A MODEL FOR A REGIONAL APPROACH OF HARMONISATION OF CONTROL OVER VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCTS

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The official governance of Veterinary Medicinal Products (VMPs) covers a wide range of responsibilities: registration, official control, inspection, surveillance, communication, information, training.... In this respect national competent authorities play a key role with the view of improvement of animal health, animal welfare and public health. Good governance, in one hand, improves availability of VMPs and encourages the market and in the other hand, it gives the opportunity to fight against frauds, counterfeits, ineffective or even dangerous products on the market. In this respect, the official control of VMPs is an essential tool to improve a sure and efficient quality market. In that way, good governance also supports fair trade.

To be efficient, this governance must lean on:

- A legal system defining the development, manufacture, storage, importation, wholesaling and retailing, use and surveillance conditions.

- A competent public organisation with necessary human resources to conduct its missions.

- Trained, informed and interactive staff.

- Relevant interaction with all stakeholders

- A global vision and networking, taking into account the product and the geography aiming at optimising the existing resources and the actions conducted.

Among possible models, a system like « regional agency » goes with this objective. Whatever the accepted organisation will be, its consistency and credibility will depend on available resources and competences but also on the independence and transparency of its decision making process.