Annual Report for the WSAVA Translation Committee

**Name of the Committee**

**Translation Committee**

- Martin Soberano

**Name of the Committee (Co-)Chair(s)**

- Ellen van Nierop, Rebecca George, Anna Martin, Ana Reisinho, Lee Song, Cecile Guerche, Olga Kurbatova, Vivian He, Tanya Malkova, Faouzi Kechrid and Maya Cyganska

**Name of the Committee Members**

**Mission/Tagline of the Committee**

The Translation Committee aims to help with the WSAVA to overcome the language barriers faced by its members in order to promote effective communication and engagement within our global veterinary community.

**Committee Activities of 2018**

WSAVA’s mission is to advance the health and welfare of companion animals worldwide through an educated, committed and collaborative global community of veterinary peers. A key component of the WSAVA Strategic Plan is a stronger global small animal community, based on the goal of “united we learn, united we speak, and united we serve small animals and one health”. To achieve and live our new tag line “global veterinary community”, the WSAVA needs to focus on inclusivity and greater connectivity and involvement of all WSAVA members.

WSAVA is comprised more than 100 member associations representing approximately 200,000 small animal veterinarians globally. This unique global network and reach poses engagement challenges reflected in differing degrees of regional veterinary development, resource limitations (both financial and human), and active communication (based on both language and cultural nuances).

The Translation Committee is brought to life to help overcome the language barriers and thereby improve awareness, communication and involvement from our global community. **This year, 2018, we add three new languages: KOREAN, POLISH & ARAB**

**Committee Membership**

The Translation Committee will be comprised of individual translators representing the different languages reflected in the WSAVA membership. All members must be fluent in English and at least one other language. **In 2018, the different languages are: Spanish, Portuguese, French, Russian, Chinese, Polish, Korean and Arab.** Also, we have a Norwegian translator if we need her.

Dr. Ellen van Nierop is TC EB liaison & WSAVA Executive Board (EB) to this committee. Nominations for membership were approved by the WSAVA EB and recommendations were voted on by the committee.

Dr. Martin Soberano was TC chair and oversee/coordinate different translating tasks; also compiled a comprehensive report of all the committee’s tasks and designed future plans for the assembly book and EB.

TC chairman did:

* Coordination within the committee the time needed for each task and division into doable parts by different members of the committee.
* Translation communications from the WSAVA to its members, including but not limited to: e-bulletin, guidelines when finalized, press releases, letters from the secretariat, SOP’s, questionnaires and other information that is deemed important.
* Designed tools that make this process more efficient, such as google translate or others, always controlling the output before sending in final translations.
* Kept a log of documents translated and tasks achieved both on a personal level per translator as on a committee level. A copy of all original documents and their translations should be kept either by the chair or at central secretariat for future referral.
* Liaise with committees and projects within the WSAVA to make its services known. In Singapore Congress 2018, TC has a place to show its work to another committees
* Reassessing, on a regular basis, the languages that would make most impact on our membership (for ex. POLISH for 2020 Congress) and find volunteers to commit to these with help of Leadership and Nomination committee.

Compensation for Committee Members
It is understood that all translators in the committee are volunteers and will not receive any monetary gain. That being said, and due to the amount of time needed for the commitment and the importance of its result, a compensation scheme has been set up. This year, Dr. Ana Reisinho came to WSAVA World Congress in Singapore, with all expenses included.

Committee Chair Dr. Martin Soberano and Portuguese translator Dr. Ana Reisinho

### Priorities for 2019

1. The advancement of technology provides opportunities that the committee should exploit in order to increase the volume of translations and the number of languages available.
2. Offer the translation service to all WSAVA members: we must be a tool available to all
3. Incorporate new languages
4. Coordinate tasks and strengthen the group spirit