The WOAH Veterinary Legislation Support Programme (VLSP)

Subregional Workforce Development Workshop
Almaty, Kazakhstan
March 2023
The Veterinary Legislation Support Programme (VLSP):

1. **Orientation**
   - Sub-Regional Orientation Training Workshop
   - Sub-Regional Lessons Learnt Workshop

2. **Evaluation**
   - PVS Evaluation
   - PVS Evaluation Follow Up
   - PVS Self-Evaluation
   - PVS Evaluation (review)
   - Specific Content (eg: HPA, etc)

3. **Planning**
   - PVS Gap Analysis
   - PVS Strategic Planning Support

4. **Targeted Support**
   - Health Integration (PVS/IHR)
   - Veterinary Legislation Support
   - Sustainable Laboratories
   - Veterinary and Veterinary Paraprofessional Education
   - OIE National Focal Points Training
   - Public-Private Partnerships
• **2006-2007:** early PVS Evaluations revealed a lack of capacity in drafting and enforcing legislation (CCs IV-1 and IV-2)

• **2007-2008:** VLSP pilot missions

• **2008:** WOAH Guidelines on veterinary legislation

• **2012:** Guidelines become WOAH standards as:

  Chapter 3.4. “Veterinary Legislation” of the WOAH Terrestrial Code
2018-2020: development of 2 specific areas of focus:

- biothreat reduction
- antimicrobial resistance (AMR)

Development and piloting of a *Tripartite* (FAO-WOAH-WHO) *One Health AMR Legal Assessment Tool*

Includes adequate regulation of the use of antimicrobials (AMs) by VPPs:

- acts of veterinary medicine that VPPs may perform or not (i.e. prescription and administration to animals of AMs) or only under the supervision of a vet
- appropriate qualifications, training, continuing education
1. Identification mission

Analysis based on the Chapter 3.4. “Veterinary Legislation” (WOAH Terrestrial Code), to identify gaps in existing legislation with recommendations to modernise the country’s veterinary legislation.

2. Agreement

Support to modernise legislation according to the country’s priority needs and strategic objectives through the revision of existing legislation or the development of new legislation.
The VLSP is…

Also an opportunity for **awareness raising and skills transfer** on:

- Importance of **quality legislation** for effective operation of the VS
- Tips for **legal drafting** that results in quality legislation
- Promoting **collaboration** between technical (vet) and legal drafters (lawyers)
VLSP methodology based on:

Chapter 3.4. “Veterinary Legislation” (WOAH Terrestrial Code)

1- Identification mission

Questionnaire

RECOMMENDATIONS to modernize legislation

2- Agreement

VLSP Manual for Experts (Vol. 3: Examples of legislation)

SUPPORT to modernize legislation
interested in knowing more about the WOAH VLSP?

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See:
VLSP Identification mission reports available online (Link)
Veterinary Legislation and Regulation
The Regulation of Veterinary Practice by Veterinarians and Veterinary Paraprofessionals
Scope of Presentation

1. What is Veterinary Legislation?
2. WOAH standards on veterinary legislation
3. What is veterinary practice legislation?
4. What is the difference between a Veterinary Association and a Veterinary Statutory Body?
5. Why cover veterinary paraprofessionals in veterinary practice legislation?
What is Veterinary Legislation?

- **Laws and Rules governing the Veterinary Domain**
  - “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.” (TAHC 3.4.2)

- Legal texts that convert veterinary policies into concrete actions and results:
  - Assigns the roles, powers and responsibilities of the Competent Authority for Animal Health and Veterinary Services.
  - Establish the rights, duties and prohibitions of individuals who own or conduct activities related to animals, their products / by-products).
  - Creates the basic system of implementation and controls according to defined standards.
WOAH guidelines on veterinary legislation

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)
The purpose of veterinary practice legislation is to provide a basis for regulating **veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals** in the interests of animal health, livestock keepers and the public.

1. Establishes the Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB) as the Competent Authority for regulating veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals.

2. Provides for the definition of the officially recognised categories of veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals.

3. Describe the general structure and system of regulation of veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals by the veterinary statutory body.
What are the differences between a Veterinary Association and a VSB?

Veterinary/VPP Association / Chamber:
- Professional body → career development, advocacy role,
- Primarily promotes the interests of its members
- Organises Workshops / Seminars / Training Events
- Voluntary membership

Veterinary Statutory Body:
- Regulatory body → Standard setting, control, enforcement role
- Promotes societal interests along with member interests
- Mandatory membership
Why cover veterinary paraprofessionals in veterinary practice legislation?

WOAH guidelines recommend including veterinary paraprofessionals (VPPs) in veterinary practice legislation. (TAHC 3.4.6)

- To protect animals, the interests of livestock keepers – **FOOD SECURITY** and the interests of the public – Consumers of animal products – **FOOD SAFETY**

- To prevent veterinary paraprofessionals and other unauthorized practitioners from performing “Veterinary interventions” for which they have NOT been trained.

- Establishes officially recognized categories of VPPs, qualifications, prerogatives and Day One Competencies.

- Ensures coverage of all areas of Veterinary interest without gaps, overlaps or inconsistencies among the different categories of practitioners.

- Allows the Veterinary system to be tailored to national circumstances and needs.

- Ensures Safety and Quality of veterinary practice by VPPs through supervisory arrangements.
Thank you