



WORLD VETERINARY
ASSOCIATION



Animal welfare for a better world

The role of veterinarians in animal welfare and intersectoral collaboration

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World Veterinary Association

4TH OIE GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON ANIMAL WELFARE

6-8 December 2016 · Guadalajara, Mexico



WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH
Protecting animals, preserving our future



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History



JOHN GAMGEE
1812 1882

In 1863, Dr John Gamgee convened a first International Veterinary Congress in Hamburg, Germany. An initiative that has grown to what the World Veterinary Association (WVA) is today.



Today the WVA represents over **500,000 veterinarians** through its **94 member associations** across six continents.



Veterinary Medical Associations (local, national and regional).



International Associations of Veterinarians working in different areas of veterinary medicine.



Observers – other associations whether or not they have veterinarians as members (no vote or nominating rights)





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WVA Council 2014 - 2017

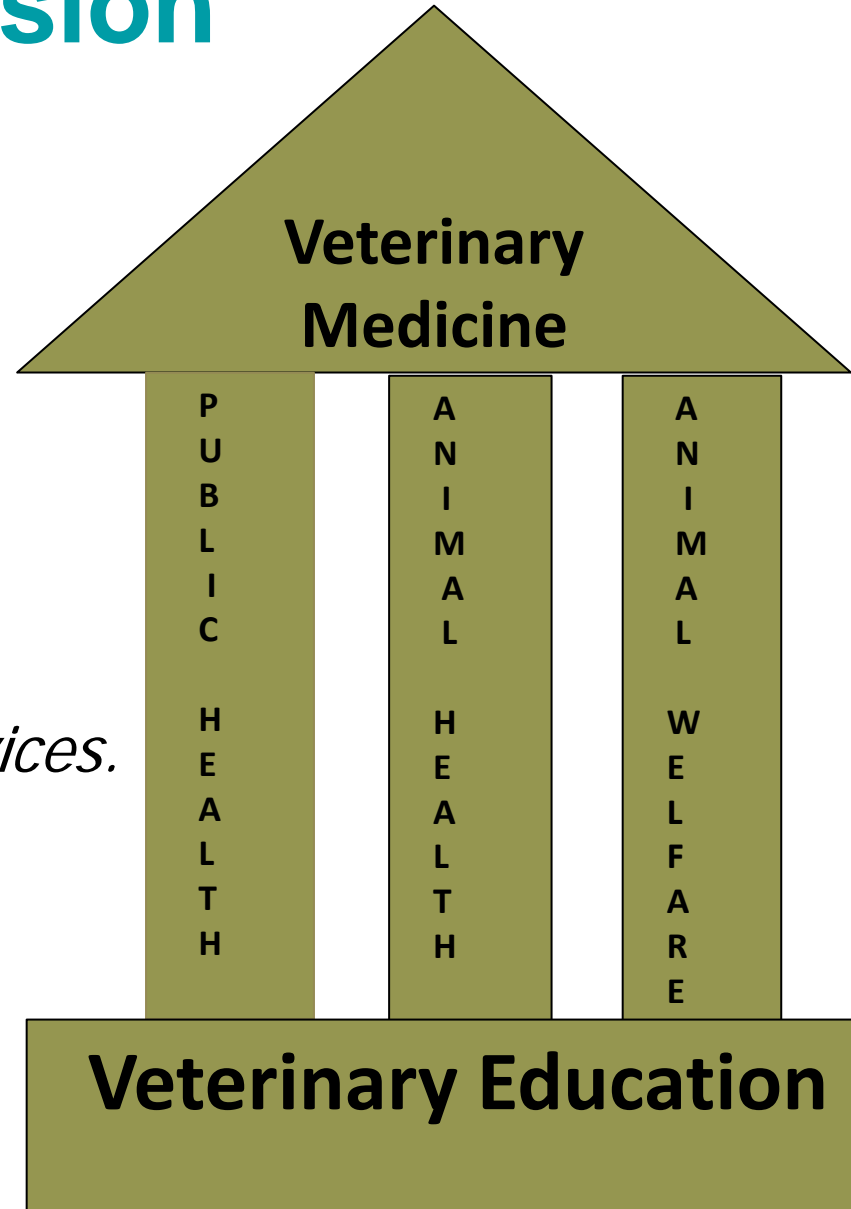
PRESIDENT ELECT	PRESIDENT	IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
<p>Dr Johnson CHIANG</p> 	<p>Dr René CARLSON</p> 	<p>Dr Faouzi KECHRID</p> 
COUNCILLOR FOR AFRICA	COUNCILLOR FOR AMERICA (NORTH)	COUNCILLOR FOR AMERICA (LATIN)
<p>Dr Maria BAPTISTA Dr Oumar TOUNKARA</p>  	<p>Dr John DRAKE Dr Lyle VOGEL</p>  	<p>Dr Maria Nelly CAJIAO Dr Joe Vargas Blanco</p>  
COUNCILLOR FOR ASIA and OCEANIA	COUNCILLOR FOR EUROPE	COUNCILLOR FOR MIDDLE EAST and NORTH AFRICA
<p>Dr Hur JUHYUNG Dr Achariya SAILASUTA</p>  	<p>Dr Zoran KATRINKA Dr Rafael LAGUENS</p>  	<p>Dr Khaled EL HICHERI Kamil Naguib METTIAS</p>  
COUNCILLOR FOR INTERNATIONAL REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	COUNCILLOR FOR INTERNATIONAL DISCIPLINE-CENTRED ORGANIZATIONS	
<p>Dr Sira ABDUL RAHMAN</p> 	<p>Dr Patricia TURNER</p> 	



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WVA Mission

To assure and promote animal health and welfare and public health globally, through developing and advancing veterinary medicine, the veterinary profession as well as public and private veterinary services.



WVA Strategy 2015 - 2018

5 Priority Issues

 **Animal Welfare**

 **Pharmaceutical Stewardship**

 **Veterinary Education**

 **Zoonotic Diseases**

 **Organizational Growth and Partnerships**

*Zoonotic disease	10
*Pharma stewardship	7
*Animal welfare	8
*Educ. of vets around the world	10
Org./financial WVA stability (incl. Intl. Partnerships)	✓



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WVA 5 Strategic Priorities Working Groups

WVA Priorities Working Groups				
Organizational Growth and Partnerships	Zoonotic Diseases	Animal Welfare	Veterinary Education	Pharmaceutical Stewardship
Johnson Chiang (c) John Drake Rene' Carlson Oumar Tounkara	Abdul Rahman (c) Khaled El Hicheri Maria Baptista Zoran Katrinka Faouzi Kechrid Grigor Grigoryan* Noel Miranda* Junaidu Ahmed Maina* Aqil Jeenah**	Patricia Turner (c) Maria Nelly Cajjiao Johnson Chiang Peter Thornber* Solomon Onyango* Bonnie V. Beaver* Carmen Gallo*	Joe Vargas Blanco (co-chair) Maria Nelly Cajjiao (co-chair) Achariya Sailasuta John Drake Rafael Laguens Jenny Weston* Denis Avignon* Francisco J. Trigo Tavera* David Scarfe* Olutayo Babalobi*	Lyle Vogel (c) René Carlson Hur Juhjung Oumar Tounkara Dennis Scott* Arturo Anadón* Bruno Naquet* Jennifer Wishnie* John Prescott* Stephen Page*

The WVA reinforced its expertise by welcoming **external experts** to the WVA Working Groups on WVA Priority Issues **to support the work of the WVA on its position papers and projects.**



Premises



As global understanding and concern for animal welfare continues to change, so must the role of the veterinary community to evolve in this regard. Therefore, Animal Welfare is a **core mandate of the veterinary community** generally and veterinarians' individually.






Changes in animal welfare can only be made through **widespread engagement and involvement** of WVA members and the public.



Veterinary students are an important target group in promoting animal welfare and protecting interests of animals.



WVA Goals on Animal Welfare

-  To **raise awareness** of current and ongoing animal welfare issues globally and **support** efforts to enhance AW in targeted international projects.
-  To **promote animal welfare education** and **training** within the veterinary curriculum and as a critical component of veterinary continuing professional development.
-  To develop and maintain **key partnerships** with other global AW advocacy groups to ensure consistent, harmonized messaging while avoiding redundancy of effort.

WVA Activities in the field of Animal Welfare

Position papers related to AW:

- *WVA Policy Statement on the Role of the Veterinarian in Animal Welfare*
- *WVA Policy Statement on the Control of Inappropriately Aggressive Dogs*

Short factsheets on current AW issues:

- *Stray and unowned dogs*
- *Food animal transportation*
- *Working Equids*

Working with the World Animal Protection to develop a **recognition scheme** for excellence in animal welfare within veterinary curricula

Developing a new **veterinary student recognition award** in AW



WVA FACT SHEET
Owned and Unowned Free-Roaming Dogs

The problem

- > There are an over 200,000,000 owned and unowned free-roaming dogs globally
- > This includes escaped or lost companion animals, owned dogs that are left intentionally to roam, and feral dogs.

Why is it a problem?
Free-roaming dogs can act as a public nuisance as well as creating a One Health¹ problem

HUMAN ISSUES	ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	ANIMAL ISSUES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > 10 of millions of people are bitten by dogs each year (1-10% of bites in children less 10 years of age) > 20,000 people die of rabies each year by dog bites & 10 million infections require post-exposure treatment at a cost of \$2.2 billion > Post-traumatic stress is significant in children bitten & muzzled by dogs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Dogs can spread disease to wildlife > Dogs may harass and kill wildlife and livestock and compete for resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Free-roaming dogs may suffer from starvation, malnutrition, and genetic and other disease, poisoning, and other forms of abuse > Humane culling methods may be used for population control






How can this problem be addressed?

- ◊ Dog-mediated human rabies is an entirely preventable disease with appropriate dog vaccination
- ◊ Responsible pet ownership education
- ◊ Dog safety awareness education for school aged children
- ◊ Use of humane population control methods

How can you help?
Support the global **End Rabies Now** campaign
www.endrabiesnow.org



WVA Activities in the field of Animal Welfare

-  Preparing a **Community-Based Rabies Prevention Program in Gambia** that integrates AW components.
-  **Promoting AW messaging** to the veterinary community via WVA media channels, workshops, presentations, and papers.
-  **Global Seminars and Webinars** on Animal Welfare.
-  Presenting the WVA activities and positions on AW in **Global conferences** (e.g. OIE, IVSA and PANVET).
-  Other – participation in editorial leadership for the **FAO Gateway to Farm AW**.

WVA Activities in the field of Animal Welfare

WVA GLOBAL ONLINE EDUCATION PORTAL

The WVA developed the largest pool of Veterinary Continuing Education in the world with more than 1000 courses uploaded (80 courses on AW).



WVA Activities in the field of Animal Welfare

The WVA and World Animal Protection are preparing a

GLOBAL SEMINAR ON ANIMAL WELFARE

To take place during 33rd World Veterinary Congress 2017 in
Korea (August 2017).



33rd
WORLD VETERINARY CONGRESS

2017 인천 세계수의사대회

WVC Incheon, KOREA 2017

August 27(SUN)~31(THU), 2017



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The role of veterinarians in animal welfare

The WVA holds that the veterinary community generally, and veterinarians individually, must maintain **commitment to animal welfare** and fulfil duties as animal advocates and leaders in the field of welfare.



Veterinary engagement in animal welfare must encompass a wide range of activities, including, but not limited to:

1. Traditional veterinary roles in disease detection, prevention, and treatment of sick animals

Enhanced understanding and recognition of pain and its mitigation, and implementation of good veterinary practice standards that support improved animal welfare.

2. Educating, informing and influencing animal owners, handlers, producers, and caregivers in regards to best practices regarding animal care.

Veterinarians have the scientific and medical training as well as the statutory accountability to ensure animal welfare expectations and standards are met.

The role of veterinarians in animal welfare

3. Engagement in scientific endeavours that lead to better understanding of animal welfare and application of this knowledge into practice.

Veterinarians have the scientific and medical training as well as the statutory accountability to work in research areas and to collaborate with scientists and other experts in a variety of capacities in the AW field.

4. Educating and informing the public at large about good animal welfare practices.

Veterinarians need to be sufficiently knowledgeable to educate the public about basic animal care and behaviour to promote good animal well-being.

The role of veterinarians in animal welfare

5. Influencing policy makers to further protect and improve animal welfare.

6. Engaging in the development of animal welfare policies, legislation and the application of their principles.

Legislation related to animal welfare should be drafted in close consultation with national or regional veterinarians and veterinary associations.

In countries where there no AW legislation exists, veterinarians should work to ensure that animals are protected.

The WVA is always willing to support these efforts.

The role of veterinarians in animal welfare

7. Engaging in animal welfare assessments and oversight in animal production activities.

8. Encouraging uptake of assessment and assurance schemes that promote the best animal welfare.

Veterinarians should make themselves available to cooperate with all interested parties to improve the welfare and well-being of animals.

WVA collaborations with International Organizations

WVA believes in working in partnership.

WVA signed recently a Memorandum of Understanding and effectively collaborates with relevant **global partners** on various veterinary issues:

- Food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN (**FAO**)
- Global Alliance on Rabies Control (**GARC**)
- International Dairy Federation (**IDF**)
- World Animal Health Organization (**OIE**)
- World Health Organisation (**WHO**)
- World Farmers Organization (**WFO**)
- World Medical Association (**WMA**)
- World Small Animal Veterinary Association (**WSAVA**)
- World Animal Protection (**WAP**)

WVA collaborations in the field of AW

On September 2015, WVA and World Animal Protection signed on the revised Memorandum of Understanding to collaborate, support and to promote:

- **Education** of Animal Welfare globally
- **Raise awareness** globally for animal welfare issues
- Work towards **effective** rabies control



Conclusions



Veterinarians must be **prepared** and **responsible** to use their skills and expertise to help animal owners, managers and the public to achieve best practices in animal welfare.



The entire veterinary profession needs to **integrate relevant advancements** in animal welfare into on-going continuing professional development.



Conclusions



The WVA **supports enhancing** the integration of animal welfare science and practice into veterinary undergraduate education. Day One competencies of all veterinary graduates should include active practice of new veterinarians in the discipline of animal welfare.



The veterinary profession has **great potential, opportunity** and **responsibility** to engage in a wide range of tasks that enhance animal welfare to the benefit of society and to animals themselves.





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Thank you

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WVA - Councillor for Latin America Region

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