

*Registration of veterinarians
and veterinary para-professionals :
Mozambique*






*OIE Regional seminar on
"Veterinary Education in Southern Africa:
matching demand and supply"*

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Introduction

- **Veterinary Medicine** (Liberal profession) has a noble and admirable 101 years of history in **Mozambique**, It has still a lot to offer to the Society with whom is well integrated.
- **However**, presently, Veterinary Medicine/science is at a crossroad both for the Profession and on Educational Methodologies






Background



- **Mozambique have never had, legislation for governing the veterinary profession (Order/College/ Veterinary Council), like some other professions in the country**

[Order of Lawyers (1994); Engineers (2003); Physicians (2006)]

- **1991: was created the Mozambican Veterinary Association (AVETMO) that have now 265 members**

Background


- **The Veterinary and Veterinary Para-Profession are regulated, under common civil servant laws**
- In 1970 was published a legislative diploma that compelled the registration of graduates at the National Directorate of Veterinary Services
- **With the OMVM body, both professions will be under the umbrella of this Regulatory organization.**

Background

SOME STATISTICAL DATA

Available data in the Mozambique Veterinarians Association (AVETMO) indicate that veterinarians (n=324) occupy the following activities or places:

1. **Education, formation and research (130 = 40%)**
2. **National Veterinary Services (75 = 23%)**
3. **Ministry of Fisheries (33 =10%)**
4. **Private practices (20 = 7%)**
5. **Others (66 = 20%)**



OMVM

OMVM = Ordem dos Médicos Veterinários de Moçambique

During the last 2 years (2008-2009), a group of 11 Mozambican Vets* worked intensively to produce a proposal of the Statutes of the OMVM




***Education, research, Vets state officers, private practices, inspectors**



OMVM

- After a lot of work, basing ourselves on what we have studied as the most appropriate 5-6 examples around the world, we finally reached a final version, adapted for MZ;
- This was presented to several Governmental bodies for harmonization, now it is at the Ministry of Agriculture, to be presented to the Parliament to be approved as a national Law.

REGISTRATION




Globalization and diffusion of technology requires **HARMONIZATION of COMPETENCES**.

Both for Academics and the Order, in a way to answer Society needs, it is fundamental to focalize specific professional selected areas.

In this way, *curricula* (initial and continuing) must be prepared in those domains. This infers a change on the Licensing Requirements to assure full competence in selected professional areas.

REGISTRATION (CONT)




Members of the future Order:

- **Effective Member:** The national citizens who have the “licenciatura” degree, or legal equivalent, in Veterinary Medicine course with the **minimum duration of 5 years** and that have successfully attend the tests or periods of training carried by the Order

The renewal of OMVM professional certificate implies obtaining the credits from continuing education and other activities.

REGISTRATION (CONT)




Members of the future Order:

- **Associate Member:** awarded to foreign citizens, who have the title of Veterinarian, or legal equivalent after successfully passing tests given by the Order.

The admission as Associate member is dependent on the existence of a regimen of reciprocity with OMVM and the veterinary statutory body of the candidate's country (reciprocal registrants and licensing agreements)


REGISTRATION (CONT)



Veterinary para-professionals

OMVM accept the delegation of certain veterinary tasks or interventions to those who are technically and legally competent under the responsibility and direction of a registered veterinarian (proposal of the Statutes)

HOWEVER....



Neither the OMVM neither the Universities are presently involved within the formation of veterinary Para-professionals or Vet Nursing. **It is a must for the future!**

There are actually some courses, at Bachelor level, for “Livestock Technicians”, graduates that work at the borders and give assistance to Vets. But in non-significant numbers!!!

Challenges for implementation of the OMVM

- Limited members of veterinarians (full time) in practice
- Performance of Veterinary Services
- Financial resources to develop activities
- Limited commercial farms

ALLIANCES and SOCIETIES

Future success of Colleges/Orders are dependent on the “aggressive” search of strategic partners.

Agreements could be established as follows:

- Educational level
- Protocols of collaboration with other sectors and colleges/orders to establish interdisciplinary relationship with trade, law, education, science, medicine and social sciences.



Recommendation

Creation of a Regional Committee of Veterinarians (it may be the future Federation of Veterinarians of Southern Africa- FVSA) with the aim of:

- i. Developing procedures to create the right conditions to carry out the tasks society has conferred on veterinarians (care for animal health and welfare and veterinary public health)
- ii. Monitoring trends in the veterinary profession
- iii. Ensuring better coordination among veterinary statutory bodies in order to harmonise the procedures to register veterinarians at regional level
- iv. Assembling opinions from all members and formulating opinions as one corporate voice
- v. Promoting activities related to development of continuing education for veterinarians and creating opportunities for sharing information.

Thank you for your attention



“Obrigado pela atenção”

OMVM
MOZAMBIQUE

