Message from the WVA President

Dear Colleagues,

We have just returned from a very busy week in Panama with our Latin American colleagues at the Pan American Association of Veterinary Sciences Congress where the WVA Council and General Assembly meetings took place. I want to share some of the highlights from the last two weeks.

Our WVA General Assembly took place on 3rd October where delegates had a unique opportunity to hear from the WVA Council members about large number of activities that the WVA delivered during the last year including collaboration plans with global partners, WVA projects and communication strategy. the full WVA Activities Report 2016 can be found HERE.

Our WVA Council met in Panama for two days of meetings including strategic discussions, committee and working group meetings. WVA has several important initiatives to benefit WVA Members and the world, such as a community based rabies project with Gambia (GVMA President Badara Loum traveled to Panama to share their experiences in Gambia with rabies), the WVA Education Forum in Korea next year, the large resource of continuing education courses on the WVA Online Education Portal, brief 1-page Fact Sheets on Animal Welfare topics for use by veterinarians, and our activities to assure Responsible Use of Antimicrobials in animals.

An important issue that was discussed widely during the meetings was the forthcoming WVA Elections which will be open for candidate nominations in February for the electronic election in May 2017. I cannot emphasize the importance of these elections. To continue the excellent successes, we have had in recent years, we must have a fully committed Council. I would ask all Constituent Member associations to consider seriously the best candidates for the WVA Council to represent your regions. They must be committed, have the time to devote to WVA priorities, be advocates for the WVA and WVA membership, communicate regularly with regional Members and the Council, and be able to lead teams on special projects. English is the common language of the world so ability to communicate in English is important. The President-Elect and all positions for 14 WVA regional Councilors are open for election, or in some cases, re-election. It is a tremendous privilege to serve on the WVA Council but is it not just the privilege, but the incredible work that we do to advance our mission. The call for nomination will be sent to you by 27th February 2017.

Gambia (GVMA President Badara Loum traveled to Panama to share their experiences in Gambia with rabies), the WVA Education Forum in Korea next year, the large resource of continuing education courses on the WVA Online Education Portal, brief 1-page Fact Sheets on Animal Welfare topics for use by veterinarians, and our activities to assure Responsible Use of Antimicrobials in animals.

An important issue that was discussed widely during the meetings was the forthcoming WVA Elections which will be open for candidate nominations in February for the electronic election in May 2017. I cannot emphasize the importance of these elections. To continue the excellent successes, we have had in recent years, we must have a fully committed Council. I would ask all Constituent Member associations to consider seriously the best candidates for the WVA Council to represent your regions. They must be committed, have the time to devote to WVA priorities, be advocates for the WVA and WVA membership, communicate regularly with regional Members and the Council, and be able to lead teams on special projects. English is the common language of the world so ability to communicate in English is important. The President-Elect and all positions for 14 WVA regional Councilors are open for election, or in some cases, re-election. It is a tremendous privilege to serve on the WVA Council but is it not just the privilege, but the incredible work that we do to advance our mission. The call for nomination will be sent to you by 27th February 2017.
The WVA was invited to attend the recent United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) High Level meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance in New York City. Dr. Lyle Vogel, WVA Councilor for North America and the Chair of the WVA Pharmaceutical Stewardship WG attended the meeting. This was only the fourth time that a health issue has been taken up in a meeting of the UNGA (previous health issues included HIV, communicable diseases, and Ebola). The objective of the meeting was to achieve strong national, regional and international political commitment to address antimicrobial resistance worldwide and across multiple sectors such as human health, animal health and agriculture. One of the main outcomes of the meeting was the request by the UN Secretary-General to establish with WHO, FAO and OIE, an ad hoc interagency coordination group to provide practical guidance for approaches needed to ensure sustained effective global action to address AMR. The WVA will seek for membership in this important working group. The full report of the meeting can be found HERE.

One Health Summit to address Antibiotic Stewardship

The WVA was invited to a global One Health Summit organized by Elanco Animal Health to address Antibiotic Stewardship and the importance of animal sourced protein and micronutrients to human nutrition. WVA President addressed over 60 CEOs of global animal sourced food companies from around the world in a private meeting on the importance of animal health and welfare to the quality and quantity of food production for the world’s growing population. WVA President also chaired a Working Session on Veterinary Capacity and Oversight that will look at how to assure the welfare of animals in the food chain and oversight of any medicines needed for their health and the safe production of healthy food products. Click HERE for the WVA President, Dr. Rene Carlson talking veterinary capacity and oversight #OneHealth4All.

2nd Global Conference on One Health in Japan

The World Veterinary Association (WVA), World Medical Association (WMA), Japan Medical Association (JMA) and the Japan Veterinary Medical Association (JVMA) are inviting you to the 2nd GCOH to strengthen the links and communications and to achieve closer collaboration between Physicians, Veterinarians and all appropriate stakeholders to improve the different aspects of health and welfare of humans, animals and the environment. The 2GCOH will take place in Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture, Japan on 10th - 11th November 2016. The conference theme is Moving forward: from One Health Concept to One Health Approach. Click HERE For more information and registration.

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

WVA • Avenue de Tervueren 12 • 1040 Brussels • secretariat@worldvet.org
Follow the World Veterinary Association on Facebook