HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE WVA PRESIDENT

First of all, I would like to wish all of our WVA members the very best for 2018.

2017 was a very busy and productive year for the WVA and I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your participation and contributions to the WVA’s activities, events, and projects. I am very much looking forward to continuing the good work in 2018 and I want to encourage your association to maintain your engagement and involvement with the WVA in leading the global veterinary profession by tackling any global veterinary concerns and in further promoting our profession and our valuable contributions to society; improving health and welfare for animals, humans, and the environment worldwide.

Once again, thank you for your membership and I wish you a wonderful 2018.

FIRST IN-PERSON WVA COUNCIL MEETING 2017-2020

The WVA Council held its first in-person meeting on 9th-10th December 2017 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. The two days’ meetings focused on the WVA strategy for the next 2.5 years, the re-composition of the WVA Committees and Working Groups, the planning of WVA activities, projects, and events, and the preparation of WVA activities to take place during the forthcoming World Veterinary Congress in Barcelona, Spain on 5th-8th May 2018. The first council meeting was very fruitful and allowed the new council members to be briefed on their tasks and duties and to come with new ideas for the future WVA workplan. The WVA encourages you to contact your WVA Regional Councillors to discuss and provide them with your association inputs on various veterinary issues in order to strengthen our relationship and to best represent your association within the WVA. Please click HERE for the WVA Council members chart, which also includes their contact details.
REGIONAL EVENTS

WVA Council members are encouraged to attend veterinary events at both local and regional levels to get more involved with veterinarians in their regions, to present the WVA and its activities, and to learn how the WVA can best serve its members. On 6\textsuperscript{th} January 2018, the WVA president attended and celebrated the 46\textsuperscript{th} Taiwan Veterinary Medical Association Annual Conference, where representatives from the Taiwanese, Japanese, and Korean veterinary associations signed a MoU to strengthen their relationships and to promote and exchange experiences in the fields of disease prevention and biosecurity. The WVA councilor for Africa, Dr Gani Enahoro, attended the 54\textsuperscript{th} Annual Congress of The Nigerian Veterinary Medical Association in the ancient city of Kano, Nigeria. The conference theme was: Veterinary Services as Tools for Advancing Economic Growth, Food, and National Security. Dr Enahoro gave a presentation on WVA activities that was well received by the participants. The WVA would like to encourage you to invite your regional councillor to attend your events, and to take the opportunity to address your members and to inform them of WVA activities around the globe.

WORLD VETERINARY ASSOCIATION CONGRESS 2018: LESS THAN 100 DAYS TO GO

It is less than 100 days until the opening ceremony of the 34\textsuperscript{th} World Veterinary Association Congress that will take place in Barcelona, Spain from 5\textsuperscript{th} to 8\textsuperscript{th} May under the Honorary Presidency of the Spanish Royal Family. The WVAC2018 Organizing Committee has prepared a fantastic scientific and social program, which includes top world experts to deliver talks in the Veterinary Clinical, Academic, and Public Health tracks.

In addition, the WVA is also preparing the WVA Global Seminars on Animal Welfare with the theme of One Health, the WVA 5\textsuperscript{th} Summit in close collaborations with the FAO, the OIE, and the WHO on the theme of Biosecurity, and the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Global Conference on Quality Assurance in Veterinary Education with the support of the International Accreditors Working Group (IAWG). Last but not least, the WVA General Assembly will take place on 6\textsuperscript{th} May, right after the opening ceremony of the WVAC2018. Register by 31\textsuperscript{st} January to benefit from a reduced registration fee!
The WVA is very much looking forward to welcoming you in Barcelona, Spain for an outstanding opportunity to visit this historical and beautiful part of Western Europe; to enjoy its fusion of culture, architecture, and food, and the wonderful panorama of the city.

The WVA needs your expertise and participation for the world to hear our message on 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

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