WVA Governing Bodies

Members
The WVA unites and represents 78 National Veterinary Associations and 12 International Associations of veterinarians around the world.

WVA Presidents Assembly
The Presidents Assembly (PA) is the Association’s most important platform for discussion and policy making. It is attended by all Presidents of WVA Member Associations.

WVA Council
The Council comprises the President, two Vice-Presidents, Immediate Past President and 13 elected representatives from different world regions and associate members.

World Veterinary Congress
Every 2 years WVA holds a World Veterinary Congress (WVC). In September 2013, WVA will celebrate its 150th anniversary during the WVC in Prague, Czech Republic. In 2015, the WVC will take place in Istanbul, Turkey.

WVA Secretariat
The WVA secretariat is based in Brussels, Belgium. The secretariat is responsible for daily management of the Association, communication, maintenance and development of Membership.

WVA 150th Anniversary 1863 - 2013
World Veterinary Association History

In 1863, Dr J. Gamgee convened a first International Veterinary Congress. This initiative grew into the World Veterinary Association (WVA) today.

The WVA follows the ambition of Dr Gamgee to bring veterinarians from all over the world together, to share experiences, to exchange ideas and to join forces for the promotion and development of veterinary medicine.

WVA Mission

“WVA promotes the interest of the health and welfare of animals and people as well as the interest of its member organizations and their members. This is done through developing and advancing veterinary medicine and veterinary profession”.

Vision for the future

To be the voice of the global veterinary profession. All countries in the world shall have well-functioning veterinary services that meet the needs of society and that are valued by society. There shall exists a strong united global veterinary community which is properly educated and licensed by the legal authority to practice veterinary medicine.

WVA Policies & Actions

WVA Policies and Actions

The WVA develops policies and positions on veterinary issues of global importance. These policies and positions are conveyed within the veterinary profession as well as towards major decision making institutions and authorities.

Veterinary Education

WVA is committed to the quality of both undergraduate and postgraduate education. All veterinarians should have the Day-One Competencies needed to deliver their responsibilities to society.

World Veterinary Day

An important annual activity of the WVA is the World Veterinary Day (WVD), which is celebrated on the last Saturday of April. The WVD objective is to bring the importance of the Veterinary Profession to the society by underlining the vital role of veterinarians to ensure animal health and welfare, food safety, food security, safe world trade in animals and animal products as well as protecting public health.