THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE VETERINARY STATUTORY BODY, VETERINARY SERVICES AND VETERINARY ASSOCIATIONS IN THAILAND

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With the globalization of veterinary medicine, digital inter-connectivity of the world and the ever more visible role of veterinarians in the “One Health” paradigm, there has to be a solid relationship between the veterinary statutory body, veterinary services and veterinary associations.

There is increasing pressure, need and demand for global standardization of veterinary medicine and the veterinary statutory body should oversee this process.

As the regulatory force, the statutory body should mandate and enforce local and global standards to which veterinarians, their associations, veterinary schools and the services sector adhere.

The statutory body shall regulate, endorse and promote these standards, such as licensing and registration of veterinarians, encouraging academic requirements of veterinary schools to a global standard, encouraging post-graduate veterinary clinical and research training and collaboration with human health organizations; this will be the foundation that veterinary associations can use for goal-orientated achievements in our profession.

Under the guidance and vision of the statutory body, associations and services can map out their future goals and execute improvements that promote advancement in our field. This will maintain the local and global integrity of our profession. Associations can then interact with all veterinarians and non-veterinarians in the service sectors and provide didactic training, regulations and consultation on emerging topics and trends.

The relationship between the three bodies should be a dynamic system, with information and guidance flowing from the statutory body thru the associations to the services sectors and back up the same channel. This provides an ever adaptive feedback loop of innovation.

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