

World Veterinary Congress: Animal Health Industry and Veterinarians a solid alliance to achieve global health

Vancouver, Canada, 31 July 2008 - IFAH was one of the invited speakers of the 29th World Veterinary Congress - "CELEBRATE OUR DIVERSITY" - that ended today in Vancouver, Canada. IFAH is playing its role in ensuring the "one world - one health" agenda and confirms its commitment as a reliable and responsible partner to the veterinary profession worldwide in all endeavours to improve animal and human health.

In his presentation entitled "Pioneering a positive environment for veterinary medicines", Dr. Peter Jones informed the audience that the Animal Health Industry continues to play an important role in being a credible and reliable partner to the veterinary profession, through the provision of safe and effective medicines by its member companies and by making continued contributions to improving animal health and welfare and the public good on a global scale. *"The Animal Health industry is truly a major player in the one world – one health concept, and is committed to working alongside veterinarians and public authorities to the benefit of society"*, he said.

The provision of high quality medicines to the veterinary profession relies on predictable, science-based regulatory processes and standards. A positive competitive and stable regulatory environment is essential to encourage investment and innovation in research and development. *"The very real challenges in ensuring such an environment have to be tackled head on and supported by all involved in animal health including veterinarians. To fail in such endeavours could see a decline in availability on new medicines and the possible loss of existing ones"*, warned Peter Jones.

IFAH encouraged the World Veterinary Association (WVA) to further support common strategies to attain what are effectively common goals and in the presence of the World Animal Health Organisation (OIE), the European Technology Platform for Global

Animal Health (ETPGAH) was presented as a great example of a successful stakeholder alliance in progressing animal health and welfare. Peter Jones explained: *“discussions are underway to possibly expand such a programme globally. The WVA would be welcome to participate if this takes off”*.

Ends

Note to Editors:

IFAH, the International Federation for Animal Health, is the organisation representing manufacturers of veterinary medicines, vaccines and other animal health products in both developed and developing countries across five continents.

Its goal is to promote a harmonised, science-based regulatory and trade framework, and marketplace environment that supports an animal health industry which is economically viable and innovation driven, contributing to a healthy and safe food supply as well as a high level of animal health and welfare.

For further information on IFAH, please visit <http://www.ifahsec.org>.

World Veterinary Congress <http://www.worldveterinarycongress2008.com/>

World Veterinary Association www.worldvet.org

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