



The Regulation of the Veterinary Profession & Veterinary Para-professions

The Veterinary Statutory Body

Dr John Woodford
Veterinary Legislation Expert



- To regulate Veterinary Education and Training, ensuring that Veterinarians and Veterinary paraprofessionals have the necessary knowledge, skills and competence to deliver all types of Veterinary Services.
- To regulate the practice of “Veterinary Medicine and Surgery” by Veterinarians and Veterinary Paraprofessionals, ensuring the safety and quality of Veterinary Service delivery.



Why is it necessary to regulate the practice of “Veterinary Medicine and Surgery” by Veterinarians and Veterinary para-professionals ?

The Safety and Quality of the delivery of “Veterinary Services” by Veterinarians and Veterinary para-professionals has important impacts on:

1. **The health and welfare of animals** - (implementation & enforcement of Animal Health & Welfare standards);
2. **The livelihoods of livestock keepers** - who produce animal products for human consumption (Quality of diagnosis and treatment of sick animals, advice given to farmers, cost effective veterinary service delivery in the prevention and control of animal diseases);
3. **The health of consumers of animal products** – implementation and enforcement of standards to ensure Food Safety of Animal products and Antimicrobial resistance (AMR)
4. **The condition of the environment** – safe use and disposal of veterinary medicines and chemicals, safe disposal of waste materials
5. **International Trade of Animals and Animal products** – to prevent the spread of diseases affecting animals and humans (identification enforcement of necessary Sanitary Measures to protect the life and health of humans and animals and, the environment)



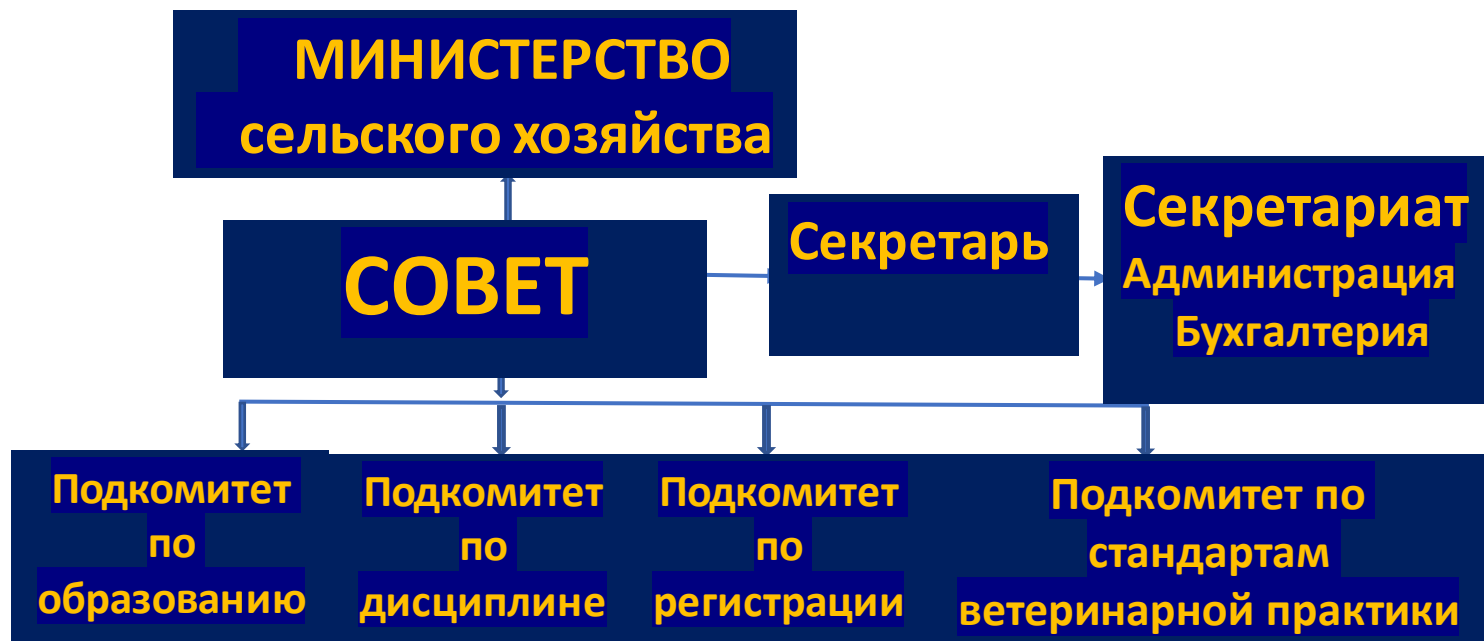


Veterinary Legislation should:

- Provide for the establishment of a Veterinary Statutory Body.
- Describe the structure, operations, powers and functions of the VSB.
- Describe the general structure and system for the regulation of Veterinarians and Veterinary Paraprofessionals by the VSB, (e.g. system for registration and defining Codes of Ethics and Rules of Practice)
- Give authority to the VSB body to define standards and provide mechanisms to regulate the following matters:



Базовая структура обычного ВСО



A conventional VSB is given the authority to define and regulate:

1. The various professional categories of veterinarians (e.g. specialisations) and categories of veterinary paraprofessionals recognised in the country in accordance with its needs, notably in animal health, animal welfare and food safety;
2. The prerogatives of the various professional categories of veterinarians (e.g. specialisations) and categories of veterinary paraprofessionals that are recognised in the country; (e.g. Titles, rights to practice veterinary medicine and surgery, right to charge fees for services provided / medicines and other consumables etc.)
3. The minimum initial and continuous educational requirements and competencies for the various professional categories of veterinarians (e.g. specialisations) and categories of veterinary paraprofessionals;
4. The conditions for recognition of the qualifications for veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals; (e.g. recognition of qualifications awarded to foreign veterinarians, statutory examinations in cases of uncertainty).



A conventional VSB is given the authority to define and regulate:



5. The conditions for performing the activities of veterinary medicine/science, including the extent of supervision for each category of VPPs; (e.g. Prohibition to practice except for registered persons; Job Description / Terms of Reference for VPPs).

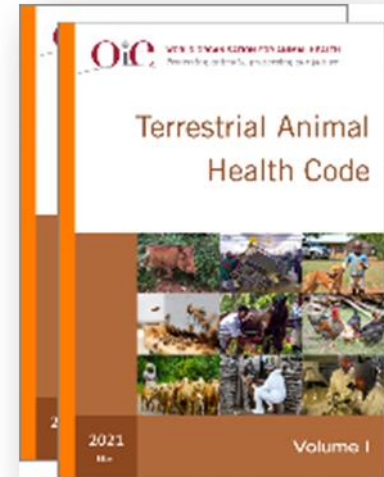
6. The powers to deal with issues of conduct and competence, including licensing requirements and mechanisms to appeal, that apply to Veterinarians and VPPs; (e.g. through defining Codes of Conduct / Rules of Practice, receiving complaints and conducting enquiries into allegations of misconduct/malpractice, imposing administrative or criminal sanctions)



7. The conditions (except those that are under the responsibility of the Veterinary Authority) under which persons other than veterinarians can undertake activities that are normally carried out by veterinarians. (e.g. emergency care of critically injured animals, delegating official functions to lay persons during the control of epidemic disease outbreaks)

According to WOAH standards, a VSB “means:

- ❑ an autonomous regulatory body for *veterinarians and veterinary professionals.*”
- ❑ “autonomy” refers to (a) Financial independence and (b) Technical independence (from political influence).
- ❑ Rarely possible, in many countries where state funding is required due to small number of registered veterinarians, running costs of VSB being higher than revenue generated by membership or annual retention fees and, when authorised, possibly fines.
- ❑ The State or political influence of the VSB can be limited by balancing the composition of the Executive Board / Council with equal numbers of public & private Veterinarians & Veterinary technicians (VPPs), appointed or elected via a Veterinary Association or Chamber through some form of ballot.





Thank you

12, rue de Prony, 75017 Paris, France

T. +33 (0)1 44 15 19 49

F. +33 (0)1 42 67 09 87

woah@woah.org

www.woah.org

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