Dear colleagues and friends of the veterinary profession,

During the last two months I visited three main meetings.

The first was the Codex Alimentarius Commission in Rome. A one week meeting where the decision making process is very slow. To come to decisions sometimes takes more than 5 to 7 years. To get consensus between over 180 members is not easy. For WVA it was a positive week for we have signed the Memorandum of Understanding between the FAO and the WVA. We can now go on to start cooperation in projects that we will work on together.

The second meeting was the AVMA Convention in Seattle and my experience is that the decision making process in the House of Delegates is well done. Even in animal welfare about ear cropping and tail docking ethics had the supremacy above earnings. The most surprising issue was the keynote presentation in the Opening session by the Pike Place Fish Market fishmongers. Their four main principles for success were:
- create the future from the future
- use the power of personal responsibility
- get it in cooperation or by teamwork
- be open for transformation/have room for miracles.

I think that these principles could be a leading guide for WVA too. Often we are looking to the past and too conservative. I will work it out and come back on it later again.
Another positive experience was the well organized Global Animal Health Summit by the AVMA Committee on International Affairs chaired by or former WVA councilor Jim Nave. It is for me an example how WVA has to express too. We can learn from each other.

The third meeting was the WSAVA General Assembly in Sao Paulo. WSAVA has all the possibilities to present a high level of continuous education for companion animal veterinarians, but they miss the possibility to make policy with the global organisations like OIE and FAO. They need this and we have discussed how we can cooperate in the future on the policymaking in animal welfare and animal health.

What I have experienced from these meetings is that WVA has to accelerate in the policy-making process and the decision making with its members. The that WVA can learn from its members in organizing global issues and that WVA has to re-open the cooperation with the global veterinary associations.

WVA has to realize the scene of the four principles of success, but in my opinion for sure: to create the future from the future.

**Dr Tjeerd Jorna**
WVA President
Evolving Veterinary Education for a safer world: a conference you should not miss.

This worldwide conference on veterinary education will be held in Paris on 12-14th October 2009. It is a very important meeting for deans of veterinary schools and directors of veterinary training institutes, but even for veterinary education policy-makers too. In a lot of countries and regions of the world the level of veterinary education does not meet the minimum requirements we need for the quality of the profession. In a rapidly changing world veterinary education must face new challenges and continually evolve to meet social demands.

The programme of the conference will start with a key-note presentation about this issue. During 7 sessions speakers will pay attention to: prevention and control of transboundary diseases, zoonoses and emerging infections; early detection, notification and surveillance; veterinary public health and veterinary services; food safety; animal welfare; basic global needs for veterinary education; global harmonisation and evaluation of the veterinary curriculum and an internationally recognized diploma. This last issue is very important to make the difference between veterinarians and veterinary technicians (para-professionals).

Excellent speakers from all over the world will give their views. The OIE and WVA will make conclusions and recommendations to work on together for the future for the benefit of the quality of the veterinary profession worldwide.

WVA will strongly advise and encourage the deans of veterinary schools and all governmental and non-governmental policymakers on veterinary education to take part in this conference.

Dr Tjeerd Jorna, WVA President

WVA Strategy planning

Some months ago the Secretariat sent all the members and some non-members and stakeholders a questionnaire with questions about the strategy that WVA has to set up for the future. The plan was to make a strategy plan from bottom up so with the ideas and recommendations of the members. Till now the number of answers we got back is very disappointing. I hope that I can encourage you to send in the answers on the questions. It could be that you have problems with the language to express yourself well. Please let us know and we will help.

The Secretariat has made a first draft of the answers we got but this will not give a representative picture. We need answers from Asia, Africa and Latin America.

When the members are not involved in the policymaking process then we need to know if they are interested and when this is the case we have to change procedures to involve the members more. Please let me know your opinion.

Dr Tjeerd Jorna, WVA President

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Global Day One Competences

The Day One Competences are the combination of knowledge and skills that the young graduate needs to possess for a safe start as a veterinarian entering the profession.

World-wide we have to realistically define what are the Day One Competences for new veterinary graduates and the World Veterinary Association [WVA] has to take the lead.

The level of the global Day One Competences depend on the veterinary education offered by the veterinary faculties/schools and we all know that all over the world some schools do not meet the minimum requirements of veterinary education to exercise veterinary profession as it needs to be practised.

Veterinary education is a very important topic for the profession in controlling animal health, animal welfare and public health. The great mobility of people and animals and the trade of animals and products of animal origin requires a high standard of veterinary education to prevent outbreaks of animal diseases, to prevent zoonoses and to certify that animals are healthy and products of animal origin are safe. Even to investigate and to diagnose diseases and to cure animals requires a high standard of basic veterinary training.

In the context of “Evolving Veterinary Education for a safer world” WVA has to pay attention to three main issues:
- the minimum requirements the schools have to fulfil in veterinary education;
- what may the veterinary profession expect of the education by the schools; and
- what may the society expect of veterinary education.

Not fulfilling the minimum requirements at a global level can be a disaster for the profession and the society because of the mobility of people, animals and products of animal origin which need the guarantee of a high standard of veterinary certification. People need to have confidence in this aspect of the profession. WVA has adopted new minimum requirements for Veterinary Education.

Veterinary professionals require an education provided by the schools that gives really good New Graduate Competence/Day One Competence for the various disciplines in the daily life of veterinarians. In the evaluation and accreditation systems used globally this is taken into account. WVA is preparing new proposals for a global level of Day One Competence. For graduates who take employment in institutional duties there are guidance schedules but for graduates to go in full practise these are often absent.

The role of the veterinarians in Society is that of the link between animals, animal-owners and society. The society and their [global] organisations need to trust our high standard of veterinary education and professional implementation. Veterinarians have to protect society from animal disease outbreaks, zoonoses and food-poisoning by products of animal origin.

A global minimum standard of veterinary education has to offer the veterinary new graduate the position in all disciplines to fulfil the duties on a proper level for the benefit of people and animals. By Life Long Learning, veterinarians can maintain this position.

Global Day One Competence and Global Life Long Learning is of main importance for the position of the global veterinary profession.

Dr. Tjeerd Jorna, President
Report from WVA Vice President

During the 2008 World veterinary Congress in Vancouver the theme One World-One Health-One Medicine was used during the opening session. This was considered by the congress organizing committee to be a timely item, given the significant amount of activity in this area around the world. We were successful in attracting expert speakers who were able to provide an overview of the far reaching implications of this concept as they impact veterinarians in every field of endeavor.

Since the congress, interest in this area has continued to expand. During the earlier part of this year the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) facilitated an Expert Committee meeting of interested parties to consult on the strategic platform for “One World One Health” as developed by the FAO, WHO and partner organizations.

I was able to attend this event representing the WVA and reported on it in a previous issue of this newsletter. Since that date PHAC has announced the launch of a new web site called “One World- One Health, Expert Consultation” [http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/2009/er-rc/index-eng.php](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/2009/er-rc/index-eng.php). The final report and discussions from this consultation can be found there.

During the American Veterinary Medical Association annual convention in July, 2009, Dr. Roger K. Mahr chaired a two day symposium on One Health. This excellent event saw contributions from a wide range of participants and highlighted the extensive work being done by the AVMA.

The One Health Project is chaired by Dr. Mahr and represents a major initiative during his term as president of that organization. The majority of the WCA Executive Committee was present at the AVMA meeting and able to participate in this session.

As the world of human health and animal health continue to converge the veterinary profession must be willing to adapt to meet the challenges and opportunities presented.

Dr. Duane Landals, Vice President

AVMA Annual Convention

Veterinary professionals gathered in Seattle for the 146th AVMA Annual Convention, July 11-14, for four days of continuing education and social activities. The convention drew a total attendance of 9,488, including a high turnout of 4,321 veterinarians. Attendees also included 496 veterinary students and 587 veterinary technicians and technician students.

The AVMA convention presented an array of educational sessions and special events. The exhibit hall housed more than 200 booths, highlighting the latest veterinary products and services. The AVMA convention offered about 1,100 educational sessions in all. As always, the interactive labs were popular, allowing participants to practice skills ranging from surgical techniques to critical care. The One Medicine track encompassed a two-day summit about the role of the veterinary profession in improving global health. (Additional information is provided below).

The inaugural AVMA Town Hall Meeting offered a forum for AVMA members and leaders to discuss issues such as standards of veterinary education, diversity in the profession, and member engagement with the Association. Also during the convention, the American Veterinary Medical Foundation’s second “voluntourism” project spruced up several local animal shelters, including a shelter for horses.

In AVMA governance, Dr. Larry R. Corry assumed the presidency, succeeding Dr. James O. Cook. The AVMA House of Delegates elected Dr. Larry M. Kornegay as president-elect and gave Dr. Gary S. Brown a second term as vice president. Dr. René A. Carlson declared her candidacy for 2009-2010 president-elect, and Dr. Jan K. Strother declared her candidacy for vice president.

Dr. Lyle Vogel, WVA Councilor

(Additional information is provided below).
The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) hosted its first-ever Global Health Summit: A Call to Action to the U.S. Veterinary Profession this past July (www.avma.org/convention/news/monday02.asp). The two-day summit, which was organized by the recently formed AVMA Committee on International Veterinary Affairs (CIVA; www.avma.org/onlnews/javma/jan09/090101dd.asp), brought together veterinary and public health experts from around the world to spread the message that veterinarians are critical players in the fight against disease, both locally and internationally. Dr. James Nave, chair of the CIVA and former North American Councilor to the WVA, welcomed convention goers to the summit and offered his hope that the summit sessions would inspire and motivate attendees to become involved in veterinary medicine beyond the boundaries of their communities, states, or countries.

Ambassador Robert G. Loftis, special representative for avian and pandemic influenza at the U.S. Department of State, opened the first session of the summit, which focused on the importance of building global partnerships to enhance animal and human health. Ambassador Loftis said the U.S. is more prepared for a pandemic than five years ago, and he praised the Department of Agriculture and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) for their work with foreign governments to prepare for disease outbreaks, mitigate outbreaks, provide training and technical assistance, and promote collaboration across health disciplines.

Dr. David M. Sherman, professor in the Tufts University Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, also speaking during the first session of the summit, urged veterinarians to inculcate veterinary students with greater awareness, engender in them a broader perspective of global challenges and recognition of global disparities, and give them a sense of responsibility and stewardship for the planet.

Dr. Bernard Vallat, director general of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), opened the summit’s second session on the intersection of animal and human health in a global environment and urged people to learn more about the links between animal health, food security, and global health. He said the world has unprecedented movements of commodities and people, and no community is remote. Alliances between public and private veterinarians are, therefore, essential, and the public needs appropriate disease surveillance and early detection, notification, and response during outbreaks.

The second day of the summit opened with a session focusing on global partnerships working to improve animal and human health. Dr. Lutz Goedde of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation opened this session with a presentation on the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation’s approach to livestock. Dr. Steven Sloan, CEO of GALVmed; Dr. Susan Chadima, Organizational Consultant for the Afghanistan Veterinary Association; and Dr. Said G. Safi, President of the Afghanistan Veterinary Association, provided insight from two collaborative programs working in different ways to advance animal and human health in Africa and Asia.

The final session of the summit highlighted global educational and experiential opportunities for veterinary students and graduates.

Summit sessions were well attended, with the standing-room only audience actively engaged in interactive discussions with each panel of world-renowned speakers. By the end of the second day, the objectives of the
summit as established by the CIVA—to raise awareness among AVMA members about the many links between animal health, economic development, and human health in a global environment; to inform the membership of current global programs involving veterinary medicine; to market future opportunities for U.S. veterinarians in global enterprises; and to create networks among summit participants—were met, and the CIVA was well prepared to continue its discussions regarding the AVMA’s international strategic focus during its fall 2009 meeting.

Dr Lyle Vogel, WVA Councilor

**One Health Joint Steering Committee/One Health Commission**

The principle goal of the One Health Joint Steering Committee (OHJSC) has been to transition the efforts of the AVMA’s One Health Initiative Task Force into a multi-organizational and independent One Health Commission (OHC).

Invitations were extended to nine organizations to become charter Institutional Members of the OHC. Eight organizations accepted the invitation to become charter members: American Medical Association, American Public Health Association, American Society for Microbiology, American Veterinary Medical Association, Association of Academic Health Centers, Association of American Medical Colleges, Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges, and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

The first official meeting of the OHC Board of Directors will convened on August 14, 2009 at the headquarters office of the American Society for Microbiology in Washington, D.C. The agenda will address numerous corporate organizational actions, which will include the adoption of Bylaws, election of officers, and discussing/adopting various administrative resolutions.

The OHJSC Project Director Dr. Roger K. Mahr has been designated by the OHJSC to serve as the Interim Chief Executive Officer for the One Health Commission (OHC).

It is anticipated that the four main goals of the OHC will be the following:

- Develop, implement, and sustain a national strategy for improved public health based on the principles of One Health.
- Create national and international awareness within the health science professions, the broad scientific community, government institutions, the political leadership, and the general public of the power of One Health to improve the health of people, animals and our environment.
- Illustrate the value of implementing One Health through specific demonstration models and projects.
- Extend the One Health Initiative to the international community to achieve tangible improvements in health worldwide.

Dr Lyle Vogel, WVA Councilor
2009 Joint International Educational Symposium on Animal Welfare

The American Veterinary Medical Association and the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges will host the 2009 Joint International Educational Symposium on Animal Welfare Nov. 9-11 at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan. The event will provide an opportunity for veterinarians, educators, researchers, veterinary students, and others interested in animal welfare-related education and research to learn from and network with experts in the field.

The agenda for the symposium, "Swimming with the Tide: Animal Welfare in Veterinary Medical Education and Research," is available on the AVMA Web site at www.avma.org/awsymposium by clicking on the “Agenda” link.

Speakers from across the globe will consider how frameworks for animal welfare decisions are created by science, ethics, societal norms and stakeholder engagement, and how to create educational and research environments that help veterinarians contribute to effective solutions to animal welfare problems.

Among confirmed international speakers are Dr. David Bayvel, chair of The World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) Animal Welfare Working Group; Dr. Nestor Tadich, dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Science at Universidad Austral de Chile; Prof. David Mellor, Massey University, New Zealand; Dr. Peter Thornber, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Australia; Dr. David Main, University of Bristol, United Kingdom; Prof Donald Bloom, Cambridge University, United Kingdom; and Prof Dan Weary, University of British Columbia, Canada. Among speakers from the U.S. are Prof Candace Croney, The Ohio State University; Prof Janice Swanson, Michigan State University; Prof Joy Mench, University of California-Davis; Prof Paul Thompson, Michigan State University; Prof Suzanne Millman, Iowa State University; Dr. Bonnie Beaver, Texas A&M University; Dr. Dan Marsman, Chair of the AVMA Animal Welfare Committee; and former Senator Wayne Allard of Colorado.

The event will also include a poster session to facilitate networking and allow attendees to share cutting-edge information.

Dr Lyle Vogel, WVA Councilor

North American Veterinary Medical Education Consortium

The AVMA is participating in the North American Veterinary Medical Education Consortium (NAVMEC), which plans to chart a new course for veterinary medical education in the United States. The Consortium is being organized by the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC). NAVMEC was formed in response to the Foresight Report, a long-range planning study commissioned by the AAVMC. Members of the Consortium include, academia, national and state veterinary medical associations, industry, veterinary specialty groups, state licensing boards, government agencies, and many more interested parties. A series of national meetings will be held over the next year in an attempt to reach agreement on the competencies required to meet societal needs for veterinary services in the future. A wide variety of educational models will be considered. The intended outcome is a comprehensive national plan for the future of veterinary medical education in the US.

Dr Lyle Vogel, WVA Councilor
The purpose of celebrating World Rabies day, which is held on 28 September every year, is to make the world aware of the terrible toll this disease takes on people of the world, and to promote the prevention of rabies. According to estimates by the World Health Organization (WHO), over 55,000 people die annually, with 90% of rabies deaths occurring in Asia and Africa. This means that 150 people die each day – 100 of them are children. One person dies from rabies every ten minutes! Most of the human cases are from exposure to rabid dogs. Canine rabies is 100% preventable through canine rabies vaccination programs, and that should be a goal of the global veterinary profession, including the WVA.

“World Rabies Day” (WVD) is promoted by the Alliance for Rabies Control (ARC). The Alliance for Rabies Control’s mission is to prevent human rabies deaths and to alleviate the burden of rabies in animal species. Its vision is a world where all countries have eliminated rabies. It began in 2005 as an independent, non-profit organization and has built an international community of individuals and organizations with an interest in and concern for rabies control.

The WVA is a partner in the ARC, and has been using the WVA home-page to publicize WRD, furnish a link to the ARC website. WRD is now in its 4th year. In the year 2008 more than 393,000 people participated and rabies education messages reached more than 50 million people. WRD raised enough funds to start grass-roots education and control projects in 5 countries.

If countries that are WVA members have not planned a WRD event, you must start now as it is only 6 weeks until WRD.

Many countries are planning events; the map below has early plans:

Any activities involving education about rabies, no matter how small, will help us to achieve our target of preventing human deaths from rabies, so see what you can do to help Make Rabies History. There are lots of ways to get involved, so try the links below for places to start.

Specially designed downloadable posters for veterinary waiting rooms are now available from the Alliance’s website Resources for Vets page.

Downloadable World Rabies Day logos are available in many languages for use on any materials connected with the campaign.

Easy to use Media toolkits can be used to get the word about World Rabies Day out to your local media.

We have a large and growing collection of Education materials to help inform the public, teachers, veterinarians, animal shelters and lots of other groups about the dangers of rabies.

World Rabies Day events registered with us so far are listed on the World Rabies Day website with a form to submit your own event details

If you need any further help with planning World Rabies Day events or activities, please contact Peter.Costa@worldrabiesday.org

Dr Leon Russell, Immediate Past President
This edition of the Newsletter introduces WVA Council members

Dr John Drake

Dr. Lyle P. Vogel

Dr John Drake gained his Bachelor of Science from the University of Guelph in 1981 and his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Guelph in 1985.

Veterinary Association Memberships include:
Prince Edward Island Veterinary Medical Association-Past President; Canadian Veterinary Medical Association-Immediate Past President; Previous Committee Member (Membership Services and National Issues); Atlantic Veterinary College Advisory Board-Former Chair; Canadian Veterinary Reserve Advisory Board- Chair; Atlantic Bovine Practitioners Association-Member; American Association of Bovine Practitioners-Member; NMC (formerly National Mastitis Council) – Member; Canadian Embryo Transfer Association-Member; Canadian Food Inspection Agency Accredited Veterinarian; Certified Validator for Dairy Farmers of Canada CQM On Farm Food Safety Program and Canadian Pork Council CQA On Farm Food Safety Program.

Dr Drake’s non professional activities and hobbies include: coaching youth soccer; playing and watching most sports; travel and photography.

Dr. Lyle P. Vogel is the American Veterinary Medical Association's assistant executive vice president. Prior to this appointment, Dr. Vogel had been serving as the first director of the newly formed Animal Welfare Division. After 26 years in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps as a food safety and public health specialist, Dr. Vogel began his career at the AVMA in 1993 as an assistant director of the Membership and Field Services Division. He was later named the first director of the new Scientific Activities Division, a position he held for a decade.

As head of the Animal Welfare Division, Dr. Vogel implemented the new division and provided staff support to the Animal Welfare Committee and Committee on the Human-Animal Bond. With the Scientific Activities Division, he gave staff support to the Council on Public Health and Regulatory Veterinary Medicine, Food Safety Advisory Committee, and Animal Agriculture Liaison Committee. Through his service on the Animal Welfare Governance Task Force, he helped redesign the Animal Welfare Committee to meet the needs of the AVMA strategic goal on animal welfare.
Dr. Vogel has participated in several World Health Organization expert consultations on antimicrobial resistance and is a member of the World Organization for Animal Health's (OIE) Ad Hoc Group on Antimicrobial Resistance. He provided a focal point within the AVMA for issues of antimicrobial resistance.

A 1967 graduate of the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Vogel is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine and has won many awards, including the AVMA President's Award and a special citation from the Food and Drug Administration commissioner in the area of combating antimicrobial resistance. The U.S. Army surgeon general has also honored Dr. Vogel for his expertise in veterinary public health.

Dr. Jean Hokayem is the President of the veterinarian Order in Lebanon and Vice President of the Euro Arab Veterinary Association.

Dr. Hokayem was a Baccalaureate 1973 –1974; has a PHD in Veterinary medicine from the University of Brno, Czech Republic; has a specialization in the study of Microbiology; and a degree of study in Serologic Identification from the Pirbright Research Center in the United Kingdom of Britain. His language capabilities cover Arabic, French, English and Czech.

Dr Hokayem has been a Researcher in Microbiological diseases since 1981 National Council for Scientific Researches; responsible in laboratory works in the bacteriological part of scientific researches 1981-1996; an instructor in the American University of Beirut in Bacteriology and Virology 1981- 1985; National Expert in the serology ( FAO ) 1988; Scientific tour to specify identification of viral diseases (London -Pirbright) in 1988; responsible for the project of cleaning the beach and controlling the pollution in Lebanon (Ministry of Environment) 1992 – 1994; collaborator in the project of controlling and Watching food from germs (laboratory of researches – Fanar) 1993-1996. He undertook a scientific tour for the Melitensis Disease (Teramo- Italy) 1995; a scientific tour on the cows’ pest disease (Beirut – Laboratory of Scientific researches – Fanar) 1995; Member in the Assembly that studies the exported veterinarian medicines and vaccines (Ministry of Agriculture) 1996 – 2002; scientific tour on developing vaccines in Arabic Countries (Damascus-Syria) 1997; and Member of the Jury for the graduated students in the university of Kaslik.

Dr Hokayem has experience in the identification of bacteriological germs; serological identification of principal animal diseases; serological identification for the ELISA technique; research in virological isolation and vaccines preparation for small ruminants; physical and micro biological Control of food animal products and investigation of chemical contamination of food animal products distributed to stores.
Conferences and Congresses

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: Dave West at: 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

Best Management Practices for Pharmaceutical Disposal

The AVMA believes that veterinarians are minimis contributors of drug disposal into water. However, the AVMA took a pro-active approach to this issue to ensure our members have the most up-to-date information. Through expert scientific councils and committees, the AVMA created Best Management Practices for Pharmaceutical Disposal (BMPs) for veterinarians to review and follow to help further decrease drug waste in water.

Disposal of hazardous pharmaceuticals is already regulated, and the BMPs are intended to create a self-regulating structure for other drugs and biologics used in the profession. The document provides guidelines for minimizing unused pharmaceuticals, disposing of medical waste, and educating clients. The BMPs are available at: http://www.avma.org/issues/policy/pharmaceutical_disposal.asp

Dr Lyle Vogel, WVA Councilor