

## Regulation of Veterinary Practice in Tanzania

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## Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- Brief history
- Establishment and functions and institutional set-up of the Council
- Registration, Enrolment and enlistment
- Challenges and recommendations

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## Introduction

- Formal regulation of the Veterinary profession started in 1956 under Veterinary Surgeons Ordinance Cap. 376
- The Director of Veterinary Services was the Chairman of the Board.

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## Establishment and council members

- Established in 2004 under Section 3.
- The 9 members representing:
    - veterinary pharmaceuticals industry
    - Dean of Faculty of Veterinary
    - Private veterinarians.
    - Tanzania Veterinary Association
    - Attorney General's Chamber
    - Veterinary Department
    - Paraprofessionals
    - Director of Veterinary Services

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## Functions of the Council

**Council's mandates remains ensuring norms and standard of the veterinary profession in the country**

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## Veterinary Council Institutional set-up

- The Council has 4 committees, Assistant Registrars and Inspectors – these are veterinarians from the private sector and Local Government
- Meetings- least 4 per year to deliberate on issues related to regulation of the profession including registrations, receives reports

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## Categories of veterinary practitioners under the Act

- 3 categories of Veterinary practitioners;
- veterinary specialists, veterinary professionals (degree holders)
  - veterinary paraprofessionals (diploma holders) and veterinary
  - paraprofessional assistants certificate holders).

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## The Council Committees

The 4 committees -established by the Council to perform specific functions;

1. Disciplinary Committee
2. Practice and Facilities Monitoring Committee
3. Pharmaceuticals and Biological Committee
4. Council Registration and Examination Committee

## Registration of veterinarians

Applicants submit a formal application and personal particulars, academic qualifications, academic award in veterinary medicine or its equivalent from university, college or institution approved by the Council as provided under Training Standards for Registration, Enrollment and Enlistment.

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## Foreign veterinarians and foreign trained veterinarians

- An presents name address of referee from the institution and from a professional regulatory body of the country of origin
- foreign trained veterinarian, the Council may, order certain Veterinary examination to the applicant prior to registration

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## Enrolment and enlistment of paraprofessional

- Paraprofessionals and paraprofessional assistants are diploma and certificate, respectively, with 2 years formal training, after fulfilling entry requirements.
- The procedure for submission of applications is similar to professionals

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## Veterinary Practice Facilities, categories and registration

Categories of practices: veterinary hospitals, veterinary clinics, veterinary centers and veterinary ambulatory services. The application form together with inspection report on the status of the site and recommendations of the inspector.

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## Current Status of the Regulation of Veterinary Practice

- The 2 key acts; Animal Diseases No 17, 2003 and Veterinary Act No 16, 2003 are in place.
- 17 regulations for enforcing the Acts are in use
- The Council has formulated guidelines on: Veterinary Drugs, Veterinary Equipments and Temporary and Provisional Registration.
- To date, there 591 veterinarians in the Register and 1,006 paraprofessionals in the Roll and List. A total of 305 veterinary practices have been registered.

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## Challenges

- Low participation of private practitioners in animal health service. The NLPolicy recognises their role.
- The need for strengthening linkages for effective ethics monitoring and inspection at national, regional and global level.
- The need for collaborative auditing of training curricula for animal health services providers
- Low percentage of service providers participating in continuous education. E-learning
- Working environment in rural areas for extension staff/service

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## Recommendation

- Regulatory bodies discuss their affairs in meetings, there is a need therefore to establish or to have such provision at regional and global level.

## The end

**Thank you!**

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