “News Letters” in a “Noticiero para la América Latina” which he widely distributed among Spanish speaking colleagues in the Latin American countries, Spain and Portugal. The “News Items”, “News Letters,” and the “Noticiero” were distributed free of charge all over the world to those interested in the World Veterinary Association.

XX WVC, Thessalonica, Greece, 1975

The 20th World Veterinary Congress in Thessalonica 6-12 July 1975 was well organised under the direction of Professor E. Tsiroyannis assisted by Professor E. Parisi who passed away in 1977. Acad. Professor K. Bratanov (Bulgaria) was elected President of the Congress. The Congress was opened on 6th July with a mass at the Saint Dimitrius Basilica. The scientific programme consisted of 5 plenary sessions divided over the week and 83 sectional meetings. The social programme of the Congress featured a trip to Philippi and a theatre performance, a Hellenic Night, folk dances from various regions of Greece and the traditional banquet.

The Resolutions of the Congress called for increased protein production, the care of animals, brucellosis control, wildlife conservation, international standards for diagnostic agents, the introduction of the history of veterinary medicine as part of the curriculum and a uniform wording of veterinary certificates for international use.

Professor W.I.B. Beveridge (Australia) who had been President of the WVA since 1957 was the second recipient of the Gamgee Medal. He resigned as President and Professor Vuillaume (France) was elected to replace him.

Professor Beveridge, Sir Alexander Robertson (U.K.), Dr R. Vittoz, Director General of the International Office of Epizootics and Dr J.H. Steele (USA) were elected Honorary Members of the WVA.

Some 4,000 participants attended the Congress of Thessalonica. July 9 was proclaimed the first World Veterinarian’s Day.

In 1975, in order to improve the financial situation of the Secretariat, the Permanent Committee decided that as of from 1979 10 per cent of the Congress fees and 10 per cent of the rent of the booths at the commercial exhibition would be remitted to the Fund of the WVA. Furthermore, commercial companies would be admitted as affiliated members at an annual fee of 2,000 US\$. They would enjoy certain rights such as a priority choice of a stand at the commercial exhibition of World Veterinary Congresses, a free announcement in the WVA News Items, limited voting rights at the meetings of the Permanent Committee and the right to make public their membership of the WVA for commercial purposes.

In 1975 a second updated edition of the World Catalogue of veterinary films and the WVA Secretariat published films of veterinary interest. The United Kingdom discontinued its membership.

In 1976, the Permanent Committee decided that: the Secretariat would publish information on numbers of veterinary graduates in member countries, the WVA would get in touch with large international organisations, like FAO and OIE having interests in a uniform nomenclature of animal diseases, the efforts to harmonise veterinary medical teaching programmes would be continued; and the interchange of veterinary medical personnel between member countries would be stimulated.

In 1977 the annual “per capita” subscription was fixed at US\$ 0,50 (then the equivalent of 1,20 Swiss Francs) instead of 1,50 Swiss Francs. This was possible because of the support received from the affiliated members. It was also decided to create subcommittees on Animals Protection, Conservation of Wildlife and Veterinary Education. The aims of these subcommittees were to study important problems and to allow veterinarians to actively contribute by proposing their ideas for solving them. Furthermore, the Secretariat was requested to devise a list of veterinarians who would be willing to work as experts in developing WVA member countries.

In 1978, the World Veterinary Epidemiology Society and the World Association of Teachers of Preventive Veterinary Medicine were admitted to the WVA as associate members bringing the total number of specialist associations affiliated with the Association to 14. The specialist associations were given the right to organise a scientific symposium on their specialty one week before or one week after a World Veterinary Congress, provided it was held at or near the site of the Congress.

XXI WVC Moscow, USSR, 1979

The 21st World Veterinary Congress was held in Moscow, USSR, 1-7 July 1979. In collaboration with the Bureau of the WVA, it was well organised by a competent committee under the presidency of Mr L.N. Kuznetsov, Vice-Minister of Agriculture of the USSR. The representatives on the WVA Permanent Committee, Dr A.D. Tretyakov and Professor V.S. Yarnikh, served as Vice- President and Secretary-General, respectively. About a year before the Congress, the WVA President, the Secretary-Treasurer and the Administrative Director of the WVA Secretariat visited Moscow, to act as advisors to the Organising Committee.

Five plenary scientific sessions were held at the Kremlin Convention Centre on Sunday, 5th July. Throughout the Congress week 114 sectional meetings took place in Hotel Rossia and in an adjacent church. A total of 447 main papers and 714 short communications were presented, covering all aspects of veterinary science and practice. Apart from the usual film competition, there was also a slide and photograph contest. The Resolutions of this Congress called for: increased production of safe food of animal origin, the prevention of diseases in large scale (industrial) animal husbandry, the protection of the environment, the intensification of research in the fields of animal genetics, reproduction, nutrition, management, animal behaviour and hygiene, new methods of prophylaxis and treatment of traumatism, mechanisation and automation of labour-consuming processes, care and protection of animals, harmonisation of teaching programmes, and finally, stimulation of the work by the Organising Committee of the Moscow Congress for the compilation of veterinary terms in different languages.

Professor Hakon W. Westermarck (Finland), Acad. Professor Ya. Kovalenko (USSR) and Professor Y. Ochi (Japan) were elected Honorary Members of the WVA.

The City of Perth (South-West Australia) was chosen as site of the 22nd World Veterinary Congress in 1983.

Forty-three member and 19 non-member countries were represented in Moscow, and there were approximately 4,000 participants. The social programme was varied and interesting and included visits of Moscow, the Kremlin, Zagorsk and many museums including the Tretyakov Art Gallery and the Pushkin Museum. The Moscow underground and various estates of the ancient Russian nobility were also visited, as were Lenin's house and the museums of the Revolution. The Congress concluded with a show of Russian folk dances and music.

In 1975, after the Thessalonica Congress, the number of member countries stood at 53. In 1979, after the Moscow Congress, this had increased to 60, not including pending applications from three additional countries. After the Congress in Moscow it was decided to restrict the number of veterinarians from non-member countries who would be allowed to present papers at the next Congress of Perth. The liberal policy of the Bureau applied to U.K. veterinarians did not result in the re-entry of that country to the WVA.

In 1980 the following national associations were admitted as members: Trinidad and Tobago Veterinary Association, Singapore Veterinary Association and the Panama Veterinary Association. Official observer status with the WVA was granted to the International Council of Laboratory Animal Science (ICLAS).

The WVA publications "News Items" and "News Letters" were discontinued and, from January 1981, these were replaced by the "WVA News" issued six times a year.

In 1981 a proposal to reduce the annual subscription of countries with a low "per capita" income and to increase, as compensation, the ceiling of annual dues, which stood at 16,500 Swiss Francs, was not accepted, but it was agreed that the Association Fund Committee would study the possibility of introducing another system of dues.

The Chinese Society of Veterinary Science, Taiwan, R.O.C. was accepted as a national member of the WVA. It was also decided that henceforth the OIE, FAO and WHO would each have a representative on the scientific programme Advisory Committee (SPAC) for World Veterinary Congresses. The Permanent Committee agreed to allow the World Association of Veterinary Physiologists, Pharmacologists and Biochemists to slightly increase the number of non-veterinarians (limited then to 10 per cent).

In 1982, a working group, consisting of Dr McGowan (Canada) - Chairman, Dr Tretyakov, (USSR), Dr Tharp (USA), Professor Månsson (Sweden) and Dr Touratier (World Small Animal Veterinary Association) was set up to study the possibilities of adopting a new system of annual dues assessment. The Korean Veterinary Medical Association was accepted as a national member of the WVA. The WVA Secretariat conducted an inquiry on the protection of the veterinary diploma in the WVA member countries. In March and April 1982, the President, Secretary-Treasurer and the Administrative Director of the WVA, visited the major cities of Australia and travelled to New Zealand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Hong Kong, the People's Republic of China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and Singapore to promote the 22nd World Veterinary Congress.

Professor Kampelmacher (World Association of Veterinary Food Hygienists) was elected representative of the associate members on the Bureau of the WVA. The Permanent Committee decided to classify the member countries of the WVA in six regions of the world, namely:

- Western Europe and the countries of Western Asia
- USSR and Eastern Europe

- North America
- Latin America
- Africa
- East Asia and Oceania

Six Vice-Presidents would also be elected at the 1983 Congress to represent each one of these regions.

Late in 1982 the Bureau proposed to elect Professor, Dr C. L. de Cuenca (Spain) as the new Secretary Treasurer of the WVA in place of Dr M. Leuenberger (Switzerland) who had retired. A vote by correspondence was held and Professor de Cuenca was elected unanimously. In February 1983 the Secretariat of the WVA was transferred from Geneva (Switzerland) to Madrid (Spain).

XXII WVC, Perth, Australia, 1983

The 22nd World Veterinary Congress was held in Perth (Western Australia) 21 -26 August 1983. It was the first Congress ever held in the Southern Hemisphere. The Congress started with an impressive audio-visual presentation “Under the Sun” which gave a colourful impression of Western Australia, its scenery, fauna and flora, its people and their daily occupations. Sir Ninian Stephens, Governor-General of Australia, opened the Congress. Professor D.C. Blood of Melbourne was elected President of Congress. An interesting scientific programme was offered during the week of the Congress and a huge and successful commercial exhibition at the same venue as the Congress, the Perth Entertainment Centre, showed the latest advances in veterinary medicine and equipment. The social programme featured an open-air barbecue, an “International Fiesta”, the Congress banquet, visits to the homes of various Australian veterinarians, a Seafood Harvest (to sample local seafood) as well as different sporting events.

Professor J.F. Figueroa was elected President of the WVA and Professor, Dr C.L. de Cuenca was confirmed as new Secretary-Treasurer. Dr B.H. Pappin (South Africa), Dr L. Quirolo (Uruguay), Dr V.L. Tharp (USA), Mrs. Dr B.F. Smith (New Zealand), Dr D.A. Tretyakov (USSR) and Professor, Dr I. Månsson (Sweden) were elected or re-elected Vice-Presidents for the following regions: Africa, Latin America, North America, East Asia and Oceania, Eastern Europe and Western Europe respectively. Professor, Dr E.H. Kampelmacher (The Netherlands) representative of the associate members

Professor Vuillaume, who did not run for President, received the Gamgee Medal for his services to veterinary science and the profession and was also made “Honorary Member of the WVA”. This title was also granted to Dr M. Leuenberger (Secretary-Treasurer of the WVA, 1972-1983), Professor, Dr E. Tsiroyannis (a former WVA Vice-President 1975-1979 and organiser of the XX World Veterinary Congress) and to Dr S.F. Scheidy (USA) posthumously. Professor Scheidy was a Vice-President of the WVA from 1971-1976.

About 2,000 veterinarians and their guests attended the XXII World Veterinary Congress.

Montreal, Canada was chosen as site of the 23rd World Veterinary Congress in 1987. The Congress adopted 14 Resolutions and a “Declaration of Principles of the Veterinary Profession” written by a special committee under the direction of Professor, Dr C.L. de Cuenca (Spain). Namibia, Uganda, Tanzania, the People’s Republic of Congo, the Seychelles and Papua New Guinea were admitted as new national members of the WVA. In 1983 the WVA Secretariat published a third catalogue of Films and Video Tapes of Veterinary Interest.

In August 1983 the publication “WVA News” was discontinued and replaced by an “Informative Bulletin”. The WVA also obtained an emblem (see page 25?????).

In 1984 the Permanent Committee elected Professor, Dr Cid Diaz (Spain), Deputy Secretary of the WVA, to replace Dr B. Walker (Switzerland) who had resigned in 1982. A report on four different systems of assessment of dues was submitted to the Permanent Committee for perusal. The Malawi Veterinary Association and the Antigua & Barbuda Veterinary Services were admitted as new national members of WVA. Recommendations on the improvement of veterinary undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing education were submitted by Professor Månsson (Sweden), Vice-President of the WVA. The WVA subcommittees on Veterinary Education, Animal Protection and Conservation of Wildlife elected their chairmen and secretaries. For the first time in the history of the WVA, President Figueroa entrusted the WVA Vice-Presidents with special tasks as follows: Dr Barbara Smith: Animal Welfare; Professor Kampelmacher: Coordination of the activities of the affiliated specialist associations in the light of the 23rd World Veterinary Congress; Professor Månsson: WVA action plan to improve veterinary education; Dr Tharp: WVA Public Relations; Dr Quirolo: Creation of an international code of professional ethics.

In 1984, Dra Virginia Buff d’Apice, President and founder of the International Womens Auxiliary to the Veterinary Profession (IWA) passed away.

In 1984, Pfizer International and Janssen Pharmaceutica joined the WVA as affiliated members. The number of national members stood at 66, associate members at 14 and affiliated members at 7.

In 1985, the Informative Bulletin was enlarged and summaries in French, German and Spanish were added. The number of copies distributed rose from 1,500 to more than 2,000. Dr Quirolo replaced Professor Figueroa as editor of the “Noticiero de la AMV para la América Latina.” Dr Tharp, Vice-President of the WVA, founded the World Equine Veterinary Association, which was admitted as an associate member.

In May 1985, after an absence of 10 years, the British Veterinary Association rejoined the WVA, and the Hong Kong Veterinary Association was admitted as a new national member.

A Committee of Three (Vice-Presidents): Professors Kampelmacher, Månsson and Tharp were set up to study and update the objectives of the WVA and to strengthen the cooperation with the associate members (specialist associations). In 1986 a first meeting of the Committee was held at Bilthoven, the Netherlands, and an interim report was submitted to the Bureau in May. Bolivia, Cyprus, Iceland, Mozambique, Nepal, St. Kitts & Nevis and Zaïre were admitted as new national members. The International Veterinary Academy on Disaster Medicine was granted observer status. Professor Kampelmacher organised a meeting with representatives of the Associate Members to discuss their participation in future World Veterinary Congresses and their cooperation with the WVA. Dr A. Borregon (Spain) submitted a report to the Permanent Committee with proposals regarding the functioning of the WVA and its Secretariat.

XXIII WVC, Montreal, Canada, 1987

In 1987 a very successful 23rd World Veterinary Congress was held in Montreal, Canada, 16- 21 August, with an extensive scientific programme and attractive social activities. There were well over 5,000 participants and the commercial exhibition was one of the largest ever-held in conjunction with a World Veterinary Congress. In this context the extensive promotion of the Congress by WVA President Figueroa and members of the Organising Committee in many parts of the world, should be mentioned.

The Committee of Three submitted a report with proposals for a new approach for the organisation of future World Veterinary Congresses and a restructuring of the WVA Executive Bureau and the Secretariat. The Permanent Committee allowed the Committee of Three to continue their work and coopt whom ever they wished. The International Buffalo Federation, The World Association on Fish Diseases and the World Association of Veterinary Educators were admitted as new associate members. The World Small Animal Veterinary Association discontinued its membership.

Professor Figueroa was re-elected President for another four years. Dr Sugiyama (Japan) was elected Vice-President for Asia & Oceania, Dr Ayanwale (Nigeria) for Africa and Dr de Andrade Moura (Brazil) for Latin America. Rio de Janeiro was chosen as site of the 24th World Veterinary Congress in 1991. The category of “auxiliary membership” was created for the IVA (International Veterinary Auxiliary) with the right to cast one vote. It was decided to fix the “per capita” rate of annual subscriptions at 1,55 CHF (Swiss Francs) as per 1 January 1987. At that date the rate of exchange to the US Dollar was 1.55 CHF = US\$ 0.75.

At the 38th Meeting of the Permanent Committee in May 1988, Professor Pilet (France) strongly advocated that the WVA should start carrying out action programmes, such as aid to developing countries, promotion and development of the profession, etc. Various programmes were proposed and accepted in principle, such as the “Food Assistance Programme” (later on called “WVA Development Programme”), the collection of information from national members about their individual programmes for developing countries (to be published in the WVA Bulletin), the creation of a system designed to strengthen the national veterinary associations of developing countries, the WVA/IVA Hospitality and Fellowship Scheme and the publication by the WVA Secretariat of a World Directory of Veterinary Schools.

Brunei was accepted as a new national member and both the Ibero-American Institute for Agricultural Cooperation (IICA) and the Commonwealth Veterinary Association were granted observer status.

The Permanent Committee accepted an increase of the “per capita” rate of subscriptions of 25 Swiss cents in five years (five cents per year), together with a corresponding rise in the ceiling of dues. A proposal by the Administrative Director was accepted regarding a reduction of the subscription fees of developing countries with a gross national product (GNP) per capita of less than US\$ 1,500 per year with the corresponding loss of income to be offset by an additional fee payable by the industrialised countries (those with a GNP per capita of more than US\$ 4,500).

The draft Resolutions of the 23rd World Veterinary Congress was accepted. On the request of WVA President Figueroa, Dr Mayer (Israel) agreed to help stimulate and coordinate activities of the WVA in the area of Animal Welfare. The Committee of Three reported on their work on a new Constitution and new Bylaws of the WVA and their contacts with associate members, who had demanded more freedom in organising their sessions during the World Veterinary Congresses. The World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) discontinued their associate membership of the WVA but in 1989 their President declared that they would be willing to join the Association again, provided all expenses of their speakers at World Veterinary Congresses would be reimbursed. For budgetary reasons, this could not be accepted

Members of the steering committee earmarked a sum of US\$ 7,500 from the regular 1990 WVA budget for a fund-raising campaign for the WVA Development Programme.

A first meeting of the Scientific Programme Advisory Committee (SPAC) for the elaboration of the scientific programme of the 24th World Veterinary Congress was held at Alfort, France, in 1989.

The Permanent Committee agreed to launch Dr Blackburn's (UK) action programme whereby member associations would be requested to invite students from developing countries, residing in industrialised countries, to visit the secretariats of the national veterinary association in the industrialised country in question, in order to become acquainted with its organisation and functioning. Honduras was accepted as a new national member.

Dr Ayanwale (Nigeria) received a 2,000 Dollar grant to help cover the expenses of the organisation of the 4th Pan African Veterinary Congress, which took place in November 1989.

In 1990, the action programmes were further developed. Only one member of the steering committee (Professor Pilet) had received a financial donation. The Permanent Committee accepted a revised WVA Policy Statement on Animal Welfare, Well-Being and Ethology, submitted by Dr Mayer (Israel) who had formed a committee with the purpose of making veterinarians on all continents aware of their task in this regard.

The WVA Committee on Veterinary Education under the chairmanship of Professor Månsson (Sweden) held meetings in 1989 and 1990. The main aim of the committee was/is to harmonise undergraduate veterinary education and create, through the promotion of postgraduate veterinary education, opportunities for veterinarians in new or neglected fields of science.

Dr Blackburn's project was put into practice in 1990 and 1991 when veterinarians from India and Zambia visited the secretariats of the British Veterinary Association and the Norwegian Veterinary Association respectively.

In 1990 the Permanent Committee approved the combined WVA/IVA Fellowship Scheme. It became operative in 1991 after the publication in the WVA Bulletin of a list of fellowship officers (individuals serving as guides to visiting veterinarians from other countries) in 20 countries.

In 1990, a new Constitution and Bylaws of the WVA and new Rules for the World Veterinary Congresses were adopted. The 1991-1995 Constitution and Bylaws came into effect on 19 May, whereas the new Rules for the World Veterinary Congresses became effective on 24 August 1991, after the 24th World Veterinary Congress. In comparison with the previous Constitution, an important change was the addition of the statement that "the working language of the WVA Secretariat is English", thus avoiding the time-consuming task of the Administrative Director of translating the documents sent to all members, into French, German and Spanish whilst allowing more time for other WVA activities. A Resolution and a Steering Committee for the 24th World Veterinary Congress were appointed. In accordance with the new Constitution, the name of the Permanent Committee was changed to "General Assembly."

The General Assembly was requested to give serious consideration to the ways and means of increasing the income of the Association, thus allowing it to carry out its action programmes. In the light of this recommendation, Dr Tharp (USA) proposed the creation of a WVA Foundation. This was accepted.

Libya and Romania were admitted as national members and the World Association of Wildlife Veterinarians as an associate member.

The WVA International Code of Veterinary Ethics, set out by Dr Quirolo from Uruguay and available in English and Spanish, was adopted.

In July, 1991 the WVA Secretariat published a World Veterinary Directory containing information on approximately 90 per cent of all Veterinary Education Centres in the world, a catalogue of audio visual aids (films, slides and video-cassettes) of veterinary interest, as well as lists of national veterinary associations, veterinary journals and research institutes.

XXIV WVC Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1991

The 24th World Veterinary Congress was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 18-23 August 1991. It was the first in South America and the second in Latin America. The President of the WVA, Professor . Dr J.F. Figueroa, was elected President of Congress.

Thanks to the enthusiastic and efficient preparatory work of the Brazilian colleagues, the Congress was a great success. Without prejudice to the work of all members of the organising committee, I should like to mention Professor J. de Andrade Moura, President of the Organising Committee, who did an excellent job of coordinating the various activities of the Congress and Professor M. Thiago de Mello, President of the Scientific Programme Committee who succeeded in preparing, in cooperation with the 19 affiliated specialist associations, a wonderful and highly interesting scientific programme which attracted many Congress participants.

Two agencies specialising in the organisation of Congresses, did an excellent job in ensuring the smooth running of all scientific and social activities. Some congress members felt the distance of the site of the Congress from the major downtown hotels (about 40 km) as a handicap. However, it also proved an advantage because owing to the distance, many of the delegates remained at "Riocenter", a fact that particularly favoured the attendance at meetings and enhanced the number of contacts between individual participants, as well as leading to further exchanges of professional experience.

Despite the negative influence of the Gulf War in January 1991, the attendance at the Rio Congress was more than satisfactory with over 3,700 participants coming from 70 countries, of these, 2,700 were veterinarians.

Highlights of the scientific programme were the plenary sessions on the future of animal production hygiene, automation in veterinary medicine, veterinarians in animal welfare and a special symposium on veterinary education in the 21st century.

As far as the social programme was concerned, events such as: the Beaches Tour, Orientation Tour, Jewellery Show, Sugar Loaf and Zoo, Tropical Islands, Petropolis, Corcovado & Botanical Garden,

Historical Tour, Iguassu Falls, Carnival Evening, Highlights of Rio and Folklore Show, Horse Track Race, Baroque Concert, Moonlight Dinner and the traditional Congress Banquet were popular with many congress members and left an unforgettable impression of an exciting and wonderful Brazil and the warm and charming hospitality of its people.

Owing to a serious illness, the Secretary-General of the WVA, Professor, Dr Carlos Luis de Cuenca had presented his resignation shortly before the Congress. He died on 21 August 1991.

During the Congress, Mr. E Aalbers, Administrative Director, employed by the Association since 1959, accepted an offer from the Executive to become acting Secretary-General of the WVA. He was appointed as such by the General Assembly on 19 August 1991.

The need for the Association to have action programmes was stressed again.

Dr Tharp (USA), Dr McGowan (Canada), Chairman of the WVA Development Committee and Mr. Aalbers had come up with draft statutes for the WVA Foundation. To this end Mr Aalbers travelled to the Netherlands to study the requirements for the registration of the Foundation in that country. The draft statutes were distributed to the delegates for perusal. A motion put forward by Dr Tharp to submit the Rules of the WVA Foundation for acceptance in 1992 was approved by a large majority.

The Veterinary Technical Commission of the International Committee of Military Medicine (VeteC/ ICMM) was accepted as an associate member of the WVA.

The General Assembly granted observer status to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the World Association for Transport Animal Welfare and Studies (TAWS).

Barcelona (Spain), Vienna (Austria) and Yokohama (Japan) presented their candidature as site of the 1995 25th World Veterinary Congress. Yokohama was chosen by a large majority of the votes cast (115 against 21 for Vienna and 9 for Barcelona).

There were three candidates for President of the WVA, namely Dr J.T. Blackburn (U.K.), Dr A. Borregón (Spain) and Dr J.E. McGowan (Canada). During the Congress, Dr McGowan withdrew his candidature for personal reasons. With a majority of 92 votes to 51, Dr Blackburn was elected as the new President of the WVA for the period 1991-1995. The following Vice-Presidents were also (re-) elected: Dr F.O. Ayanwale Nigeria, for Africa, Dr S. Pinkerton (USA) for North America; Professor J. de Andrade Moura (Brazil) for Latin America; Dr F. Sugiyama (Japan) for Asia and Oceania; Dr S. Kvaløy (Norway) for Western Europe; Dr V.I. Kasjuk (USSR) for Eastern Europe and Prof Ch. Pilet (WAVMI) representing the associate members (specialist associations).

The resolutions of the Congress could not be presented owing to lack of time. They were included in the "Selected Proceedings" of the 24th World Veterinary Congress published in 1992. This publication contains a description of the highlights of the Congress, including the Opening and Closing ceremonies, the plenary sessions and the symposium sessions as well as the discussions. In October 1991, on the initiative of the new Secretary-General, the Secretariat of the WVA moved office from one address to another, thus avoiding legal complications and finally making the office independent. The Secretary-General also arranged for official registration of the Secretariat by the Spanish Ministry of the Interior, so as to allow for the opening of Spanish bank accounts and contracts with the telephone and electricity companies, etc. to be registered in the name of the WVA.

In May, 1992 the new President of the WVA, Dr J.T. Blackburn, presented a forward plan including:

1. An increased role of the Vice-Presidents,
2. A consolidation of the three main committees of the Association (Veterinary Education - chairman Professor J. Piérard, Canada, Animal Welfare, Well-Being and Ethology - chairman: Dr E. Mayer, Israel - and Development - chairman Professor Ch. Pilet, France), and
3. A review of regional boundaries (for Vice-Presidents)
4. An improvement of the image of the WVA: Future plans included the setting up of a new system of election of officers, a definition of WVA policies and the preparation of a detailed history of the WVA.

Also in May, a revised Code of Professional Ethics of the World Veterinary Association was published.

The General Assembly approved the draft statutes of the World Veterinary Association Foundation. In view of its registration in the Netherlands a new draft Constitution of the WVA, adapted to the requirements of the Dutch Civil Code was not accepted by the General Assembly, owing to the presentation of proposals for further amendments.

In 1993, the General Assembly paid tribute to the late Professor, Dr Jac. Jansen, Dr Max Leuenberger and Professor Yuichi Ochi, Honorary Members of the WVA who had died in 1992. Professor Jansen had been secretary-treasurer of the WVA from 1953-1971 and Dr Leuenberger from 1971-1982.

In view of strong opposition from the Scandinavian countries to a sentence in Dr Mayer's Policy Statement on Animal Welfare, Well-Being and Ethology stating that the Welfare Committee "do not accept the view that animals have special rights as an entity on their own", it was deleted.

Early in 1992, in view of the organisation of the 25th World Veterinary Congress, the following committees were created:

1. Executive Committee: Chairman Dr F. Sugiyama, Vice-President of the WVA for Asia and Oceania,
2. Organising Committee: Chairman Dr A. Takeuchi,
3. Scientific Committee: Chairman Dr Y. Ozawa,

Dr S. Aizawa was elected Executive Secretary of the Yokohama Congress.

The General Assembly was satisfied that the next World Congress would be a joint Congress of WVA and the World Small Animal Veterinary Association, with the official title: "World Veterinary Congress, Yokohama 3-9 September 1992, 25th Jubilee WVA Congress, 20th WSAVA Congress".

Azerbaijan, Cameroon, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, the Russian Federation and Slovenia were accepted as national members of the WVA. The Ibero-American Association for Animal Reproduction became an associate member and the International Veterinary Students Association (IVSA) an auxiliary member.

In 1993 the WVA President presented his Forward Plan, Phase 2 recommending:

1. A reinforcement of the infrastructure with greater involvement on the part of the Vice Presidents and increased contacts between them. Professor Pilet was appointed Chairman, Development Committee and Secretary-Treasurer of the WVA Foundation, Dr Sugiyama; chairman of the 1995 Congress Executive Committee, Dr Pinkerton was appointed chairman of the WVA Policy Group, and Dr Kvaløy, chairman of the Finance Committee.
2. The abolishment of the post of Secretary-General and a change to the WVA Constitution and Bylaws accordingly.
3. An increase in credibility by:
 - a) Making every effort to support activities other than organising World Veterinary Congresses
 - b) Allocating funds to various activities according to budgets submitted by the committee chairmen for specific projects.
4. The improvement of communications and making the national associations responsible for the forwarding of documents received from the WVA Secretariat to their representatives in the hope that this might stimulate further contact and coordination.

The General Assembly accepted proposals 1 and 2, but did not issue any comment on item 3 which had not yet been dealt by the Finance Committee either.

As far as item 4 was concerned, some representatives preferred to continue receiving copies of all documents. It was decided that the Vice-Presidents would look into this question.

An offer from the Hanover Veterinary School to house the WVA Secretariat free of charge received serious consideration and it was decided to send two Vice-Presidents to Hanover in July 1993 to see the available office space and other facilities and report back to the Executive. In view of the interest shown by the national organisations in other countries to house the Secretariat, it was decided to give all national members the opportunity to put forward relevant offers until 1 January 1994. Apart from the offer from the Hanover Veterinary School, further bids were later received from Great Britain, France and Denmark.

The Chamber of Commerce and Factories in The Hague, The Netherlands, officially registered the Statutes of the WVA Foundation. The Foundation received its first contributions in May 1993: 100,000 French Francs (approximately, US\$ 20,000) from the French National Committee of the WVA and US\$ 2,000 from TVA (International Veterinary Auxiliary).

The General Assembly accepted a proposal by Professor Pilet to launch, in cooperation with a French publicity agent, a public relations campaign to promote the WVA. The campaign would have three aims, namely:

1. Fund raising in the industrialised countries,
2. Carrying out projects worldwide in order to make the general public more aware of the activities of veterinarians and the profession,
3. Lobbying, development of internal and external communication networks and creation of tools and support of communication.

In view of the changed situation in the former USSR and the difficulty in maintaining contact with the Vice-President for Eastern Europe, Dr Kasjuk, Professor Prost (Poland) was elected acting Vice-President for that region.

It was further decided that from 1 January 1994, all subscriptions would be expressed in US\$ and that the 1994 subscriptions would be set at the per capita rate of US\$ 1.32 (a 5% increase from 1993).

Tanzania and Panama were readmitted as national members in 1993 and in the same year, the International Society for Animal Clinical Biochemistry was accepted as an associate member. Professor Milton Thiago de Mello (Brazil) and Dr Y. Ozawa (Japan) were elected Honorary Members of the WVA.

Draft

History 1994-2002

In January 1994 the Bureau met in Cambridge, UK mainly to prepare the General Assembly Meeting in May in Paris.

At the May 1994 General Assembly Meeting in Paris President J. T. Blackburn presents his Forward Plan Phase III.

- Plans to improve the infrastructure have either been implemented or are in hand, including the move to a new office, plans to engage a communication company on contract are well advanced, it is now essential to improve our credibility by preparing a series of well-defined projects.
- All chairmen of main committees, Education, Welfare and Development have been asked to put forward a Five Year Plan with clearly defined objectives, prepared in such a way as to attract financial support from commercial companies.
- Although support will continue in all three areas, it is proposed that priority be given to Education between now and the World Veterinary Congress of 1995, and all funds that can be spared be devoted to this area of work.

During my visits to various conferences and meetings, the topic that has cropped up most frequently is Education.

In particular there is considerable concerns at the number and quality of veterinary schools, which are being set up.

WVA has always been concerned about Education which is well demonstrated in the excellent January 1994 WVA Bulletin.

At a meeting in the FAO Expert Committee of Education, Rome, September 1993, the WVA Minimum Requirements were presented by Professor Jean Piérard. These were accepted by the Expert Committee and will form part of the Committee's recommendations. (WVA Bulletin 10.2 p. 52)

It is essential that WVA is prepared and able to set up an Accreditation Scheme.

- Other topics, which have frequently been discussed at meetings attended, included setting up Veterinary Councils, to control standards, forming Veterinary Associations, setting up private practice and relationships between departments and private practitioners. It is obvious that many people look to the WVA to give a lead on these matters and copies of the WVA Code of Ethics and WVA Animal Welfare Code are quickly snapped up at these meetings.

We must now implement the suggestion made in Forward Plan, Phase 1 in 1992, namely to:

1. Set up Model Veterinary Legislation for use in countries where none exists.
2. Model Guidelines for setting up National Associations.
3. Prepare WVA policy statements on important veterinary matters similar to the documents prepared on Animal Welfare and Veterinary Education.

All these to be in a well-produced handbook together with the Code of Ethics, Policy statements already prepared, WVA Mission Statement, brief history of WVA and a list of WVA Member Associations.

If properly prepared, it should be possible to attract funding for this project:

- Involve still more people directly in the affairs of the WVA. For example possibility of setting up a WVA Bulletin Editorial Board has been mentioned previously. Any volunteers?

One of the items of the plan - election of the new site of the secretariat due to the retirement of the Secretary General E. Aalbers – led to a highly emotional discussion. A tender for bidding was sent out in 1993 with a deadline 1 January 1994. At deadline four bids were received. The veterinary schools of Hanover, London and Paris had offered accommodation, maintenance and technical installations in which the staff of the WVA could work. A bid from the Danish Veterinary Association of US\$ 80,000 differed by offering a full service contract including staff to continue the work of the WVA secretariat in Madrid. The majority of the Executive Bureau was in favour of the Danish model and had recommended the General Assembly to adopt this contract. However, three days before the General Assembly Meeting Professor Pilet on behalf of the French National Committee of WVA presented a supplement to the offer made by the Veterinary School of Alfort, Paris to the Executive Bureau. The French National Committee of WVA could offer Dr Blajan as half time Secretary General or Executive Secretary supported by a bilingual secretary and a full time young army veterinarian. All of the arrangement to a cost of US\$ 15,000 for the maintenance of the rooms.

Although a number of the delegates were tempted to bring down the administrative costs from US\$ 120,000 a year to 15,000 a year, the generous French offer was found too unspecific and unclear by a majority of delegates. They followed the recommendation of the Executive Bureau and selected the Danish offer to host the WVA secretariat within the Danish Veterinary Association.

To improve communications a French communication bureau — CFC— was contracted for five years with no cost for the WVA. The projects should be financed by advertisements giving WVA any surplus when costs were paid.

As project number one a veterinary VIP Directory was planned and letters with questionnaire form were sent to all national members, however, only a few national associations ever answered the questionnaire leading to the cancellation of the project. CFC created a number of ideas, however, no sponsors could be found to finance projects. As all projects planned failed WVA was released from the contract in early 1996.

At the 1994 General Assembly Meeting a number of amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws as well as the Congress Rules were made:

- An elected Secretary General was deleted. In the new set up the WVA would be served by an Executive Secretary from the secretariat.
- The number of votes allocated to national members and affiliated members was rearranged.
- The regulations on nomination of officers for election were amended.
- Staggered elections were introduced.
- A number of clauses were reworded to be more precise and minimize the possibilities of interpretation.

The following members were suspended due to lack of payment:

Azerbaijan, Bolivia, Cuba, Cyprus, Honduras, India, Iraq, Korea, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Senegal, Uruguay.

The following discontinued their membership:
Australia, Canada, New Zealand.

Two Honorary Members were elected:
Professor Lochmann
Mr. E. Aalbers

Phase IV. Restructuring WVA from a scientific organisation to a modern association defending the interests of the veterinary profession on a global level

Dr J.T. Blackburn was undisputed the President responsible for launching the restructuring process of WVA through his forward plans I-III through the years 1991-1994. As many other restructuring processes it takes time to convince people of the idea and it takes time to get the ball rolling and present results. The first visible results were seen at the 1994 General Assembly Meeting in Paris and the speed increased during the years to come.

From June to September 1994 the secretariat was moved from Madrid to Copenhagen. In September Mr. E. Aalbers retired and Dr Lars Holsaae took over the position as Executive Secretary, Mrs. Birgitte Sorensen as trilingual secretary and Dr Bent Christensen as Editor of the WVA Bulletin. These three persons were the WVA-team within the Danish Veterinary Association being able to use all other competences of the Danish Veterinary Association.

The President asked the new secretariat to draft a booklet presenting WVA:

1. Mission Statement
2. History
3. Structure
4. Committees
5. Activities
6. Members and observers
7. Policy statements

The Executive Bureau adopted the contents of the booklet at their January 1995 Meeting in Copenhagen and the booklet was produced by the secretariat and sent out to all members as well as cooperative partners.

The President furthermore asked the secretariat to draw up a new subscription system based upon objective criteria making it possible to treat all members and coming members equal.

The new subscription rules were based upon a fee of US\$ 1.60 a veterinarian member of the national association, however a national member association had to pay for at least 51% of the number of veterinarians in the country as quoted in the WHO-FAO-OIE yearbook. Members could have a reduction of the fee of 20, 40 or 80 % depending on the size of their GNP as stated in the World Bank Atlas. A minimum fee of US\$ 50 and a maximum fee of US\$ 20,000 were set. Associate members had to pay US\$ 100 and the affiliated members were set at US\$ 5,000. The increase or decrease in subscription fee for national members were reduced to one fifth a year of the calculated fees after the new system compared to the old system.

The subscription system was endorsed by the Finance Committee, recommended by the Executive Board and finally approved by the General Assembly at the 1995 Meeting in Yokohama.

During the planning of the joint WVA – WSAVA Congress 1995 in Yokohama the President experienced a lot of problems mainly due to the fact that the congress rules of the two associations were very different. Most problems were solved as they were raised by the organisers, however, the financial part of the agreement made severe problems almost up to the start of the congress where the presidents of WVA, WSAVA and JVMA agreed upon how to share the income from the common registration fee.

XXV World Veterinary Congress, Yokohama, Japan, 1995

The 25th World Veterinary Congress (WVC) was held in Yokohama, Japan 3-9 September 1995. It took place at the Convention Centre in Yokohama, which overlooks the Bay of Tokyo. It was the first WVC ever held in Asia and more than 11,000 delegates from 86 countries participated and the Opening Ceremony of the Congress was especially honoured by the presence of Their Imperial Majesties The Emperor and Empress of Japan. In his address at the opening the Emperor among others expressed his confidence that the Congress would greatly contribute to assist all participants in their future research and professional activities.

Hopes for the success of the Congress was also expressed by Dr T. Blackburn, President of the WVA, Professor P. Bedford, President of the WSAVA, Dr M. Ito, President of the Science Council of Japan, Dr F. Sugiyama, President of the JSAVA, and Dr Y. Miyamoto, President of the JSAVA. The Opening Ceremony was followed by a series of performances of traditional Japanese dancing with traditional music.

Another special significance was that the WVA and the WSAVA held a joint Congress to allow free exchange of views of specialists of both Associations to find better solutions for the veterinary profession in a rapidly exchanging world. Especially to attract participants from Asia, the Federation of Asian Veterinary Associations also held its 9th Congress during the WVC.

The programme consisted of plenary sessions, symposia, special topics and free communication sessions extended to six days. A large number of papers were presented in the free communication sessions, and oral, video and poster sessions covered the whole spectrum of veterinary interests. In all the total number of papers presented reached 1,046.

The plenary sessions covered four current topics of global importance: Ethics and animal welfare, animal and human health problems related to trade, veterinary specialisation and environmental issues.

In the plenary session on ethics and animal welfare, moral duties of veterinarians were clarified and a new definition of animal welfare was proposed. The difference between East and West in the attitude of animal welfare was also explained.

The effects of world trade of animals and their products on animal and human health was the subject of the second plenary session and was reviewed by delegates from international organisations such as OIE, FAO, WHO and WTO. They called for strengthening of disease surveillance systems and preventive measures to minimise disease risks. It was also emphasised that

all activities of international organisations be coordinated in order to reduce restraints on international trade.

Increasing food demands and environmental problems caused by loss of land and forests, change in climate patterns and new emerging diseases were discussed in the third plenary session. Invited speakers suggested the veterinarian's role in those circumstances and sustainable farming.

Speakers of the fourth plenary session on veterinary specialisation recognised the necessity to have specialist in both food and companion animal fields. They emphasised the importance of specialists raising their professional and technical standards.

There were 15 symposia and 12 special topics sessions where invited speakers presented their views on various topics such as equine medicine and related subjects, advances in parasite control, respiratory diseases and metabolic disturbances in cattle, food hygiene in the 21st century, biotechnology in microbiology and embryo transfer, advances in research on pig, poultry and fish diseases, care and use of experimental animals, animal pain and its control, wildlife medicine, modern diagnostic laboratories, pathological models in biomedical research — and veterinary history.

A symposium on food hygiene in the 21st century discussed the current trends and the future prospects of food hygiene. The HACCP concept and its application in risk areas were also discussed in a round-table discussion with world-famous experts. Special emphasis was placed on the control of salmonellosis with new control strategies. The specialists recommended the development of regional reference centres for zoonoses control and food hygiene with the view to form a worldwide network of information and diagnostic services.

The WVA General Assembly at the Closing Session of the Congress adopted several resolutions as well as recommendations emerging from those sessions.

Because this was a joint Congress of the WVA and the WSAVA, the WVA programmes was attended by specialists of different occupations including practitioners of small animals, teachers, research workers, public health specialists, regulatory officials, wildlife specialists — and those engaged in animal production and pharmaceutical industries.

The commercial exhibition held in a huge Exhibition Hall adjacent to the Convention Centre was called »the newest technology and the immediate future in veterinary science«. More than 100 international firms were represented.

General Assembly Meeting 1995

At the 1995 General Assembly in Yokohama the Election period of J.T. Blackburn expired, however, president Blackburn advised WVA in Phase IV to continue forward planning. He still believed that besides the unification of the profession a continued improvement of Communication, Credibility and Infrastructure were the most important to ensure the viability of WVA.

The By-Laws were amended stating that the President and Vice-Presidents could not be re-elected. A few of the clauses were reworded to be more precise and minimize the possibilities of interpretation. Policies on rules of debate, financial control, number of meetings of executive bureau

and general assembly and finally rules on serving at committees as well as a Congress Manual produced by the secretariat on request from the President were adopted.

At the end of the GA meeting 4 recommendations to the WVA executive were presented. The first was to help developing countries fund their participation in WVA activities, the second was to take up help during disasters and emergencies, the third was an excellent veterinary oath done by JVMA that could be used worldwide by the veterinary associations and the fourth recommendation presented by Dr Shelton Pinkerton (USA), Dr Sherbyn Ostrich (USA), Dr Terry Hunt (Canada), Dr Pamela Scanlon (Australia) and Dr Catherine Smith (New Zealand) urged the executive to call all presidents of veterinary associations for a discussion on the future goals and infrastructure especially funding of WVA and future activities of WVA.

Lyon, France was elected as next Congress site for the 1999 WVA Congress with the French National Delegation to WVA as the responsible organizer.

Canada and New Zealand had rejoined WVA during the spring. At the General Assembly Russia, the Philippines, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia joined WVA as National Members.

Dr A. T. Rantsios was elected president for 1995-1999. Dr Jim Edwards was elected to replace Dr Sugiyama who retired as the representative for Asia and Oceania.

Dr Pappin, South Africa, Dr Sugiyama, Japan and Dr Blackburn, UK were elected Honorary Members of the WVA.

Establishing a new WVA at the General Assembly Meetings 1996 and 1997

The recommendation calling for a presidents meeting to discuss the future role of WVA made an impact on the work in the Executive Bureau. The recommendation laid down a time pressure on President Rantsios' idea of establishing a long-range strategic plan, a more systematic way of presenting forward plans as started by President Blackburn.

To be able to have an informed discussion with the members at regional meetings and at the main Presidents Meeting a discussion paper was prepared by the Executive Bureau. The plan was to prepare and present a long-range strategic plan at the General Assembly 1997 based upon the input from the membership. The discussion paper was sent out in March 1996 posing questions and giving ideas on:

- WVA Objectives
- WVA Structure
- WVA Functions
- WVA Financing
- WVA Congresses

Consultations with members took place at:

- Dubai International Equine Symposium
- Federation of Veterinarians of Europe, Utrecht

- Arab and Mediterranean Veterinary Congress, Tunis
- Pan-Pacific Veterinary Congress, Christchurch
- AVMA Convention, Louisville, Kentucky
- Commonwealth Veterinary Association Meeting, Mauritius
- PANVET Congress, Campo Grande
- Presidents Meeting, Paris

As the main Presidents Meeting took place the day before the General Assembly Meeting 1996 in Paris the General Assembly Meeting was almost reduced to the needed association business.

The only political discussion was on the aims, content and frequency of the World Veterinary Congress. There was no clear guidance of the board, however, a more frequent congress than every fourth year and a congress integrating the specialist associations was expected by a majority of the constituency.

As new national members Belgium, Cyprus and Belarus was welcomed. COMISA (now IFAH) and Balkan and Black Sea Veterinary Association was granted observer membership.

As Honorary Members Dr Shelton Pinkerton, USA and Dr Svein Kvaløy, Norway were elected. Both had served as Vice-Presidents for many years and been great contributors to the restructuring process of WVA.

The above mentioned consultation process took place from March to October 1996. The Board gathered all the advice received and was ready to present a new Constitution and By-Laws as well as Congress rules for the WVA General Assembly Meeting in May 1997 in Paris.

The major changes adopted by the General Assembly 1997 were:

- Amend the objectives allowing the association to act as the global association defending the interest of the veterinary profession.
- Change the political structure of the association from a 8 man board, 4 permanent Committees (Finance, Development, Education, Animal Welfare) and a General Assembly convening once a year to a 3 man Executive Committee 6 permanent Committees (Policy, Finance, Education and Development, Veterinary Public Health, Animal Health and Welfare, Disaster and Emergencies), a 21 man Council meeting once a year and a Presidents' Assembly meeting at World Veterinary Congresses. All of the new organs with defined portfolios.
- Change the frequency of World Veterinary Congresses from every fourth year to every third year and amend the structure of the congress allowing all specialist associations to have integrated full-scale specialist congresses within the World Veterinary Congress.
- A plan how to implement the new structure over a two year period.

A number of new national members Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cuba, Lebanon, Malaysia, Paraguay, Zambia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan were welcomed.

The General Federation of Arab Veterinarians, the Arab Association of Veterinary Medical Faculties, International Air Transport Association and Animal Transport Association was granted observer membership.

As new honorary members Dr Peter Doherty, Australia, Professor Edmund Prost, Poland and Professor Hans Merkt, Germany were elected.

The General Assembly was informed that the joint WVA-WSAVA Congress 1999 in Lyon had serious problems due to internal French problems. The General Assembly asked the presidents of WVA and WSAVA to solve the problems with the French organisers in order to have a joint congress as planned.

Immediate after the General Assembly Meeting the WVA Executive Committee (EXCOM) met. President Rantsios congratulated the new elected Vice-Presidents Jim Edwards, New Zealand and Professor Joselio de Andrade Moura, Brazil. Vice-President Jim Edwards was according to the new By-Laws made Chairman of the Policy Committee and Vice-President Moura was made Chairman of the Finance Committee. Proposals for Chairmanship of the technical committees as well as members for all committees were made for Council adoption. The new WVA structure was finally established and on its way to carry out the new set of objectives.

President Rantsios and his team of Vice-Presidents, Councillors and Committees worked hard towards the President Assembly Meeting Planned for the World Veterinary Congress 1999 in Lyon, which was at the same time the end of the term for the presidential team.

To make the new WVA structure work it was necessary to establish a number of administrative policies, internal rules and guidelines as well as a paper called Internal Procedures on how to share responsibilities among the elected officers and appointed representatives. Preparation of minor amendments to the new Constitution and By-Laws as well as Congress Rules was needed as well to fill in gaps or to avoid misinterpretation.

To be visible and interesting to the global governmental organisations like WTO, WHO, FAO and OIE policies on the professions points of view had to be developed. The most important technical or professional policies developed were:

- The Stable to Table approach to Animal Health, Animal Welfare and Public Health including the 12 principles of certification
- Prudent use of Antimicrobials
- Antibiotics as Growth Promoters

Based upon the policies WVA succeeded to establish or renew working relations with WHO, FAO and their joint Codex Alimentarius Commission as well as OIE and a couple of important non governmental organisations like COMISA (now IFAH) and ATA/IATA.

To be visible a part of the restructuring process was to move WVA meetings from Paris to the various regions of the world. WVA was looking for regional events where the constituency was present. The 1997 Council Meeting was convening in Namibia during the 2nd Pan African Veterinary Congress. The 1998 Council Meeting was held in Finland during the Nordic Veterinary Congress with participation of the Baltic countries. The first of two Council meetings 1999 was placed in Thirsk, United Kingdom to honour the opening of the James Herriot Museum in the Veterinary Practise in Thirsk where the world famous stories were created.

Communication is a part of the visibility. In order to improve communication and visibility a decision to establish a WVA Website was taken. Vice-President Jim Edwards was made responsible and Nick Wallingford from New Zealand was contracted to do the technical work.

President Rantsios and his new team of Vice-Presidents and Councillors worked hard through 1998 and first part of 1999 to be able to present a Long Range Strategic Plan for Council discussion and President Assembly approval. The plan was the working document of WVA setting up the goals to be fulfilled within a 10 years term.

XXVI World Veterinary Congress, Lyon, France, 1999

In 1999 the joint World Veterinary and World Small Animal Veterinary Association Congress was held 19-25 September 1999 in Lyon, the birthplace of Veterinary Science and Veterinary Training opened by Claude Bourgelat in 1762. The 1999 Congress succeeded despite many organisational and planning difficulties. At all EXCOM and Council meetings in the period 1995 -1999 President Rantsios could report on problems among the French organisers. Only through the efforts of the presidents of WVA and WSAVA and by the main sponsor Merial the many problems were solved.

The Congress was jointly organised by the WVA and the World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) / Federation of European Companion Animal Veterinary Association (FECAVA) through The French Committee of the WVA and The French Association for Companion Animal Specialists (CVNSPA).

The President of the Republic of France, M. Jacques Chirac (on video) opened officially the Congress. Presidents of the Congress were Dr A.T. Rantsios, President of the WVA, and Professor Ch. Pilet, President of the French Committee of the WVA.

Chairman of the WVA Scientific Programme was Professor Paul Delatour. Around 6,300 delegates from 91 countries participated. The Congress was hosted in the Eurexpo Exhibition Complex which includes a central dome acting as information and rendez-vous point with 3,200 sq. meters suitable for the Gala evening and other special events.

Furthermore there was the fully equipped seminar convention area with 17 meeting rooms seating from 20 to 950 persons, the 10,000 seats convention hall and 10 halls ranging from 6,000 to 11,000 sq. meters for the scientific exhibitions.

Consolidation of the new WVA structure at the Presidents' Assembly Meeting 1999

The Presidents' Assembly Meeting 1999 confirmed the administrative policies developed by EXCOM and Council:

- Councillor replacement
- Council Meeting without a quorum
- Regional Boundaries
- Membership of Regional Veterinary Associations
- Rules for Allocation of financial support to activities
- Rules for supporting projects
- Definition of WVA Technical and WVA Administrative Policies

- Administrative Policy on Reviewing Congress Rules

The above-mentioned technical policies were adopted together with a policy on Microchip Implantation Sites.

The Presidents' Assembly Meeting discussed new Congress Rules including the planning schedule. The proposal was amended to plan 6 years meaning to congresses ahead instead of three as proposed. A long Range Strategic Plan setting up the goals for the following ten years was endorsed on Council recommendation, and the Presidents' Assembly acknowledged the work done by EXCOM and secretariat to produce a binder with all basic material on WVA.

Vice-President Jim Edwards, New Zealand was elected President with Dr Herbert Schneider, Namibia and Dr Faouzi Kechrid, Tunisia, as Vice-Presidents. The Council was elected as well.

Congress sites for 2002 and 2005 were decided, Tunis for 2002 and Jerusalem for 2005.

As honorary members Professor Jean Piérard, Canada, Professor Dieter Grossklaus, Germany and Dr Merieux, France were elected and was given a WVA plaque as a token of respect for their contributions to the veterinary profession.

The continued adjustment of the new WVA structure

President Edwards and his team of officers continued in their term of office to make WVA more visible and to adjust the WVA structure.

President Edwards took the suggestion of his wife Mrs Pam Edwards, to create **World Veterinary Day** with the idea to promote the veterinary profession to society and attract the attention of the public and the mass media. The WVA decided to celebrate World Veterinary Day on the last Saturday of April each year. Labour Day the 1st of May had been a global success so why not a World Veterinary Day?

The constituency was met by Council at the AVMA convention in Salt Lake City, USA and during the Australian Veterinary Congress in Melbourne, Australia. The EXCOM convened at a FVE meeting in Berlin, at a BVA meeting in Winchester, United Kingdom and in Paris during an OIE meeting. The President made visits to a number of central European and Asian countries including Peoples Republic of China. In PRC the possibility of membership was discussed. Although both parties took an interest in solving the difficulties with Taipei China, no solution was found.

To defend the interest of the profession WVA was represented at WHO E-mail discussion and meetings arranged by WHO and OIE on antimicrobial assistance. The Codex Alimentarius Commission meetings were attended as well.

For all technical committees terms of reference was defined by EXCOM and endorsed by Council. The Disaster and Emergency Committee arranged a seminar at the FAVA Congress 2000. The Committee on Animal Health and Welfare produced a policy on Dangerous Dogs for PA approval.

A number of administrative policies were prepared by the policy committee and adopted by the Council to fill in gaps or adjust administrative affairs:

- Policy on Reimbursement
- Policy on Procedures for Conducting WVA Meetings
- Guidelines for Interaction with Commercial Enterprises
- Policy on Information Strategy
- Policy on Calling for Tenders for a Secretariat
- Policy for Holding of Council Meetings

The World Veterinary Congress 1999 in Lyon made turbulence in the phase of planning. At the end of the congress there was no surplus to meet the financial obligations towards WVA. A reduced payment was accepted.

Due to the politically unstable situation in the Middle East region, it was necessary to cancel the planned 2005 World Veterinary Congress in Jerusalem and called for new bids.

At the end of the term the WVA Council concluded that a too heavy burden was placed on the committee chairman. A more reasonable working form was to establish ad hoc committees or working parties whenever a subject needs a thorough investigation.

In May 2002, President Edwards (on behalf of the WVA) signed a collaboration agreement with Dr Vallat, the Director General of the OIE. This formalised a long standing arrangement and established the platform for future, more formal, collaboration.

XXVII World Veterinary Congress, Tunis, Tunisia, 2002

The 27th WVC — WORLD VET TUNIS 2002 — was the first big great veterinary event of the third millennium to be held in Tunis, Tunisia, heart of the Mediterranean Sea, where most of ancient civilisations once had their roots. Around 3,250 delegates from 116 countries participated in a total of 800 lectures and 300 posters. President of the Scientific Committees was Professor Malek Zrelli.

The year before, in November 2001, Dr Jim Edwards, WVA President, visited Tunis together with members of the WVA Council and gave the following statement: “Members of the WVA Council visited Tunis to inspect the Congress site, the accommodation and the features of the city. We were impressed by the facilities that we have available for the Congress. We found the people of Tunis to be friendly and we are confident that everybody will find a lot of enjoyment in this historic city”.

In addition pre and post Congress tours were held for the discovery of Tunisia, its historical and archaeological treasures and Arab-Moslem marvels.

Finalising the restructuring process at the Presidents’ Assembly Meeting 2002

EXCOM and Council had prepared the following amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws for Presidents’ Assembly approval:

- Creation of Position as Immediate Past President
- Individual Membership
- Membership Voting Rights and Membership Subscription Fees
- Establishing of Technical Committees only on the request of EXCOM
- WVA Special Award
- Amendments to Congress Rules

The PA adopted the policy on Dangerous Dogs presented by the Policy committee.

The EXCOM and Council got PA approval to cease the printing of the WVA Bulletin. Ceasing the printing could mean less visibility of WVA. The number of visitors at the Website was growing meaning less demand for a printed version of a Bulletin. It was the general opinion that the financial advantages were greater than the loss of visibility.

PA approved the 2005 World Veterinary Congress to be held in Minneapolis, USA and the 2008 Congress in Vancouver, Canada.

Dr Herbert Schneider was elected President, Professor Leon Russell, USA, and Dr Stane Knez, Slovenia, were elected Vice-Presidents and with the new elected councillors they constituted the WVA team for 2002-2005.

WVA becomes a true NGO

As the technical committees were removed from the by-laws the new team of officers had to share responsibilities differently.

The President would continue the contacts with OIE and FAO, Vice-President Russell continued contacts with WHO, WTO and the Codex Alimentarius system, Vice-President Knez was given the task of Education and especially a World Accreditation System for Veterinary Training Institutions, Dr Nave to continue contacts with UN, Dr Janssens with IATA/AATA and IFAH and Dr Kechrid with the World Tourist Association. Dr Heath was given the task to attract affiliated members in contact with Dr Janssens. Dr Edwards continued the contact with WSPA and the relations with the press. He was furthermore contracted as Webmaster for the WVA Homepage.

WVA had its first contact with WTO when President Edwards met Director General Mike Moore in 2000. In 2003, the WTO asked the opinion of the Veterinary Profession on the Accountancy Principles meaning amongst others that no veterinarian should be licensed to practice anywhere if the country of training was not prepared to license the veterinarian trained to practise.

Agreements of cooperation or accreditation as official NGO was obtained or continued with OIE, WHO and FAO. An agreement with IFAH has been drawn up with the IFAH executive director. The mutual interests in animal welfare and antimicrobial usage and resistance brings the parties together.

Dr Schneider was asked to take part in the steering committee of an OIE conference on animal welfare. Dr Schneider chaired a one-day session and Dr Jim Edwards gave a key note speech on the role of the veterinarian in animal welfare. The next step was to secure a place in the permanent OIE working group on animal welfare alongside the animal welfare associations as animal welfare will have top priority in the decade to come.

Dr Schneider was asked to take part in a special ad hoc committee on Private Veterinarians and Paraprofessionals. The most important outcome was the draft policy statement that veterinary work carried out by a paraprofessional should always be carried out under the supervision of a registered/licensed veterinarian. The draft is send for the regional OIE Committees for approval. It

is an item of great importance especially in the developing countries, however the problem is growing in the developed world as well. Alternative veterinary medicine is carried out by paraprofessionals without any kind of supervision from a veterinarian just as in human medicine. The item will have high priority in the years to come to ensure the public a high quality of veterinary services.

Dr Schneider took part at various meetings and conferences to present the view points of the profession. A joint WHO/FAO/OIE expert consultation on non-human antimicrobial usage, the OIE international conference on infectious animal diseases controlled by vaccination and the OIE/African Union expert conference where the president gave an introductory speech on the evaluation of veterinary services and trans boundary animal diseases.

Dr Russell has monitored the public health area and has been at several meetings to represent the veterinary profession and the viewpoints as presented in the developed stable to table concept. OIE is defining their role in public health at the moment and Vice-President Russell monitors the OIE deliberations in order to bring WVA in to the work at the strategic right moment.

A number of administrative policies has been reviewed and a technical policy on the long distance transportation of animals has been drafted.

There is a need for a global accreditation system for veterinary training institutions to make the marketplace for veterinary services global. Harmonisation is discussed between the bodies (AVMA, FVE, Australia and New Zealand) having different accreditation systems in place today. All bodies are in cooperation with WVA one way or another so WVA involvement must be possible.

□

List of World Veterinary Congresses

<i>Congress</i>	<i>Site</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Participants</i>	<i>Countries</i>
I	Hamburg	1863	99	10
II	Vienna	1865	170	15
III	Zürich	1867	180	17
IV	Brussels	1883	350	16
V	Paris	1889	670	19
VI	Bern	1895	700	25
VII	Baden-Baden	1899	1,000	39
VIII	Budapest	1906	1,400	35
IX	The Hague	1909	1,600	44

X	London	1914	Abandoned	
XI	London	1930	1,900	64
XII	New York	1934	1,820	40
XIII	Zurich	1938	2,000	58
XIV	London	1949	1,500	53
XV	Stockholm	1953	1,150	50
XVI	Madrid	1959	2,000	52
XVII	Hannover	1963	4,500	71
XVIII	Paris	1967	4,000	65
XIX	Mexico City	1971	4,500	64
XX	Thessalonica	1975	4,200	60
XXI	Moscow	1979	4,300	62
XXII	Perth	1983	2,120	57
XXIII	Montreal	1987	5,000	59
XXIV	Rio de Janeiro	1991	5,740	81
XXV	Yokohama	1995	10,339	82
XXVI	Lyon	1999	6,290	91
XXVII	Tunis	2002	3,257	116

Permanent Committee of the International Veterinary Congresses

(Presently: Presidents' Assembly of the World Veterinary Association)

Presidents

Dr A. Lydtin (Germany)	1905-1917
Professor F. de Hutyra (Hungary)	1928-1934
Professor E. Leclainche (France)	1934-1949
Sir Daniel Cabot (UK)	1952-1956
Professor W.I.B. Beveridge (Australia)	1957-1975
Professor R. Vuillaume (France)	1975-1983
Professor J.F. Figueroa (Peru)	1983-1991

Dr J.T. Blackburn (UK)	1991-1995
Dr A.T. Rantsios (Greece)	1995-1999
Dr Jim Edwards (New Zealand)	1999-2002
Dr Herbert Schneider (Namibia)	2002-

Vice-Presidents

Professor F. de Hutyra (Hungary)	1905-1917
Mr Degive (Belgium)	1909-1917
Professor E. Leclainche (France)	1928-1934
Sir John MacFadyan (UK)	1930-1934
Dr J.R. Mohier (USA)	1934-1949
Professor V. Stang (Germany)	1934-1938
Sir Daniel Cabot (UK)	1947-1949
Dr G. Petersen (Denmark)	1949-1951
Professor C. Sanz Egana (Spain)	1949-1959
Dr A. Alegren (Sweden)	1953-1957
Dr W.A. Hagan (USA)	1959-1963
Professor K. Wagener (Germany)	1959-1967
Professor J.F. Figueroa (Peru)	1965-1983
Dr E. Fritschi (Switzerland)	1967-1971
Dr S Scebidy (USA)	1971-1976
Dr A.D. Tretyakov (USSR)	1967-1989
Professor R. Vuillaume (France)	1971-1975
Dr R.W. Gee (Australia)	1975-1979
Professor B.C. Jansen (South Africa)	1975-1979
Professor E. Tsiroyannis (Greece)	1975-1979
Dr J.E. Mosier (USA)	1977-1980
Ms Dr B.F. Smith (New Zealand)	1979-1987
Dr S. Tsubaki (Japan)	1979-1983
Dr V.S. Tharp (USA)	1981-1991
Professor, Dr E.H. Kampelmacher (Holland)	1983-1991
Professor, Dr I. Månsson (Sweden)	1983-1991
Dr B.H. Pappin (South Africa)	1983-1987
Dr L. Quirolo (Uruguay)	1983-1987

Dr F.O. Ayanwale (Nigeria)	1983-1995
Dr J. de Andrade Moura (Brazil)	1983-1999
Dr F. Sugiyama (Japan)	1983-1999
Dr S. Pinkerton (USA)	1991-1996
Dr V. Kasjuk (Russia)	1991-1993
Professor Ch. Pilet (France)	1991-1999
Dr S. Kvaløy (Norway)	1991-1996
Professor E. Prost (Poland)	1993-1997
Dr J. Nunez (Argentina)	1995-1997
Dr Jim Edwards (New Zealand)	1995-1999
Dr Herbert Schneider (Namibia)	1995-2002
Professor J. Piérard (Canada)	1996-1999
Dr Niels-Ole Bjerregaard (Denmark)	1996-1999
Professor D. Magic (Slovakia)	1997-1999
Dr Stane Knez (Slovenia)	2002-
Dr Leon Russell (USA)	2002-

Secretary-Treasurers

(Presently: General-Secretary — as from May 1994 this post does not exist any longer)

Dr D.A. DeJong (the Netherlands)	1905-1925
Professor, Dr L. de Blicck (the Netherlands)	1928-1953
Professor, Dr Jac. Jansen (the Netherlands)	1953-1972
Dr M. Leuenberger (Switzerland)	1972-1983
Professor, Dr C.L. de Cuenca (Spain)	1983-1991
Mr E. Aalbers (The Netherlands) acting	1991-1994

Deputy Secretaries

(As from May 1990 this post does not exist any longer)

Dr Von Ratz (Germany)	1909-1917
Professor V. Stang (Germany)	1928-1934
Dr P.J.L. Kelland (UK)	1934-1938
Professor E. Manninger (Hungary)	1949-1953
Professor L. de Blicck (the Netherlands)	1953-1961
Professor D. Zwart (the Netherlands)	1967-1968
Dr S. Postizzi (Switzerland)	1972-1979
Dr B. Walker (Switzerland)	1981-1983
Professor, Dr J.M. Cid Diaz (Spain)	1984-1991

Executive Secretaries

Dr Lars Holsaae (Denmark)	1994-
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Index

Introduction

Introduction

Phase I

Initiation and development of the International Veterinary Congresses (IVC) and the World Veterinary Congresses (WVC)

I IVC, Hamburg, Germany, 1863

II IVC, Vienna, Austria, 1865

III IVC, Zürich, Switzerland, 1867

IV IVC, Brussels, Belgium, 1883

V IVC, Paris, France, 1889

VI IVC, Bern, Switzerland, 1895

VII WVC, Baden-Baden, Germany, 1899

VIII WVC, Budapest, Hungary, 1906

Phase II

Creation and activities of the Permanent Committee

IX WVC, Schevening, The Netherlands, 1909

X WVC, London, Great Britain, 1914

XI WVC, London, Great Britain, 1930

XII WVC, New York, U.S.A., 1934

XIII WVC, Zürich-Interlaken, Switzerland, 1938

XIV WVC, London, Great Britain, 1949

XV WVC, Stockholm, Sweden, 1953

Phase III

Creation and development of the World Veterinary Association

XVI WVC, Madrid, Spain, 1959

XVII WVC, Hanover, Germany, 1963

XVIII WVC, Paris, France, 1967

XIX WVC, Mexico City, Mexico, 1971

XX WVC, Thessalonica, Greece, 1975

XXI WVC, Moscow, USSR, 1979
XXII WVC, Perth, Australia, 1983
XXIII WVC, Montreal, Canada, 1987
XXIV WVC, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1991

Phase IV

Restructuring WVA from a scientific organisation to a modern association defending the interests of the veterinary profession on the global level

XXV WVC, Yokohama, Japan, 1995
XXVI WVC, Lyon, France, 1999
XXVIII WVC, Tunis, Tunisia, 2002

Finalising the restructuring process at the Presidents' Assembly Meeting 2002
WVA becomes a true NGO

Appendices

World Veterinary Congresses

Presidents

Vice-Presidents

Secretary-Treasurers

Deputy-Secretaries

Executive Secretaries