

Veterinary Legislation and Regulation – WOAHA

Terrestrial Animal Health Code

Veterinary Professionals and Veterinary Paraprofessionals

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WOAHA SUB-REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON VETERINARY
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND VPPs IN EASTERN
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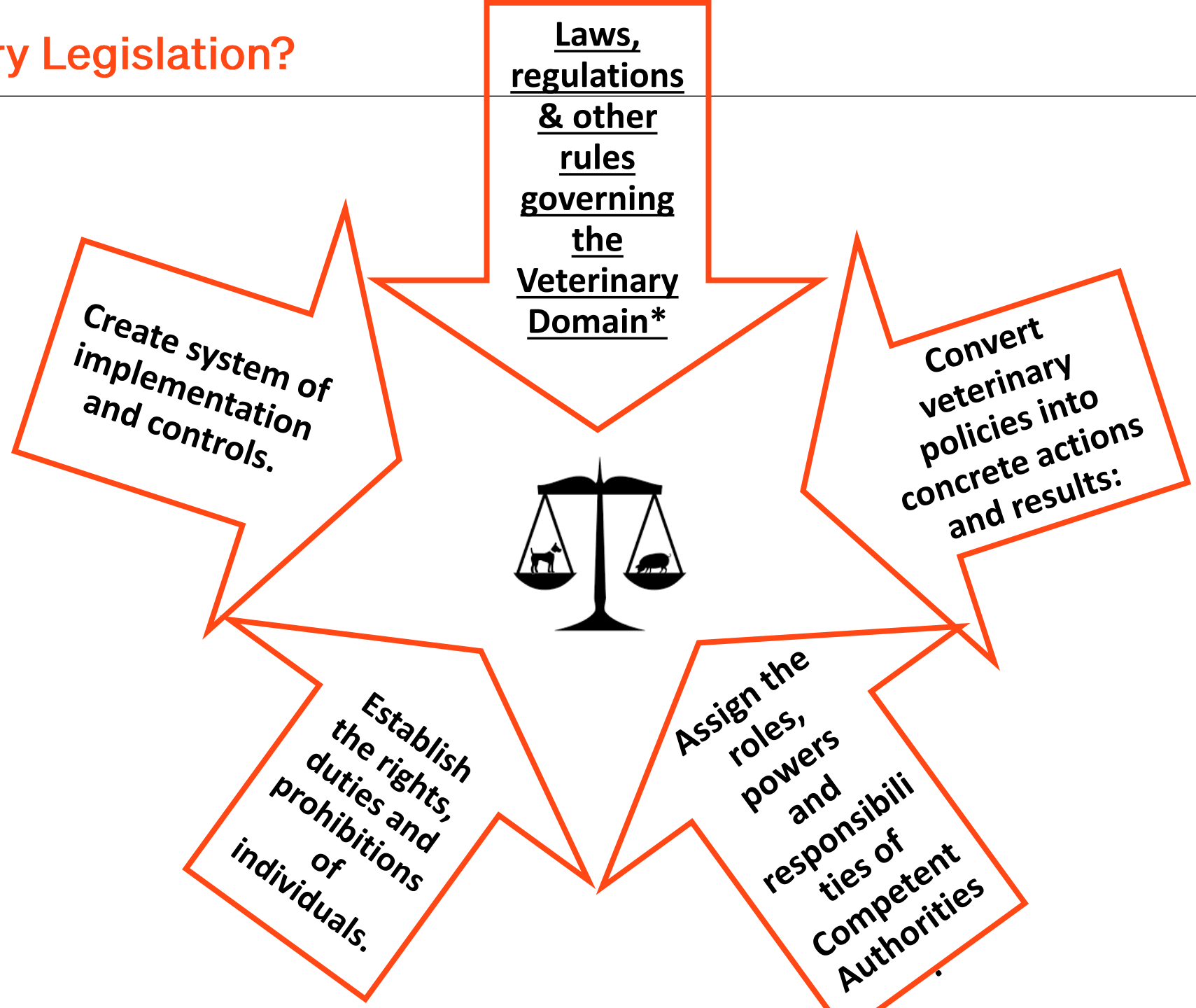
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1. What is Veterinary Legislation?
2. WOAH standards on veterinary legislation
3. What is the difference between a Veterinary Association and a Veterinary Statutory Body?
4. Why cover veterinary paraprofessionals in veterinary practice legislation?



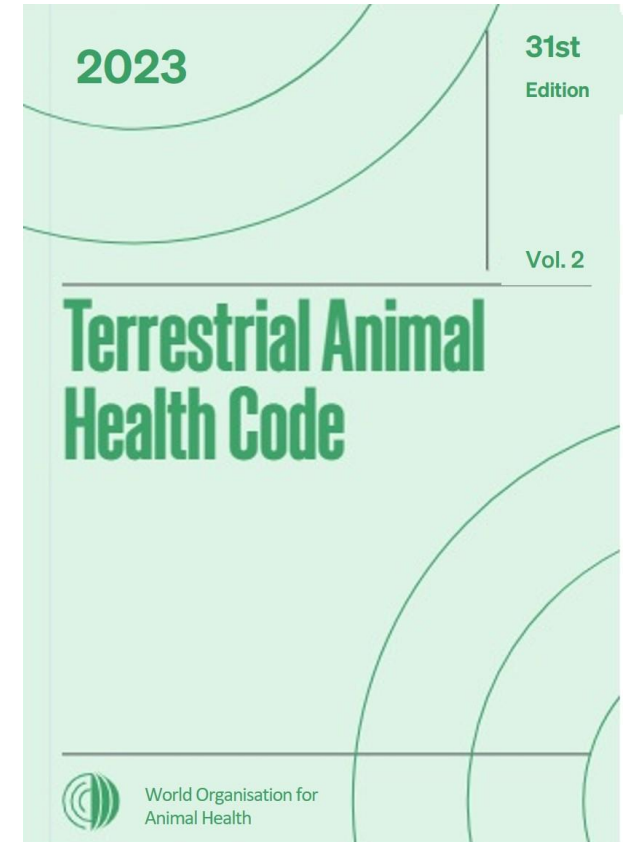
What is Veterinary Legislation?

*The **Veterinary Domain** encompasses all the activities that are directly or indirectly related to animals, their products and by-products which help to protect, maintain and improve animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health. (WOAH Terrestrial Code 3.4.2)



Terrestrial Animal Health Code Chapter 3.4:

- Competent authorities (3.4.5)
- **Veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals (3.4.6)**
- Laboratories in the veterinary domain (3.4.7)
- Health provisions relating to animal production (3.4.8)
- Animal diseases (3.4.9)
- Animal welfare (3.4.10)
- Veterinary medicinal products (3.4.11)
- Human food production chain (3.4.12)
- Import and export procedures and veterinary certification (3.4.13)
- General: purpose and objectives, definitions, structure and organization, drafting, alignment with international standards and obligations (3.4.1 – 3.4.4)



Veterinary Legislation should:

- Provide for the creation of a Veterinary Statutory Body
- Describe VSB prerogatives, structure, functioning & system of VSB regulation of veterinary professionals
- Authorize VSB to regulate
 - **Veterinarian & VPP categories (specializations), prerogatives, education** (initial and continuous)
 - Conditions for recognition of qualifications & performing veterinary medicine (incl. **supervision, where necessary**)
 - **conduct and competence** issues, including licensing & disciplinary requirements (code(s) of ethics)
 - Conditions for **persons other than veterinarians** to carry out veterinarian activities
- If no VSB, address the above elements.

Veterinary Statutory Body:

- Regulatory body → Standard setting, control, enforcement role
- Promotes societal interests along with member interests
- Mandatory membership

Veterinary/VPP Association / Chamber:

- Professional body → career development, advocacy role,
- Primarily promotes the interests of its members
- Voluntary membership

WOAH *Terrestrial Code* recommends regulating veterinary paraprofessionals (VPPs) and other categories of veterinary professionals.

Regulation of these workers could help:

- Establish ***officially recognized*** categories of VPPs, qualifications, prerogatives and **Day One Competencies / Curricula**.
- Ensure ***safety and quality of veterinary practice*** by VPPs and other veterinary professionals through supervisory requirements.
- Prevent VPPs and other unauthorized practitioners from performing “Veterinary interventions” for which they have ***NOT been trained***.
- Ensure ***Food Security and Food Safety*** by protect animals, the interests of livestock keepers and the interests of the public (consumers)
- Ensure regulation of ***all areas of veterinary domain*** among all categories of practitioners, following the **“ONE HEALTH APPROACH”**

Thank you

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