



12th Meeting of the

European Coordination Committee on Veterinary Training
Thursday 31 March 2011 from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

FVE office, 1 rue Defacqz, B-1000 Brussels

Prof László Fodor, President of EAEVE chaired the meeting

Members

Austria
Belgium
Bosnia-Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
FYROM
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Montenegro
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Serbia
Slovak Republic
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
United Kingdom

Observers

Albania
Ukraine

Sections

UEVP
Practitioners

EASVO
State Officers

UEVH
Hygienists

EVERI
Veterinarians in
Education, Research
and Industry

The meeting was attended by:

For **EAEVE**: László Fodor (president)

For **EBVS**: Neil Forbes (president), Stefano Romagnoli, Declan 'O'Brien

For **FVE**: Walter Winding (president), Karin Östensson, Andrew Robinson

Nancy De Briyne (FVE Secretariat)

Guests: Prof. Parodi (Agenda Item 5), Francesco Proscia (Agenda Item 7)

Decisions and Action points

- Next meeting provisionally scheduled for Tuesday 25 October. Alternative dates are Thursday 27 October or Thursday 3 November 2011.
- KÖ, HHD and JV to continue to work on an ECCVT draft vision and action plan
- N. Forbers/F. Proscia to work together to see how specialisation could be legally recognised in the review of the PQR Directive
- L. Fodor/All to reflect on whether a more thorough revision than the 2008 revision is wished for the minimum training requirements.
- Secretariat to write to ESAVS and the Rector of the University of Luxembourg and as many other involved professors to complain about ESAVS Master.
- Secretariat to use ECCVT template with all 3 logos for internal and external documents.

President

Walter Winding

Vice-Presidents

Christophe Buhot
Ljiljana Markuš
Rainer Schneichel
Stephen Ware

Draft Report

1. Welcome and opening

L. Fodor welcomed all to Brussels. Apologies were received from H.H. Dietz.

2. Adoption of the agenda (FVE/11/am/007)

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Report of the last ECCVT meeting (FVE/10/am/050)

- **Adoption**

One typing error was corrected on page 4. The report of the ECCVT meeting of 27 October 2010 was adopted.

- **Action points**

All action points were finalized.

4. Update on Conference on Veterinary Education, Lyon (Fr) May 2011

<http://www.wcve2011.org/> <http://www.vet2011.org/>

The Lyon conference on Veterinary Education has as main goal the elaboration of a plan of harmonized, adaptable education for each of the countries, which should allow the profession to answer the challenges of tomorrow.

W. Winding supported the idea of this conference to establish a sort of minimum training for vets in order to define "what is a vet". It is important that this minimum training is not too low. This harmonized minimum curriculum should especially be very helpful for developing countries. We must ensure that official veterinary tasks such as signing veterinary certificates can only be done by veterinarians. It should be defined which are real veterinary acts, and which can be delegated under certain conditions.

L. Fodor and W. Winding will both speak during the conference.

5. Presentation Prof Parodi on aims and conclusions reached during the workshop "Towards a Mediterranean Union for Veterinary Education" held in Maison Alfort on 7 and 8 October 2010

A TAIEX seminar was organized on 7-8 October titled towards a Mediterranean Union for Veterinary Education. 19 Mediterranean countries (including France, Italy, Spain and Greece) attended the workshop.

The objectives of this meeting were to inform the Mediterranean countries about the conditions of a mutual recognition of veterinary diplomas into the EU through standardization and harmonization of the veterinary curricula in the EU member States and to develop a

regional roadmap for standardization and harmonization of the veterinary curricula in Mediterranean countries.

The main conclusion of the workshop was that the principle of a **Mediterranean Union for veterinary Education (UMEV or MUVE)** was unanimously adopted.

The workshops recommendations were:

- to encourage the **organization of a network** of Veterinary Education Establishments of Mediterranean countries non-EU members = South Mediterranean Veterinary Education Establishments Network (SMVEEN).
- to facilitate and to encourage exchanges between the **SMVEEN** members and between those Establishments and others (North Mediterranean) Establishments
- to facilitate and to encourage exchanges of teachers and students
- to promote a **curriculum harmonization** between the *SMVEEN* members
- to create a **common system of evaluation** in order to prepare harmonization and standardization of veterinary training between the *SMVEEN* members based on the EAEVE/FVE evaluation

In order to implement progressively the system, a **Regional steering Committee** was elected by the assembly (composed by representatives of Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Greece and Israel).

The road-map of this Steering Committee is:

- to design a method in order to collect detailed information on the training programmes,
- to set up a report showing the main strengths and weakness of the existing curricula for each individual establishment,
- to set up the frame of internal self-evaluations,
- to implement an external evaluations system with the assistance of European organisations (EAEVE, FVE) and/or international organisation (OIE).

All ECCVT members applauded Prof Parodi for this excellent initiative. They requested whether the issue of post-graduate training was also considered. It is not always known in these countries that Europe has a well-established system of specialist training through EBVS.

L. Fodor also explained that recently within EAEVE it was decided that these countries could receive a sort of EAEVE/FVE evaluation 'light'.

W. Winding suggested in the future collaborating more closely together. Prof Parodi completely agreed and said this was why one of the recommendations adopted were to recommend observer status to the EAEVE and FVE GA's for these countries. W. Winding and L. Fodor both confirmed they would welcome this observer status.

More information on this TAIEX workshop can be found on:

http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taix/dyn/taix-events/library/detail_en.jsp?EventID=41540

S. Romagnoli suggested that a similar initiative would be useful for the Black Sea Region. L. Fodor agreed, some initiatives have already been taken but much more work is needed in that region.

L. Fodor thanked Prof Parodi for his presentation and the excellent initiative, looking forward to collaborate together in the future.

6. Draft vision and policy plan for ECCVT (by KO and HHD)

A meeting was held between H.H. Dietz, K. Östenson and J. Vaarten in the Copenhagen on 16 November 2010 order to develop a vision for the ECCVT and an action plan.

K. Östensson had drafted a first preliminary outline before the meeting and was going to prepare a first draft vision/action plan on the basis of the Copenhagen meeting. However, as she has been seriously ill for quite a couple of months, she did not manage to finalise it yet.

The idea was to develop a long-term vision (e.g. 5 or 10 years), supplemented by regularly updated action plans. Suggested ideas for actions were to develop an opinion on tracking and the Bologna declaration.

S. Romagnoli mentioned that in the previous meeting, developing an ECCVT website was discussed. The ECCVT re-discussed the proposal but concluded not to develop a new website (as not enough material will be available to regularly update this website) but rather to host a webpage on the websites of the respective organizations.

7. Update on review professional recognition Directive (2005/36) (short presentation by Francesco Proscia, FVE)

Including discussion on need to update minimum training requirements (adopted revision April 2008 – see Annex I)

F. Proscia, the veterinary policy officer dealing with the Professional Recognition Directive (PRQ) gave an update on the “modernisation” of this Directive. Two consultation rounds including many meetings have passed. The aim is for the EC to release a green paper in July 2011. All aspects of the Professional Recognition Directive, such as prior declaration, language skills, professional card, including the EAEVE/FVE evaluation system and CPD are under discussion.

EBVS wondered if this moment would not be right to ask for EBVS specialisation to be legally recognised. It was decided for N. Forbes to work together with F. Proscia in order to see what EBVS would like to include precisely and to organise a meeting with DG Markt.

☞ N. Forbes/F. Proscia to work together to see how specialisation could be legally recognised in review of the PQR Directive

N. De Briyne also mentioned that if ECCVT would like to change the minimum training requirements, now is the time to start thinking about it in order to have the ECCVT view on updating the minimum training requirements on paper adopted before adoption of the reviewed Directive. In April 2008, the ECCVT reviewed the minimum training requirements but thought at that moment that only small technical changes were possible. A principal question is do we want to stay with minimum training requirements or go for day-1 competences. L. Fodor said that he will put this on the agenda of the next EAEVE GA for further discussion.

☞ L. Fodor/All to reflect on whether a more thorough revision than the 2008 revision is wished for the minimum training requirements.

8. Update on ‘European Board of Veterinary Professional Development’

W. Winding reported that in 2010 two meetings were held in order to develop the establishment of a European Board of Veterinary Professional Development.

Next week the interim Board of EBVPD will meet for the first time. The meeting will be attended by representatives from EBVS, EAEVE, FVE, statutory bodies, FECAVA, UEVP, etc. On the agenda is the election of a Chair, development of a mission statement, drafting of

terms of reference and the finalization of a questionnaire to investigate the situation regarding CPD in all EU Member States.

N. Forbes reported that in the UK the RCVS “Education Policy and Specialisation Committee” had a meeting last week. They concluded that they see the need for a 3-tier CPD system. The EBVS specialization can be seen as the gold 3-level, an acknowledge vet is the 2-tier and routine CPD is the first level. The 3-th and 2th level needs a form of accreditation/certification and would benefit from a sort of recognition between MSs.

Very important is whatever is developed should be clear (clear and agreed terminology) and respond to societal needs.

9. News from the three member organisations

9.1. EAEVE

- The EAEVE office moved in Vienna
- The next GA will take place in Lyon on 11-12 May just before Global Veterinary Education Meeting
- EAEVE is still undertaking efforts to receive ENQA recognition.
- EAEVE started to cooperate with TAIEX, a part of the European Commission responsible for enlargement.
- EAEVE set up the food hygiene working group, first results are expected in the next months.
- EAEVE is in the phase of comparing the evaluation systems of EAEVE with AVMA aiming for mutual agreement.

9.2. EBVS

- EBVS is aiming to hire a CEO and an assistant in order to professionalise the organisation. Sharon Green retired due to health reasons.
- EBVS is trying to raise the quality level of all colleges by developing a clear system to control this.
- EBVS further developed its cooperation with outside Europe Specialist Colleges such as from the US, Australia and from Asia through a specially developed Committee
- EBVS supports very much the idea of the Acknowledge vets and offer their participation in developing the system.
- EBVS is enforcing its efforts to protect the EBVS logo.

9.3. FVE

- FVE adopted a new strategy and action plan. FVE also started a discussion on its structure in order to strengthen the “one vision, one voice”.
- FVE developed much closer contacts with AVMA and will develop some joint projects.
- FVE closely follows the development of a new European Animal Health Law and the review of the Medicines Directive.

10. Any other business

- S. Romagnoli mentioned that some ECCVT letter-headed paper has been developed in the past. It should also be used for internal documents.
- L. Fodor mentioned that the University of Luxembourg started again a European Master of Small Animal Veterinary Medicine. ECCVT had already written a complaint letter in October 2008 (see annex I) after which they renamed the course, but now they called it again “Master”. ECCVT to resend

complaint letter.

http://www.uni.lu/studies/fstc/european_master_of_small_animal_veterinary_medicine

- ☞ Secretariat to write to ESAVS and the Rector of the University of Luxembourg and as many other involved professors as possible.
- ☞ Secretariat to use the ECCVT letterhead also for internal documents

11.Date of the next meeting

- Next meeting provisionally scheduled for Tuesday 25 October. Alternative dates are Thursday 27 October or Thursday 3 November 2011.

W. Winding thanked everybody for all the nice ECCVT meetings he attended and said goodbye as this will be his last meeting. His term as FVE President will end in June 2011 at the Palermo General Assembly. Everybody thanked W. Winding for the nice cooperation.

Annex I: Letter to ESAVS from October 2008

Prof Dr Marc Vandeveld
European School for Advanced Veterinary Studies
Schadtengasse 2
55765 Birkenfeld
GERMANY

Brussels, 25 October 2008

Subject: standards, quality control and certificates in post-graduate veterinary training

Dear Dr Vandeveld,

reference is made to your letter to FVE president Dr Walter Winding about the study programme leading to the ESAVS Certificate of Small Animal Veterinary Practice.

As you will know, FVE is strongly committed to the quality of both undergraduate and postgraduate education and we very much value initiatives like yours, which promote high quality, continuous professional development in the field of veterinary medicine.

We are pleased to see that you have decided to stop awarding a Master title, because such title could easily be confused with Master degrees obtained - in line with the Bologna declaration - after at least five years of full-time veterinary training and leading to a license to practice. As you wrote in your letter, the ESAVS – University of Luxembourg certificate does not have any kind of “official” status.

With regard to your idea to establish a professional body that would be in charge of issuing certificates and responsible for setting standards and quality control, I have to let you know that we are not convinced that FVE should be involved in setting up such an organisation. Although we appreciate the value of good quality post graduate training throughout Europe, we very much doubt if we are in the position and have sufficient means to organize this in an objective and impartial way which would do sufficient right to the many different initiatives and post graduate education systems in all countries.

Hopefully this answers your questions, may be not fully in the way you would have liked, but we prefer to be clear and to avoid creating false impressions. Please do not hesitate to contact me in case further questions would remain.

Yours sincerely