Dear colleagues and friends of the veterinary profession,
I have been very busy since the previous newsletter in April and what follows is a short explanation of my work for WVA since then.

I had a meeting with the leaders of the World Society for Protection of Animals [WSPA]. You will recall that WVA has adopted in principal their Universal Declaration on Animal Welfare. So what does this actually mean? In outline we follow an Animal Welfare strategy which incorporates the scientific standards of OIE, but in addition WVA needs to have its own opinion. As WVA and WSPA we discussed which aspects of animal welfare where there could be cooperation and those aspects where we need separate actions. Each organisation has a particular responsibility. A letter of intention to cooperate could provide a stimulus for such cooperation as well as allowing freedom for WVA’s own actions in specific areas of animal welfare.

Following the recommendation of the WVA EXCOM, the WVA Council endorsed the view that the new Secretariat of WVA should be hosted at the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe [FVE] in Brussels from 1st January 2010. The WVA EXCOM will determine the transition from Copenhagen to Brussels and how the separation of entities WVA and FVE
will be effected. Personally, I am pleased. I know all the people in the Secretariat and they are very dedicated to the veterinary issues on a global level. I would like to welcome them into WVA. I am convinced of good cooperation. WVA communication globally will be discussed within WVA Excom and with WVA webmaster and communicator Dr Jim Edwards. This will take place during the coming summer months.

In April our members received a questionnaire about the planning of our WVA Strategy. I hope and expect that a lot of the members will take the time to fill in and sent back this questionnaire. You have to tell your board how to move forward with WVA for the future. The questionnaire to non-members and stakeholders will go out now. A first analysis will be carried out during the summer months. In addition, you should know that I have made contact with various countries about becoming members of WVA. We are obtaining results!

As President of WVA I was invited to participate in the Congress of WAPHA [World Association of Public Health Associations] in Istanbul, Turkey. The participants of the congress consisted of human doctors and veterinarians. Within the concept of One World-One Health, I gave a presentation about the general global role of veterinarians in public health. The role of veterinarians and physicians in controlling zoonotic diseases by good cooperation is very important and I fully explained our part.

At the very same time the world was confronted by the global outbreak of a novel Influenza virus. This flu originated in Mexico in people and spread rapidly over the world, a real pandemic. WHO did a very good job in suggesting control measures for the disease and in providing the right information. WHO raised the influenza situation to the “alert 5” level. In some countries this produced a panic reaction. Originally the term “Swine flu” was being used. I have distanced myself from this during interviews and am now content with referring to A/H1N1 influenza virus.

The big problem was in stigmatising swine. Some people stopped eating swine meat. In Egypt it even leads to the wholesale slaughter of swine which involved a great deal of cruelty. This is clearly not a model for animal welfare and all for the wrong reasons. Although a lot of people have suffered all over the world the mortality is not as high as initial indications from Mexico had suggested. We do have to take particular care at that time when human seasonal flu occurs. We must take preventive measures, including the development and use of appropriate vaccines.

On May 1st, I participated in the meeting of the European veterinarians (FVE), in Stockholm. There were good presentations about “Animal Insurance and the Veterinary Profession”; “Science versus Non-science in Veterinary Medicine” and “Strategies to reduce the development of Antimicrobial resistance”.

Also I participated in the meeting of the European Deans of Veterinary Schools [EAEVE] and give a presentation about the importance of education for the profession. The relationship between the profession and the schools has to be very strong in order to educate young people
in the right way. I stressed the importance of the deans attending the OIE-meeting on 12-14 October 2009 in Paris in order to debate “Evolving Veterinary Education for a Safer World”.

I also participated in the General Session of OIE in Paris. During my presentation to the Chief Veterinary officers of 174 countries, I outlined the Objectives of WVA, not only in representing the veterinarians in the world, but also by acting on issues of animal health, animal welfare and public health. A high level of veterinary education is of great importance in order that we can continue to play a central role in the triangle of animal, animal owner and society. I emphasised to the CVOs the importance of inviting the deans to attend the education conference of OIE. It is their duty, and that of their country, to participate.

After my presentation I had the pleasure to present the second World Veterinary Day Award to the CVO of Nepal. I will report on the presentation separately.

I have met a lot of veterinarians that would like to become members of WVA. The amount of the subscription sometimes makes this impossible. We have to find a solution in order for them all to join the WVA family.

Finally, in the last Newsletter, I said that I would write about education and society. I will defer that for the next edition.

Dr Tjeerd Jorna
WVA President
Presentation of the World Veterinary Day Award

In the 77th General Session of the International Committee of OIE during the second plenary session on Tuesday 26 May 2009, I got as President of the WVA, the opportunity to have a short presentation to all the CVO’s of the OIE member countries and a lot of global and regional organisations to explain what is the importance of WVA and what are the objectives of WVA.

One is the organisation by the member countries of World Veterinary Day. The veterinarians and their associations can show their relation with the Society.

As WVA President I explained why WVA celebrates the WVD in the last weekend of April each year and why we have an Award since 2008 in good cooperation with OIE. After explaining the criteria of participation and the procedure of application and the 2009 theme “Veterinarians and livestock farmers, a winning partnership” telling that today more than ever, outbreaks of some animal diseases, particularly those harmful to humans [zoonoses] can cause considerable economic and social upheaval and send a wave of panic at national, regional or global level. The A/H1N1 influenza is a current example.

Veterinarians play a key role in all countries as guarantors of animal health and public health. But the effectiveness of their action is strongly linked to and dependent on their relationship with the farmers. Farmers and animal owners all around the world are the first sentinels of animal disease events. A rapid response by them and the veterinarians “in the field” in the fight against animal diseases cannot leave aside their crucial role.

The 2009 WVD Award will reward the veterinary association who will best publicize the theme by involving the farmers in the organisation of events along all other stakeholders such as the media and the general public. We got a lot more applications in 2009 and a lot of celebration activities without application. More than 20% of our members and we hope that next year still more members will apply for the joint WVA/OIE award.

The AWARD includes a plaquette, a certificate and 1000 USD.

The winner of the 2009 was the Nepalese Veterinary Association.

I invited the CVO of Nepal to come on stage to receive the Award. I asked him to promise to present the Award to the Nepalese Veterinary Association in a special celebration to show the good cooperation between the official veterinarians through the CVO and the veterinarians in the NVA where Dr. Subir Singh put a lot of effort into World Veterinary Day.

I thanked the OIE Director General Dr. Bernard Vallat and his staff for the good cooperation and selection of the winner.

After this short presentation I gave the Award to the Nepalese CVO, Dr Prabakar Pathak.

Dr Tjeerd Jorna
WVA President
The 2009 Joint WVA/OIE World Veterinary Day Award was presented to Nepal. The presentation was made during the 77th General Assembly of the World Animal Health Organisation in Paris.

In Nepal, World Veterinary Day was celebrated by Nepal Veterinary Association. About 80% of Nepal's 26 million people are engaged in subsistence-oriented agriculture, based on integrated crop-livestock or crop-livestock-forest farming system. Farmers keep livestock to provide essential support for agriculture production (draft power and compost), nutrition for the family, and household income. The livestock sector contributes about 31% of the agricultural GDP. Within livestock, dairy accounts for 63% of the total value added, followed by meat (32%) and eggs (5%). Income from livestock as proportion of total income is particularly high and valuable for poorer farmers (about 20% of total income).

Dr Prabhakar Pathak, the CVO from Nepal, received the award on behalf of the President of the Nepal Veterinary Association. Left is Dr Bernard Vallat, Director General of the OIE and right is Dr Tjeerd Jorna, President of the WVA. Photograph copyright courtesy of D. Mordzinski, OIE.
World Veterinary Day in Kenya

The winner of the first joint OIE/WVA World Veterinary Day award in 2008 was the Kenya Veterinary Association (KVA). This year the Minister for Livestock Development Hon. Dr Mohammed Abdi Kuti, MP, told the KVA Scientific Conference that it provided a unique opportunity for the public and the private sector veterinarians to exchange ideas on how to manage the animal resource industry and especially the livestock sub-sector through innovative techniques.

The Minister recognized the role played by the KVA in emergency services to livestock farmers through joint animal health interventions. The association has done contract vaccinations with the ministry and held free animal health camps and extension programs countrywide. Apart from the farmer education, the association has supported major disease control campaigns against major trans-boundary diseases such as Foot and Mouth disease, Anthrax, Rabies and Lumpy Skin Disease. This effort is appreciated and we thank all partners who are assisting in all forms of development in this country. It is government policy to work closely with private sector.

The theme of the 2009 scientific conference was “One Health = Human Health + Animal Health” which supported by the World Veterinary Day theme of “Veterinarians and Livestock farmers, a winning partnership”, which underlined the importance of livestock and health sectors collaborating with the public to ensure effective management of animal production and health while safeguarding food safety.

The Minister said that the convergence of people, animals and our environment has created a new dynamic in which the health of each group is inextricably interconnected. The challenges associated with this dynamic are demanding, profound and unprecedented.

Ten members from the veterinary profession and veterinary pharmaceutical industry, and one from the Animal Welfare group, were honored for their exemplary service in the advancement of veterinary profession and support to animal welfare issues in Kenya and internationally.

Sudan

The Sudan Veterinary Medical Association celebrated World Veterinary Day in the White Nile State, about 400km south of Khartoum, which is rich in all types of animals, 6.5 million heads, besides the riches in fisheries. The "Veterinary Camp" was attended by many veterinarians, animal owners, pastoralists, and the sedentary farmers.

Ghana

The Ghana Veterinary Medical Association celebrated Veterinary Week with the theme “Veterinarians and Livestock Farmers, a Winning Partnership”. The target audience was livestock farmers, veterinarians and paraveterinarians, public health professionals and the general public.

Their activities included:

- a radio discussion on “Public Health Significance of Tuberculosis in Cattle”.
- television panel discussion on GTV and Sunrise on TV3
- outreach programme of PPR vaccination in sheep and goats in some communities in Kumasi
• seminar on the topics “Avian Influenza – current situation in Ghana” and “Emergency preparedness for AI in humans in Ghana”

Tunisia

The Association Tunisienne Vétérinaires Spécialistes des Animaux de Compagnie held a scientific meeting “Human Health Through Animal Health”. There were presentations:

• Interest of the pet in the development of the child and the teenager.
• Interest of the antiparasitic treatment of the animals of company for the fight against zoonosis and protection of the public health.
• The canine leishmaniasis in Tunisia. Diagnosis, Treatment and Control.

Kurdistan, Iraq

For the first time on it is history, the Veterinary Syndicate in Kurdistan –Duhok province celebrated the World Veterinary Day, with a picnic to very nice place called (qarqar ava) 10km north of Douhk city. More than 300 persons attended the activity and participate on the categories of the picnic which included Kurdish folklore dancing, lunch, sport activities, speeches, awarding some members.

Dr. Iqman Tayeb, the head of Duhok Veterinary Syndicate in his speech assured the attendance that this will be an annually activity and all the Veterinarians should be proud for this celebration that considered as a right step toward the enlightening the community on role of Veterinarians in keeping their animals and food free from disease factors an protect them from zoonotic disease.

Serbia

In the second celebration by the Serbian Veterinary Society, and the Serbian Veterinary Chamber a serial of media events was organized, in order to convey the main messages to the public in Serbia.

The celebration started on April 22nd with a press conference in Subotica. They chose the Earth’s Day for the beginning of Serbian WVD events. The majority of 600 million farmers in the world live and raise cattle in extensive way and in severe conditions: shortage of food, drinking water, veterinary attendance. Even in Serbia today, there are areas poorly covered with veterinary service.

This year the team of veterinarians in Foundation SFS Centre for education, research and consulting in agriculture in Novi Sad celebrated World Veterinary Day with a Memorandum of Agreement intended to aid the work together with private veterinary clinic in the care and keeping of family dairy goats and production of cheese. Veterinary services are a sub-element of sustainable resource management and it fits into strategic approach:

• Food Safety
• Enhancing objective share and participation
• Competitiveness and profitability
• Sustainable resource management

Turkey

The Turkish Medical Association and the Turkish Veterinary Medical Association promoted their “One World One Health” Joint Declaration.

They noted the joint FAO-WHO Expert Committee on Zoonoses report that more than 150 bacterial, viral, parasitic and fungal diseases have been found in the world in 1967 and from that time this number exceeded to 200 in the year of 2000. Approximately 60 % of known infectious diseases of humans are zoonotic and 75 % of these diseases are emerging or re-emerging. Ninety percent of foodborne diseases are caused by consumption foods of animal origin. In recent years diseases like West Nile Fever virus, Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever, SARS, BSE, Monkey Pox, Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic Fever and Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza caused public fear, damage of global trade and economic losses in addition to human deaths. All these threats show collaboration necessity between human and veterinary medicines.
Iran

The Isfahan Veterinary Main Office had an open day and mountain climbing for Isfahanian Veterinarians and others to know more about veterinarians and their role in society. They had class visits in Isfahan’s 21 townships, to teach children about veterinarians. This was followed by a news campaign at TV, radio, news agency, newspaper, websites and podcast.

Pakistan

The Vets Care Organization Pakistan (VCO) declared the WVD as Free Treatment Day at the University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences Lahore to mark the World Veterinary Day. The objective was to provide free treatment as well as medicines to all animals coming for treatment at the Outdoor Hospital of the University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences Lahore. The University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences Lahore is the oldest veterinary institute in Asia (established as a Veterinary School in 1882) and is therefore playing a key role in animal health. The outdoor hospital of the U.V.A.S is a famous and historical veterinary hospital in Lahore and therefore, people bring their animals for treatment and expert veterinary advice.

Vietnam

World Veterinary Day in where there was recognition that outbreaks of some animal diseases, particularly those harmful to humans (zoonoses) can cause considerable economic and social upheaval and send a wave of panic at national, regional or global level. Recent crises have shown how a serious health event for the animal kingdom can have a global impact on the rural economy and consumers and constitute a threat to public health. An early warning associated with a rapid response is key to fight contagious animal diseases at source, through the integration of all relevant stakeholders in the prevention and disease control mechanisms.

New Zealand

The New Zealand Veterinary Association promoted the veterinary role in animal health and welfare, improving farm productivity through advice on nutrition, animal genetics, farm facilities, disease and parasite control, as well as monitoring food safety risks, animal welfare and exotic diseases.

Veterinarians work at all levels of the livestock and food production chain providing services to livestock farmers, working in laboratories and research facilities, food production facilities, veterinary pharmaceutical companies, food safety, animal welfare and biosecurity policy and delivery agencies. All these veterinarians make a significant contribution to the health and well being of livestock farmers and the associated industries that turn livestock into animal products which New Zealand exports around the world.

United States of America

"This year’s theme, ‘Veterinarians and Livestock Farmers: a winning partnership,’ highlights a discipline of veterinary medicine the AVMA is dedicated to 365 days a year," said Dr. W. Ron DeHaven, Chief Executive Officer of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). "In a little more than a year, the AVMA has created numerous resources to enhance the public’s knowledge and appreciation of the vital role of veterinarians work with livestock farmers and the many safeguards to animal and human health that have emerged as a result of that work."

The AVMA Web page, www.avma.org/fsvm, was created to help bolster the ranks of practitioners in food supply veterinary medicine. Information on the page is geared toward various stakeholders, including practitioners, veterinary colleges, and state and industry associations. It also informs the public, government officials, and media about the importance of veterinarians in maintaining a wholesome food supply.

Trinidad and Tobago

The Trinidad and Tobago Veterinary Association (TTVA) organised a series of veterinary-related events during the month of April. They promoted the veterinarians crucial
role in the link between animals, their owners and society at large, and are responsible not only for animal health, but also animal welfare, public health, food safety and food security.

Nicaragua

World Veterinary Day was marked by a course "method of securing, retaining and administration of medications to students in veterinary medicine. This was followed on the 14th of May with cultural events under the International Day for the Veterinarian and Agricultural Engineering of the National Day.

Finland

The Finnish Veterinary Association nominated Dr Outi Lepistö, PhD, the Veterinarian of Year for 2009. Dr Lepistö works as Chief of Environmental Health.

The award is given for her outstanding work for the quality and publicity of environmental health, as well as the leadership and management she has displayed within the field. The goal is to promote knowledge of the veterinary work among the public and to strengthen the unity of the profession.

Great Britain

The British Veterinary Association’s Overseas Group, through its remit to facilitate and encourage veterinary development and services in developing countries, celebrated World Veterinary Day with colleagues from all corners of the globe but with special reference to those working to improve the health and welfare of both human and animals in some of the poorest areas of the world.

Spain

A project called “Elementos, esencia y vida” planned to make the Spanish veterinarians proud of their profession and wants to give them relevance of their important role in society, especially in the countryside. “Elementos” is an audio-book that shows a whole year in the life of a calf with the texts of Gonzalo Giner (vet&writer), Jorge Ruiz del Olmo (veterinarian and photographer) and the music of Thosethingswedo (musicians). They wanted to show to the vet audience how beautiful and important is our job, and how linked we are with animals and farmers. The main characters of this story are the calf, the cow and the farmer.

India

India supported World Veterinary Day with the highest number of events.

Haryana Agricultural University began with the “Vets March” in the morning. The students carrying placards depicting slogans related to animal welfare marched through University Campus. The College faculty along with the Dean of the College Dr. S.K. Nagpal participated in the march.

At Cuddalore, members of Tamilnadu veterinary assistant surgeons association celebrated with a personal development programme which was conducted by a management consultant.

The Jharkhand Veterinary Association, “Kolhan Chapter”, Jamshedpur, organised a celebration in the Tata Steel Zoological Park, at Jamshedpur, Jharkhand State. The main topic of discussion was “Veterinary Science: the Pillar of Sound and Prosperous Nation. Veterinary science and animal husbandry is the best and most convenient way through which a nation or state can make the strong base and pillar to become a prosperous nation or state. Veterinary professionals and scientists have an enormous capacity to play the most important role to prepare each and every person as a healthy and wealthy citizen.

Amul Research and Development Association (ARDA), Amul Dairy, Anand celebrated World Veterinary Day at all AMUL veterinary centers. The theme of the celebration was “The role of Veterinarian in the Socio-economic upliftment under milk shed of AMUL”.

Dr. Sanjay Patel gave presentation on the role of veterinarian in socio-economic upliftment of rural people. He also spoke about the details on the role of veterinarian other than clinical practices in the area of food safety, public
health, diseases control, agriculture health and production and environmental protection for the wellbeing of the society. In spite of such great job done by veterinarians their contribution to the society is not much appreciated because veterinary professionals have been too busy to serve the animals and public rather than publicize their contributions.

The Salem and Namakkal Veterinary Association celebration was attended by about 250 veterinarians of Department of animal husbandry, Hatsun agro industries, Salem Aavin Dairy, TN IAMWARM Project and senior retired veterinary officials. Tetragon Chemie Pvt. Ltd joined in this event by presenting a technical session. The Commissioner of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services and Dean of Salem Medical College delivered special addresses.

The Faculty of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry, Skuast-Jammu celebrations included a debate competition on the topic "Cruelty to animals" arranged for the students, and highlighted by a quiz competition participated by students' and faculty alike. INTAS pharmaceutical veterinary wing-NEOVET announced scholarships awarded to top students. The Dean FVSc & AH, deliberated on the theme "Veterinarians and Livestock Farmers: a winning partnership".

Neovet-INTAS in collaboration with Rajasthan Veterinary Association organised a mega event for more than 250 veterinarians and their family members. The sequence of events started with painting competition for Vetkids followed by Musical Chair for Lady Vets and Wife’s of Vets. The event also included distribution of Neomec Project Shiksha Scholarships to two students from Apollo College of Veterinary Medicine, Jaipur. Life time achievements were also presented. This was followed by fun filled activities for kids, cultural programme for all Vet families. The programme ended with candle lights on WVD, Cake ceremony and Cracker Burning.

The Arunachal Pradesh Veterinary Association, Arunachal Pradesh, celebrated World Veterinary Day 2009 at Pasighat in East Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh state, India. 165 members of the Association participated in the celebration from all over the state. This year the plan of celebration included:

- Interaction of livestock farmers with Veterinarians on economic activity from livestock rearing at 4 villages of the district viz Ledum village, Yagrung village, SikaBamin village and Sikatode village in East Siang District of Arunachal Pradesh, India. The members will interact with individual farmers on farming practices. Also there was Launch of “Livestock Insurance Scheme” in Dairy animal on 50% subsidy at the district. The Govt. will bear the cost of 50% of the sum insured on dairy cows.
- Treatment cum Vaccination Camp was simultaneously carried out at 4 villages on bovines viz FMD, HS, and BQ to mark the occasion of World Veterinary Day.
- An Award of “Best Livestock Farmer” was instituted this year with a Certificate and cash Rs. 5000 by the Arunachal Pradesh Veterinary Association. This year 6 people from 4 selected villages were awarded. The Award will be given to the farmers from the District of Arunachal Pradesh.
- Free Anti Rabies vaccination and microchip implantation targeted 700 dogs.

Neovet, the Veterinary Division of Intas Pharmaceuticals Limited Celebrated World Veterinary Day along with more than 150 clinicians, students and teaching staff of GADVASU, Ludhiana, Punjab. Neomec Project Shiksha was awarded to two students of the College. The celebrations highlighted the role of veterinarians in the contemporary society, the pride of being a Vet and the outstanding contribution of a Vet to Society.

In Chandigarh, the capital of North India, 250 km from New Delhi, the Vets’ Club Chandigarh comprises of Vets from private sector and industry. The celebration theme was “Contribution of Veterinarians to the society”. The role and contributions of the veterinarian
to the society in India and many other countries is yet to be fully recognized and appreciated. It is up to all members of the veterinary profession to step forward and show to the society what they do and can accomplish for animals, humans and the environment.

In Delhi, the NCSTC-Network arranged a series of lectures in association with Amity International Schools in and around Delhi for the students from standards V to XI.

The Maharashtra Veterinary Association, Maharashtra Vet council, Veterinary College, Dept. of Animal Husbandry Maharashtra State, S.P.C.A., National Association for Welfare of Animals and Research (NAWAR) celebration involved 200 Vets and few Livestock Farmers. They promoted the new concept "One World One Health" at the same time 'Veterinarians and Livestock Farmers a winning partnership' theme was popularised amongst Vets and Livestock Farmers.

In the Chittoor District of Andhra Pradesh, a workshop on the recent trends and developments in the fields of Veterinary Clinics was organised for 120 veterinarians.

The College of Veterinary Science, Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad, celebrated under the banner of National Service Scheme (NSS) - a government of India programme focussing on youth empowerment for social and community service. In a way the NSS and Veterinary service have philosophical similarities. The NSS programme focuses on the service to the society and Veterinarians contribute to the societal development through serving animals and ensuring food security to the resource poor of the country.

The National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, a research and teaching organization of ICAR, under DARE, GOI is organized a veterinary services and fertility camp at Taraori village, where in livestock were treated for their ailments by expert Veterinarians. NDRI authorities along with expert veterinarians will be available for consultations and advice.

In Pondicherry, a small town which was under French Colonization and now as a union territory under government of India, World Veterinary Day programme included:

- anti-rabies vaccination camp
- PPR-vaccination camp
- animal birth control camp for owner and stray dogs
- poultry vaccination camp
- state level drawing competition
- WVD awareness by arranging roller skating rally
- health camp.

FVE Photo competition

Paul Versteeg, with his picture of Dr. Arnout Dekker a young veterinarian who works in the south of the Netherlands treating a cow, was the well deserved winner of Amazon voucher of 50€ of the FVE Photo competition to celebrate 2009 World Veterinary Day with as theme of the year “Veterinarians and livestock farmers: a winning partnership”.

Disclaimer
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Animal Welfare Web Portal Launched

One-stop shop for policy-makers, farmers, scientists and animal welfare organizations

A new internet portal has been launched today by FAO that will serve as a one-stop-shop for individuals and organizations searching for the latest information about the welfare of livestock.

The Gateway to Farm Animal Welfare is designed to provide a reliable information conduit on legislation and research findings in the sector, as well as on animal welfare standards, practices and policies. Expected users are farmers and government officials, lawmakers, researchers, the livestock and food industry and non-governmental organizations.


Animal Welfare Information Centre

The Animal Welfare Information Centre at the University of Cambridge (CUAWIC) was established by Professor Donald Broom in 1994. The Centre has access, via the University of Cambridge library network, to comprehensive scientific databases as well as to current journals on a wide range of animal welfare-related topics.

In recent years, there has been a considerable amount of research on animal welfare, the interactions between humans and animals (anthrozoölogy) and related topics. CUAWIC is able to offer scientific information on issues related to animal welfare and anthrozoölogy in a number of formats: reference lists, reference lists with abstracts, literature reviews, and reports with, or without, interpretation.

To commission a review or report, to enquire about the likely cost, or to receive further information about the services offered by CUAWIC, please contact the Director, Dr. Irene Rochlitz (ir10000@cam.ac.uk).

WSPA Director General visits New Zealand

Major General Peter Davies, who has been the Director General for WSPA since 2002, is retiring in the middle of the year. At a reception in Wellington, Peter spoke of the work and achievements of WSPA. Highlight has been the progress with the Universal Declaration of Animal Welfare for which WSPA has sought support for adoption by the United Nations.

Major General Davies spoke of the WSPA concerns about factory farming and the long distance transportation of animals for slaughter. He was very proud of the establishment of disaster management teams and their deployment. He described the impact of disasters on work animals and how when they are affected in an emergency there may be subsequent impacts of food production and where that fails, the resultant likelihood that more people will join the urban drift from their rural area. Managing their welfare therefore has both humanitarian as well as animal welfare benefits.
A special message to veterinarians from the Alliance for Rabies Control

Vets can do more than anyone else in educating the world about how to stop rabies. Please join us today, and together we can create a safer world for animals and people.

The goal of the Global Alliance for Rabies Control is to eliminate rabies in humans and domestic animals, and to control it as far as possible in wildlife populations. Rabies is one of the world's deadliest diseases, but it is 100% preventable if we act together.

World Rabies Day is the Alliance's global education campaign. Simple education about detecting rabies can be a powerful tool alongside treating bites and animal vaccination. With this approach, we can prevent 55,000 unnecessary deaths a year - more than half of those amongst the world's poorest children - and end animal suffering from a preventable killer.

Please sign up to access rabies education resources for vets, our latest newsletter and to be kept informed about World Rabies Day.

Visit: [http://www.rabiescontrol.net/EN/Vets](http://www.rabiescontrol.net/EN/Vets)

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Death of Former WVA President's Wife

The WVA has been advised of the death of Pauline Ann “Polly” Figueroa, wife of former President Dr Juan Figueroa who passed away in April 2004. Professor J.F. Figueroa (Peru) was President of the WVA from 1983 to 1991.

Polly and Juan were active in the World Veterinary Association (WVA), and attended numerous veterinary congresses around the world. In addition to greatly assisting Juan in his position as President of the WVA, Polly was also very active in the International Veterinary Auxiliary (IVA).

She notably served as the seventh IVA President from 1975 to 1979 in support of the WVA and authored a history of the IVA. After her children left high school, Polly took a job as a secretary in the Romance Language Department of Princeton University, where she worked closely with the graduate students and the faculty. She will be remembered by all who knew her as a gentle spirit.

A Memorial Service for Polly was held at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Raleigh, NC 27613, on Saturday, June 6, 2009.
Attention all Veterinarians!

Course in Veterinary Public Health: Veterinary Milk Hygiene
Course dates: 30 July 2010 – February 2011
Course fees: R 8,500
Description: This course aims to enhance understanding, application of theory, research methodologies, and techniques relevant to all aspects of milk hygiene relating to prevention and control of cross-contamination and other diseases transmitted by milk, or other dairy products, welfare of livestock, pre-harvesting, harvesting, and post-harvesting aspects of milk production, practical application of HACCP relating to the specific activities, prevention and control of chemical residues in milk, including veterinary drug residues and appropriate national and international legislation.

Course in Geographic Information Systems for Veterinary and Human Health
Course dates: 11 August – 27 November
Course fees: R 23,000
Description: This course aims to familiarise animal scientists, veterinarians, veterinary and medical doctors with the use of geographic information systems (GIS) with particular reference to spatial epidemiology and the development of spatial decision support systems.

Advanced Course in Histotechnology
Course dates: 13 – 14 July
Course fees: R 7,500
Description: This is a comprehensive, hands-on bench training course designed to give candidates practical training, mainly in the special staining section.

Web-based Short Course in RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
Course dates: 13 July – 10 October (4 month web-based course)
Course fees: R 2,000 per delegate
Description: The purpose of this short course is to equip candidates with the ability to:
- professionally plan and undertake a research project,
- collect and analyse data, and
- apply a scientific style of writing in the presentation of research results.

Web-based Short Course in COMMUNITY-BASED ANIMAL HEALTH: VETERINARY COMMUNICATION AND EXTENSION
Course dates: 13 July – end October (web-based)
Course fees: R 500 per delegate
Description: In this module, you will learn about the veterinary and animal production extension methods, which are important in development of communities. The transfer of knowledge and skills from technically trained personnel who have a background in tertiary education to communities with a considerable amount of experience but little formal training is not easy. Knowledge and skills in veterinary communication and extension are essential in surveillance, monitoring and control of animal diseases.

Certificate Course in Wildlife Chemical Immobilisation
Course dates: 15 August – 31 August
Course fees: R 11,000
Description: This is a comprehensive hands-on CVO-registered course in safe and ethical methods of capturing wildlife through chemical immobilisation. Special attention is given to new preparations, new equipment and modified techniques. This course will be presented at Ngongoni Lodge and all Sculuko in the Kruger National Park.

REGISTRATION AND ENQUIRIES
Maryke Steenkamp
Tel: +27 11 520 9333
Fax: +27 11 520 7522
Email: maryke.co@up.ac.za

www.ceatup.com
Conferences and Congresses

Global Conference on Foot and Mouth Disease
24-26 June 2009 Asunción (Paraguay).
For further information:
http://www.oie.int/eng/A_FMD2009/WELCOME-FMD.html

146th AVMA Convention
2009 July 11 - 14
Seattle
More information at:
www.avmaconvention.org

7th African Veterinary Association Conference
28th - 30th September in Youndi, Cameroon.

Dr Makek Maurice, President of the National Veterinary Association in Cameroon (fokaze@yahoo.fr, or website www.onvc.org or Dr Yasir Alian, the General Secretary (AVA) e-mail: yasiralian@hotmail.com.

BVA Congress 2009
Cardiff, Wales 24-26 September
More information at:
www.bva.co.uk/congress

Visit: http://www.worldrabiesday.org/index.php

Evolving veterinary education for a safer world

This worldwide conference will take place at the Maison de la Chimie in Paris from 12-14 October 2009.
For more information please contact: s.suarez@oie.int

2011 Veterinary World Cup of Cricket
7-11 February, 2011, Palmerston North, New Zealand.
Further information at: www.vetcricket.com Contact D.M.West@massey.ac.nz.

30th World Veterinary Congress
CapeTown 2011
More information at:
www.worldvetcongress2001.com

Vet 2011
2011 will be the 250th anniversary of veterinary education, marking the world’s first veterinary school in Lyon, France. For more information please contact: staff@vet2011.org or www.2011vet.org

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