



## Learning today, protecting OUR future

Bangkok (Thailand)  
22-24 June 2016

**4th OIE Global Conference on Veterinary Education:**  
Implementing OIE guidelines to ensure the excellence  
of the veterinary profession

### Introduction

Strengthening Veterinary Education worldwide is a key to the sustainable improvement of public and private sector components of Veterinary Services (VS), the quality of which is a global public good.

In this era of globalization, all countries depend on the performance of their VS to successfully implement their animal production, aquaculture and food safety policies, and for effective prevention and control of any biological disasters. Veterinarians, as the professionals who are responsible for this important mission, should be well trained not only for animal health and welfare, but also for veterinary public health. This includes the veterinary contribution to food safety and zoonotic disease control, the importance of which is reconfirmed by the recent occurrences of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome and Ebola epidemic as well as avian influenza, which have been bringing serious consequences to human health.

With the valuable contribution of the Department of Livestock Development (as National Veterinary Authority) of the Kingdom of Thailand, the 4<sup>th</sup> OIE Global Conference on Veterinary Education will be held in Bangkok on 22–24 June 2016. This Conference will address ways to further improve the quality of the veterinary profession globally, through encouraging worldwide harmonisation of veterinary education based on OIE guidelines focusing on global Public Good aspects of the veterinary activities. The discussions will extend to the need for closer collaboration between Veterinary Authorities (VAs), Veterinary Statutory Bodies (VSBs) and Veterinary Education Establishments (VEEs). It will also take up the importance both of veterinarians' capacity to better face challenges not necessarily within the domain of veterinary science alone, and also of the availability of various innovative teaching methods.

The 1<sup>st</sup> OIE Global Conference on Veterinary Education (Paris, France, 2009) identified the need for the development of minimum competencies expected of all graduate veterinarians in all countries in both private and public components of the VS. To this end, the OIE convened an *ad hoc* Group on Veterinary Education in 2010 with the support of selected VEE Deans from the five continents.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> OIE Global Conference on Veterinary Education (Lyon, France, 2011) endorsed the work of the OIE on the recommended core (minimum) curriculum to address day 1 competencies, emphasized the role of VSBs and encouraged the OIE to develop the concept of twinning in the field of veterinary education.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> OIE Global Conference on Veterinary Education and the role of Veterinary Statutory Bodies (Foz de Iguazu, Brazil, 2013) addressed, in addition to the need for better quality and harmonisation of veterinary education worldwide, the essential role of VSBs in supporting better veterinary education and in regulating veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals to ensure their professional quality and ethical standards.



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### Outline of the Conference

The 2016 Conference will feature presentations from representatives of international organisations and the VS of various countries, as well as experts on veterinary education and the performance of VSBs. The Conference will:

- follow up on the recommendations approved in Paris, Lyon and Foz de Iguazu, including the development of a OIE global list of VEEs;
- analyse the current situation of veterinary education worldwide, including the use of OIE recommendations on the competencies of graduating veterinarians ('Day 1 graduates') and the OIE guidelines on a veterinary core curriculum;
- discuss the relationship between the OIE and VEE accreditation bodies for taking into account OIE guidelines and recommendations on veterinary education and for preparing VEEs for this approach;
- review the experiences of OIE Members in the domain of veterinary education, in particular with OIE veterinary education twinning projects;
- discuss how OIE Members can improve governance using the OIE twinning procedures for VEEs and VSBs and other elements of the OIE PVS Pathway and how to improve the twinning procedures;
- discuss future needs, priorities and ways to strengthen veterinary education based on closer relationships among VAs, VEEs and VSBs;
- discuss the importance of improving the skills and understanding of veterinarians, such as of leadership, communication and economics, and of life-long learning;
- review innovative teaching practices and discuss how to improve global access to them; and
- discuss the actions to be taken to harmonise and improve capacities of veterinary para-professionals working under the responsibility and supervision of veterinarians.

Approximately 600 participants from all over the world are expected to attend the Conference, including:

- OIE National Delegates and other national government representatives, including those of national administrations in charge of veterinary education
- Deans of VEEs and other professional educators
- Representatives of VSBs
- International and national public- and private-sector organisations and individual experts
- Representatives of institutions in charge of the accreditation of VEEs
- Representatives of relevant organisations having official agreements with the OIE
- Representatives of veterinary para-professional organisations.

The conference will span three days and include ministerial addresses, keynote addresses, technical presentations and discussions to develop conference recommendations for future action.

Speakers will be supported with simultaneous interpretation in English, French and Spanish during all plenary sessions.