

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING HELD AT THE  
XXIst WVPA CONGRESS**

BANGKOK, THAILAND, 19th SEPTEMBER 2019, BITEC Convention Center 10:30 – 11:00

Present:

- President Dr. Nigel Horrox was unable to travel and recovering from a health condition in the UK, he was thus represented by the Vice Presidents Dr. Aini Ideris and Nicolas Eterradosi,
- Secretary/Treasurer Dr. François-Xavier Le Gros, representing as well the Aerosol editor Dr. Philip Hammond (excused).
- Approximately 100 members, including the WVPA Executive Committee.

*Preliminary note:* This meetings follows the **Bureau meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> September** in Bangkok (BITEC convention center, 13:30 to 16:45), including the 6 WVPA Executives members (N. Horrox and P. Hammond excused and represented by proxies) and 31 Corresponding Secretaries or proxies from national branches with at least 20 members, present or represented (Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Iran, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russia, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, USA). This report includes as well elements discussed at the Bureau meeting and briefly summarized at the General Business Meeting.

1. On behalf of the **President** Nigel Horrox, the Vice President N. Eterradosi **welcomed** the participants, the Corresponding Secretaries recently nominated and delegates from the new Portuguese branch. Dr Moreira formerly presented the new branch to the Bureau members and **Portugal** was unanimously accepted within WVPA. **India**, already accepted as a new branch in 2017, has now received its full national administrative authorisations.

There will be no new member in the **Hall of Honor** this year as very few nominations were received from the branches. Further nominations should now be sent before the next 2021 congress.

**2. Secretary/Treasurer's report:**

The Treasurer presented the balance for **2017-18 exercises**. The **Association's assets** increased to 244,405 EURO with a surplus of income over expenses of 88,840 EURO. This was mainly driven by exceptional incomes in 2018 from WVPAC 2017 (84,205£), Young Poultry Vet Award sponsoring for 2017-18 not yet realised yet (10,230€), and the absence of congress related expenses in 2018.

**In 2019**, for the attendance of the XXIst Congress, **WVPA supported** 22 young presenter scientists from Austria, Bangladesh, Colombia, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Pakistan; 14 attendant from Bulgaria, Kenya, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Portugal) for a total of 25,100 EURO.

Figures were given for **membership** in 2019 (2746 in 61 countries), with Europe still having the greatest representation (1249). Membership numbers were stable or slightly growing in all regions. The advantages of WVPA membership were outlined and instructions were given for taking out membership. Advanced contacts are on-going to open a branch in Soudan (Pr. Ye Htut Aung – 20 members) and Nepal (Dr Sudeep Humagain – Nepal Poultry Veterinary Society).

**3. President (N. Horrox) and Vice Presidents (A. Ideris; N. Eterradosi) reports:**

Highlighted actions were the preparation of the **Asian regional meeting** that took place 2018 in Malaysia. This was a success with about 400 delegates and good contribution to the global incomes. The same year WVPA was also active in the Influenza meeting taking

place in Dhaka (Bangladesh). Further Asian meetings should take place in Bangladesh in 2020 and Manila in 2022. [*Post-meeting note: Asian regional meeting 2020 postponed to further notice due to COVID-19 pandemic*].

A first **African regional meeting** is as well planned in December 2020 in Morocco [*post-meeting note: African regional meeting 2020 postponed to further notice due to COVID-19 pandemic*]. A 2<sup>nd</sup> WVPA conference will also take place within the Poultry Africa meeting in Kigali in October 2019.

Similarly WVPA contributed to the **VIV Europe** in Netherlands in June 2018 about big data and poultry production.

WVPA officers were also engaged in the audit of the **XXIst world congress** preparation in Bangkok. Discussions are on-going with possible **new sponsors** from the poultry industry to enlarge our supporting network for future editions.

Concerning **WVPA Prizes**, N. Eterradosi acted as secretary of the Bart Rispens Research Award committee, and N. Horrox coordinated the decisions regarding the young poultry veterinarian award and the innovation in vaccine award.

#### **4. Ratification of WVPA Officers for 2019-2023**

The **Offices of President, junior Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer** were opened for election. The Bureau approved the following nominations by national branches:

- President: Nicolas Eterradosi (France) nominated by Thailand and Morocco, seconded by United Kingdom.
- Junior Vice President: Sjaak de Wit (Netherlands) nominated by Germany, seconded by France.
- Secretary-Treasurer; there was no candidate. The current Officer (François-Xavier Le Gros (France)), will do the interim while a replacement can be defined and electronically approved by the Bureau during 2020, before ratification in 2021 at the next General Business Meeting. This replacement could include the help of a professional secretarial Office.

These nominations have been ratified at unanimity by the General Business assembly.

The newly nominated officers expressed their most sincere thanks to the stepping out officers for their excellent work and commitment that allowed the global development of WVPA

Dr Nigel Horrox as past President is now **Senior Vice President**. The previous Senior Vice President Pr Aini Ideris, was committed for her work and will remain closely linked to the Officers for the Asian meeting events.

The **Editors of Aerosols and Avian Pathology** are unchanged (Philip Hammond and Damer Blake).

#### **5. Newsletter 'Aerosols'/Editor's Report**

On behalf of the Editor (excused) F.X. Le Gros thanked the Corresponding Secretary of national branches for their improved participation to the editorial content with their activity report. We have to maintain this effort in the future.

#### **6. Avian Pathology/Editor-in-Chief's report**

Professor Damer Blake (Royal Vet College London - UK) presented the Editors and Advisory board. New advisory board members ratified by the Bureau are Prof. Abdul Rahman Omar (Malaysia), Prof. Paul Ayuba Abdu (Nigeria), Dr Paritosh Kumar Biswas (Bangladesh). The journal continued to maintain its high ranking amongst veterinary science journals with an Impact Factor of 1.961 in 2018 and 2.114 over 5 years. Submissions originated mainly from Asia and Europe, 31% of them have been accepted for publications in 2017 and 2018. The main reason for rejection was the lack of novel data. The main categories of publications were related to virus and bacteria. 111 original

papers were accepted in the period; special Issues on poultry red mites and Mareks were highlighted as well as guest editorials.

## **6. WVPA Prizes**

### ***Avian Pathology Lecturer***

Prof. Mattia Cecchinato, University of Padua, Italy , was chosen by the Grants Subcommittee of the Avian pathology Trust as the 2019 Lecturer. He gave his lecture entitled "Strategies and challenges in infectious bronchitis control and diagnosis" at the end of the morning session on Wednesday 18 September 2019.

### ***Bart Rispens Research Award***

The 2019 Bart Rispens Research Award for the best paper published in 'Avian Pathology' in the years 2017 and 2018 was presented to the winner by the WVPA new President and a representative of Merck AH during the gala dinner of the congress. The winner was Dr Michael Papah Babak (Kenya; UDEL-USA) for his publication on the "Evidence and role of phlebitis and lipid infiltration in the onset and pathogenesis of Wooden Breast Disease in modern broiler chickens" Avian Pathology 46:6, 623-643

### ***Young poultry veterinarian Award***

The 2019 award has been presented to the winner by a representative of Zoetis and Dr Etteradossi during the opening ceremony: Dr Yun Ting Wang, Taiwan province of China

### ***Innovation in poultry vaccination Award***

The 2018 and 2019 awards have been presented to the winners by a representative of Boehringer-Ingelheim and Dr Etteradossi during the opening ceremony: 2018 Dr David Swayne USA (USDA – SPRL GA USA); 2019 Dr Pratheesh PT (India, Kerala Vet University).

## **7. WVPA congresses**

This **XXIst congress** is a success with about 2240 attendants from 76 countries, 130 oral presentations and 470 posters, 20 keynotes given by invited speakers and 20 scientific sessions; 1 pre-congress workshop, 4 diamond sponsors symposia and 12 major sponsors.

Progress report on **the XXIIInd Congress Verona**, Italy, September 2021: Prof. M. Cecchinato reported that the local organizing committee is already having regular meetings for the organization of the event. Numerous sponsors answered positively, and the team is working with them about the hotel accommodation and transportations to the congress site Verona Palaexpo and Conference House. The web site is to opening soon!

### **WVPA XXIIIrd congress bid for 2023**

The 2 bids from China and Malaysia were presented by the corresponding national branches and discussed at the Bureau meeting. After a vote at secret ballot, it was decided that the XXIIIrd congress of WVPA will take place in **Malaysia** (Kuching, Sarawak). The delegates from China are deeply thanked for their excellent bid and invited to propose again their candidature for further venue.

## **9. Any other appropriate business**

There being no other business Dr Nicolas Etteradossi thanked all members for their attendance and closed the Meeting at 11:00

Dr. F.X. Le Gros  
Secretary/Treasurer of WVPA