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Instructions and definitions for completing the pre-meeting survey for WOA Regional Awareness Raising Workshop on Veterinary Workforce and VPPs in Southern Africa, 15-17 November 2022

Introduction

You are invited to complete the pre-meeting survey for WOA Regional Awareness Raising Workshop on Veterinary Workforce and VPPs in Southern Africa, **15-17 November 2022**. The results of this survey will provide a picture of the veterinary workforce context in Southern Africa. The questions cover human resources and workforce, veterinary legislation/regulation and VPP education. Results of the survey will be shared anonymously at the virtual workshop. Various occupations contribute to veterinary services delivery within a country, thus forming the veterinary workforce. Veterinarians, and veterinary paraprofessionals (VPPs) who work under veterinarians' supervision are an integral component of this workforce. Please note that when referring to the veterinary workforce, this survey refers to veterinarians and VPPs and NOT Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs). There is only one specific question on CAHWs. We request that one person be responsible for completing the questionnaire using online form. You have been contacted because you were nominated by the WOA Delegate as your Country Contact Point. We encourage you to seek updated and accurate information from relevant colleagues and stakeholders, as necessary. For example, you may need to contact the Ministries responsible for public sector employment or human resource planning, or VPP training institutions.

How to fill out this questionnaire

- Please review all the questions in the online Microsoft forms questionnaire provided as a link and find all the information you need to respond. - [Please read and refer to the definitions below as you complete the questions.](#)
- Where there is sub-national variation, please try to give the most representative answer. - [The survey is online and must be completed in one go.](#) Once you have all the information, then you can fill it in.
- Deadline for survey submission: 25 October 2022 Should you need assistance in completing the questionnaire, please contact Dr. Johan Oosthuizen (j.oosthuizen_ext@woah.org) with d.rono@woah.org in copy



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Relevant definitions - From the Terrestrial Animal Health Code

Veterinarian means a person with appropriate education, registered or licensed by the relevant veterinary statutory body of a country to practice veterinary medicine/science in that country

Veterinary legislation means laws, regulations and all associated legal instruments that pertain to the veterinary domain

Veterinary Authority means the Governmental Authority of a Member Country, comprising veterinarians, other professionals and paraprofessionals, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and recommendations in the Terrestrial Code in the whole territory.

VPP – Veterinary paraprofessional: A person who is not a veterinarian but has received at least one year of formal training in animal health/production from a recognised /accredited institution resulting in a certificate, diploma or degree, and who is currently active. In practice this may include Animal health technicians, Animal health assistants, Meat inspectors, Laboratory technicians, Veterinary nurses and other similar job titles

Veterinary statutory body: An autonomous regulatory body for veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals. For the purpose of this survey, we are using the following definitions, although they are not official WOAH definitions

Veterinary Services means the governmental and non-governmental organisations that implement animal health and welfare measures and other standards and recommendations in the Terrestrial Code and the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code in the territory. The Veterinary Services are under the overall control and direction of the Veterinary Authority. Private sector organisations, veterinarians, veterinary paraprofessionals or aquatic animal health professionals are normally accredited or approved by the Veterinary Authority to deliver the delegated functions.

Veterinary professional Veterinary workforce The number, distribution and type of personnel working in the veterinary services across the public and private sectors. The veterinary workforce includes veterinarians of different specialisms, and VPPs working in animal health, veterinary public health (such as meat inspection) and laboratories, in urban, rural and remote settings. For the purposes of this survey, the veterinary workforce DOES NOT include Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs).



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CAHW - Community-based animal health worker A person with short, informal training taught to perform very basic animal health related tasks, who is accountable to a VPP and/or veterinarian, and who is currently active. (In practice, CAHWs are often trained by NGOs or local field projects).

Public Primarily employed by the government

Private Self-employed or employed by private clinics, companies, industry, farmer groups or not-for-profit organisations such as NGOs (non-governmental organisations)

Accredits (accreditation) In the context of veterinary and veterinary paraprofessional education, accreditation means the process of review by an official regulatory body of a training institution and its curriculum to ensure that the resources are present to properly train the students who enter the institution and to ensure that the students graduate with the competencies expected from their training. A training institution is accredited when the official regulatory body completes its review and issues a certificate of accreditation.