MESSAGE FROM THE WVA PRESIDENT

Dear WVA members,

The year-end season is usually full of congresses and events. WVA is actively attending various international veterinary events to promote the WVA and its activities, to strengthen the relationship with the veterinary community and to establish collaborations with global partners. In this regard, I am happy to inform you in this info-news edition about a number of veterinary events that were attended by WVA Council members and staff to strengthen the WVA as the global voice of the veterinary profession worldwide. I would like also to take this opportunity and to remind you that WVA has re-opened the bid for the Secretariat Services of WVA. For those organizations who are interested, please submit your letter of interest no later than 30th November 2018 at pvturner@uoguelph.ca and in copy to the Chair of the WVA Finance Committee, Dr Clive Marwick at clcovet@ntelecom.co.za.

On 25-28 September 2018, I attended the 43rd WSAVA and 9th FASAVA Congress that took place in Singapore. During this congress, a Global Summit was held with the participation of 20 international associations to discuss the availability and access to veterinary pharmaceuticals. During the discussions, it was quite clear that there are different regulations and situations around the world, and in many countries, effective veterinary pharmaceuticals are not readily available. In this regard, the WVA is about to publish its position statement on availability of Veterinary Pharmaceuticals to assure veterinary access to a broad range of safe and effective pharmaceuticals to achieve optimum animal health and to raise the importance of responsible use and disposal of pharmaceuticals.

On the occasion of the WSAVA conference in Singapore, I met with the new President of Singapore Veterinary Association (SVA), Dr Ho to discuss future collaborations and membership. The WVA is looking very much forward to welcome back SVA as a constituent member of the WVA.

On 1st October 2018, the WVA President-elect, Dr Patricia Turner, met with the OIE Deputy Director General, Dr Matthew Stone at the OIE headquarters in Paris to discuss items for the future collaboration plan between the WVA and OIE. In May 2019, the WVA and OIE will renew their MoU and collaboration plan for 2019-2023 period.

On 3-6th October 2018, WVA President, participated at the General Assembly of the World Medical Association (WMA) that took
place in Reykjavik, Iceland. The WVA President presented to the WMA delegates the **WVA activities in One Health** focusing on the WVA/WMA collaboration plan, joint activities and events. The WVA President also discussed with WMA Secretary General the possibility to organize the 3rd WVA/WMA Global Conference on One Health in fall 2019.

On 24-25th October 2018, WVA President participated at the **Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW)** conference entitled *Animal Welfare across Borders* that took place in Hong Kong. The WVA President gave a keynote speech on the *current state of Animal Welfare* highlighting the WVA Activities on AW and current global AW concerns. The UFAW conference was a great platform to promote the WVA Global Animal Welfare Awards to recognize veterinarians’ champions in Animal Welfare.

On 30th October 2018, WVA Deputy Executive Secretary, Dr Zeev Noga participated at the **2nd OIE Global Conference on Antimicrobial Resistance**. Dr Noga presented the **WVA’s Experience and Supportive Tools to promote Prudent Use of Antimicrobials Worldwide**. Dr Noga concluded his presentation by pointing out that WVA strives for veterinary access to a broad range of safe and effective antimicrobials and promotes prudent use of antimicrobials worldwide using the following supportive tools: global veterinary and public health networks, publication of position statements, articles and press releases, collaboration with global partners, advocacy and technical advice, collecting data, global events and congresses and the WVA online continue veterinary education portal.

On 30th October – 4th November 2018, WVA President participated at the 20th **FAVA and 18th IVMA Congress** that took place in Bali, Indonesia. In its greeting speech during the opening ceremony, WVA President presented the WVA and welcomed Asian Veterinary Medical Association to join the WVA family. WVA President also met with the new President of Indonesia Veterinary Medical Association to discuss future membership and collaboration opportunities.

On 10th November 2018, WVA Councillor for Europe, Dr Maaike van den Berg participated at the **General Assembly of the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE)** and presented to the delegates the **WVA recent activities** under the WVA strategy priorities. She underlined the new WVA position papers that are prepared by the different WVA Working Groups, the main findings of the WVA/OIE
Survey on AMR and the collaborations plans with global partners. All the above-mentioned events show great opportunities to promote WVA among veterinarians and public around the globe providing an important platform to raise awareness on the WVA vision and mission for the benefit of animals and society. WVA received a lot of positive feedbacks from these meetings for cultivating better veterinary communities.

**IMPORTANT DEADLINES**

**Ceva Animal Health/WVA Animal Welfare Awards 2019**
The deadline for nomination for the WVA and Ceva Animal Welfare Awards 2019 is **30th November 2018**. This project gives WVA Constituent Member Associations a great opportunity to nominate veterinarians’ champions in AW for a global recognition and attractive award prize. More information regarding the awards and the application form, can be found [HERE](#). Click on the picture to watch the new video promoting the WVA AW Awards 2019.

**MSD Animal Health/WVA Veterinary Student Scholarship Program 2018**
The deadline for nomination submission for the **Veterinary Student Scholarship Program for 2018** is **31st December 2018**. Please help the WVA to promote this project to veterinary students from countries in the regions of Latin America, Africa, North Africa/Middle East and Asia/Oceania to have the chance to win 41 scholarships of US$ 5,000.

**35th World Veterinary Association Congress**
WVA and the Costa Rican Veterinary Association are working hard to prepare great scientific and social programs for the **35th World Veterinary Association Congress** that will take place in San Jose, Costa Rica from 27th to 30th April 2019. The deadline for **abstract submission** is **15th November 2018**. The deadline for **early registration rate** is **8th February 2019**. More information on the 35th WVAC can be found [HERE](#).

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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