

## **AVMA representative to World Small Animal Veterinary Association**

### **Background and history**

The World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) is an association of associations. Its membership is made up of veterinary organizations from all over the world, which are concerned with small companion animals such as cats, dogs, rabbits, guinea pigs, etc. The primary purpose of the WSAVA is to advance the quality and availability of small animal medicine and surgery through establishment of international standards, guidelines, and policies and promotion of continuing education through the annual WSAVA World Congress.

In 2010, the AVMA Board of Directors approved the Association's submission of an application for membership in WSAVA, and in October 2011, the WSAVA General Assembly approved that application. Each member association is represented in the WSAVA by a delegate appointed by that association. Member association representatives receive complimentary registration for the general program of the annual WSAVA World Congress.

### **Charge\Objective**

The AVMA representative to WSAVA is charged with these responsibilities:

1. Serve as the voting AVMA representative to the WSAVA General Assembly.
2. Comply with requirements for member association representatives as prescribed in the WSAVA Bylaws and other organizational documents.
3. Make recommendations for AVMA action to the Committee on International Veterinary Affairs on issues identified through the Association's membership in WSAVA.

### **Qualifications of the AVMA representative to the World Small Animal Veterinary Association**

- Must be a voting member of the AVMA, with a practice category (or species contact profile) of companion animal predominant or exclusive
- Must have a broad understanding of AVMA policy, with an emphasis on those policies impacting small animal veterinary medicine
- Must be willing and able to travel internationally
- Must have excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Must have the ability to communicate and conduct business through multiple platforms, to include electronic media

### **Appointment**

The AVMA representative to WSAVA is appointed by the AVMA Board of Directors from applications received in accordance with AVMA policy. The AVMA Representative serves a once-renewable three-year term.

### **Meetings and reports**

The representative is authorized to attend the annual meeting of the WSAVA General Assembly, which is typically held in conjunction with the annual World Small Animal Veterinary Association World Congress, and is encouraged to serve on WSAVA committees and task forces as appropriate and in accordance with

their own expertise. The representative will also serve as a voting member of the AVMA Committee on International Veterinary Affairs (CIVA).

**Expenses**

AVMA membership dues to WSAVA are included in the AVMA budget. Travel expenses for the AVMA representative to CIVA meetings and to the WSAVA to participate in the annual meeting of the Assembly and the WSAVA World Congress will be paid in accordance with AVMA policy. Specific authorization will be needed to fund additional travel of this representative for service on WSAVA committees or task forces.