

Regional Workshop for Veterinary Education Establishments (VEEs) and Veterinary Statutory Bodies (VSBs)

Tokyo, Japan, 19 – 20 November 2018

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Participants of the Regional Workshop for Veterinary Education Establishments (VEEs) and Veterinary Statutory Bodies (VSBs)

Noted that:

1. The OIE continues to support the strengthening of the Veterinary Services (VS), Veterinary Education Establishments (VEEs) and Veterinary Statutory Bodies (VSBs) globally and regionally through its global programme for PVS pathway, VEE and VSB twinning projects, global and regional conferences, establishments of recommendations and guidelines as well as other initiatives such as Veterinary Legislation Support Programme (VLSP);
2. Members are increasingly gaining experiences of using the OIE recommendations and guidelines on veterinary education, namely Day 1 Competencies and Core Curriculum, to improve the existing programmes and curricula, as well as recognising the newly published OIE Competency Guidelines for Veterinary Paraprofessionals;
3. High quality veterinary education and efficient VSBs will preserve the good governance and function of Veterinary Services to deliver a global public good;
4. The capacity, needs and priorities of VS in different sub-regions vary considerably. Sub-regional discussions identified priority issues to be addressed as well as the way forward for VEEs, VSBs, and VS in the near future in South Asia, East Asia and South-east Asia sub-regions;
5. Significant progress has been obtained among ASEAN Member States on networking and/or harmonization of VEEs and VSBs through series of workshops organized by OIE SRR SEA. Discussion towards supra-national accreditation of veterinary education provided insights on future networking and/or harmonization activities for VEEs and VSBs within the Asia-Pacific region;
6. Veterinary paraprofessionals (VPP) play crucial roles in VS, training and regulation are needed to enhance their contribution to VS;
7. OIE has been collaborating and will continue to collaborate with global or regional VEEs / professional organisations such as Asian Association of Veterinary Schools (AAVS) to provide forum for information exchange and to promote implementation of OIE standards;

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8. Members have provided information for the situation of VEEs and VSBs in their countries as well as benchmark data for veterinary professions and VPPs, which is important for understanding the regional status and gaps for veterinary education and monitoring the progress.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

For members (Veterinary Authorities, VEEs, VSBs, and other key stakeholders)

1. Veterinary Authorities to continue to implement programmes to strengthen Veterinary Services through the adoption of OIE standards and guidelines, taking into account the significant role of VEE and VSB in the strengthening of Veterinary Services;
2. VEEs to continue to improve curriculum development through the adoption of OIE recommendations and guidelines for Veterinary Education, learning from other VEEs in the region especially those who have experienced OIE VEE twinning projects, and encourage VEEs to explore the possibility to apply for future twinning projects;
3. Key in-country stakeholders to further discuss about the development of guidelines for continuing veterinary education in close cooperation with national and regional veterinary associations, veterinary authorities and VSB;
4. Members to establish more specific definition of VPPs based on their own needs and plans, within the framework of VPP developed by the OIE, as well as considering registration and enforcement requirements;
5. Members to continue their efforts to strengthen authority and capacity of VSBs;
6. Members to facilitate in-country communication and collaboration among VEEs, VSBs and Veterinary Authorities and Associations in strengthening capacity building for veterinarians and VPPs including curriculum development and implementation as well as continuing education;
7. Members to enhance cooperation among VEEs and VSBs in the Asia Pacific region with support of OIE, and at the sub-regional level where appropriate, through establishment of sub-regional associations, continuous exchange of expertise, information and face-to-face meetings to address sub-regional priorities and way forward in different sub-regions;
8. Members to explore the possibility of (sub-)regional recognition of veterinary training and registration in view of achieving reasonable alignment of expectations and confidence for veterinary qualification needed with support of OIE and potentially by OIE Collaborating Centres;
9. Members to collect reliable data regarding the workforce distribution of veterinarians and VPPs and changes in animal populations to identify and address the actual veterinary workforce demand;

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10. Veterinary Associations to engage in convincing the governments in the region in enhancing the recognition of veterinary professions;
11. Members without VSB to establish a VSB (or an authority to oversee the quality and competence of veterinarians in a country);
12. Members to inform OIE when there are any major changes on VEEs information in the country for updating the OIE global list of VEEs;

For OIE:

13. OIE to continue its efforts in developing recommendations on minimum competencies for additional VPP tracks and guidelines on core training curricula for VPPs, actively communicate about the on-going work and, once such work is completed, encourage Members to use them to strengthen their veterinary services;
14. OIE to provide a platform to encourage communication including supporting CVO forums and sub-regional assembly in addressing and prioritizing issues related to Veterinary Education, especially for East-Asia sub-region where no sub-regional association is available;
15. OIE to continue to engage VEEs and VSBs for AMR control, such as publishing communication materials for veterinary students and supporting seminars on AMR for VEEs and VSBs, as well as other priority issues for awareness raising;
16. OIE to continue to work closely with existing regional and global VEE / professional organizations such as AAVS, SEAVSA, FAVA and WVA in the improvement of veterinary curriculum through the implementation of OIE guidelines and recommendations;
17. OIE to continue to support VEEs, VSBs and Veterinary Associations and facilitate information exchange and networking among the (sub-)region for further collaboration and harmonization.

THE MEETING THANKED:

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