The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) defines a Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB) as an autonomous authority that establishes rules governing the functions of veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals. VSBs are the cornerstones in ensuring good governance of Veterinary Services, must be independent, and are responsible for overseeing the quality and professional conduct of veterinarians in each country, as well as for ensuring the excellence of the veterinary profession by setting standards for education (both initial and continuing), in keeping with national legislation, and taking disciplinary action in cases of non-compliance with licensing requirements for the veterinary profession. They also regulate the registration, authorisation and eligibility of veterinarians and paraprofessionals, in close collaboration with veterinary education establishments (VEE), Veterinary Services and appropriate veterinary organisations. The OIE provides its Members with the PVS Pathway, aimed at building veterinary capacity: animal health, animal welfare, veterinary legislation and education. It also endeavors to reinforce veterinary education and governance by creating new, or improving existing, VSBs, working with Member Countries and national VEE officials, as well as with regional and international organisations in order to support efforts to improve the quality of veterinary training and promote harmonised approaches to recognition of qualifications, in particular through cooperation with VSBs. The countries of the Americas that have VSBs, established and legally recognised as Federations, Colleges or Associations are: Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Mexico, the United States and Canada. They make reference to the regulation of veterinarians and zootechnical professionals, but not veterinary paraprofessionals. Other countries, such as Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia, Nicaragua, Belize, Cuba and Panama, have associations of veterinary professionals. Although these have functions that are relevant to the veterinary profession, these organisations do not play the same role as the VSB. In particular, they lack legal authority to take decisions or enforce disciplinary measures and, on this basis, it is necessary to distinguish between these entities and VSBs as defined by the OIE.

**Keywords:** Veterinary Statutory Bodies – Americas – OIE PVS Pathway.