



## Joint Position Statement on Regulatory Harmonization

There are recognized regional inequities in the availability of veterinary medicines for both companion and food production animals globally, and this results in differing abilities of the animal health sector to provide appropriate animal care – both preventatively and therapeutically – and negatively impacts on animal welfare. While this is a multifactorial issue, at the root of availability of licensed veterinary medicines is the regulatory approval process that grants a product market access. Regardless of region and/or country, the regulatory approval processes all have similar outcomes objectives – ensuring the availability of safe, effective veterinary medicines of high and consistent quality. Despite this common goal, the approval process is duplicated in various regions and/or countries, often requiring duplication of data generation even when the data already exists and has been demonstrated to be scientifically sound. This duplication of process often presents an unnecessary regulatory hurdle that undermines broader availability of licensed veterinary medicines and places animal welfare at risk. Regulatory convergence & harmonization between regions and/or countries should be explored and enacted where and if this would not undermine safe and effective veterinary medicines use.

- The World Veterinary Association
- HealthforAnimals
- The Federation of European Companion Animal Veterinary Associations
- The Commonwealth Veterinary Association
- The Federación Iberoamericana de Asociaciones Veterinarias de Animales de Compañía
- The Federation of Asian Small Animal Veterinary Associations
- The Federation of Veterinarians of Europe
- The Fédération des Associations Francophones Vétérinaires pour Animaux de Compagnie
- The Caribbean Veterinary Medical Association
- The Federation of Asian Veterinary Association

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