

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING HELD AT THE
XIXth WVPA CONGRESS**

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA, 9th SEPTEMBER 2015, 12:00 – 13:00

Present:

Vice Presidents Dr. H.M. Hafez and Dr. N. Horrox

Secretary/Treasurer Dr. F.X. Le Gros

and approximately 80 members, including WVPA Executive Committee

Preliminary note: This meetings follows the **Bureau meeting held on the 7th September** in Cape Town, including the WVPA Executives members and 28 Corresponding Secretaries or proxi from national branches with at least 20 members, present or represented (Austria, Belgium, Bengladesh, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Iran, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, South Africa , Sweden, Thailand, USA). Non-voting participants was an observer from India, Dr Barman Bichitra.

1. The **Vice-Presidents welcomed** the participants, the Indian Observer and the Members of the New branches confirmed during the Bureau Meeting on Sept 7th. The names of **colleagues recently deceased** was remembered, our President Trevor Bagust who should have normally chair this meeting, Prs Frank Jordan and Ahmed Ali Sami Ahmed. This was followed by the announcement of 10 colleagues newly introduced in the **Hall of Honor**: Drs Cui and Liu (China), El Houadfi (Morocco), Saad and Sabry (Egypt), Glisson and Fadly (USA), Mazija (Croatia), Bock (Israel), Meszaros (Hungary).

2. Secretary/Treasurer's report

The Treasurer presented the audited balance for 2013-14 exercises. the **Association's assets** increased to 75,057 EURO with a surplus of income over expenses of 28,801 EURO. This was mainly driven by exceptional incomes in 2014 from WVPAC 2013 (4308€), WVPA contribution to VIV Europe 2014 (5000€), Young Poultry Vet Award sponsoring for 2014-15 not yet realised (10,000€), and the absence of congress related expenses in 2014.

For the attendance of the XIXth Congress, **WVPA supports** 7 young scientists from Asia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Zambia and Pakistan; the CS from the new branch in Kenya as well, for a total of 6000 EURO.

Three **new branches** are officially included in WVPA (**Irak**, 37 members, Corresponding Secretary Dr Yaser Jamal Jameel; **Nigeria**: 22 members, CS Dr Jones Okoye; **Kenya**: 22 members, CS Dr. Simon Allube; The formation of these branches has been approved by the Bureau and the new members were welcomed in the Association. Figures were given for **membership in 2015** (2558 in 55 countries), with Europe still having the greatest representation (1114). Membership numbers in Africa-ME have progressed, while they are stable in Asia, America and Australasia.

The advantages of WVPA membership were outlined and instructions were given for taking out membership.

Finally, our Vice-President Pr Dr Hafez M. Hafez was proposed by N. Horrox to the nomination of **Honorary Life President**, seconded C. Hofacre. This was confirmed unanimously by the Bureau the GBM attendance.

3. Vice President (N. Horrox) report

An update was given on the organisation of WVPA Asia regional meeting 2016 in the Philippines (20-21 October Manila), underlining that this regional meeting is not in competition with the world conference of WVPA. The regional meetings are biennial like the world conference but organised in different years.

The update was extended to our future contribution to VIV Europe 2016 (June).

Our VP announced the renewal of the Bart Rispens Research Award with our sponsor MSD for 5 editions up to 2025, and more generally the organisation of corporate relationship with WVPAC regular sponsors. It is important to receive their ideas on the format of future congresses to keep a constructive balance between academic goals and field practice needs.

4. Constitution and rules

The last review of our Constitution and Rules was in 2003. The sudden death of our President during his mandate highlighted the needs to clarify the continuity of our governance under any circumstances. Following our previous discussions on this item, C. Hofacre presented ideas in force in the AAAP association (our US branch) that could be beneficial to us:

- Election of a President and a "President elect" that would replace the President in case of impeachment. The President Elect could be the actual new Vice President, the second one being usually the retiring President.
- From previous discussion we still have the idea to balance the votes in the Bureau according to the number of members per branch, and to modulate the competencies of the Bureau and General Business meeting according to their representativeness.

There is not yet a clear agreement on these proposals. Further reflection will take place to bring a proposal for revision of our Constitution and rules at the GBM of WVPAC2017 at the earliest.

5. Newsletter 'Aerosols'/Editor's Report

We maintained the edition frequency to 2 issues per year. Dr C. Hofacre thanked the Corresponding Secretary of national branches for their improved participation to the editorial content with their activity report. We have to maintain this effort in the future.

6. Avian Pathology/Editor-in-Chief's report

Professor Janet Bradbury proposed a new advisory board member to the Bureau who was accepted: Pr Par Blackall, University of Queensland, Australia.

The journal continues to maintain its high ranking amongst veterinary science journals according to Impact Factor and Article Influence Score ranking respectively at row 25 (1.639) and 18 on these criteria among 133 journals assessed in 2014. Submissions originate mainly from Asia and Europe, 35 and 37% of them have been accepted for publications in 2013 and 2014. The main reason for rejection was the lack of novel data. The main categories of publications were related to virus and bacteria. 7 review articles were published in the period and 139 original papers.

7. Nomination of officers for 2015-2019

The nominations received by the branches were the following

Office	Name	Proposed by	Seconded by
President	N. Horrox (UK)	H.M. Hafez (G)	N. Eterradossi (F)
Vice President 1	N. Eterradossi (F)	P. Hammond (UK)	S. Dawson (ZA)
Vice President 2	A. Ideris (MAL)	J. Bradbury (WVPA)	S. Sapchukun (T)
Secr./Treasurer	F.X. Le Gros (F)	H.M. Hafez (G)	C. Hofacre (USA)

These nominations acknowledged by the Bureau were confirmed by the General Business meeting attendants. The new executive committee thanks the members for their trust.

8. WVPA Prizes

Avian pathology Trust Lecturer

Dr Dieter Liebhart, Austria, was chosen by the Grants Subcommittee of the Avian pathology Trust as the 2015 Lecturer. He gave his lecture entitled "strategies to prevent histomoniasis in Poultry" at the end of the morning session on Wednesday, 9 September 2015.

Bart Rispens Research Award

The Honorary life President Prof. Hafez reminded the attendees that the 2015 Bart Rispens Research Award for the best paper published in 'Avian Pathology' in the years 2013 and 2014 was presented to the winner by the WVPA President and a representative of Merck AH during the opening ceremony of the congress. The winner was Dr Kylie A Hewson for her publication on the "Evaluation of a novel strain of infectious bronchitis virus emerged as a result of spike gene recombination between two highly diverged parent strains" in Avian Pathology (2014) 43:3, 249-257

Young poultry veterinarian Award

The President Nigel Horrox announced that the 2015 award has been presented to the winner by a representative of Zoetis and himself during the opening ceremony: Dr Maximillian Sim Kwang Hui, Malaysia.

Innovation in poultry vaccination Award

The President Nigel Horrox announced that the 2015 award has been presented to the winner by a representative of Merial and himself during the opening ceremony: Dr Siba K Samal, USA.

9. WVPA congresses

Report on the **XIXth WVPA Congress in Cape Town**, South Africa 2015 by Dr H. Swart for the Organizing Committee: 87 Countries are represented, the number of delegates registered is 1243, 120 exhibitors are registered including the major sponsors (Ceva AH, Merial, MSD, Hipra, Phibro, Zoetis, Boehringer Ingelheim, Venkys) . This is a success in attendance! The congress includes 21 plenary sessions, 96 oral presentations and 235 digital posters.

Progress report on the **XXth WVPA Congress Edinburgh**, Scotland, 3-8 September 2017: Dr P. Hammond reports that the local organizing committee is already having regular meetings for the organization of the event. The web site is just opening this very day! The first call for papers should arrive mid 2016 as well as a provisional scientific

program. Outlines of this program as well as the social program were given. A site inspection with WVPA members is planned for November 2016 in Edinburgh.

Future congresses: the frequency of a meeting every two years is maintained

WVPA congress bid for 2019

The 2 bids from Israel and Thailand were presented by the corresponding national branches and discussed at the Bureau meeting. After a vote at secret ballot, it was decided that the **XXIst congress of WVPA will be held Bangkok Thailand**. The delegates from Israel are deeply thanked for their excellent bid and invited to propose again their candidature for further venue.

10. Any other appropriate business

There being no other business Dr Nigel Horrox thanked all members for their attendance and closed the Meeting at 13:00



Dr. F.X. Le Gros
Secretary/Treasurer of WVPA