FVE Working Group
Food safety and sustainability
2020-2023

Terms of Reference

Background

The role of veterinarians in veterinary public health requires significant skills and competences in the following fields: food hazards identification, risk assessment, risk management and communication.
Generally, food safety and quality imply control procedures, auditing and inspections as well as SOPs and application of food hygiene pre-requisites.
Recently, food safety and security fields of work both represent crucial sectors and drivers to develop, implement and apply circular economy principles (reuse, recycle, reduction).

The FVE Board of Directors aims to renew the FVE Working Group on food safety and quality to assist FVE in developing policies and positions in such area.

Composition of the Working Group

The Working Group shall consist of a maximum of 7 experts, nominated by FVE member organisations and appointed by the FVE Board. Members will be appointed for a period of 3 years.

A chair will be appointed by the FVE Board.
The chair will be responsible for chairing the meetings, leading the discussions, maintaining contact with the secretariat, making progress reports and a final report to the Board of Directors.

Tasks

The working group will provide the FVE Board with opinions and recommendations necessary to develop FVE policy on food safety & sustainable livestock systems. This will entail the following duties:

1. Monitoring the transposition across Europe of the new OCR and identifying possible bottlenecks;
2. Develop FVE position on risk-based meat inspection and integrated meat safety assurance
3. Liaise with the AH Law task force and other FVE working groups and stakeholders by providing comments to the tertiary legislation;
4. Liaise with stakeholders on circular economy and on promotion of the livestock sector;
5. Develop position papers and factsheets on the role of veterinarians in the circular economy and in the farm to fork revised approach taking into account the societal dimension;
6. Develop a budgetary plan for a communication campaign on the role of veterinarians for the prevention and protection of public health;
7. Analyse and develop short report from the outcomes of the survey on satisfaction/income/wellbeing of official veterinarians;
8. Further engage FVE in the EFSA stakeholder’s forum and Bureau;
9. Follow and engage FVE in the CODEX Committees;
10. Liaise with VetCee on the training needs for official veterinarians and develop a dossier of competences

Secretarial support

Secretarial support (organising meetings and teleconferences, writing minutes, circulating documents, etc) will be provided by Fran Proscia.

External Communication

External Communication related to FVE policies shall only take place after consultation with the FVE Board or the Executive Director.

Costs

It is foreseen that the Working Group will have approximately 2 physical meetings each year. Further communication will as much as possible take place via e-mail and/or teleconferences.
Costs for the physical meeting(s) such as travel and accommodation costs, meeting room, lunch during meetings, will be borne by FVE in accordance with the FVE rules on reimbursement.
The Board may decide to invite the chair of the Working Group to attend other meetings, such as a meeting of the Board or the General Assembly, to report on the group’s progress or on certain documents. Costs associated with such visits will also be carried by FVE.

The group may invite external experts to its meetings if deemed appropriate. In case costs arise out of such invitations, the invitation will be made after consultation with the FVE Executive Director.