


Council of Veterinary Surgeons of Zimbabwe

**REGISTRATION OF VETERINARIANS AND
VETERINARY PARA-PROFESSIONALS BY THE
COUNCIL**

Presented at the OIE seminar in Arusha
"Veterinary education in Southern Africa: matching supply to
demand" 2-4th September 2009




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Veterinary Services in Zimbabwe

The Veterinary Services Department – 1905
Ministry of Agriculture

Animal Health Act 1973

Four Departments:
Field & disease surveillance, Technical (lab & Public
Health), Tsetse control, Livestock production supported
by Regulatory.



Council of Veterinary Surgeons

- Autonomous
- Present day register was opened- 1961
- First Council recorded – 1961



Council structure

Four elected members

Chairperson – elected member
Vice chairperson – elected member
Two elected members


Three (+2) appointed members

PD-DVS (CVO); Registrar & Legal advisor
(All councilors must be veterinarians except the legal advisor
Appointments by Minister for Agriculture)




CVSZ - Functions

- Self regulation (complaints, standards, PR, discipline)
- Regulate training of veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals
- Maintain standards within the profession
- Regulate the way vets and vet para-professionals practice their professions and callings



CVSZ – Functions tools


- Veterinary Surgeons Act (196(1973, 2002))
- Visitations to university
- Code of conduct
- Animal Welfare Act
- Sub committees



Council Activities


Meetings:

- Monthly and recorded
- Extra ordinary as necessary with stakeholders e.g. MCAZ
- Functions With the profession: annually in two venues



CVSZ - Activities

- CPD programme through ZVA
- Animal Welfare Forum and Act
- Input into registration of vet drugs and biologicals
- Registration of persons and facilities
- Annual report.



Legal Instruments in use

- Veterinary Surgeons Act (1961, 1973, 1993, 2002)
- VS (Registration) Regulations, 1974/1985/1991/1997
- VS (Local Examinations) Regulations, 1980 (1990/1993)
- VS (Qualification for Registration), Regulations, 1990
- VS (Veterinary Laboratories) Regulations, 1974
- VS (Veterinary Surgeries) Regulations, 1974
- VS (Veterinary Hospitals) Regulations, 1974
- VS (Council Election) Regulations 1974.

Associated with:
Medicines & Allied Substances Act, Public Health Act, fertilizers-farm feeds Act.



Qualification for Registration

Veterinarians

- First degree in Veterinary Science
- BVSc. from UZ or a degree from a recognized University : DVM, BVM etc.
- Resident or intend to practice in Zimbabwe

Para-professionals

- Association with a constitution
- Clearly defined qualifications
- Resident or practicing in Zimbabwe. Dual.



Registration :para-professionals

Active veterinary para-professional

- Embryo transfer technicians
- Veterinary nurses
- Laboratory technologists / technicians
- Meat inspectors
- Livestock technicians
- Radiologists
- Community health worker
- Horse farriers



Council Subcommittees


CPD-all veterinarians (voluntary)

Animal welfare

Visitation


Examination
(formed as and when necessary)

Zimbabwe Veterinary Association
(Professional self advancement interests association guided but not run by Council)




Visitation procedure: UZ Faculty of Veterinary Science

- Every 5 years
- Notification and selection of team (5 including expatriate)
- Self evaluation exercise and report
- Visitation
- Visitation draft report
- University response and comments
- Council report
- Last done 2004




Examination for Registration

- Application written to the Registrar
- Submission of: certificates of qualification +/- letter of good standing etc. as necessary
- UZ graduate – automatic acceptance / Foreign graduate sits examinations
- Registration fee
- Name on register
- Issue of certificate signed by registrar
- Registration is maintained by annual subscriptions



Examination for Registration

- Once per year in February (or on demand)
- Board of examiners: 3 registered vets with at-least 10yrs in practice (1 chair, 1 public sector, 1 private)
- English language
- Duration: 1 week
- Content:
 - Large & Small Animal medicine and surgery (2x3hr written papers)
 - Large and small animal (2x2hr) practical papers
 - An oral on above (legislation and ethics included)
- Results to candidate by the board in writing



Veterinary Surgeons Register

Permanent :

For residents and veterinarians practicing in Zimbabwe Maintained through annual retention fees; Names removed: death, nonpayment, voluntary;

Membership: Ordinary, Retired, Honorary.

Temporary:

For visiting veterinarians; Good for 1-3 three years; Adjustable. Both can be revoked for misconduct




CVSZ Register 2009

- Permanent: 265
- Temporary: 1

By sector:

- 88 State (MCAZ/Army/NGO)
- 17 UZ
- 30 Private practice
- 31 Commerce
- 60 Abroad
- 29 Other (consultants / farming)



Registration of Vet. facilities

Veterinary surgeries: 15 (3 l/a, 6 mixed, 7 s/a)

Veterinary hospitals: 3 (1 s/a; 1 l/a, 1 mixed)

Veterinary laboratories: 7 (4 subsidiary)

(l/a = large animal; s/a = small animal)




Registration of facilities

Annual inspections;
Initial and supplementary for non-conformances;
Inspectorate team includes individuals and companies;
Certification by the Registrar;
Funded through cost recovery.




CVSZ - Challenges

- Brain drain (20 -25 graduates each year) - shortage;
- Remuneration for public sector;
- Professional rates;
- Funding



Recommendations and Successes

- Big success : we are on schedule for all activities
- Thanks to a resilient and supportive membership
- Net work SADC veterinary councils (Exchange newsletters, annual meetings, etc.)
- Share problems like cross border veterinarians
- Work towards reciprocity at Council and varsity level
- Today...the 1st step in the journey of 1000 miles



Thank you
For your attention.

