

***The regional seminar for OIE National Focal Points for  
veterinary products in the Americas***

***1-3 August 2018***



This important seminar was held at the National Center for Animal Health Diagnostics (CENASA) of the National Service for Animal Health, Safety and Quality (SENASICA) in Tecámac City, Mexico, with the objective of providing the 30 participants from the Member Countries of the Americas with information on the responsibilities and commitments of the Delegates and National

Focal Points, as well as information on the role of the veterinary services on Veterinary Products.

### **Implementation of Actions**

The event was opened by Dr. Enrique Sánchez Cruz, Director in Chief of SENASICA, and Dr. Joaquín Braulio Delgadillo Álvarez, Director of Animal Health, Delegate of Mexico and Member of the OIE Council and Dr. Mária Szabó, Chargée de mission for veterinary medicinal products, the OIE Department of Science and New Technologies.

Participants received general information on the OIE, its Standards and Guidelines, and the responsibilities and commitments of the focal points, with examples of actions in different countries. They also learned about concepts of good governance of Veterinary Services applied to veterinary products. On international harmonisation, global and regional initiatives such as VICH<sup>[1]</sup> and CAMEVET<sup>[2]</sup> were presented and their impact on industry and national regulatory systems were discussed.

The increasing antimicrobial resistance was highlighted, presenting the global situation from the concept of "One Health" and sharing countries' experiences in the responsible and prudent use of antimicrobials and the development of their National Action Plans. There was also a practice aimed at improving data collection on antimicrobial use at the global level.

In addition, issues related to pharmacovigilance and traceability of veterinary products were highlighted, including the OIE's joint actions with the World Customs Organization to combat counterfeiting and smuggling.

Resistance to antiparasitic agents used in animals was deliberated, concluding that urgent actions, led by the OIE, should be considered.

The Seminar combined lectures and working sessions, in which participants applied their knowledge and experiences in various practical situations, stimulating constructive discussions and comments. Emphasis was also placed on the need to create working links among national focal points for veterinary products with customs authorities to improve activities and controls on illegal, falsified and substandard products.

The OIE wishes to thank and express their appreciation to the government of Mexico and SENASICA for their valuable support.



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<sup>1</sup> International Cooperation on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Medicinal Products

<sup>2</sup> Committee for Veterinary Drugs of the Americas