

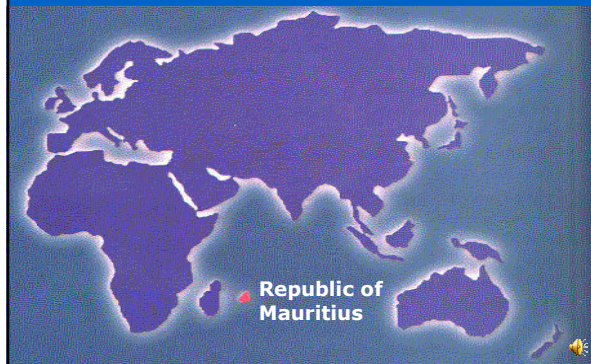
OIE REGIONAL SEMINAR ON 'Veterinary Education in Southern Africa: matching demand and supply.'

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## REGISTRATION OF VETERINARIANS AND VETERINARY PARA PROFESSIONALS IN MAURITIUS.

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### Republic of Mauritius



### Republic of Mauritius



- Mauritius-a small island state.
  - Situated in the middle of the Indian Ocean.
  - 1,265 Miles from the West coast of Africa
  - Only 36 miles long & 25 miles width.
- Tourist destination par excellence**

### Key information

- Independent since 12<sup>th</sup> March 1968
- Proclaimed Republic since 12<sup>th</sup> March 1992
- Population of 1.25 million inhabitants.(2008)
- Economy:-
  - Textiles
  - Sugar / agriculture
  - Tourist
  - Finance

### Livestock population at June 2006

Type of breeder	Cattle	Goat	Sheep	Pig
Small breeders	6,394	23,431	1,247	15,319
Livestock breeding stations and prisons farm	540	303	17	231
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,934</b>	<b>23,734</b>	<b>1,264</b>	<b>15,550</b>

Feral and intensive deer population

Estimated at 75,000-100,000

## The Mauritius Veterinary Council

- Established in 1991 by Act of Parliament.  
( Act No.14 of 1991).
- Minor Amendments brought in the Act in 1994.

## FUNCTION OF THE MAURITIUS VETERINARY COUNCIL.

- Exercise and maintain discipline in the practice of Veterinary surgery.
- Advise the Minister on any matter governed by the provisions of the Veterinary Council Act.
- Establish a code of practice for the Veterinary Profession.

## FUNCTION OF THE MAURITIUS VETERINARY COUNCIL.

- The Council maintains a proper record of all its proceedings.
- Investigation of complaints against any Veterinary Surgeon in the discharge of his duties.
- Publish annual list of Veterinary Surgeons.

## CONSTITUTION OF THE MAURITIUS VETERINARY COUNCIL.

- Council consists of 11 members.
- 7 Registered Veterinary Surgeons of not less than 10 years experience in Mauritius, elected in accordance with the provisions of the schedule.
- 2 Registered Veterinary Surgeons not less than 10 years experience in Mauritius appointed by the Minister, one of whom shall be the Principal Veterinary Officer.
- The Solicitor General or his representative.

## CONSTITUTION OF THE MAURITIUS VETERINARY COUNCIL.

- A representative of the Prime Minister's Office.
- The Council elects a Veterinary Surgeon from among its members as Chairman of the Council.
- The composition of the Council is published in the Government Gazette

## TENNURE OF OFFICE.

- The members of the Council shall hold office for a period of three years and shall be eligible for reappointment or re election as the case may be.

## ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

- Election conducted and results communicated to the Registrar by the Electoral Commissioner.
- The Registrar shall submit to the Minister the results of the election forthwith.
- The Minister shall, within 15 days of the receipt of the results of the election, publish in the Gazette the composition of the Council.

## PROCEDURES FOR REGISTRATION.

- Every person wishing to be registered as a Veterinary Surgeon may apply in writing to the Registrar and submit with his application:
  - (a) his degree/diploma in Veterinary Surgery,
  - (b) Act of Birth or any other acceptable evidence of his identity,
  - (c) such other particulars as the Council may require.
- Every application shall be in such form as the Council may determine.

Where the Chairman is satisfied that an applicant is qualified for registration as a Veterinary Surgeon under the Act, he shall register the applicant and inform the Council accordingly.

## PROCEDURES FOR REGISTRATION.

- In every other case the Chairman shall refer the application to the Council for consideration.
- Where the Council decides to register the applicant shall be so registered.
- Where the Council refuses an application, it shall notify the applicant accordingly stating his reason for the refusal.

## FULL REGISTRATION FOR MAURITIAN CITIZENS.

- Every person who is a citizen of Mauritius shall be entitled for registration as Veterinary Surgeon provided that:
  - (a) he holds a degree in Veterinary Surgery acceptable to the Council,
  - (b) he is of good character and has not been convicted of a crime involving fraud or dishonesty or infamous conduct,
  - (c) he is not under suspension under the laws of any country or on account of any infamous conduct or any professional incompetence or malpractice,

## FULL REGISTRATION FOR MAURITIAN CITIZENS

- (d) he has not been struck off the list of persons entitled to practise Veterinary Surgery in any country,
- (e) he is not incapacitated by reasons of any physical or mental health.

## TEMPORARY REGISTRATION FOR NON CITIZENS.

- Every person who is not a citizen of Mauritius shall be entitled to be temporarily registered as Veterinary Surgeon if he satisfies all the above requirements and he holds a work permit.

## TEMPORARY REGISTRATION OF VISITORS.

A person shall be entitled to be temporarily registered under this Act if he is a Veterinary Surgeon who is:

- (a) engaged in Mauritius in the implementation of a Government scheme agreed by the Government, the FAO or any other international agency approved by the Council.

## TEMPORARY REGISTRATION OF VISITORS.

- (b) visiting Mauritius and has been invited to offer his services in a hospital or other institution approved by the Council,
- (c) visiting Mauritius for the purpose of teaching, research or study in the field of Veterinary Surgery under such training scheme as may be approved by the Government

## REGISTERED VETERINARY SURGEONS OF MAURITIUS.

- Number of Registered Veterinary Surgeons -62.
- Permanent Registered Veterinary Surgeons-50
- Temporary Registered Veterinary Surgeons( Expatriates)-13.

## EMPLOYMENT OF VETERINARY SURGEONS

- **Public Sector:**  
Permanent Registration-22  
Temporary Registration( expatriates on contract basis)-5
- **Private Sector:**  
Permanent Registration-26  
Temporary Registration ( expatriates on contract basis)-8

## COUNTRIES OF STUDY

- Australia-2
- Bulgaria-1
- England-1
- France-3
- India-23
- Malaysia-1
- New Zealand-1
- Pakistan-3
- Russia-19
- Scotland-1
- South Africa-2
- Ukraine-2
- Zimbabwe-2

## FIELD OF ACTIVITY

- **Public Sector**  
Treatment of livestock, Artificial Insemination of dairy cattle, Disease Surveillance, Production of vaccines, Meat and seafood inspection.
- **Private Sector**  
Small Animal Hospital, Equine Practice ( Race horses and pleasure riders), Primate farms, Poultry farms.

## CURRENT SITUATION OF VETERINARY PROFESSION IN MAURITIUS.

- Acute shortage of Veterinary Surgeons in both Public and Private Sectors.
- Very few Mauritians studying Veterinary Medicine abroad.
- 25% of Veterinary Services being carried out by temporarily registered Veterinary Surgeons.
- 50% of the local Veterinary Surgeons are ageing.

## VETERINARY SURGEONS AS PER AGE DISTRIBUTION.

Age Range( years)	Number of Veterinary Surgeons
Above 70	2
60-70	9
50-59	19
40-49	4
30-39	10
25-29	7

## CHALLENGES OF THE VETERINARY PROFESSION

- Ensuring food security through a sustainable terrestrial and *aquatic* animal health system
- Verification of safety of products of terrestrial and aquatic animals' origin intended for human and animal consumption.
- Promoting trade of products of animal origin.

## CONSTRAINTS FACING THE VETERINARY PROFESSION.

- Acute shortage of well trained Vets in specific fields of animal health such as poultry pathologists, virologists,
- epidemiologists food safety experts, aquatic animal health specialists, primate veterinary medicine and small animal veterinary medicine.
- Scarcity of advanced training courses and research in related fields

## PARA VETERINARIANS

- The Mauritius Veterinary Council Act does not make any provision for registration of para veterinarians.
- High need for para veterinarians ( Diploma and Graduate Holders)
- Presently technicians are trained by the Veterinary Surgeons in related fields( eg.primate veterinary medicine, inspection of seafood products, artificial insemination in various species, veterinary laboratory technicians, small and large animal practice).

Thank You for your attention.