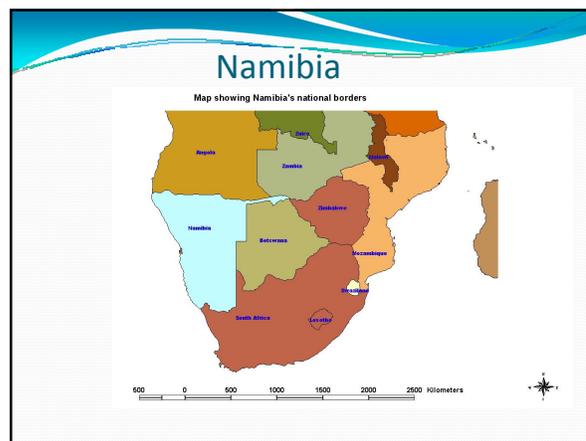




## Veterinary Council of Namibia

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## Registration of Veterinarians and Veterinary Para-professionals in Namibia

Current legislation:

- Proclamation AG 14 of 1984
- GN AG 76 of 1985 (regulations)
- GN 200 of 1986 (rules)
- Draft Veterinary and Veterinary Para-professionals Bill 2009 (submitted to MAWF)

## Requirements for Registration

- **Either** a degree from a Veterinary Faculty listed in AG 76 of 1985 **or** a pass in the Namibian Council Exam (or SA exam)

**As well as**

- A LPGS or a character reference from the Dean
- ID document, birth certificate, recent CV
- Registration fee (N\$ 500 for Namibians; N\$ 700 for foreigners)

## Categories of Registration

- **Unconditional registration:**  
Empowered to practice a veterinary profession in all its facets
- **Conditional registration:**
  1. *Temporary registration*  
Empowered to work under the supervision of an unconditionally registered veterinarian, while preparing to write the Council exam. Includes Interns working for MAWF.
  1. *Restricted registration*  
Empowered to practice a veterinary profession restricted to certain disciplines (eg pathology, research, etc)

## Statistics of Vets registered in Namibia

- Current total 320; of which 158 still registered
- 7 Temporary and 5 restricted registrations
- Past 5 years:

Year	Total	No exam
2005	14	9
2006	20	4
2007	15	3
2008	15	3
2009	14	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>26</b>

## 158 currently registered vets:

- 110 resident in Namibia
- 29 resident in South Africa
- 7 resident elsewhere in Africa
- 13 resident in USA/ UK/ Europe
- Currently in Namibia: 66 Namibian citizens  
Others from Zimbabwe, South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, Uganda, Germany, UK, Australia, Italy, USA

## Vets in Namibia

- 34 in Private Practice, 19 registered practices
- 2 in industry (Meat Board, Agra)
- 1 consultant
- 1 welfare (SPCA)
- 6 retired, still registered
- 66 State vets
- 8 students (Onderstepoort, Zambia, Kenya)
- 12 foreign students seeing practice

## Namibian Council Exam

- Once annually
- 8 Internal examiners: 4 private and 4 State practitioners
- 2 External examiners: one from the region and one from abroad
- 4 theory papers: Companion Animal Practice, Production Animal Practice, VPH, Epidemiology and regulatory medicine
- 3 practical exams: CA, PA, VPH (2 weeks in export abattoir)
- Pass mark: 50% average, calculated with a 60% weight on theory and 40% on practical papers, and a subminimum of 40% in each paper (theory and prac)

## Council Exams: statistics

- Since 1991
- Total of 70 candidates
  - 37 passed
  - 33 failed

Of the 15 Namibian candidates included above,

- 5 passed at the first attempt,
- 3 at the second attempt,
- 7 are employed as interns with temporary registration, to attempt the exam again in 2010

## Challenges

- No Veterinary Faculty at UNAM, so Namibian veterinary students all study out of the country
- In many cases Namibian citizens are required to write the Council exam after completion of their degree before being registered in their own country (If Faculty is not listed in AG 76)
- In some cases graduates are registered without an exam, (if Faculty is listed in AG 76), but they are not equipped to deal with some diseases or conditions encountered in the region
- In some cases graduates are not registerable in the country which granted the degree

## Recommendations

- Establish a list of Faculties from the region, whose graduates qualify for unconditional registration without writing a Council exam
- Criteria for listing these Faculties endorsed by OIE, accepted throughout the region
- Students on Government bursaries should be sent to only these Faculties for veterinary studies
- Reciprocity of Council exams within the region (similar exams, or one exam set by committee from listed faculties)

