The WVA will hold its General Assembly at the World Veterinary Congress in Istanbul on Monday, 14th September 2015.

First and foremost, it is important that WVA Constituent Member associations have a representative at the Assembly for informational presentations, for input and discussion, and for voting on agenda items.

The General Assembly is the highest authority in the WVA structure. The Council and Constituent Members can bring forth recommendations to the General Assembly for discussion and a vote if indicated. The deadline for recommendations is 14th August 2015. Assistance with using the proper form for proposals is available from the Secretariat. Observer Members are also welcome to attend the General Assembly to give input to discussions. Please register your representatives for the General Assembly promptly so we can prepare accordingly. The WVA Council meets this week on 17th June and again on 29th July. Please contact your Council representatives with issues you want raised with the WVA. See you in Istanbul!!

Pharmaceutical Stewardship (A WVA Priority Issue)

In May, delegates at the World Health Assembly adopted a Global Action Plan to tackle antimicrobial resistance (AMR), the most urgent drug resistance trend. AMR is occurring everywhere in the world, compromising our ability to treat infectious diseases, as well as undermining many other advances in health and medicine. The plan sets out 5 objectives:

- improve awareness and understanding of antimicrobial resistance;
- strengthen surveillance and research;
- reduce the incidence of infection;
- optimize the use of antimicrobial medicines;
- ensure sustainable investment in countering antimicrobial resistance.

The WVA has a Position Paper on the Responsible Use of Antimicrobials. You can also view HERE the PPT presentations from the WVA/WMA Global Conference on One Health, including those about antimicrobial resistance.

The World Veterinary Congress has a Global Summit on Antimicrobial Resistance in Istanbul, Turkey
on Tuesday, 15th September. Be sure to attend this interesting session.

**WVA President addresses the Francophone Statutory Body Representatives**

At the OIE meeting, Dr. Carlson addressed the francophone (French speaking) statutory body representatives. The recent WVA MoU with the OIE emphasizes the partnership to help educate and advocate for good national veterinary services. Dr. Carlson spoke to this group about the importance of their work for the integrity of veterinary medicine in terms delivery of competent animal health care, and assurance to the public-at-large that we provide good quality veterinary services. Regulatory bodies must have members on their statutory bodies who are committed to register veterinarians with knowledge consistent with OIE recommended Day 1 competencies. The WVA supports the OIE in its regulatory mission, and the WVA emphasizes the importance of education and competence in these services to the private veterinary sector. See Dr. Carlson’s full speech [HERE](#).

**EXPO Milano 2015 – Conference on Animal welfare: a way to preserve diversity and quality in animal productions**

Dr Zeev Noga was invited to deliver a WVA’s statement on Animal Welfare (AW) during the EXPO Milano 2015. Dr Noga said that different factors lead to different levels of AW awareness around the world, and therefore, also to different AW standards on voluntary or regulatory basis and in many countries; no standards. Indeed, there is an improvement in the application of AW standards but still, there is a long way before all world regions will comply with the minimum AW standards. WVA believes that every animal around the world deserves veterinary care! which will improve animal health and welfare and off course the food production.

**WVA Councillor elected President of the FVE**

Congratulations to Dr. Rafael Laguens (Spain), one of two WVA Councillors for Europe, who was elected President of the FVE, representing 240,000 veterinarians across Europe. WVA President, Dr Carlson also attended the FVE meeting and addressed the FVE General Assembly with a WVA update on current WVA priorities and activities.

Thank you for your membership. We need your expertise and participation for the world to hear our message about our role as veterinarians for the global public good. We need your input as Constituent Members or Observers for our discussions. Don’t be left out of the process!

**Please forward this info-news to your individual members**