

COMMONWEALTH VETERINARY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

Executive committee

President – Dr Olatunji Nasir, Nigeria
Immediate Past President – Dr Peter Thornber, Australia
Executive Director – Dr Abdul Rahman, India
Secretary – Dr Sarah Eytle, Jamaica
Treasurer – Dr Dianne Phillips, Australia
Program Manager – Dr Sean Wensley, United Kingdom
Communications Coordinator – Dr Jeff Cave, Australia

Notable events

The CVA executive and councillors and members in countries around the world honour the work and life of our patron, Dr. William J Pryor AO who sadly passed away in March 2022. Bill had a long history of involvement, support and office bearing for the CVA as well as his extensive and valuable career in many spheres of veterinary science.



Collaboration

World Veterinary Association (WVA)

Our president Dr Olatunji Nasir was elected to the (WVA) as Councillor for International Regional Organizations in January 2022 which represents an important platform and opportunity for sharing awareness across the two organizations.





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Dr. William J. Pryor A.O

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ABN: 32 028 718 664

Vets Beyond Borders (VBB)

Our memorandum of understanding was updated between our organizations and work is underway to identify areas for shared training and collaboration as well as access for CVA members to the VBB portal.

Vet Sustain

We signed a memorandum of understanding with Vet Sustain at our first virtual pan-Commonwealth council meeting, held in January 2022. Vet Sustain is the UK-based organization supporting veterinary professionals to drive change towards a more sustainable future. On the announcement of the MOU, CVA President Olatunji Nasir said “We look forward to building our relationship with Vet Sustain to provide practical support and knowledge exchange among our members across the Commonwealth.”

World Federation for Animals

Following positive dialogue with the World Federation for Animals (WFA), CVA lent its support to calls for the adoption of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) 5.2 resolution, which would explicitly recognise the role and significance of animal welfare in sustainable development. The resolution was adopted on 2nd March at the UN Environment Assembly held in Nairobi. WFA Chief Executive and veterinary surgeon Dr James Yeates said “I wanted to extend my thanks to the CVA for the support for the UNEA 5.2 resolution. It was a successful venture, that led to the unanimous acceptance of the Resolution on the animal welfare - environment - sustainable development nexus by all member states. This is a historic achievement.”

A press release, issued jointly by World Federation for Animals, Africa Network for Animal Welfare and the InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources, can be found [here](#).

Training Opportunities

Rabies Diagnostic Training Workshop

On 23 March 2022, a 2-day workshop on brain sample collection, packing, transportation and diagnosis of rabies in animals was jointly organized by the Commonwealth Veterinary Association, the Veterinary College at Hassan, & the OIE-Reference Laboratory for Rabies, Veterinary College, Bengaluru, India.



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A total of 42 participants from different parts of the country, including the faculty from various disciplines of Veterinary College in Hassan and Veterinary Officers from Dept of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, Govt. of Karnataka participated in the workshop.



Day 1 (23rd March 2022): Dignitaries, resource persons, Coordinators with participants



Day 2 (24th March 2022): Resource persons demonstrating dog brain sampling



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Regional Conferences

Planning is underway for the first face to face regional conference since the start of the pandemic to be held later in 2022 in Rwanda.

Study Funds

CVA has invited applications from member countries for supported study/training requests (within country or regions) to support the development of veterinary expertise. We are looking forward to supporting a successful applicant for this process now that pandemic related travel restrictions have eased.

Small Projects

CVA funding has been approved for a sustainable village poultry keeping project which will supply improved nutrition, medications and husbandry training to villagers in Zambia to be delivered from June 2022 over the ensuing 12 months.

Book Program

In the past year boxes of selected veterinary texts were supplied to Tanzania, Uganda and Nigeria. There was a large consignment of books destined for Afghanistan but due to the dangerous situation that has unfolded in that country we are unable to send them to our colleagues for the time being. Thanks to our book program officer Jim Connah continues to organize, collate, store and send donations of books and some equipment to our member countries.



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