

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING HELD AT THE  
XIII. WVPA CONGRESS  
DENVER, COLORADO, USA, 22 JULY 2003, 16:50 – 17:50

Present:

President and Chairman Prof. E.F. Kaleta  
Secretary/Treasurer Dr. U. Heffels-Redmann  
and approximately 50 members

**1. The President and Chairman Prof. Kaleta welcomed the participants.**

**2. Secretary/Treasurer's report**

Dr. Heffels-Redmann presented her report dealing with the development of the membership, the homepage, and the finances of the WVPA for the year 2002. There are currently 1709 members in 53 countries. National branches exist in 33 countries. 28 of these have 20 or more members e.g. that their Corresponding Secretaries are Bureau members. New branches had been formed in Lithuania, Morocco, and Russia in the year 2002. Dr. Heffels-Redmann announced that a further new branch has just been formed in Mexico. The Corresponding Secretary of this branch Dr. Edgardo Soriano Vargas introduced himself to the participants of the General Business Meeting

The WVPA web site had increasing page views within the last 14 months, but the number of visitors remained nearly constant on 150 per month. Checking the five mostly used search engines the search term World Veterinary Poultry Association or WVPA was listed at the first or second position.

To make the WVPA web site more attractive the Bureau approved to include the following information:

- Constitution & Rules
- Avian Pathology/ Editor-in-Chief's report
- Secretary/Treasurer's report
- Extraordinary disease reports
- New books
- Announcements of congresses and meetings
- Education and training programmes
- Links to related journals and organizations.

The Association's assets stood at EURO 29,826.94 at the end of 2001. This amount is a result out of 40 years. The average surplus in the last years were about Euro 3,000 yearly. This may be lower in the next years due to increasing expenses for the maintenance of the homepage and travel expenses for officers to the WVPA Congresses which now take place every two years.

At the last Bureau Meeting in Cairo, Egypt in January 2002 the majority of Bureau members agreed to the proposal to give financial support to young scientists for the attendance of WVPA Congresses. After discussion at the Meeting in Denver the Bureau approved the following preliminary procedure: The Organizing Committee of the XIV. Congress will receive an amount of Euro 7,500 for supporting 10 scientists (payment of Euro 750 by cheque at arrival at the Congress venue) from developing countries. The candidates have to fulfill the following criteria:

- Presenter of a paper (oral or poster) of good quality,
- Need of support,
- No inhabitant of the Congress organizing country,
- No support from the Houghton Trust at the same time.

At the next Bureau Meeting the experiences with this procedure shall be reported and altered, if required. Additionally the Bureau agreed to support the travel expenses of Bureau Members from developing countries (once) to enable them to attend the Congress and the Bureau Meeting.

### **3. Alterations to the Constitution and Rules**

At the Bureau Meeting in Cairo in January 2002 a committee consisting of Dr. Payne, Dr. Spencer, Prof. Kaleta, Dr. Cavanagh and Prof. Hafez was formed to revise the Constitution & Rules. Their draft was circulated to all Officers and Corresponding Secretaries and was placed on the WVPA web site to ask for comments and amendments. Prof. Kaleta summarized the main points altered in the revised version, which was approved at the Bureau Meeting for voting at the General Business Meeting:

- No longer affiliation to the WVA
- Scientific congresses every two years, venue chosen by the Bureau four years in advance from competitive bids presented by national branches that have a representative on the Bureau
- Formation of national branches from an existing national body or a group of individual poultry veterinarians (10 members)
- Officers: Honorary Life Presidents, President (four years), Vice-Presidents (four years), Secretary/Treasurer (four years, re-election for further four years possible), Editor of the newsletter *Aerosols* (election period determined by the Bureau, re-election possible), Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Avian Pathology* (appointed by the Houghton Trust)
- Bidding procedure for hosting a congress as appendix to the Constitution & Rules.

The revised version of the Constitution & Rules was approved by all those present at the Meeting without any vote against.

### **4. Avian Pathology/Editor-in-Chief's report (attached)**

Dr. Cavanagh presented the main points of his report for the years 2001 and 2002 (Volumes 30 and 31):

- Editorial team increased to eight in February 2001.
- Jim Payne retired as an editor in 2002.
- Four new Advisory Board members in February 2002.
- AVP accepted for indexation in PubMed.
- Impact factor rose to 1.428 (2001) and 1.655 (2002).
- AVP ranked 6/128 in the Veterinary Sciences category.
- Manuscripts received: 122 (2001), 151 (2002).
- Acceptance rate: 51% (2001), 43% (2002).
- Papers published: 70 (2002), 64 (2002)
- Reviews published: 5 in each year.
- Median Publication time of 7.2 months following receipt of initial manuscript.
- The 'Short communication' format will no longer be used; all original articles will have the same format.
- 'Case reports' will continue to be published, but without the heading 'Case Report'.

### **5. Report on the XIIIth WVPA Congress by the Chair of the Organizing Committee**

Dr. Witter gave a preliminary report on the ongoing Congress. 726 persons registered for the Congress. The scientific programme comprises 12 keynote lectures, the Houghton Lecture, the Lasher History Lecture, 146 oral and 250 poster presentations from 44 countries, 50 % from the USA and 50 % from the other countries. 50 presenters from these countries could be supported financially to attend the congress.

## **6. Report on the XIVth WVPA Congress by the Chair of the Organizing Committee**

Dr. Gürer informed the Bureau members on the progress in the organization of the WVPA Congress in Istanbul, Turkey, which will take on 22-26 August 2005. Congress secretariates have been established in Istanbul ([info@wvpc2005.org](mailto:info@wvpc2005.org)) and Ankara ([akan@veterinary.ankara.edu.tr](mailto:akan@veterinary.ankara.edu.tr)). A flyer with the first announcement was presented. This will also be published in all relevant journals as well as on an own website ([www.wvpc2005.org](http://www.wvpc2005.org)). The convention center and hotels in different categories have been reserved. A film on Istanbul was presented, and Dr. Gürer invited all participants to attend the XIVth Congress in his country in 2005.

## **7. XVth WVPA Congress in 2007**

Prof. Kaleta announced that the Bureau voted by majority for Beijing, P.R. of China as venue for the XVth WVPA Congress. The Corresponding Secretary of the Chinese Branch Prof. Cui thanked the Bureau members for their vote, and invited the participants to attend the Congress on 13-16 September in 2007. He gave the audience an impression of Beijing and China as a congress venue by a Power point presentation.

## **8. World Poultry Science Association (WPSA)**

The WPSA is interested in closer cooperation between the WPSA and the WVPA. The Treasurer of the WPSA, Dr. Francine Bradley presented some information on WPSA and made some proposals for cooperation between the two organizations like some type of joint membership and a joint congress.

## **9. Nomination of Honorary Life Members**

The nomination of Prof. Dr. Hellmut Woernle, Germany as an Honorary Life Member recommended by the Bureau was approved by the participants of the General Business Meeting.

## **10. Bart Rispens Award**

Prof. Kaleta informed the participants that the 2001 winner of the Bart Rispens Award was Dr. Andrew Olkowski, Saskatoon, Canada. Due to the postponement of the XIIth Congress Dr. Olkowski was not able to attend so that the Award will be presented to him by Dr. Ton Schat at this Congress during the Gala Dinner .

## **11. Any other business:**

Dr. Eckroade as proxy of Dr. Rosenwald invited the participants to attend the 53rd Western Poultry Disease Conference in Sacramento, California, USA on March 7-9, 2004 (web site: <http://www.cevs.ucdavis.edu/Cofred/Public/Aca/ConfHome.cfm?confid=179>).

Dr. Charlie Ibe from Nigeria recommends the possibility of paying registration and accommodation fees at WVPA Congresses not only with credit cards but also with other means, especially for participants from developing countries.

Prof Kaleta thanked all participants for their attendance, and closed the Meeting at 17:50 hours.