LEGISLATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTROL OVER VETERINARY PRODUCTS IN SOUTH AMERICA

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According to the Terrestrial Animal Health Code, one of the aspects to be considered in the evaluation of the Veterinary Services is the application of measures to control the import, export, registration, supply, sale and use of veterinary medicines, biologicals and diagnostic reagents. The importance of these activities is based on their direct relevance to the animal and public health, through the prevention of zoonoses and food safety.

South America plays a major role in the production and export of animal products, thus the availability of safe and effective veterinary products is mandatory in order to provide the necessary measures for the prevention and control of animal diseases.

The development of the regulatory framework and the different approaches towards the harmonization of the requirements for the registration and control of veterinary products in America are described, with special emphasis on the initiatives taken at the regional level, and the activities carried out by the Americas Committee for Veterinary Medicines, CAMEVET.

The Committee is a working group which has been active since 1992, and it is formed by the representatives of the veterinary products regulatory agencies from American OIE member countries, including the participation of associations of veterinary medicines producers as collaborating members.

The outcome of the Committee activities are presented, which includes guidelines and audit guides for Good Manufacturing Practices, registration forms for pharmaceutical and biological products, templates for official registration certificates, labelling requirements, and technical outlines containing information on pharmacological and biological products.