

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING HELD AT THE
XVIth WVPA CONGRESS
MARRAKECH, MOROCCO, 11 NOVEMBER 2009, 17:30-18:30

Present:

President and Chairman Prof. H.M. Hafez
Secretary/Treasurer Dr. U. Heffels-Redmann
and approximately 60 members

1. The President and Chairman Prof. Hafez welcomed the participants.

2. Secretary/Treasurer's report

Dr. Heffels-Redmann presented her report dealing with the development of the membership, and the finances of the WVPA for the year 2007 and 2008. The association currently has 2198 members in 59 countries. National Branches exist in 37 countries, of which 32 have 20 or more members e.g. that they are Bureau Members.

Distribution of members on continents:

Members	Total	Continent				
		Europe	Asia	America	Africa	Australia
2003	1709	1197	202	110	100	100
2005	1956	1172	213	304	159	108
2007	1889	1117	345	184	166	77
2009	2198	1088	280	445	286	99

A new branch has been formed within the last two years in

Country	Number of members	Corresponding Secretary
Argentina	12	Dr. Celina Buscaglia

The formation of this branch has been approved by the Bureau and the new members were welcomed in the Association. There is interest to form a branch in Jordan by Dr. Al-Natour.

The Secretary/Treasurer would like to thank the Corresponding Secretaries and members for their cooperation during the last two years. She hopes that it is possible that more poultry veterinarians especially in Middle and South America and in Asia can be interested for joining WVPA. The experience of the last years showed that the engagement of one interested colleague led to the formation of a new branch and/or incorporation of an existing national organization into the WVPA. This congress but also all other international meetings are good opportunities to introduce our association to poultry veterinarians, and the Secretary/Treasurer would like to encourage all members to look for those colleagues who might be interested in WVPA and in the formation of a new branch in their country. She also would like to remind the Corresponding Secretaries of the long existing branches not to forget to recruit young poultry veterinarians in their country for membership in WVPA. Membership application forms are available at the 'Avian Pathology'-booth in the exhibition hall.

Copies of the Account and Balance Sheet for the years 2007 and 2008 have been sent to all branches and individual members. In 2007 the Association's assets decreased only little from 29,169.92 EURO to 29,129.16 EURO with a surplus of expenditure over income of 40.76 EURO. The relatively high amount of expenses of about 17,500 Euro were caused by costs for the Congress in Beijing, China

(support of young scientists, travel expenses of Officers). In 2008 the surplus of income over expenditure of 3,929.37 EURO again led to an increase of the assets to 33,058.53 EURO at December 31, 2008. This was mainly due to the transfer of the amount 3,000 Euro from the former Bart Rispen Research Fund.

For the attendance of the XVth Congress and presentation of a paper, WVPA supports again 7 young scientists from a list set up by the local organization. These 7 colleagues come from Brazil, Egypt, Iran, Macedonia, Pakistan, Syria and Turkey. They received the amount of 750 EURO each in cash upon arrival at the registration desk.

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

The new Editor-in-Chief (EiC) Prof. Bradbury presented the report for the years 2007 and 2008 (Volumes 36 and 37) which had been prepared by the previous EiC Dave Cavanagh. The main points were:

	2007	2008	2009
Manuscript received	185	191	
Manuscripts accepted	49 %	31 %	
Original papers published	64	81	
Review articles published	5	4	
Main topic: Virus infections	61 %	49 %	
Impact factor	1.809	1.257	1.700
Ranking in Vet. Sci. Journals	12/128	32/133	18/134

Prof. Bradbury thanked Dave Cavanagh for his years of service and enthusiasm as EiC as well as everyone else who is involved in editing, reviewing and keeping the journal on time and up to standard.

4. Report on the XVth WVPA Congress in Marrakech, Morocco by a member of the Organizing Committee

Prof. El Houadfi presented a short overview on the Kingdom of Morocco, the city of Marrakech, the poultry production in Morocco and the Moroccan Association of Avian Pathologists. Then he gave a preliminary report on the ongoing Congress. About 1400 persons (ca. 50% invited by sponsors) from 83 countries and all 5 continents registered for the Congress. The scientific programme comprises 3 workshops, 16 keynote lectures, 158 oral and 143 poster presentations. The oral presentations will be given in three parallel sessions. The companies Intervet Schering-Plough, Ceva and Merial are the main sponsors.

5. Report on the XVIIth WVPA Congress in Cancun, Mexico by a member of the Organizing Committee

Dr. Salado presented Cancun as the venue of the XVIIth WVPA Congress. The Congress shall take place in the Moon Palace Resort with convention center and hotel in August 2011. The early registration fees are 500 USD or 450 USD for presenters (oral and poster), respectively. Accommodation of all Congress attendees shall be within the Resort or in nearby hotels.

6. Nominations of Honorary Life Members

The chairman Prof. Hafez asked Prof. Bradbury and Prof. Jones to leave the meeting room as long as the Bureau deals with this topic. The Corresponding Secretary of UK, Nigel Horrox, nominated Prof. Janet Bradbury and Prof. Richard Jones because of their well known distinguished contributions to avian science for Honorary Life Membership. Prof. Sami, Corresponding Secretary of the Egyptian

Branch, nominated Prof. Fathi Saad with regard to his long and valued service for the association as well as to his distinguished contributions to avian science for election as Honorary Life Member. The three nominees approved by the Bureau were elected unanimously as Honorary Life Members of the Association by the participants of the General Business Meeting.

7. Houghton Trust Lecturer

The Secretary of the Houghton trust Dr Jane Cook reported that Dr. Pete Kaiser, UK was chosen by the Grants Subcommittee of the Houghton Trust as the 2009 Lecturer. He had given his lecture entitled 'Advances in avian immunology – Prospects for disease control' on Tuesday, 10 November at the beginning of the morning session.

Up to now, for the 2011 Lecturer only three candidates are nominated. Therefore the Bureau decided in accordance with the Secretary of the Houghton Trust Dr. Jane Cook to prolong the deadline for nomination of candidates to the end of February 2010.

The list of the candidates will then be forwarded to the Grants Subcommittee of the Houghton Trust for final selection of the Houghton Lecturer.

8. Bart Rispens Research Award

In 2007, the Award had been transferred to WVPA and based on a contract is now sponsored by Intervet Schering Plough. The former Award Fund still had 4776.25 Euro on its bank account of which 3000 Euro were transferred to the WVPA account in 2008, and the rest will be transferred after deduction of the costs for the legal ending of the foundation.

Winner of the 2009 Award

Prof. Hafez informed the attendees that the 2009 Winner of the Bart Rispens Award for the best paper published in 'Avian Pathology' in the years 2007 and 2008 will be presented by the President (certificate) and a representative of Intervet (symbolic cheque) at this Congress during the Gala Dinner.

9. WVPA Newsletter

Nigel Horrox, the Corresponding Secretary of the UK branch and owner and producer of several poultry related magazines, has been appointed as new editor of the newsletter '*Aerosols*' by the Bureau as successor of Carol Cardona who resigned from this position at the end of 2008. With the agreement of the WVPA Executive he started already working on the next issue by contacting possible advertisers in the field of poultry and asking the Corresponding Secretaries of the branches for contributions. The new issue shall be ready in December 2009. In general, Nigel Horrox plans the production of 2 issues per year. The costs for *Aerosols* which were about 4000 Euro for each issue in the last years shall be significantly reduced already this year, and the production shall become self-funding at the end of next year. The percentage of advertising will be not more than 35-40%. After unanimous voting the Bureau appointed Nigel Horrox as new editor of *Aerosols* for one year.

10. Proposals for the alteration of the Constitution and Rules and the Bidding Procedure

Addendum to 5. Corresponding Secretaries of Branches

Proposer: Trevor Bagust AVPA (Australia), Vice-President

Seconder: Hahez M. Hafez, Germany, President

[Corresponding Secretaries shall write an annual report to be published in the WVPA Newsletter *Aerosols* on the branch activities and relevant news and information from the country and deliver it to the Editor of *Aerosols*.](#)

Dr. Bagust and Prof. Hafez proposed this alteration as they believe that the fixing of writing a report as obligatory task of the Corresponding Secretaries will solve the problem of getting contributions for

publication in *Aerosols*. The attendees of the General Business Meeting voted unanimously for this alteration.

Alteration of **Point 1 of the Bidding Procedure**

Proposer: Hafez M. Hafez, Germany, President

Seconder: Ursula Heffels-Redmann, Germany, Secretary/Treasurer

Any national branch that has a representative on the Bureau (≥ 20 members) for at least four years and that has experience in the organisation of scientific meetings may bid to host a WVPA Congress. If in the country of the bidding branch another national poultry veterinarian association exists, the bidding branch shall inform this association on the bid and ask for cooperation before the presentation of the bid at the Bureau Meeting.

According to the experiences with the last Congresses the proposers hope that these demands on branches that are interested in bidding for hosting a Congress shall be one step to a more professional organisation of the Congress. This alteration of the Bidding procedure was accepted with great majority (2 No votes, no abstention).

Alteration of §6 (a) **Officers of the association**

Proposer: Nigel Horrox BVPA (UK)

Seconder: David Swayne AAAP (USA)

and

11. Resolution for a Strategic and Tactical Policy Document

Proposer: David Swayne AAAP (USA)

Seconder: Nigel Horrox BVPA (UK)

The proposers agreed to prepare a revised version of their two motions which shall be circulated to the Bureau members electronically and forwarded to the General Business Meeting in Mexico 2013.

12. Any other Business

The President and Chairman, Prof. Hafez, thanked the Vice-President Dr. Bagust and the Secretary/Treasurer Dr. Heffels-Redmann for their work and good co-operation in the last two years. He further expressed his thank to all members of the Moroccan Congress Organizing Committee, especially to Prof. Mohammed El-Houadfi, for their excellent work for the success of this Congress.

Finally, Prof. Hafez thanked all members for their attendance and closed the Meeting at 18:30.

Giessen, Germany, 15 December 2009

Dr. U. Heffels-Redmann
Secretary/Treasurer of WVPA