



AFRICAN UNION  
**INTERAFRICAN BUREAU  
FOR ANIMAL RESOURCES**

**REPORT OF  
EXPERTS' MEETING ON THE ESTABLISHMENT AND  
OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN  
VETERINARY STATUTORY BODIES**

***Ndiambour Hotel, Dakar, Senegal 5-6 February 2018***



**February, 2018**

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## ACRONYMS

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| 2AVSB   | Association of African Veterinary Statutory Bodies                         |
| 2AVEE   | Association of African Veterinary Education Establishments                 |
| ADB     | Africa Development Bank  |
| AU      | African Union  |
| AUC     | African Union Commission   |
| AU-IBAR | African Union – Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources                  |
| CE      | Continuing Education   |
| CAADP   | Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme                    |
| CPD     | Continuous Professional Development  |
| CVO     | Chief Veterinary Officer   |
| DP      | Development Partners   |
| EU      | European Union   |
| FAO     | Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations                   |
| ILO     | International Labour Organization  |
| LiDeSA  | Livestock Development Strategy for Africa                                  |
| MRA     | Mutual Recognition Agreement   |
| MS      | Member States  |
| OIE     | Office International des Epizooties [World Organization for Animal Health] |
| REC     | Regional Economic Community  |
| SO      | Strategic Objective  |
| SPS     | Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary  |
| TBC     | To Be Confirmed  |
| VP      | Veterinary Professional [synonym for Veterinarian]                         |
| VPP     | Veterinary Paraprofessional [synonym for Paraveterinarian]                 |
| VEE     | Veterinary Educational Establishment                                       |
| VS      | Veterinary Service   |
| VSF     | Veterinary Statutory Body  |
| WB      | World Bank   |
| WHO     | World Health Organization  |
| WTO     | World Trade Organization   |

## 1.0. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Background

The Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) is a specialized technical office of the Africa Union Commission, Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (AUC-DREA). Its Mandate is to support and coordinate the sustainable development and utilization of animal resources to enhance nutrition and food security and contribute to the wellbeing and prosperity of the people in the MSs of the AU.

Today, Africa is guided by a shared vision of unlocking its agricultural potential and addressing the issue of the food insecurity, public health and reduction of rural poverty by focusing on the transformation of agriculture including livestock and fisheries resources for and accelerated economic growth.

Recent statistics indicate that the continent is home to a significant proportion of the world population of livestock. Indicate estimated current capital value of animal resources in Africa (over USD 32billion) and estimated value of animal products produced annually. However, Africa remains an importer of almost all livestock products for a bill amounting to 35.4 billion USD in 2015. It is the region of the world that suffers the most severe food shortages. More than 319 million herders live in chronic poverty. Women and young people in these livestock value chains often suffer discrimination and inequality.

The lessons learned from the implementation of Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) clearly indicate that the main focus should be on promoting learning and development of competences that respond adequately to the needs of the agricultural value chains. Effective VSBs are a strong factor in the good governance of veterinary services globally and nationally that is needed to ensure that the needed competencies are availed as indicated below:

1. To regulate and license veterinarians and VPPs,
2. To set minimum standards for education (initial and continuing) required for degrees, diplomas and certificates entitling holders to be registered and licensed as veterinarians and VPPs, and
3. To standardize professional conduct and competences of veterinarians and VPPs and ensuring that these standards are met.

AU-IBAR in collaboration with Ecole Inter-Etats des Sciences et Medicine Veterinaires (EISMV), organised a joint Continental Meeting for Veterinary Education Establishments and Veterinary Statutory Bodies in Dakar, Senegal on 5th to 7th July 2017.

The meeting made the following recommendations:

1. Reform training programs to reflect global dimensions and at the same time meeting the continental, regional and national needs of the industry and the Society;
2. Integrate OIE day one competencies in the training curriculum and support this with requisite infrastructure including skills laboratories, libraries, clinics and hospitals;
3. Develop/strengthen pedagogical skills of the faculty and delivery approaches centred on the student and based on practical training with coaching and mentorship up to professional integration;
4. That Veterinary Education Establishments (VEEs) should observe a stepwise approach towards regional and continental harmonization of veterinary curriculum including content and duration of the study programs;
5. Strengthen Quality Assurance systems in veterinary education establishments (continental, regional and national levels) and work towards the establishment of a continental framework and a mechanism for quality assurance/management;
6. That a Continental Framework for the evaluation of the quality of veterinary education including the periodicity of evaluations should be put in place;
7. That VEEs should undertake progressive upgrading of their facilities to meet emerging needs and challenges;
8. That networking of African VEES with other VEEs in other regions and associations such as the World Veterinary Association, with opportunities for learning should be enhanced and that initial steps should include sharing the outcomes of the meeting with the World Veterinary Association;
9. That AU-IBAR and Technical partners should lobby with Member States that have not established Veterinary Statutory Bodies to do so with clear mandate and responsibilities through an act of parliament;
10. That the ongoing efforts by AU-IBAR and technical partners for the establishment of data bases for Veterinary Colleges/veterinary schools/faculties and Veterinary Statutory Bodies/Veterinary Orders should be enhanced;
11. That VEEs should take advantage of emerging ICT technologies for exchange of information among members of networks;
12. That the establishment of a Network for the Veterinary Statutory Bodies in Africa be

given priority by AU-IBAR and Technical partners to enhance their regulatory role;

13. Accelerate the process of setting up of the African Association of Veterinary Education Institutions (2A2E-V) and plan the launch of the Association in July 2018 in Cairo. The platform will be a platform for peer learning, information sharing and a catalyst for the implementation of the recommendations.

To accelerate the implementation of the recommendations specific for the VSBs, AU-IBAR has organized an Experts meetings from 5th and 6th February 2018 in Dakar, Senegal to discuss the establishment of a Network of the Veterinary Statutory Bodies in Africa.

## *1.2 Recording of meeting decisions*

Bert Mohr (South Africa) was elected by the meeting participants to record key decisions and recommendations from the meeting as an Aide Memoire. All participants agreed to review this record upon conclusion of the meeting, in order to ensure that meeting outcomes are captured accurately.

## *1.3 Opening Remarks*

Imame Thiam (President, Order of Veterinary Doctors of Senegal) gave the welcome address. Hiver Boussini (AU-IBAR representative) outlined the objectives and expected outcomes of the Experts' meeting.

## *1.4 Objectives*

- a. To review the status of VSBs in Africa based on the study 'Capacity mapping of the status of veterinary statutory bodies in Africa'
- b. To elaborate the Vision and Mission of the Association of African Veterinary Statutory Bodies [2AVSB];
- c. To elaborate the Objectives of the proposed network of the Veterinary Statutory Bodies;
- d. To elaborate the Governance of the 2AVSB
- e. To elaborate the road/roadmap for the 2AVSB
- f. To make recommendations to the meeting of the VSBs to be held in Cairo in July 2018

## *1.5. Expected outputs / outcomes of the Experts meeting*

- a. Vision and Mission of the 2AVSB for the Veterinary Statutory Bodies;
- b. Objectives of the Association for the Veterinary Statutory Bodies;
- c. The Governance of the 2AVSB;



- d. Work plan and Roadmap for the 2AVSB
- e. Recommendations for the VSBs meeting to be held in Cairo in July 2018

## **2. REVIEW OF BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

### **2.1 The 2017 Continental Meeting on Veterinary Education**

Dr. Hiver Boussini (AU-IBAR) reviewed the 2017 the Continental Meeting on Veterinary Education “Improving the quality of veterinary training for enhanced veterinary services and socio-economic development”, 5-7 July 2017, Dakar, Senegal, which made the following recommendations with regard to VSBs:

- i. AU-IBAR and Technical Partners should lobby with Member States that have not established Veterinary Statutory Bodies to do so, with clear mandate and responsibilities through an Act of Parliament;
- ii. The ongoing efforts by AU-IBAR and Technical Partners for the establishment of databases for Veterinary Statutory Bodies should be enhanced;
- iii. The establishment of 2AVSB for the Veterinary Statutory Bodies in Africa should be given priority by AU-IBAR and Technical Partners to enhance their regulatory role.

According to the OIE Terrestrial Code (Article 3.2.12) Evaluation of the Veterinary Statutory Body, the VSB’s main objectives, power and functions should include:

- i. To register or licence veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals to perform the activities of veterinary medicine/science;
  - ii. To set minimum standards of education (initial and continuing) required for degrees, diplomas and certificates entitling the holders thereof to be registered or licensed as veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals;
  - iii. To set standards of professional conduct and competence of veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals and ensuring the standards are ethical and met.
- 
- **Autonomy (Independence):** The VSB should be able to demonstrate autonomy from undue political and commercial interests.
  - **Legislative basis and functional capacity:** The VSB should be able to demonstrate that it has the capacity, supported by appropriate legislation, to exercise and enforce control over all veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals subject to its authority. Controls should include compulsory licensing or registration, participation in the definition of minimum standards of education (initial and continuing) for the recognition of degrees,



diplomas and certificates by the Competent Authority, setting standards of professional conduct and competence, investigating complaints and the application of disciplinary procedures.

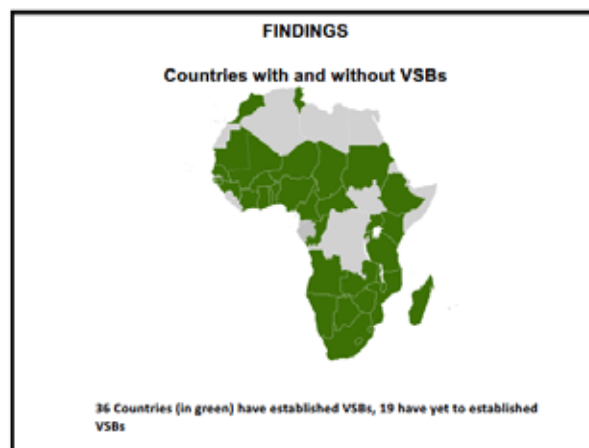
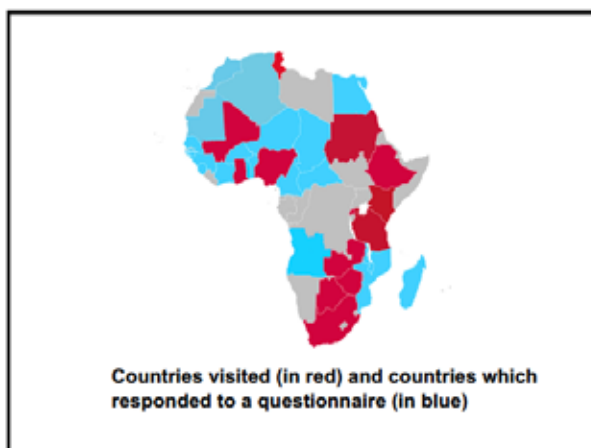
- Membership: Detailed descriptions of the composition, rules and conditions for membership, including duration of appointment and representation of interested third parties, public and private, should be available.
- Where applicable, the implementation of regional agreements for the recognition of degrees, diplomas and certificates for veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals should be demonstrated.

## *2.2 Capacity Mapping of the Status of Veterinary Statutory Bodies in Africa*

Bonaventure Mtei reviewed the status of VSBs in Africa, based on the 2017 report: “Capacity Mapping of the Status of Veterinary Statutory Bodies in Africa, Report to AU-IBAR by Consultants, July 2017”. The study’s general observation was that African VSBs generally face constraints and challenges; e.g. inappropriate legal frameworks & resources for carrying out their mandate of controlling the training, registration and licensure of veterinary professionals, and veterinary paraprofessionals and veterinary facilities, and the control of the conduct of the veterinarians and paraveterinarians.

The report elicits the need to address the shortcomings in the regulatory function of the VSBs so as to enhance the performance of the animal resources sector in Africa. Considering the emerging strategy to boost the entire socio-economic status of Africa as a continent, through stimulating internal trade [within Africa] and export trade [outside Africa], there is need to support a harmonized regulatory function by all VSBs in Africa so that its net animal product is of the high quality status demanded by the markets. This is the basis of the initiative to establish the Association of African Veterinary Statutory Bodies, as the platform upon which to drive the process of strengthening of the VSBs, and perhaps the harmonization of their regulatory functions.

The following diagrams and tables illustrate the findings:



**Performance of VSBs**

| Level of Advancement              | 1  | 2  | 3 | 4  | 5 | Total |
|-----------------------------------|----|----|---|----|---|-------|
| Number of countries evaluated     | 18 | 11 | 9 | 11 | 1 | 50    |
| Number of countries not evaluated | -  | -  | - | -  | - | 5     |

OIE PVS Evaluation and Level of Advancement of VSBs

**Size and structure of VSBs**

| Categories   | Registered veterinarians | Countries |
|--------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| 1            | <100                     | 8         |
| 2            | 100-500                  | 15        |
| 3            | 500-1000                 | 3         |
| 4            | 1000-5000                | 5         |
| 5            | >5000                    | 2         |
| <b>Total</b> |                          | <b>33</b> |

**Category of countries on the basis of number of registered veterinarians**

Registered veterinarians per country varies from around 10 in small countries such as Sierra Leone, Guinea Bissau and Gambia and as high as 8,000 in Nigeria. Countries like Egypt, Algeria and Ethiopia have larger numbers of veterinarians and VPPs, but they do not have VSBs established.

**Registration and ratio of Veterinarians to VPPs**

| Zone            | No. of Veterinarians | No. of VPPs    | Ratio of Vets :VPPs |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Eastern Africa  | 14,673               | 37,538         | 1:2.56              |
| Western Africa  | 13,424               | 47,231         | 1:3.52              |
| Northern Africa | 71,942               | 73,184         | 1:1.02              |
| Southern Africa | 5,154                | 17,936         | 1:3.48              |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>105,193</b>       | <b>175,889</b> | <b>1:1.67</b>       |

Number of veterinarians and VPPs in Africa

**Livestock population and the ratio of animals per veterinarian**

| Zone               | Cattle in Mil | Sheep in Mil | Goats in Mil | Pigs in Mil | Poultry in Mil | TLUs in Mil  | No. of Vets    | Ratio of animals per Vet |
|--------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Eastern Africa     | 152.1         | 115.4        | 145.1        | 7.5         | 282.3          | 136.7        | 14,673         | 9,316                    |
| Western Africa     | 103.1         | 126.4        | 187.7        | 25.6        | 603.6          | 114.7        | 13,424         | 8,546                    |
| Northern Africa    | 13.8          | 38.6         | 21.1         | 0.002       | 798.6          | 26.6         | 71,942         | 370                      |
| Southern Africa    | 45.8          | 34.7         | 26.8         | 9.7         | 147.2          | 41.6         | 5,154          | 8,074                    |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>314.8</b>  | <b>345.1</b> | <b>380.8</b> | <b>42.9</b> | <b>1,811.7</b> | <b>319.7</b> | <b>105,193</b> | <b>3,039</b>             |

By courtesy of OIE from the OIE WAHIS Database.. Data from ARIS 2 developed by AU-IBAR was unavailable.

### *2.3. Findings of the VSB Capacity Mapping Report*

- i. In 18 AU MSs, there is no legislation for establishing VSBs; consequently, there is little or no regulation of veterinarians and VPPs.
- ii. Of the 36 AU MS that have established VSBs, 15 register only veterinarians, and the remaining 21 register both veterinarians and VPPs.
- iii. Only a few AU MS meet the three (3) OIE Standards, as defined in Chapter 3.2.12 of the Terrestrial Code
- iv. In the 5 countries that have not been evaluated, the status of their VSB legislation is unknown.
- v. In some countries, VSB Acts exist, but are not functional due to delays in formulating subsidiary Statutory Instruments in the form of regulations.
- vi. Out of the 105,193 veterinarians in Africa, only 26% are in the public sector (government, academic, and research) and the remaining 74% are either in the private sector or unemployed.
- vii. OIE PVS assessments indicate that VSBs in Africa have limited capacity to implement their functions and objectives.
- viii. Issues of VSBs autonomy and authority should be addressed, e.g. to keep revenues they generate for their own use by establishing a revolving fund.
- ix. It appears that in Africa we already have far too many Veterinarians confirming the need for VSBs to work closer with VEEs, lest resources are wasted to train Veterinarians who cannot be useful to the society.
- x. Fees for a first-time registration of a national veterinarian is on average US\$ 48 and the average annual retention fee is US\$ 64 but sometimes special fees for retired veterinarians are lower and higher for private sector veterinarians. In some countries, no retention fees are paid.

### *2.4. Recommendations to Resolve some of the Elicited Challenges Facing VSBs*

- i. VSBs be established in countries where they do not exist
- ii. Improvement of the VSBs' functionality where they exist
- iii. Collective and sustained actions by various actors and players in charge of veterinary matters
- iv. A continental Approach under the leadership of AU-IBAR, in collaboration with the RECs, OIE, FAO, EU and other Development Partners (DPs); e.g. World Bank (WB), African Development Bank (ADB) etc.

- v. Development of a VSB Strategy by AU-IBAR for continental adoption, through the approved AU protocols.
- vi. Commitments by MS to ensure quick enactment of legislations that are necessary to govern activities of VSBs as the foundation for the existence, effectiveness and credibility of the VSBs.
- vii. Promotion of cross-border movement of veterinarians, VPPs and Veterinary Inputs. However, while this may be a good idea, it can also have negative repercussions for lower income countries which cannot afford to pay good wages and do not have good working conditions. Such a strategy must address ways to deal with the downside of cross-border mobility via Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs).
- viii. Improvement of compliance with OIE standards
- ix. Enhancement of awareness of VSBs' awareness about OIE Guidelines, as a basis for good governance of Veterinary Service (VS)
- x. Enhanced linkages between VSBs and VEEs in order to strengthen the role of VSBs in relation to supply and demand for veterinary professionals.

## *2.5. Proposed Vision for the Association of African Veterinary Statutory Bodies*

VSBs for Africa that will improve quality and governance of the veterinary profession and contribute to animal and human health, livelihoods, animal welfare and socio-economic growth.

## *2.6. Proposed Goal for the Association of African VSBs*

To give strategic direction and guidance for partnerships among VSBs that cause the establishment of effective and efficient VSBs across Africa.

## *2.7. Proposed Guiding Principles for the Association of African VSBs*

The strategy should be aligned with

- i. Africa Agenda 2063
- ii. Livestock Development Strategy for Africa (LiDeSA), 2016-2025
- iii. International standards and guidelines especially those of the OIE, FAO, WTO SPS, WHO and ILO
- iv. Implementation strategies of RECs and Development partners

This strategy will provide leadership, networking and partnerships on quality of the veterinary profession at continental, regional, national and community level recognizing socio-economic and environmental diversity, as well as gender and youth empowerment.

Actions will be based on a framework not only on animal health, but also animal welfare and value chains for safe food and animal utilization.

Given the socio-cultural impact of animal health in Africa, an African VSBs development strategy will have to assume a One-Health Approach and seek to comply with OIE international standards for a modern, sustainable livestock and fisheries production, trade and marketing, while maintaining animal and public health, as well as socio-economic well-being of those who benefit from animals, in the broadest sense.

## *2.8. Proposed Implementation Plan for the Association of African VSBs*

The strategy is expressed through an implementation plan showing key Actions and key PIs with mile stones toward the strategy's vision and overall goal.

Actions of the plan will be implemented according to time frames with tentative costs in the:

- i. Short term (0 - 3 years),
- ii. Medium term (>3 - 10 years) and
- iii. Long term (> 10 years) outlined in a Matrix.

## *2.9. Conclusions and Recommendations*

The existing situation on VSBs in Africa both in terms of compliance to OIE Standards and legal frameworks are not optimum.

Changes are required to align with:

- i. Relevant Chapters of the OIE Terrestrial Code dealing with VSBs and governance of Veterinary Services
- ii. VSBs and VSBs must be on the bus towards Africa agenda 2063
- iii. Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) with regards to cross boarder movement of veterinarians' and VPPs' services and veterinary inputs, in the respective trading zones/ blocks corresponding to AU RECs configuration

- iv. Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures of the World Trade Organization (WTO)

## *2.10. Proposed Way Forward*

- i. The VSBs Development Strategy as outlined above is a good candidate for Live2Africa
- ii. There is a need for a formal project appraisal under the Animal Health Services improvement component of Live2Africa in which it is earmarked to strengthen coordination capacity and performance of veterinary services in the continent

Dr. Bonaventure Mtei (Consultant): Noted that the participants in this meeting were chosen by AU-IBAR to drive the process of forming the African VSB Network

## *2.11. Concept to establish the “Association of African Veterinary Statutory Bodies”*

Dr Mwenda Mbaka (Kenya) presented a detailed overview of the concept of the establishment and of the Association of African Veterinary Statutory Bodies. He proposed that the American Association for VSBs be considered as a working example, which could be adapted to produce Africa-specific solutions in order to meet Africa-specific needs. In his arguments, he observed that

- Africa is mostly arid, with an immense but barely exploited potential of livestock resources
- There is therefore a need for intensification of the exploitation of the livestock potential in Africa, so as to improve her needs for foods of animal origin, as well as livestock based wealth creation
- The intensification of animal production will introduce a requirement for efficient quality assurance systems so as to safeguard public health, and for market access under the WTO conditions
- The regulatory function of the VSBs is crucial to an effective Veterinary Service Delivery; however, the regulatory function of most VSBs in Africa is poor, although a few are excellent
- In the spirit of the African Union, whose ultimate goal is to improve the lives of all Africans, there is need to establish a platform upon which to elicit and address the shortcomings in Veterinary Regulation in all African Member States
- To effectively discharge a mandate to elicit the shortcomings and address them, such a platform needs to be a strong and efficient data hub, which will be a repository of the data on the real-time status of the VSBs in Africa, the challenges confronting them,

the required interventions, the source of the resources for such interventions and the opportunities for the harmonization of the training, practice and control of the ethical conduct of the veterinary practitioners throughout Africa

- Considering that the American Association of Veterinary Statutory Bodies has over the years worked very well and continues to strengthen the American VSBs in their service to the American People, 2AVSB should perhaps emulate what has been found to work for the Americans so that it [2AVSB] may begin to serve the African People effectively as soon as possible

### **3. OUTPUTS OF THE EXPERTS' MEETING**

#### ***3.1 Vision for the Association of African Veterinary Statutory Bodies [2AVSB]***

An Africa in which harmonised standards of ethical veterinary practice is governed by independent VSBs, thus supporting animal and human health as well as socio-economic growth.

#### ***3.2 Mission of the Association of African VSBs***

To enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the VSBs to ensure the quality of veterinary service delivery in Africa.

#### ***3.3 Objectives for the Association of African VSBs***

- a. To support the establishment of VSBs in all AU Member States
- b. To enhance institutional capacities of VSBs
- c. To provide technical and institutional support to VSBs in AU Member States and RECs
- d. To promote networking among VSBs in Africa

#### ***3.4 Governance of the Association of African VSBs***

#### ***3.5 Name of Network***

Association of African Veterinary Statutory Bodies

#### ***3.6. Executive Committee (Exco; 13 members)***

- One member (VSB veterinarian nominated by the VSBs) elected from MS in each of the 7 Regional Economic Communities (RECs) (7)



- » President to be elected from among these 7 members
- » The President to be elected at the General Assembly of the Association by all members of Association
- » The President may not originate from same AU REC for more than 1 or 2 terms (to be confirmed)
- » No member state from a given REC to have representation for > 1 or 2 terms (to be confirmed), until each Member State has had a chance to represent the REC in the Executive Committee
- » Method to retain institutional memory to be confirmed [options include chance for a 2nd term for a delegate / overlaps between president-elect [1 year], president and immediate past president, etc.]
- President of the AU-IBAR Association of African Veterinary Educational Establishments (2AVEE) (1)
- President of African Veterinary Association (1)
- Representative of AU-IBAR (1)
- African Representative of OIE (1)
- African FAO Representative (1)
- African Representative of Animal Welfare Organisation (1)

### *3.7. Term of Service*

Term of 3 years. maximum 1 or 2 terms (to be confirmed).

### *3.8. Secretariat*

The Board is responsible for appointing Secretariat

### *3.9. General Assembly*

- All VSBs of Africa MS (1 vote per AU MS VSB)
- AU RECs
- Relevant African CSOs (Civil Society Organisations)
- Relevant Farmer Associations
- Relevant Regional and International Associations
- Relevant Development Partners (DPs)
- VSBs from other world regions participating as observers

### 3.10. Legal Instrument (“Constitution”)

To be developed – with support from AUC/AU-IBAR Legal Office

### 3.11. Language

Recognised AU languages (English, French, Arabic, Portuguese)

## 4.0. ROADMAP AND WORK-PLAN FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN VSB

### 4.1. Roadmap and Work-plan: Pre-Cairo (until July 2018)

| Task  | Responsible Person(s)         | Date  | Status             | Remarks   |
|---|-------------------------------|---|--------------------|-----------|
| Appointment of 2A-VSB Task Team and Chairperson of Task Team  | Experts meeting               | Tuesday 6 Feb 2018  | Done               |           |
| Draw up draft ToR for the Task Team   | Experts meeting               | Tuesday 6 Feb 2018  | Done Ref 4.6 below | Task Team |
| Circulation of draft Aide Memoire to Expert meeting participants  | Dr Bert Mohr                  | Wednesday 7 Feb 2018                                      | Done               |           |
| Feedback on Aide Memoire by Expert meeting participants   | Experts meeting participants  | Wednesday 14 Feb 2018                                     | Done               |           |
| Approval of the Aide Memoire by the Experts’ Meeting Participants   | Experts’ Meeting participants | Friday 16 Feb 2018  | Done               |           |
| Submission of Aide Memoire to AU-IBAR by Dr Hiver Boussini (AU-IBAR)  | Dr Hiver Boussini             | Monday 19 Feb 2018  | Done               |           |
| Circulation of Aide Memoire to AU MS, including relevant documentation:<br>(1) 2017 Dakar report;<br>(2) Capacity Mapping of The Status of Veterinary Statutory Bodies In Africa, Report to AU-IBAR by Consultants, July 2017;<br>(3) OIE Terrestrial Code (Article 3.2.12) Evaluation of the veterinary statutory body | AU-IBAR (circulation)         | End Feb 2018  | Done               |           |
| Period of Comment on Aide Memoire and Proposed Plan ahead, by MS VSBs to Task Team  | All MS and their VSBs         | End March 2018  |                    |           |
| Meeting between Task Team and VEEs Network  | AU-IBAR & Task Team           | TBC: March / early April (back-to-back with next meeting) |                    |           |
| Full Project Proposal Development (AU-IBAR); could be in Nairobi  | AU-IBAR & Task Team           | TBC: March / early April, before CVO meeting              |                    |           |
| Update CVOs (Chief Veterinary Officers) of AU MS on this initiative (Nairobi)   | AU-IBAR & Task Team           | 23-25 April 2018  |                    |           |

| Task  | Responsible Person(s)               | Date  | Status | Remarks          |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|--------|------------------|
| Compilation of all Comments (per subject area) and circulation to all MS VSBs   | Task Team                           | End April 2018  |        |                  |
| Identify key issues that need to be discussed at Cairo, to reach agreement; Task Team to source information to inform on these issues, in order to propose a way forward to address the issues in Cairo; Circulate all relevant documentation to MS VSBs prior to Cairo meeting | Task Team;<br>AU-IBAR (circulation) | End May 2018  |        |                  |
| Prepare presentations and draft Legal Instrument (use 2A-VEE “constitution” as template) for Association of African VSBs, to finalise at Cairo meeting. Draft Legal Instrument to be circulated to AU MS before Cairo for comment   | Task Team;<br>AU-IBAR (circulation) | Draft Legal instrument for 2AVSB should in place by the end of April and final draft by June 2018 |        |                  |
| Set up agenda for Cairo VSB meetings  | Task Team                           | June 2018   |        | Online or where? |
| Presentation on Association of African VSBs at Cairo meeting, including proposed roadmap and budget for next 10-15 years. – Cairo Meeting to be conducted over 3 days (2 days for VSB; 1 day for combined meeting with VEEs)  | Task Team                           | TBC – July 2018 – Cairo – 3 days  |        |                  |

## 4.2 Concept Work-plan and Roadmap A (Option 1) – Post-Cairo

(i.e. after July 2018)

| Outcomes  | Activities  | Objectives   | Time frame                                 | Responsible institution |
|---|---|--|--|-------------------------|
| 1- Establish the Board of Association of African VSBs   | 1.Continental Meeting of VSBs of MS, approval of constitution “Legal Instrument” of African VSB Network, for election of the members of Board of the African VSBs network, and verification of the roadmap for the Network  | 1.Establishment of the Board of the African VSBs network<br>2. Work plan of the VSBs network | Short-term                                 | AU-IBAR and MS          |
| 2 . E x c h a n g e experience and share information related to the legal regulations, authority and functions of the National VSBs | 1. Create a Website for 2AVSB that contains information about the national VSBs of the MS<br>2. Supply the Website with an information form to create the database of the VSBs of the MS<br>3. Share Rules, Day 1 skills and standards for VPPs and veterinarians | 1. Website of 2AVSB<br>2. Information About the national VSBs of the MS                      | AU-IBAR and the African VSBs network       | Short-term              |
| 3- Support the MS that do not have VSBs to establish National Veterinary Statutory Bodies   | 1.-Collaboration and support efforts of the Existing VSBs and 2AVSB<br>2.-Provide draft legislation that can be adapted by MS to establish independent VSBs by Acts of Parliament   | Establishment of National Veterinary Statutory Bodies in all African MS                      | AU-IBAR, the 2AVSB and MS                  | Long-term               |
| 4- Enhance the capacities of existing VSBs in MS  | 1- Using the standards set out by OIE for VSB to evaluate the performance of national VSBs<br>2- Use the OIE VSB Twinning Programme to strengthen VSBs  | Compliance of the VSBs in MS with the OIE standards  | AU-IBAR, the 2AVSB and MS                  | Long-term               |
| 5-Promote the capacities of MS VSBs to enhance good governance of national Veterinary Services, Veterinarians and VPPs              | The 2AVSB collaborate and harmonize with relevant regional and international organizations and institutions to hold seminars and workshops to strengthen the capacities of VSBs in MS, concerning the PVS Tool, modernizing and developing veterinary legislation | Compliance of the veterinary services in MS with OIE quality standards                       | A U - I B A R , OIE, FAO, the 2AVSB and MS | Long-term               |
| 6- To Sustain financial support for activities of the 2AVSB   | 1.Contribution from AMSS<br>2.Seek funding from donors  | Available funds for the 2AVSB activities   | AU-IBAR, OIE, FAO, 2AVSB and MS            | Long- term              |

### 4.3. Concept Work-plan and Roadmap B (Option 2) – Post-Cairo

(i.e. after July 2018)

The Road map below is taken from the report: **CAPACITY MAPPING OF THE STATUS OF VETERINARY STATUTORY BODIES IN AFRICA, Report to AU-IBAR by Consultants, July 2017** (Page 25, Table 5, “Strategic Development Plan for a VSBs Program in Africa”)

| Strategic objectives   | Activities  | Outputs   | Responsible institution | Time frame           | Provisional budget (x 1,000 US\$) |
|--|---|---|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| SO 1: Establish VSB in all MSs   | Development and implement advocacy and com. strategy                  | Strategic plans in place, media profiles, leaflets,                             | AU-IBAR, RECs and MSs   | Short-term (0-3 yrs) | 10x19MS=190                       |
|  | Facilitate Development of national VSB legislations                   | 12 Statutes developed and operational   | MS, FAO                 | Long-term (>10 yrs)  | 5x12MS=60                         |
|  | Promote functionality and effectiveness of VSBs                       | Inspections, Disciplinary records and National Registers databanks on a website | MS, VSBs                | Medium (3-10 yrs)    | MS contribution                   |
| SO 2: Enhance institutional capacity of VSBs                                 | Review legislation for VSB to comply with OIE international standards | VSBs Levels of Advancement higher   | OIE, AU-IBAR, RECs, MS  | Long-term (>10 yrs)  | 10x36MS=360                       |
|  | Development of VSB business plans                                     | Business Plans  | VSB, FAO                | Short-term (0-3 yrs) | 5x36MS=180                        |
|  | Promote VSB twinning  | 10 Twinning Agreements  | MS, VSBs, OIE,          | Long term (>10 yrs)  | 120x10MS=1200                     |
| SO 3: Provide Technical and institutional support to VSBs in AU MSs and RECs | Conduct on the Job Capacity building and training                     | Meetings, Workshop, Training materials  | AU-IBAR, FAO, OIE, DP   | Short-term (0-3 yrs) | 30x4Zones=120                     |
|  | Strengthen Information Communication Technology                       | Networking and improved Connectivity  | AU-IBAR, VSB, MS        | Medium (3-10 yrs)    | 20x55MS=1,100                     |
|  | Increase interaction between VSBs and VEEs                            | Reports & Visitations and MOUs  | VSBs, VEEs              | Medium (3-10 yrs)    | MS Contribution                   |
|  | Establish VSBs monitoring and evaluation systems                      | M & E Reports   | AU-IBAR, VSBs           | Long-term (>10 yrs)  | MS Contribution                   |
|  | <b>Total budget</b>   |   |                         |                      | <b>3, 210</b>                     |

#### *4.4. Recommendations for the meeting of the VSBs to be held in Cairo*

The meeting is slated to July 2018. Summarised in above tables.

#### *4.5. Appointment of VSB Network Task Team*

From the members present, the AU-IBAR requested representation from each AU Region represented at the Experts meeting. Members of the Task Team were elected as follows:

[Principal/Alternate]

- Northern Africa: Prof Hossaini-Hilali Jamal
- Eastern Africa: Dr M. Mbaka / alternate Dr Florence Masembe Kasirye
- Southern Africa: Dr Bert Mohr / alternate Dr Edwell Mwaanga
- Western Africa: Dr Imame Thiam / alternate Dr Josiah Kantiyok
- Central Africa: (To be confirmed)
- AU-IBAR: Dr Hiver Boussini
- Chairperson [President]: Dr Mwenda Mbaka / alternate Dr Imame Thiam

#### *4.6. Terms of Reference*

The Task Team will continue the business of the 2AVSB until the Cairo 2018 meeting. Specifically, it will:

- Circulate the draft Aide Memoire to Expert meeting participants
- Provide inputs on Aide Memoire by Expert meeting participants
- Approve the Aide Memoire Report
- Receive inputs on Aide Memoire and Proposed Plan, from MS VSBs
- Participate in meeting between Task Team and VEEs Network to reconcile the proposed plans
- Participate in the full Project Proposal Development with AU-IBAR
- With AU-IBAR, update CVOs of AU MS on this initiative (Conference, perhaps in Nairobi)
- Compile inputs from MS VSBs (per subject area) and circulate to them for validation
- Identify and agree on key issues that need to be discussed at Cairo; [Task Team to obtain the information to inform on these issues, in order to propose a way forward to address the issues in Cairo; and to circulate all relevant documentation to MS VSBs prior to Cairo meeting]
- Prepare draft Legal Instrument (use 2AVEE “constitution” as template) for 2AVSBs, to be discussed and finalised at Cairo meeting - Circulate draft Legal Instrument to the AU MS

before Cairo for their inputs

- Draw the agenda for the Cairo VSB meetings
- Deliver a Presentation on 2AVSB at Cairo meeting, including proposed roadmap and budget for next 10-15 years

## **4.7. Press Statement**

Released 6 Feb 2018; delivered by Dr Florence Masembe Kasirye

“Experts Meeting on the Establishment and Operationalization of the Association of African Veterinary Statutory Boards (2AVSB), 5th – 6th February 2018 Dakar, Senegal”

## **5.0. ADDENDUM**

### **5.1. Problem Statement**

An effective Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB), is the foundation for good governance of veterinary services (VS) in a country. A competent VSB must be free from political or commercial interests to ensure delivery of quality services by Veterinary Professionals [VPs] and Veterinary Para-Professionals (VPPs). VSBs are required to set and regulate minimum standards for veterinary education, practice, and ethical professional conduct.

In many African countries, the inadequate functioning or absence of VSBs negatively affects the quality of VS. Consequently, in such countries, the veterinary profession faces challenges in meeting societal expectations, as well as national, regional and international obligations. These expectations and obligations include the provision of animal disease prevention and control, veterinary public health, animal welfare and the safety of products and foods of animal origin as envisioned in the Malabo declaration on ‘accelerated agricultural growth and transformation for shared prosperity and improved livelihoods’

A study of VSBs in Africa conducted by AU-IBAR in 2017 showed that most of the VSBs are not able to play their core role to meet the needs of the animal industry and society, due to inadequate or lack of legal recognition and weak legal structures where they exist, scarcity of resources for operations; lack of, or insufficient autonomy, insufficient technical capacity, and insufficient resources to develop the technical capacity of the VSBs and their employees. Insufficient awareness of the function and importance of the VSBs among stakeholders is also a serious impediment.



There is therefore an urgent need to transform veterinary statutory bodies in Africa so as to ensure delivery of quality veterinary services.

## *5.2. Proposed Intervention*

Recognizing all the above challenges, AU-IBAR working with a technical committee of VSB experts in Africa. They have been tasked to spearhead the establishment and operationalization of the Association of African Veterinary Statutory Bodies (2AVSB). This body is expected to be the platform upon which to drive the process of addressing the identified gaps. This will enable transformation of the Animal Resource sector in Africa, which is expected to contribute to the stimulation of socio-economic growth in the continent.

Specifically, the proposed Association of African Veterinary Statutory Bodies (2AVSB) will:

- Develop a data repository for all VSBs and Practitioners in the Member States in Africa
- Promote the establishment of VSB in all AU Member States
- Enhance technical and institutional capacities of VSBs
- Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the VSBs
- Promote collaboration among all African VSBs
- Support harmonization of veterinary standards
- Strengthen quality assurance systems
- Enhance animal health, public health, food security, socio-economic growth and environmental health in Africa

## *5.3. Proposed concept Note for VSB Program Proposal*

### **Title**

Pan African programme for the Establishment and Operationalization of the Association of African VSBs for the strengthening of VSBs in their control of the Veterinary Profession so as to enhance animal health and welfare, public health and socio-economic development

### **Background and Context**

- Widespread poor or absence of regulation of the Veterinary Profession in Africa
- Failure to comply with the required standards, and challenges to animal and public health, as well as lock out of the African products of animal origin from the Global Market
- Disparity in the training, categorization and regulation of the Practitioners and the Profession

## **Some Challenges of VSBs**

- Poor legal recognition, lack of legal structures
- Insufficient resources for operations
- Insufficient autonomy
- Insufficient technical capacity
- Insufficient training [to build VSBs Capacity] resources
- Poor Publicity and Visibility of the VSBs

## **On-going Initiatives**

- Global – OIE PVS and Gap analysis, OIE Twinning Programs, OIE Vet Legislation Support Program
- Continental –Creation of the 2AVSB
- Regional Initiatives – Regional Association of VSBs, MRA,
- National initiatives – Legislations – enactment where they don't exist, and review where they are weak, Registration, licensing and accreditation, inspection of facilities, taking necessary action

## **Proposed Programme**

- Programme Purpose and objectives
  - Purpose
    - » To give strategic direction and guidance for effective and efficient VSBs across Africa
  - Objectives
    - » Establish VSBs in AU MS where they don't exist
    - » Improve VSBs capacities, functionalities and effectiveness at National and REC levels
    - » Set up an Association of African VSBs under the auspices of the African Union Commission [AUC]

## **Programme Investment Areas / Key Activities;**

- Promotion of collaboration among African VSBs
- Support of harmonization of VSB activities & training [CE]
- Enhancement of effectiveness of VSBs to ensure quality of VSD
- Protection of public interests by enhancing capacities of VSBs to regulate the profession and building the skills capacity of the VPs and VPPs in Africa

- Enhancement of institutional capacities of VSBs in the RECs

### **Programme Results Outputs / Outcomes**

- VSBs in all AU MS established and fully functional
- Institutional capacities of VSBs enhanced
- Technical and institutional support to VSBs in MS and RECs provided
- Associations of VSBs established at the REC Levels

### **Description of Target Beneficiaries and Actors**

#### **Beneficiaries**

- Public (welfare - socio-economic, food security and public health needs)
- African countries with VSBs
- African countries which do not have VSBs
- Practitioners [capacity –skills and knowledge, economic benefits from a thriving profession and industry

#### **Actors**

- MS VSBs
- REC VSB Associations
- 2AVSB
- Subject matter specialists – e.g. OIE PVS

#### **Scope of Operation**

- Data collection and data collation to elicit challenges, recognizing and planning interventions, provide linkages of the solutions to the VSBs

#### **Approach and Methodology of Delivery**

- Partnership and collaboration arrangements

#### **Sustainability**

- Seed capital from African Union Commission [AUC]
- Subscription from memberships
- Support from development partners
- M&E, Information and Knowledge management
- Risk analysis and assumptions

- Governance and management Structure
- Financing arrangement and cost estimates

#### **5.4. Closing Remarks**

All participants made final remarks, with thanks to the organisers and the team effort experienced.

Dr Boussini thanked all participants on behalf of AU-IBAR for their valuable contributions.

Dr Thiam closed the meeting with thanks to the organisers and all participants.

The meeting ended at 5.30pm, 7th February 2018.

### **6.0 REFERENCES**

1. AU-IBAR (2015), The Livestock Development Strategy for Africa (LiDeSA) 2015-2035. Nairobi, Kenya.
2. Kenya Law Reports (2012); The Veterinary Surgeons and Veterinary Para-Professional Act, 2011 ;Published by the National Council for Law Reporting with the Authority of the Attorney-General
3. OIE (2013); Guide to Veterinary Statutory Body Twinning Projects
4. OIE (2017); Terrestrial Animal Health Code
5. [www.oie.int](http://www.oie.int).

## 7.0 APPENDIX

### 7.1 Presentation from Dr. Mbaka

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1mwrFQeo-8Dz5gyFZgwYi2J-i8QCtasq2gzNz1w6D9as/edit?usp=sharing>

### 7.2 List of Participants

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