

Minutes of the WSAVA Member's Forum (2020)

Virtual Regional Meetings September 22, 2020

Meeting sessions, times, chair

The Member's forum this year was held virtually and to enable members from all time zones to participate 4 sessions representing each region was organized and held on the same date. The following were the sessions, time and chair of the session.

Session	Time	Chairs	Link
Latin America (in Spanish)	13:00 – 15:00 GMT-5 (local time in Quito) (1 am-3 am)	Ellen and Felisbina	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81559337775
North America & Affiliates	12:00 – 14:00 GMT-4 (local time in NYC) (11pm-1 am)	Walt and John	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82672590877
Europe, Middle East, Africa	13:00 – 15:00 GMT+2 (local time in Amsterdam) (6 pm-8)	Renee and Felisbina	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82148578872
Asia, Oceania (and Middle East)	13:00 – 15:00 GMT+7 (local time in Bangkok)	Siraya and Shane	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89210541778

Agenda

Session 1 All meeting sessions followed the agenda below

- Welcome and introduction by President or Chair (State of the Association) 10 mins
- Explanation on the WSAVA Virtual Assembly Meeting and voting by Emma 10 mins
- Update on the WSAVA World Congress in Poland 10 mins
- Assembly Agenda: questions and comments 15 mins

Session 2 Virtual Members' Forum

This session was organized as breakout rooms to enable free flowing discussion on the chosen topic that connects to our Strategic Plan. Each region has the same topic for discussion and all were recorded with summaries for each region.

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Chosen topic is in alignment with the WSAVA Strategic Plan under;

"WSAVA Structure

Objectives: Ensure the internal structure and processes fulfill the needs of the organization.

Sub-objective: Membership of WSAVA reflects the global veterinary community Outcome: By-laws and membership process reflects accepted definition of global veterinary community"

Virtual Member's Forum: What is the WSAVA community to you?

Purpose:

- 1. To allow for engagement of WSAVA membership in forming the WSAVA community as members' envision
- 2. To take into account member's input in criteria for selection of volunteer groups, committees and governance
- 3. To demonstrate and ensure possibility that a virtual communications platform can be utilized for continuous communication with our global membership
- 4. Appropriate by law revisions to be considered

Questions for discussion:

- 1. Who belongs in our community?
- 2. What classifies Full member, Associate member and Affiliate member?
- 3. Should there be individual membership?
- 4. Who can volunteer in committees and board positions?
- 5. Communications
 - a. How do you envision our online community interaction and communication?
 - b. Aside from guidelines and educational opportunities, are there other areas of focus that would be relevant to the WSAVA community and if so, how can we facilitate discussion & engagement?

Each region carried out discussions with summaries below:

Europe/Africa Region - https://bit.ly/3mj6VFX
Asia Oceania Region - https://bit.ly/3EnT7QS
Latin America Region - https://bit.ly/3nA3E4q
North America and Affiliates - https://bit.ly/3jI8D22

Overall: Out of those discussions we had suggestions to:

- Set up a working group to look in depth at our Membership structure and provide suggestions to revision and by-law changes if necessary;
- Continue on this platform of dialogue with the same regional focus held 3-4 times/year

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