



# Memorandum of Understanding

between the

WORLD VETERINARY ASSOCIATION [WVA]

and the

WORLD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION [WMA]

#### **Preamble**

Acknowledging that the World Veterinary Association [herein after referred to as WVA] is the recognized global professional veterinary organisation, founded in 1863, as an Association of 100 veterinary medical associations supporting the global public good, including in animal health and veterinary public health internationally, food safety and the management of zoonotic diseases, animal welfare and disease monitoring based on veterinary education and evidence based science, representing the veterinarians by promoting their health and well-being.

Acknowledging that the World Medical Association [herein after referred to as WMA] is an international professional organisation representing physicians, founded in 1947, and is an independent confederation of 100 national medical associations whose purpose is to serve humanity by endeavoring to achieve the highest international standards in medical education, medical science, medical art and medical ethics and health care for all people in the world.

**Bearing in mind** that collaboration with the World Health Organisation [WHO] is a key focus of WMA's external relations because the WMA' score mission is to promote health and wellbeing of physicians and patients. Therefore the WMA commits itself to actively collaborating with the WHO in the areas of medicine with a strong focus on health systems development and strengthening public health programs.

Bearing in mind also that WVA has a longstanding collaborative agreement with WHO based on mutually agreed objectives that outlines activities for three year periods. Main areas of involvement include lowering the burden of zoonotic diseases, increasing food safety and improving the global health status [healthy animals = healthy people]; raising the quality of

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teaching of veterinarians in food safety issues and zoonosis, addressing food safety and responsible use of antimicrobials.

Recognizing that the World Animal Health Organisation [OIE] is the formally mandated international animal health standard setting body recognized by the World Trade Organisation [WTO] and that a long term collaborative agreement between WVA and OIE exists. That WVA has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations [FAO] to support international [animal] health capacity building, that extends to public health and food safety and food security. Both parties assist global effort to redress pathogen emergence and re-emergence at the animal-human-ecosystems interface. WVA is an observer in the Codex Alimentarius Commission. Therefor it is important to have a Memorandum of Understanding between WVA and WMA as well.

**Conscious** of the prospects of a mutually beneficial relationship and the need to establish working arrangements within a framework of their respective rules, regulations and bylaws:

The WVA and the WMA [herein after referred to as "The Parties"] agree to the following:

### **Section 1: Global Development Objective**

The Parties will collaborate in the One-Health concept, which is a unified approach to veterinary and human medicine [veterinarians and physicians] in order to improve Global Health.

### **Section 2: Scope of Cooperation**

The scope of cooperation proposed by this Memorandum of Understanding will include:

- 2.1. Support the concept of joint educational efforts between human medical and veterinary medical schools;
- 2.2. Support cross species disease surveillance and control efforts in order to prevent zoonotic diseases;
- 2.3. Collaborate in the responsible use of antimicrobials with respect to critical antimicrobial lists for humans and animals.
- 2.4. Enhance collaboration between human and veterinary medical professions in medical education, clinical care, public health and biomedical research.

## Section 3: Use of Logos.

The use of the WVA-logo is specifically prohibited without prior written approval from WVA. The use of the WMA-logo is specifically prohibited without prior written approval from WMA.

#### **Section 4: Final Provisions**

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This Memorandum of Understanding reflects the professional collaboration between WVA and WMA on a basis of good-fellowship and shall represent the understanding of the Parties upon its signing by the WVA and the WMA.

On behalf of the World Veterinary Association

On behalf of the World Medical Association

President

President

Date: 04 134 2017

Date: 00 13, 2012

Ceil Bleshan