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## **PRESS RELEASE**

## WSAVA Set for First World Congress in China in 2024

The World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) has announced that its flagship World Congress will take place in China, one of the world's fastest growing veterinary markets, for the first time in 2024. The three-day event will take place from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024, at the Suzhou International Expo Center in Suzhou, a historic city to the west of Shanghai.

WSAVA World Congress is the leading global forum for companion animal veterinary professionals. In 2024 it will be organized and hosted jointly by two of the WSAVA's member associations in the country, the Beijing Small Animal Veterinary Association (BJSAVA) and the Shanghai Small Animal Veterinary Association (SHSAVA). They will appoint their own professional congress organizer (PCO), which will work closely with the WSAVA to prepare a compelling scientific program. Companies or organizations with an interest in participating in WSAVA 2024 can register their interest HERE. They will be contacted in due course by the PCO for WSAVA 2024.

Commenting, WSAVA President Dr Ellen van Nierop said: "With more than 200 million pets living in Chinese households and more than 22,000 companion animal veterinary clinics already established, the need for highly trained companion animal veterinary professionals is only likely to grow. We are looking forward to bringing WSAVA World Congress to this exciting and rapidly evolving veterinary market.

"Working in partnership with the BJSAVA and SHSAVA, we are preparing to deliver a feast of world-class continuing education to companion animal veterinary professionals, and to learn from our Chinese members, who have so much to contribute to our global veterinary community."

"In the meantime, we are looking forward to reuniting WSAVA members at WSAVA 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal, in September, which is shaping up to be one of our most successful congresses yet. With several sets of the WSAVA's highly regarded Global Guidelines and other initiatives set to be launched, it promises to be a memorable event in one of the world's most beautiful cities." More information on WSAVA 2023 is available here: <a href="https://wsava-congress.org/">https://wsava-congress.org/</a>

BJSAVA Vice President and representative to the WSAVA General Assembly Dr Torren Stone said: "As a long-term WSAVA member representative, I regard the opportunity to host WSAVA World Congress in China as a fantastic opportunity to fully integrate Chinese veterinary professionals into the WSAVA's global veterinary community and to raise standards of veterinary care for companion animals across China."

BJSAVA President Dr Louis Liu added: "WSAVA 2024 is the 'Olympic Games' of the veterinary world in the eyes of veterinary profession in China so hosting it is an honour and a privilege. We are looking forward to meeting our colleagues from around the world, to learn from them, to share our knowledge with them and to introduce them to China's vibrant culture."

## Note to editors:

The WSAVA represents more than 200,000 veterinarians worldwide through its 115 member associations and works to enhance standards of clinical care for companion animals. Its core activities include the development of WSAVA Global Guidelines in key areas of veterinary practice, including pain management, nutrition and vaccination, together with lobbying on important issues affecting companion animal care worldwide.

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