WSAVA Geneva Assembly Meeting Minutes  
9:00 AM Tuesday June 1, 2010  
Palexpo Congress Centre, Room K  
Geneva, Switzerland

Present from the Executive Board:
- Dr. David Wadsworth, President
- Dr. Jolle Kirpensteijn, President Elect
- Dr. Peter Ihrke, Vice President
- Dr. Diane Sheehan, Hon. Treasurer
- Dr. Walt Ingwersen, Hon. Secretary
- Dr. Brian Romberg, Immediate Past President
- Dr. Veronica Leong, 7th Board Member

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<th>Present from the Executive Board</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Siraya Chunekamrai VPAT Thailand</td>
<td>Dr. Nicola Neumann VICAS Ireland</td>
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<td>Dr. Maurice Roze ISVO</td>
<td>Dr. Julian Wells BSAVA United Kingdom</td>
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<td>Dr. Clement Anthony MSAVA Malaysia</td>
<td>Dr. Tetsuo Shoji JSAVA Japan</td>
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<td>Dr. Joaquin Aragones AVEPA Spain</td>
<td>Dr. Zoe Polizopoulou HVMS Greece</td>
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<td>Dr. Anselm Voigtz VAN Namibia</td>
<td>Dr. Pieter Verhoek NZVA CAS New Zealand</td>
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<td>Dr. Rene Chalmers Hoynck van Papendrecht NACAM Netherlands</td>
<td>Dr. Peter Fahrenkrug GSAVA Germany</td>
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<td>Dr. Kevin Stevens SAVA South Africa</td>
<td>Dr. Katia Di Nicoilo LAK Luxembourg</td>
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<td>Dr. Stefano Romagnoli AIVPA Italy</td>
<td>Dr. Sergio Daltro ANCLIVEPA Brazil</td>
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<td>Dr. Ellen Bjerkaas NSAVA Norway</td>
<td>Dr. Chris Amberger SVK Switzerland</td>
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<td>Dr. Predrag Stojovic MASAP Montenegro</td>
<td>Dr. Colin Burrows NAVC</td>
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<td>Dr. Denis Novak SASAP Serbia</td>
<td>Dr. Alexandra Vilen SSAVA Sweden</td>
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Also in attendance:
- June Ingwersen Secretarial Assistant
- Dr. Michael J. Day, Chair SAC
- Dr. Ray Butcher, Co-Chair AWC
- Dr. Tjeerd Jorna, President WVA
- Dr. Didier Carlotti President AFVAC
- Dr. Kaywalee Chatdarong President VPAT
- Dr. Sue Blaikie NZVA CAS Secretary
- Dr. Chainarong Lohachit VPAT Advisory Board Chairman
- Dr. Alejandro Thiermann Representative OIE
- Dr. Jong Il Kang KAHA President Director at Large WSAVA 2011 Jeju Korea
- Dr. Sungshik Shin PR Chairperson, WSAVA 2011 Jeju Korea
- Dr. Larry Corry AVMA President

1. Welcome by the President
   David Wadsworth (DW) welcomed those in attendance, asked that they sign the attendance and Conflict of Interest Declaration sheet, and facilitated introductions by each attendee. He also relayed WSAVA 50th Birthday greetings received from various individuals from around the world.

1.1. Recognition of VIPs/Guests
   DW recognized and thanked the various VIPs and invited guests in attendance, including Alex Thiermann from the OIE, Tjeerd Jorna from the WVA, and Larry Corry from the AVMA. DW appointed the later two as scrutinizers for WSAVA votes to occur during the Assembly meeting.

1.2. Moment of Silence
   1.2.1. A moment of silence was held for Luis Pomar (WSAVA President 1980-82) who passed away last November 10, 2009 in Palma de Mallorca at the age of 92 years, and all other WSAVA members who had died during the previous year.

2. Regrets
   - Dr. Gary Stamp - VECCS
   - Dr. Adriana Lopez Quintana - LAVECCS
   - Dr. Davorin Lukman - Croatia
   - Dr. Moe Milstein – British Columbia, Canada
   - Dr. Umesh Karkare - India
   - Dr. Rau Benavente - Peru
3. Welcome New Association Representatives/Substitutions
   - Dr. Anselm Voigts - Namibia
   - Dr. Xia Zhaofei - Beijing
   - Dr. Matija Medved - IVSA
   - Dr. Peter Kronen - IVAPM
   - Dr. Ferenc Biro - Hungary
   - Dr. Sergio Daltro - Brazil
   - Dr. Milos Urban – Czech Republic
   - Dr. Tomohiro Nakayama - Japan

4. Conflict of Interest Declaration
   See Agenda item 1 above.

5. Adoption of the Agenda
   Agenda was unanimously adopted as presented.

6. Adoption of the Sao Paulo Assembly Minutes
   Two minor spelling corrections were provided and the Sao Paulo Assembly meeting minutes were unanimously adopted and signed as such by DW.

7. Officer’s Reports
   7.1. President
      DW called for any questions on his Presidential report, as published in the WSAVA Assembly Geneva Assembly book. There were none.
      7.1.1. Presentation of the WSAVA President’s Award
      DW presented the 2010 WSAVA President’s Award to Prof Ellen Bjerkaas for her tremendous past and ongoing contributions to the WSAVA and international small animal veterinary medicine in general.

   7.2. Honorary Secretary
      Walt Ingwersen called for any questions on his President’s report, as published in the WSAVA Assembly Geneva Assembly book. There were none.

   7.3. Honorary Treasurer
      Di Sheehan (DS) spoke to her Financial Report as published in the WSAVA Assembly book and provided an overview of the 2009 Financial Statements and 2010-1014 Budget, expressing concern over the significant operating budget challenges facing the WSAVA in the next several years yet relaying confidence that the deliberations of the Congress Steering Committee would put into effect changes that will improve the WSAVA financial viability for 2014 and beyond.
      DS called for questions and was asked by Julian Wells (UK) how membership dues were handled for member association countries receiving WSAVA sponsored continuing education. DS forwarded this to DW, as CE Program Chair, to answer. Essentially, membership dues are subtracted from agreed-to WSAVA CE sponsorship dollars provided and thereby recorded as paid in the WSAVA accounts.
7.3.1. FAC Report – Prof Ellen Bjerkås
The committee consisted of Diane Sheehan (WSAVA Hon Treasurer) and the Assembly members Peter Verhoek and Ellen Bjerkås (EB).
The committee has read the documents available, including the financial report signed as a true record by the accountant.
The FAC had the following comments:
The Board is congratulated for managing to work on a very tight budget. It should be noted that honoraria have not been increased in 2009, nor is an increase budgeted for the next years. In the present situation, keeping cash investment is considered wise.
The FAC is still concerned about the present financial situation. The sources of income are the annual fees, congresses and sponsorship, with the latter being the main source of funding. The congress income has until now been somewhat unpredictable, changing the system from 2014 will make budgeting easier. At present, WSAVA has less money than the desired 1.5 times annual budget, and the next years will show a negative balance. The Board is urged to consider this serious situation and to try to adjust the budget accordingly.
The FAC would like to see more regular reports throughout the year to better monitor the financial situation. This will hopefully be managed by the new bookkeeping system. Likewise, the FAC is concerned that an auditor’s report of the financial statement for 2009 is not available. Such a report should be presented together with the statement at the General Assembly meeting.
The FAC recommends that new guidelines that are to be drawn up include the composition of FAC as follows: Two Board members, the Hon Treasurer included, plus three Assembly members.

DW made a motion to adopt the Treasurer and FAC reports as presented; seconded by Roger Clarke and unanimously adopted.

DW made a motion to adopt the WSAVA Officers’ reports as presented; seconded Roger Clarke and unanimously adopted.

8. Status – Incorporated Not-For-Profit
Walt Ingwersen called for any questions on his Hon Secretary’s report, as published in the WSAVA Assembly Geneva Assembly book. There were none.

9. Strategic Planning
Peter Ihrke, WSAVA Strategic Planning Chair, presented the planned topics and organization of the Wednesday morning Assembly members’ strategic planning sessions. This years’ topics include WSAVA financial sustainability for the future, managing organizational growth, and WSAVA leadership/volunteer sustainability. The outcomes will be minuted, forwarded to Assembly members for review, and form the foundation for future proposals and additional strategic planning sessions.

10. WSAVA Charitable Foundation
Brian Romberg presented and overviewed the Foundation logo, Vision, and Mission and draft Foundation by-laws. He thanked current Foundation Steering Committee members Larry Dee and Michael Day for all of their assistance and ongoing willingness to participate. Once the Foundation becomes an official charitable, incorporated entity in Canada, there will be an additional call for nominations for those interested in serving as Directors.

11. Committee Reports
11.1. Congress Steering Committee
DW reviewed the historical perspective, including the motions adopted during the Sao Paulo Assembly meeting. Nicola Neumann (NN) presented her report on behalf of CSC members Colin Burrows (NAVC), Siraya Chunekamrai (VPAT), Ed Hall (BSAVA), and Amanda Evans (Industry):

1. PCO
CSC met several times since its appointment in 2009 and reviewed different Professional Congress Organiser (PCO) models appropriate to the current needs of WSAVA. It was concluded that a core PCO working directly for and with the WSAVA for a contractual period of 5 years would work best to assure the longer term stability of the WSAVA. As set out in the Assembly meeting in Sao Paolo the first Congress to work with a core PCO would be in 2014. Some of the advantages of a core PCO include consistency in service delivery, leverage of core conference costs, positioning for long-term contracts with sponsors and accountability to WSAVA without having local host associations needing to reinvent the wheel every year. The branding of WSAVA Congress and penetration in to new markets would be better facilitated by a core PCO.
Verbal and written communications had been sent to all associations bidding for 2014 reminding them of the agreement that a centrally appointed/core PCO could be running their congress in 2014.
There are just fewer than 100 international PCOs in the world. A request for proposal (RFP) had been written and sent to six international PCO companies, of which three responded that they could not meet the required deliverables set out in the RFP. Three PCOs, Kenes International, Eurocongress and MCI – Ovation, were interviewed by the CSC in Geneva on May 31 2010. The conclusion was to shortlist down to MCI and Kenes who at the time of interview were the two largest and most experienced international PCOs with offices in every region WSAVA works with. The CSC will choose which of these two PCOs should be contracted to work as core PCO for a 5 year contract starting with the 2014 Congress. This decision will be finalised within approximately one month of the assembly meeting.

2. New Bidding Process
This year (2010) will be the last time that the Assembly uses the current WSAVA SOPs and standard bidding process. The CSC will make a recommendation for 2014 but the Assembly will make the deciding vote.

A motion had been prepared by the CSC for the Assembly:

*Every three years all WSAVA member associations within a given region rotated between (listed in random order)*

- The Americas,
- Oceania and Asia,
- Europe, Africa and the Middle East

*will be asked to consider submitting a bid with specified criteria to host the WSAVA Congress. The CSC, a committee appointed by the Executive Board will accept each Association’s bid and score each one using objective qualitative and quantitative analysis, assessment of the strategic requirements of the veterinary environment and recommendations of the WSAVA appointed core PCO. The selection will be recommended to the Assembly and the Assembly will vote on the selection if more than one bid is recommended. This bidding process will be re-evaluated in 2019.*

In future the bidding associations will be asked to provide a two page submission indicating

- Agreement to work with the core PCO
- Suitable venues within their region
- List benefits of a Congress to their region as well as to their association’s area
- A person to go on the Scientific Advisory Committees’ Congress Scientific Program subcommittee
- A person/s to market/promote the congress
- No outstanding balance with the WSAVA
- Plans for a social program reflecting the culture of the region
• What the local market would bear in terms of conference registration fees, accommodation costs and social program

They would also be asked to give a brief description of the association and a description of its relationships with local country and regional networks in the veterinary sector, with government and with local convention /tourism bureaus.

The CSC recommends that given these changes the current SOPs will have to be re written and the Scientific Advisory Committee will need to consider how it writes a long term Scientific Program appropriate to the regions with divergent needs.

NN asked for questions from the Assembly members. Concern was expressed by Malaysia and Germany over the impact of a core PCO on the interest of larger member associations to bid (raised as well by BSAVA), the ability of a single core PCO to be truly international in scope, especially more remote member regions, the impact centralization would have on the local cultural experience, and the true ability of a core PCO to maximize income considering that there would likely be attendant higher service costs.

Additionaly Jerzy Gabor (P), official representative from FECAVA expressed concern over impact on the ability of having a shared FECAVA meeting, based on the stipulations of their Congress SOP and BSAVA

Responses were provided by NN, Colin Burrows, Siraya Chunekamrai, and EB, who all spoke in favour of the motion, highlighting that the status quo is no longer an option – both from a Congress/WSAVA brand and income perspective – and that the original Sao Paulo motion provided flexibility to work with WSAVA member associations large and small with outcome to maintain proven Congress organizational strengths and local flavour as part of the negotiation process. Much of this will be addressed in a revised Congress SOP, to be generated once the CSC deliberations and PCO selection process was complete.

NN forwarded her earlier motion; seconded by Roger Clarke, and a vote was held, with the majority carrying with 14 votes against and 9 abstaining votes.

11.2. Scientific Advisory Committee
Michael Day spoke to his Assembly book report, including the WSAVA One Health initiatives, and called for any questions on his SAC report, as published in the WSAVA Geneva Assembly book. There were none.

11.3. Continuing Education Committee
David Wadsworth spoke to his report in the WSAVA Assembly book, including the forwarded Sponsor’s February 2010 Mannheim meeting minutes, 2010/11 CE Program 2010 plans, and CE program sponsorship. DW called for any questions on his report. There were none.

11.4. Animal Welfare Committee
DW called for any questions for Roger Clarke or Ray Butcher, specific to their AWC report, as published in the WSAVA Geneva Assembly book. There were none.

11.5. Hereditary Defects Committee
DW called for any questions on the HDC report, as published in the WSAVA Assembly Geneva Assembly book. A question was raised regarding access to the proposed HD Committee website, specifically why the website wasn’t contained within the WSAVA website. Based on current format restrictions of the WSAVA website, it was agreed by the HD Committee and the WSAVA EB that the desired functionality and aesthetics would be best served through a separate web platform. However, this was hosted by VIN, the same web host for the WSAVA website, with access restricted through either the WSAVA website or VIN.

11.6. Public Relations Committee
Veronica Leong spoke to her PR Committee report, as published in the WSAVA Geneva Assembly book and with additional comments/examples of the PR Committee activities through a Power Point presentation. She called for questions to her report. There were none.

11.7. Website/Editor
Veronica Leong called for any questions on her Editor’s, as published in the WSAVA Geneva Assembly book. There were none.

11.8. Continuing Professional Development
Peter Ihrke called for any questions on his CPD report, as published in the WSAVA Geneva Assembly book. There were none.

DW made a motion to accept the Committee reports as published and it was unanimously carried.

12. Standardization Reports
12.1. Gastrointestinal – Prof. Robert Washabau
DW called for any questions on the GI Standards project report, as published in the WSAVA Geneva Assembly book. There were none.

12.2. Renal – Prof. David Polzin & Larry Cowgill
DW called for any questions on the Renal Standards project report, as published in the WSAVA Geneva Assembly book. There were none.

12.3. Vaccine Guidelines Group
Michael Day highlighted the availability of the 2010 WSAVA Vaccine Guidelines, including disease summary sheets with pet owner information pending, and plans for a “Vaccines Guidelines for Asia” as phase III of the VGG. He thanked Intervet-Schering Plough as project sponsors and called for any questions on his VGG report, as published in the WSAVA Geneva Assembly book. There were none.

DW made a motion to accept Standardization reports as published and it was unanimously carried.

13. Executive Board Nominations & Elections
13.1. Past President – Dr. David Wadsworth (UK; automatic)
13.2. President – Prof. Jolle Kirpensteijn (Netherlands; current President Elect)
13.3. President Elect – Prof. Peter Ihrke (USA; current Vice President)
13.4. Vice President – Dr. Di Sheehan (Australia; current Hon Treasurer)
13.5. Honorary Treasurer – Dr. Shane Ryan(current WSAVA Representative from Singapore; new nomination)

DW made a motion to accept these unopposed changes in the WSAVA Executive Board positions; seconded by Roger Clarke; unanimously carried.

13.6. 7th Board member – Dr. Veronica Leong (Hong Kong; current 7th Board Member) and Javid Aldavood (Iran; new nomination).
Both nominees briefly addressed the Assembly meeting regarding their qualifications and strategic outlook for the WSAVA and their role on the EB. Both called for questions from the Assembly members; there were none. A closed ballot was held and overseen by the two selected scrutinizers. Veronica Leong was the majority winner (with 1 disqualified and 1 blank ballot returned).
14. Congress Reports and Bids

14.1. Post Sao Paulo 2009
Sergio Daltro spoke to his report, as published in the WSAVA Assembly Geneva Assembly book, and called for questions. There were none.
He called both Chris Amberger and David Wadsworth forward to present them with gifts from the Sao Paulo LOC.

14.2. Geneva 2010
Christophe Amberger spoke to his report, as presented through a Power Point presentation, which indicated that the LOC’s efforts were successful in hosting the 2010 WSAVA Congress with a profit. He called for questions. There were none.

14.3. Jeju 2011
Junghee Yoon spoke to Jong-II Kang’s report, as published in the WSAVA Geneva Assembly book, with a Power Point presentation and called for questions. There were none.

14.4. Birmingham 2012
Julian Wells spoke to John Williams’ report, as published in the WSAVA Geneva Assembly book, and called for questions. There were none.

14.5. New Zealand 2013
Pieter Verhoek spoke to his report, as published in the WSAVA Assembly Geneva Assembly book, and called for questions. There were none.

14.6. 2014 Congress bids
DW introduced the 2014 bids by providing an overview of the host country bid presentations, which were to be limited to 10 minutes with an additional 5 minutes for questions/answers, followed by the CSC recommendations, and finally a closed ballot overseen by the appointed scrutinizers.

The bids were presented in alphabetical order: Germany, Singapore, South Africa, and Thailand. Various questions were asked and answered by the bid presenters, including proposed time of the year, number of delegates expected and currently attending the association’s annual Congress, and proposed registration fees.

At this stage, members of the bidding association were asked to leave the room.

CSC Recommendation: Nicola Neumann provided the CSC recommendation of South Africa as it fits best with the CSC recommendations and Congress Strategic Plan. She called for questions. The predominant question was why South Africa if a WSAVA Congress had already been held there? It was reiterated that one of the key focuses of the WSAVA Congress would be to have a regional impact on small animal veterinary medicine.
South Africa was seen as a developing country in need of CE and as such, a priority for the WSAVA yet with a well established city/Congress infrastructure to host. This was seen as a catalyst to escalate CE efforts in Africa as a whole. Concern was also expressed over the cost of hosting the Congress in South Africa, particularly in making it affordable for African veterinarians. As a city, Capetown was considering affordable in international standards and regional attendees would be encouraged with programs to ensure accessibility explored.

Tjeerd Jorna presented the results with the majority of votes going to South Africa.

15. Member Association Reports
DW expressed appreciation to all those WSAVA member associations that had provided annual association reports and that these had been posted to the respective member association pages on www.wsava.org. He reminded all present, that an annual report was the expectation and responsibility of every member association representative to provide.

16. New Member Association Applications
       Membership application withdrawn
   16.2 Academy of Veterinary Dentistry – affiliate membership
       Jerzy Gawor spoke to the application and asked for any questions. There were none. He was asked to leave the room for an Assembly vote on the application. It passed unanimously.

17. Association Liaison
   Brief greetings and a presentation on association activities was provided by:
   17.1 FECAVA – Jerzy Gawor on behalf of Johan van Tilburg
   17.2 WVA – Tjeerd Jorna
   17.3 OIE – Alex Thiermann
   17.4 FAFVAC – Maurice Roze
   17.5 FASAVA – Roger Clarke
   17.6 FIAVAC – Joaquin Aragones

18. New Business
   18.1 Jean Francois Chary provided a Power Point presentation on Vet2011, dedicated to celebrating the “birth” of the veterinary profession, including goals and activities. He also overviewed the various member associations, and brought invitations to join, with applications forms and membership dues structure available through the Internet at www.vet2011.org

   18.2 Alex Thiermann presented a Power Point presentation that provided an overview of the OIE objectives and activities, as well as areas of potential collaboration with the WSAVA, including animal health standards, animal welfare standards, One Health & emerging diseases, services for the veterinary practitioner related to the previous points, veterinary drugs (e.g., prudent use), and programs for newly acquired companion animals.

   DW called for any additional new business. There was none.

19. Next Meeting and Adjournment
   Thursday, October 13, 2011 Jeju, Korea