



WSAVA

Global Veterinary Community

One Assembly 2017

**Bella Centre, Copenhagen, Denmark
September 24, 2017**

Session I: Member's Forum

1. President's welcome and state of the association

The meeting started at 9:00 am. Walt Ingwersen welcomed everyone and invited Dr Anne Sørensen Chairman Local Host Committee, to address the members and give them an overview of the congress programme.

The President delivered his state of the association address, thanking Ellen van Nierop, Honorary Treasurer and the Financial Advisory Committee for undertaking the fiscal responsibility of WSAVA. Thanks to their stewardship of the finances it would be possible to develop the Central Secretariat to ensure administrative and volunteer sustainability. In the last year there had been six Members Forums which collectively had brought together over 200 of the WSAVA members to identify key areas of concern, opportunity, and seek collaborative solutions. These topics had been discussed by the Executive Board who were pursuing issues of common concern to veterinarians globally. The President gave an update on the strategic plan and the work of the committees.

2. Presentation of format of the day

3. Presentation of the Consent agenda from the business session and call for removal of items

- a. The consent agenda includes all officer's reports, committee report's, Standardization group reports, Congress reports, member association reports, and other information that needs to be motioned but does not need to be discussed.

4. Members Forum – potential topics to be covered

- Executive Board succession plan
- Website launch and online global village
- WSAVA involvement in CE community

Executive Board succession plan

Renee Chalmers Hoyneck van Papendrecht, Honorary Secretary, presented a plan to evolve the WSAVA Executive Board into a smaller, dynamic, effective, and strategy focused leadership group. Members raised concerns about the positions of Honorary Secretary and CLO being subsumed into the Secretariat. The Honorary Secretary explained that strategic decisions and oversight of these duties would remain at board level.

WSAVA online Global Village

Members were divided into four groups and asked to discuss the concept of the Global Village, an online facility which is being developed for the new website:

Europe and Africa

What should our village look like?

What should it include?

What vision do we want to create together?

- Each village has its own identity
- All members of the village are active, everyone plays their part
- Every member has an equal voice

Communication:

- Easily accessible with different technology (mobile, desktop etc.)
- Open communication
- Connected
- Report to other villages, open mind to what happens in other villages
- Common understanding of challenges of different villages, understand each other's difficulties
- Education/tools how to handle Dr. Google/internet, set an example

Standardization:

- Same level of education in all communities in the village
- All members have basic knowledge based on WSAVA guidelines
- Minimum expectations/standard of care
- Equal access and better control on medicines/antimicrobials
- Support CE, support specialization
- Provide minimum level of income

Welfare:

- Being a vet/working in a veterinary practice should be fun!
- Strong say regarding welfare issues (f.i. brachycephalic breeds)
- How do we interact/engage with pet owners?
- Think about future: students, how can we prepare them

What should the community centre look like?

Who should look after the centre?

- Growing organism, like coral
- No dictatorship/distinct leadership, but cooperation, working together
- Transparent
- Friendship and collaboration
- Mutual responsibility
- Equal respect, equal voices
- Ground rules for community, flexible, modified to suit circumstances
- Clear, transparent decisions
- Different forms/channels of communication: face to face, online forum, social media, email etc.
- Representing the whole veterinary community: include students, young vets, nurses/technicians etc.
- Holistic, not just focused on veterinary clinical work, but also vet welfare
→ different groups/platforms for different aspects/subjects

What are its responsibilities?

- Enabler that's puts every discipline together
- Managing expectations
- Setting clear deadlines and expectations about communication
- Strengthen community by regular feedback
- Collect feedback from associations/FECAVA
- Engaging and prepare students
- Number one source of information for pet owners
- Structure of regulatory/control bodies: representative for veterinary community
- Recognize cultural differences

If the village has no external source of funding, how will we help each other achieve development together and reach our vision?

"All companion animals worldwide receive veterinary care that ensures their optimal health and welfare"

- Help each other, give what you can
- Every house in the village has its own contribution, based on available resources
- Redistributing of resources between houses in the villages
- Partnership/collaborative working between associations
- Wealthy associations/countries can help/donate others
- Not depending on 1 funding, diversify funding
- Invest money and knowledge we have
- Money from our clients/pet-owners → give back to them with improved quality of care
- Cooperate with pet-insurance companies
- Educate children and public, create awareness

Extra: focus also on exotics and small mammals

Asia/Oceania

What should the community centre look like?

1. Collaborative, inclusive, cohesive. A community without borders
2. Exchange of knowledge and idea
Guidelines for best practice: clinical and management
3. Improved health and welfare of animals and humans

Online and easily accessible

Multi lingual

Bring people together to communicate, coordinate activities, keep up to date in real time

collect and disseminate ideas and resources

Representation from each region and the RMA

Use 'twinning' model – build alliances between less developed areas and more developed areas

If the village has no external source of funding, how will we help each other achieve development together and reach our vision?

Look for other funding avenues

- Within the wider community
Welfare organisations and more affluent member organisations
- External fundraising – government and philanthropic groups

Increase free low-cost CE - provide online

What are its responsibilities?

Support for working conditions-appropriate hours

Mental health issues

Ensure any digital platform can be used in all countries

Communications should be global – find platforms in China

Social media appeals

Dialogue with government and ministries

North America/LATAM

What should the community centre look like?

Representatives for regional groups

Responsibilities:

- develop and implement global guidelines
- co-ordinate region specific plans

Use centre to help procure and source supplies and drugs for different regions

Identify skills, issues in different countries

Require structure – chairperson/mayor of village/leader

Need to encourage use of the interactive website

Increase inclusivity

- Address multiple communication issues
- Equal access to continuing education

Increase interaction between members

- Share messages in hot topics of common interest
- Language issues – translations

Who should look after the centre?

All member associations

RMA -consider regional liaisons to assist RMA for larger areas e.g Africa. We need to increase

WSAVA reach into under represented areas.

What are its responsibilities?

One Health issues

Government funding may be possible.

Use of technology (Facebook, website, email) will minimize ongoing costs

Utilize links with affiliates and local associations to disseminate information

Increase use of webinars/podcasts/you tube to increase the reach of continuing education

Affiliates

WSAVA – Village School (Affiliate members)

- CE – this group should work with all guidelines and tiers (obviously focusing on Tier 1)
- Countries that need support – match with countries that can give support
- Getting information to members – distribution outside of the conference (Web, local association)
- CE committee to bring the information together
 - CE – people in each of the countries
 - RMA to liaise with CE committee
- The relevance of the CE for the different countries – it's important to reflect what THEY need
- Exposure – people need to know who we are (WEB, regional conferences)
- Need 2-way information – find out needs and find out how they communicate best
 - Translations
 - Encourage vet schools for English training
- Country reports
- “Venues” – manage Dr. Google, What's App, webinars, videos, ('step by step')
- Key: Deliver relevant and actionable education applicable to each region

Community Center - responsibilities, function

- Board – needs to be transparent, accessible
- Regional Member Advocates – RMA
 - Website – spokes
 - Structure – need more; hierarchy
 - Increase awareness
- LNC – Leadership and Nomination Committee
- Keep it Global
- Volunteerism – “How do I get Involved” (tab on website)
- How to run a conference – support with resources (on line?)
- Challenges within a country – helping to solve (– networking with other countries)
- Member Forum (World congress and regional)
- Dissemination (who is in charge)
- Online community platform – RMA
- Need to make sure resources trickle down

Ultimate goal – not rely on external sources for funding – to each vision

HL – funding from VMA's outreach/foundations; Grants – grant writers?

CE appropriate to region

More local advocates

Adopt a Country CE

5. Future steps

The outcomes of the regional discussions will be implemented into the Global Village.