The veterinary profession performs a wide range of important tasks. It oversees animal health, food security and safety, animal welfare and environmental protection. Globalisation of trade, which has been largely responsible for the health crises that have occurred in recent decades, has brought to light or underlined the veterinary profession’s vital role in establishing a global warning and control system for emerging and re-emerging diseases, which are predominantly of animal origin. This makes it essential to ensure the highest standards of competence worldwide across the entire veterinary profession, both public and private. Irrespective of where the training is imparted, the acquisition of such skills requires quality education at all levels: undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing.

This led to the creation of the Mediterranean Network of Establishments for Veterinary Education (REEV-Med), which share many similarities in the animal health field. REEV-Med aligns with the recommendations of the global conferences on veterinary education of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE).

REEV-Med objectives are to:

- establish a process of harmonisation and standardisation of veterinary curricula in the Mediterranean region in accordance with international standards, as well as OIE guidelines on basic core curricula;
- secure the commitment of REEV-Med member establishments to undergo a process of evaluation modelled on international (chiefly European) procedures, in order to train competent veterinarians in both the public and private sectors, in compliance with OIE international standards for the control of animal diseases, including zoonoses;
- promote exchanges of information, educational experience and research, and facilitate exchanges of teaching staff and students among REEV-Med members and between them and establishments in other parts of the world. REEV-Med will participate in the OIE twinning system;
- promote the development and distribution of teaching materials for use in veterinary education at all levels: undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing education.

REEV-Med members currently number 15 veterinary education establishments from Mediterranean countries and, in 2014, it will embark on a process of evaluating the curricula of some of these establishments.

**Keywords:** Mediterranean – Network – REEV-Med – Veterinary education.