Summary report FVE General Assembly meeting

IASI 5, 6 June 2015

Brussels, 11 June 2015

The FVE spring General Assembly meeting 2015 took place in Iasi, Romania. The excellent organization provided by the College of Romanian veterinarians contributed to the high quality of the discussions and outcomes.

Prior to the General Assembly meeting FVE in collaboration with the College of Romanian veterinarians convened an interesting seminar about stray dogs and dog population management. The current situation in Romania was presented by Ms. C. Adina. Mr. R. Laguens, from the College of Spanish Veterinarians, emphasised that identification was crucial and that identification needed to go along with registration. The recently adopted FVE-FECAVA-UEVP position paper was presented.

The following day veterinarians from all over Europe came together for the Section meetings. A bilateral meeting with colleagues from the American Veterinary Medical Association (USA) was held.

In the FVE General Assembly meeting official opening speeches were given by the President of the College of Romanian Veterinarians Dr. V. Andronie, the Romanian Minister of Agriculture Mr. D. Constantin and the President of National Sanitary Veterinary & Food Safety Authority Dr. D. Baiculescu. They all underlined the great commitment of Romanian veterinarians towards the protection of consumers.

In his speech FVE President C. Buhot thanked all members for the great work and collaboration over the last 4 years. He wished the FVE members to keep working in the same spirit.

The FVE General Assembly elected a new Board. The FVE Board (2015-2017) is composed as follows:

R. Laguens (FVE President, ES), Z. Pinter (Vice president, HU), A. Robinson (Vice president, UK), A. Skjoldager (Vice president, DK) and R. van Dobbenburgh (Vice president, NL)

Key dossiers debated were:
- Medicines and medicated feed dossier (reported by R. van Dobbenburgh);
- One health, animal health law and official controls temporary achievements (N. De Briyne and F. Proscia).
Four position papers were adopted:

1. Food chain information guidance document;
2. Herd health planning;
3. Reasons for regulating the veterinary profession;
4. FVE paper on animals in travelling circuses;

The newly elected FVE President R. Laguens stressed the importance of two new FVE publications: the FVE Strategy 2016-2020 and the first veterinary demography survey. FVE Stagiaire, Ms. J. Bongers together with president of the International veterinary students association (IVSA) Ms. E. van Rooijen, reported on the students’ survey.

Provisional outcomes of the discussions on the animal health and official controls were presented. While for the animal health law the 3 EU co-legislators have reached an informal agreement, the discussions about official controls go slowly. FVE and all members will need to keep monitoring carefully the official controls dossier, especially article 15, in order to guarantee the important role played by official veterinarians in the meat plants.

All FVE members unanimously adopted the FVE papers on the food chain information guidance document and the herd health planning. The aim of these two papers is to show the benefit of a two-way communication between the farm and the slaughterhouse, having food chain information linked to inspection results regularly fed back to the farmer and to the veterinary practitioner.

The FVE members also adopted a paper explaining the reasons why it is vital that the veterinary profession is a regulated profession. F. Proscia explained in addition the FVE initiative towards self-evaluation of veterinary statutory bodies.

Conclusions from the FVE conference on animals and disaster management and the important role vets may play in such a field of work were presented by D. Iatridou.

Pre-graduate and post graduate veterinary education and the way forward were presented by D. Iatridou, A. Robinson (VETCee) and by the European Board for Veterinary Specialists (EBVS) president D. Maes. The recently adopted ECCVT paper on Day-1 Competences and the European System of Veterinary Evaluation was also displayed. FVE Communication strategy and new tools used were provided to the members.

FVE is grateful to the Romanian colleagues for the cordial welcome and pleasant stay in Iasi.