

## SWAZILAND 2009

### REGISTRATION OF VETERINARIANS AND VETERINARY PARA-PROFESSIONALS

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## Preamble

- Benefit from United Kingdom (UK) Technical Assistance of the Overseas Development Agency (ODA).
- Technical Cooperation Programme with the Republic of South Africa.

### Professional

- Legislative framework relating to the control of animal disease.
- Membership of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (MRCVS) of Great Britain, inclusive of Veterinary qualification recognized by that institution as equal to its own.
- Constant review and update. For instance, the section of the law referred to underwent no less than four (4) amendments, published in Legal Notices, in the period 1960-1969. The last Legal Notice 25/1969 was for the recognition of .....possessor of a Bachelor of Veterinary Science Degree of the University of East Africa.
- Open market recruitment of Veterinarians. System of case by case regulation increasingly became inadequate ; underscored gap for statutory body.

### Para-Veterinary

- Animal Health Technicians training course; since 1950's.
- Direct responsibility of the Veterinary Services; throughput exclusively absorbed in the National Veterinary Services.
- Operationally under Veterinarians.
- Have not been subject to any formal Registration/Recognition procedures.

## Legislative Framework

### The Animal Disease Act 7/1965

- Provides for the prevention of disease amongst animals and other incidental or connected matters.
- Relates to the subject in the terms of a requirement for the specification of qualifications for 'recognition' of Veterinary Surgeon; and the designation of 'official'; in the context of the Stock Diseases Regulations, 1933 under the Act.

### The Veterinary Surgeons Act 8 /1997

- Provides for the establishment of a Veterinary Council of Swaziland (VCS), the registration and control of Veterinary Surgeons as well as matters related there to.
- Direct relevance to Registration of Veterinarians in the broader sense, inclusive of jurisdiction over matters of professional misconduct.
- Publication of list of names and qualifications of all Veterinary Surgeons on Register in Legal Notice.
- Categories and definition of permissible Veterinary acts and practices for para-professionals.

## Veterinary Statutory Body

Regulatory function is vested upon the Veterinary Council of Swaziland (VCS) in terms of the Veterinary Surgeons Act 8, 1997.

Council composition:

*Director of Veterinary Services  
- Chairperson  
Four Veterinary Surgeons  
- elected by the Swaziland Veterinary  
Association (SVA).  
One Government Veterinary Surgeon  
- nominated by the Minister*

Registrar designated public officer and Secretary to the Council.  
Council term of office three years; present Council by Legal Notice No. 139 of 2007.

## Status of Registration

### Eligibility for Registration

*Certificates of character.  
Residence ordinarily within the country.  
Professional qualification prescribed in Act.  
Registration fee.  
Annual registration retention fee.*

*Registered Veterinary Surgeons 2009*

Sector	No. on Register	No. local	No. Non-local
Public	16	13	3
Private	9	3	6
Parastatal	1	1	0
Education and Training	1	0	1
	<b>27</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>10</b>

*Veterinary Surgeons Nationalities 2009*

	SADC Nationals	Other Nationals
No.	5	5
Nationalities	Tanzania; Zambia; Zimbabwe	Egypt; Ghana; Taiwan; Uganda

*Veterinary Surgeons Qualifications 2009*

	Graduate Professional	Post-Graduate Professional
No.	15	12
Institutions	Tuskegee; East Africa; Zimbabwe; Nairobi; Murdoch; Kerala; Makerere; Pretoria; Dublin; MedUnSA; Cairo; Taiwan; Faisalabad	Edinburgh; Antwerp; Sydney; Faisalabad; London; Larenstein; Vienna

- Conclusion*
- National Veterinary Services has since been internalized at the Veterinary professional level
  - Post graduate professional specialized Education and Training much slower than desired
  - Quality control Audit / Evaluation mechanisms

- Conclusion cont'd*
- Incorporation of regular Audits / Evaluations as part of the business cycle of the statutory body – OIE PVS.
  - VCS has been received with overwhelming acceptance and support of the Veterinary fraternity
- Veterinary Council of Swaziland  
Mbabane