



FEDERATION OF VETERINARIANS OF EUROPE

Press Release

Brussels, 3 October 2007

One Health

FVE calls for an integrated approach of veterinary and human medicine to prevent and control diseases of animal origin

There is a strong relation between the health of people and animals. Over 70% of human pathogens originate from animals. Clear examples are diseases like bird flu, mad cow disease or rabies, but there are many more comparable situations, for instance West Nile encephalitis, Q fever or Lyme disease which have as main source deer and are carried over to people by ticks. Also, the majority of emerging diseases like AIDS, SARS and Ebola originate from animals. We should also not forget about diseases transmitted via food from animal origin contaminated with bacteria like Salmonella or Campylobacter or other health hazards related to the quality of food.

The veterinary profession is active in the fields of animal health and welfare but is equally strongly involved in a committed to public health. As the veterinary profession in Europe, FVE takes the responsibility together with colleagues in other parts of the world to join forces with human medicine to protect and improve animal and public health. Our goal for the future is one world, ONE HEALTH and one medicine.

This is the message FVE sends to European institutions and other lobby organisations.

Walter Winding, President of FVE, called for “*an integrated approach of veterinary and human medicine to prevent and control diseases of animal origin*” and recalled “*the importance of healthy animals for healthy people*”.

Notes for Editors:

1. The Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) is an umbrella organisation of 43 veterinary organisations from 36 European countries, representing a total of around 200 000 veterinarians.
2. For further information, consult the fve website <http://www.fve.org> or contact the FVE Secretariat on tel +32 2 533 70 20 or by e-mail to info@fve.org
3. All presentations given during the conference can be downloaded from the TAIEX (<http://taiex.ec.europa.eu/>) and FVE web site (www.fve.org).

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Federation of Veterinarians of Europe AISBL
Rue Defacqz, 1
B – 1000 Brussels

Tel: +32.2.533.70.20 - Fax: +32.2.537.28.28

E-mail: info@fve.org - Internet: www.fve.org