



**Terms of Reference
of
FVE/UEVP Animal Welfare Working Group**

Members

Austria
Belgium
Bosnia-Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
FYROM
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Montenegro
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Serbia
Slovak Republic
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
United Kingdom

Observers

Albania
Ukraine

Sections

UEVP
Practitioners

EASVO
State Officers

UEVH
Hygienists

EVERI
Veterinarians in
Education, Research
and Industry

Background

Animal welfare is an integral part of the work of a veterinary surgeon and especially those in practice dealing with animal health and welfare issues many times in a day. It has long been the suggestion of the UEVP that we should consider the formation of a new working group for animal welfare, as the veterinary profession needs to be actively involved in animal welfare issues to ensure taken veterinary leadership in this area.

Composition of the Working Group

The Working Group will consist of a maximum of 6 experts, nominated by FVE and UEVP member organisations and appointed by the Executive Director in consultation with the Board of Directors of both FVE and UEVP. A balance in term of geographical origin and working field will be ensured.

In addition a member from both FECAVA and FEEVA may be appointed to this working group, but at that organisation's expense.

Members will be appointed for a period of three years. Thereafter they can be re-appointed once. A chairperson will be appointed. The chair will be responsible for chairing the meetings, leading the discussions, liaising with the secretariat and for making progress reports and a final report to the both Board of Directors.

Tasks

The tasks of the Working Group will be:

- to assist FVE in developing its position with regard to the revision of any directive and other related legislation that affects animal welfare.
- to assist FVE in promoting responsible care of animals by owners and the profession.
- to draft FVE position papers involving animal welfare issues for review and adoption by the Board of Directors;
- to assist FVE in responding to consultations or other queries in relation to animal welfare;
- to assist FVE in participating in organizing meetings and workshops if deemed necessary.
- Any other task given to the working group by the Board of Directors in relation to animal welfare.

President

Rafael Laguens

Vice-Presidents

Zsolt Pinter
Arne Skjoldager
Andrew Robinson
Rens van Dobbenburgh

As first task the AW WG shall update the previous action plan with SMART¹ goals on what the Working Group wants to achieve in the next 36 months, to be forwarded and agreed by both Board of Directors.

Secretarial support

Secretarial support (organising meetings and teleconferences, writing minutes, circulating documents, etc) will be provided by the FVE secretariat.

Costs

It is foreseen that the Working Group will have approximately 2 physical meetings each year. Further communication will as much as possible take place via e-mail and/or teleconferences. Costs for travel and accommodation costs will be covered by UEVP/FVE in accordance with the rules on reimbursement.

Costs for the meeting room, lunch during meetings, will be borne by FVE.

The group may invite external experts to its meetings if deemed appropriate. In case costs arise out of such invitations, the invitation will be made after consultation with the FVE Executive Director.

¹ SMART goals: ***Specific*** – target a specific area for improvement, ***Measurable*** – quantify or at least suggest an indicator of progress, ***Assignable*** – specify who will do it, ***Realistic*** – state what results can realistically be achieved, given available resources and ***Time-related*** – specify when the result(s) can be achieved.