



## 11.08.2020 – Minutes of the Fourth (4th) Online Meeting of ExCo 2020-2021

The Fourth (4th) Online Meeting of the IVSA Executive Committee (ExCo) 2020-2021 was held at 2:00 PM GMT+1 on 11.08.2020. Merel Knoops (President) was present to Chair and Mehdi Amrani (Secretary General) was present to take the minutes.

### **Attendance**

#### **Executive Committee Officers Present**

Merel Knoops	President
Nicole Hartman	External Relations Officer (ERO)
Mehdi Amrani	Secretary General (SG)
Nina Vasic	Committee Coordinator (CC)
Nabeelah Rajah	Member Organizations' Director (MOD)
Panagiotis Doerffer-Efrimidis	Treasurer
Elen Hernandez	Development Aid Director (DAD)
Iina Airasma	Public Relations Coordinator (PRC)

#### **Other IVSA Officials Present**

Luregn von Planta	Secretary to the ERO and the CC
Diana Teixeira	Standing Committee on Veterinary Education (SCoVE) Chair
Mairin-Rua Ni Aodha	Standing Committee on Animal Welfare (SCAW) Chair
Adetona Mutiat Adenike	Standing Committee on One Health (SCOH) Chair
Naveesha Kaur Shergill	Standing Committee on Wellness (SCOW) Chair
Izabella Baclawska	Standing Committee on Career Attributes (SCoCA) Chair
Vincenzo Gaita	Working Group on Alumni (WGA) Chair
Javier Puente	Regional Representative for the Americas
Laure Chevalier	Regional Representative for Europe
Branden Nettles	Trustee
Elwin van Oldenborgh	Trustee
Anna Ciećkiewicz	Trustee





**1. Opening** – Merel Knoops (President) called the meeting to order at 14:03 GMT+1.

**2. Approval of the Agenda** – The Agenda of the Fourth (4th) Online Meeting of ExCo 2020-2021 was approved with one amendment.

### **3. Action Points**

Nicole Hartman (ERO) discussed many MoUs being in progress. Merel Knoops (President) advised to send a reminder to AniCura.

There was no further development regarding the MODcast.

Merel Knoops (President) explained that the MoU with Astucorp has been signed for one year. IVSA will have a page on their platform.

Merel Knoops (President) discussed the progress with projects for Bylaw amendments and the updates to the Code of Conduct. Naveesha Kaur Shergill (Chair of the SCOW) will discuss updates with the Committee members for feedback.

Panagiotis Doerffer-Efrimidis (Treasurer) discussed updating the information for the ING Mandate. But no further development was achieved regarding the removal of old mandates.

The members for the Scholarship Taskforce have been already selected, without any further advancement. Elen Hernandez (DAD) is waiting on approval for the 10.000 Paws Project.

Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) discussed the situations with IVSA Bangladesh, IVSA China, and MOs that are still to pay their membership fees. IVSA Mexico has solved the issue with their bank account.

Mehdi Amrani (Secretary General) discussed meeting with the PRC to discuss the IVSA Archive Project. Mehdi Amrani (Secretary General) also discussed having access to files handled by the Committees in order to include them in the Archive. The Secretariat Project will be delayed until a more stable situation is achieved within the officials since the Secretariat currently consists of seven members. There was discussion about making the event smaller instead.

### **4. Trust Report –**

Elwin van Oldenborgh (Trustee) gave updates about the Bylaw Realignment Taskforce. The members of the Taskforce agreed that there would be no substantial change to be made to the Constitution, so no amendments will be proposed through the work of the Taskforce. The sub-groups have started having meetings, and discussing changes to be made.





## **5. Treasurer Update**

### **5.1. Taxes**

Panagiotis Doerffer-Efraimidis (Treasurer) explained that there was an issue with IVSA's tax filing during the previous year, but that it has been completed. Panagiotis Doerffer Efraimidis (Treasurer) discussed receiving no confirmation, and explained that in the case that something is wrong, there will be a need for a Belgian account.

### **5.2. Bank mandates**

This point was discussed in point **3. Action Points**.

### **5.3. Partial reimbursements**

Many Committees give partial reimbursements as prizes, but the amount varies every time. Panagiotis Doerffer-Efraimidis (Treasurer) discussed having a set amount of partial reimbursement in order to avoid confusion.

Merel Knoops (President) discussed setting the amount at 100 euros, and explained the need to consult the CC, the MOD, and the Committee Chairs. There will be no need for any kind of approval as long as all the parties are in agreement.

Panagiotis Doerffer-Efraimidis (Treasurer) explained that the Bylaws do not mention this subject at all.

Elwin van Oldenborgh (Trustee) discussed giving the reimbursement to a certain MO instead of an individual member. There had been previous instances where the winner did not apply for Congress/Symposium, and this would ensure that the reimbursement would find a recipient no matter what.

Panagiotis Doerffer-Efraimidis (Treasurer) explained that there could be problems within the MO about whom it will be given to.

Merel Knoops (President) agreed, and advised consultation of the CC and Committee Chairs.

## **6. Committee Coordinator (CC) Update –**

### **6.1. Committee members**

Nina Vasic (CC) explained that all members of the Committee Teams have been selected, and discussed new ideas for the next term so Chairs won't have to work without teams for





an extended period of time at the beginning of the term.

### **6.2. Contract between Chair and members**

Nina Vasic (CC) explained the need to make some kind of contract between Committee members and the Chairs in order to keep them more involved.

### **6.3. Equine community**

Nina Vasic (CC) discussed improvements on communication with the Equine Community. The designated officials of the Equine Community are working more with IVSA and The ExCo, and Diana Teixeira (Chair of the SCoVE) is working closely with the community.

### **6.4. WHSS Update**

Nina Vasic (CC) explained there has only been one meeting for now. The dates are yet to be chosen but special care will be taken to make sure the WHSS will not overlap with the SGA. The event will be held online, and a handover meeting will be scheduled.

## **7. Committee reports –**

### **7.1. Standing Committee on Animal Welfare (SCAW):**

#### **7.1.1. Halloween - What scares you?**

Mairin-Rua Ni Aodha (Chair of the SCAW) discussed that this project was not completed.

#### **7.1.2. Aquaculture Africa Magazine Partnership**

Mairin-Rua Ni Aodha (Chair of the SCAW) discussed initiating talks of a partnership with Aquaculture Africa Magazine revolving around their work on education in aquaculture. Mairin-Rua Ni Aodha (Chair of the SCAW) reached out using different methods and is waiting for an answer.

#### **7.1.3. A Life Worth Living Campaign**

Mairin-Rua Ni Aodha (Chair of the SCAW) explained the content of this project will be published soon.

#### **7.1.4. New Committee**





Mairin-Rua Ni Aodha (Chair of the SCAW) discussed having a first committee meeting as well as individual meetings, and expressed contentment with the current team and future projects.

#### **7.1.5. Animal Welfare Lobbying -Case Study & Panel Discussion with Otwarte Klatki**

Mairin-Rua Ni Aodha (Chair of the SCAW) provided details about the Panel Discussion on Animal Welfare Lobbying and expressed her intentions of organizing it in the form of a series of discussions. The first part of these Panel Discussions will be centered around the EU Parliament. Mairin-Rua Ni Aodha (Chair of the SCAW) also discussed scheduling another meeting in January in order to tackle Animal Welfare Lobbying in Asia, Africa, and North and Central America.

#### **7.1.6. Animal Welfare Online Debate Competition; First motion - Animals will pay the price for a COVID vaccine**

Mairin-Rua Ni Aodha (Chair of the SCAW) discussed creating a debate series in order to create a space for members to debate Animal Welfare issues. Members can represent their MO or be independent. The first topic will be centered around the fact that Lab animals will pay the price for a COVID Vaccine.

Mairin-Rua Ni Aodha (Chair of the SCAW) also discussed creating a SCAW Book club, and mentioned the book titled “World Wild Vet: Encounters in the Animal Kingdom”, written by Dr. Evan Antin. Mairin-Rua Ni Aodha (Chair of the SCAW) discussed the writer potentially facilitating a session, and also discussed using some funds to purchase copies of the book as gifts.

#### **7.1.7. Partnership with UFAW & The Humane Slaughter Association**

Mairin-Rua Ni Aodha (Chair of the SCAW) provided information about UFAW (Universities Federation for Animal Welfare) and discussed potential partnership with them and with the Humane Slaughter Association.

Mairin-Rua Ni Aodha (Chair of the SCAW) then explained that the Fear Free lectures were a success, and discussed further building the relationship with them. Mairin-Rua Ni Aodha (Chair of the SCAW) informed of talking to their Public Relations Representative, and that they are also interested in a long term relationship.

Mairin-Rua Ni Aodha (Chair of the SCAW) then asked about the Ambassador Program applications.

Nina Vasic (CC) explained that the Committee Application results have not been made





public yet, and it would be ill advised to open applications before that. The PRC team will be handling the announcements.

Mairin-Rua Ni Aodha (Chair of the SCAW) explained that some of the applicants that were not successful in the Committee applications have already been contacted, but otherwise found no issue with a delay of a few weeks.

Merel Knoops (President) explained that the application can already be made and published within the two days following the announcement, and reminded officials to include the President and ERO in any conversation with Partners.

## **7.2. Standing Committee on Veterinary Education (SCoVE):**

### **7.2.1. Ambassador program**

Diana Teixeira (Chair of the SCoVE) discussed engaging more with the Ambassadors by promoting this program through videos where previous Ambassadors will get the chance to speak about their experience and give pointers about some of the projects that can be initiated. Diana Teixeira (Chair of the SCoVE) also discussed the fact that some MOs are tagging the SCoVE in their initiatives, and inquired about the procedure to follow in order to share content on the SCoVE social media.

Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) advised to share MOs' work as it is a form of encouragement to them, as long as it is related to the work of the SCoVE. Merel Knoops (President) agreed as well.

Iina Airasmaa (PRC) proposed to choose in relation with the number of posts that the SCoVE wishes to dedicate to this.

### **7.2.2. New team**

Diana Teixeira (Chair of the SCoVE) discussed having a first Committee meeting, as well as individual meetings in order to support the newly appointed Committee members.

### **7.2.3. SCoVE Conference**

Diana Teixeira (Chair of the SCoVE) discussed the dates of the event and the obligation to wait and adapt as the situation unfolds. However, Diana Teixeira (Chair of the SCoVE) explained the event won't be in april, as the host university advised against it. More discussion will be arranged at the end of November.

### **7.2.4. Communities**





Diana Teixeira (Chair of the SCoVE) explained that the Communication with the IVSA Equine Community is a lot better now. The Equine Community prepared three documents in order to brief the ExCo about all the happenings inside the community.

Some applications to host the 1<sup>st</sup> Equine Community Live Conference were received, but too much uncertainty still hinders the making of a definitive decision.

### **7.2.5. Collaborations**

Diana Teixeira (Chair of the SCoVE) discussed the meeting with the Vet Academy, which has been a partner of the SCoVE for a long period of time, and explained the great potential for a further collaboration.

Two other collaboration opportunities are being pursued at the brainstorming stage about Alternative medicine, and a Wildlife Expedition project.

Diana Teixeira (Chair of the SCoVE) explained that the liaison officer of IVSA The Americas contacted the SCoVE team in order to collaborate. Discussed Possibilities include partnering with an MO in the organization of SCoVE events.

## **7.3. Standing Committee on One Health (SCOH)**

### **7.3.1. Projects**

#### **7.3.1.1. Rabies Awareness (GARC)**

Adetona Mutiat Adenike (Chair of the SCOH) discussed having a meeting with the GARC during which the MoU has been agreed upon. The MoU between IVSA and the GARC is currently in the process of being approved by ExCo. Further details were given regarding the scope of collaboration between IVSA and the GARC.

#### **7.3.1.2. 1st Global AMR Youth Summit**

This event is the first ever of its kind co-organized by the IVSA, IFMSA, IPSF, IADS, and IAAS and currently has more than 2300 participants, with speakers from FAO, WHO, the OIE, and other organizations. Adetona Mutiat Adenike (Chair of the SCOH) explained that members are still able to register.

#### **7.3.1.3. One Health Day Series**

This event took place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November with the aim of highlighting the meaning of One Health and the issues that should be tackled using a One Health approach. The SCOH





team designed infographics and other promotional material captions, and the possibility of making a competition out of this was discussed.

#### **7.3.1.4. One Health presentation (invitation from IVSA Pakistan)**

Adetona Mutiat Adenike (Chair of the SCOH) discussed the invitation from IVSA Pakistan to speak at their One Health Day webinar on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November. Adetona Mutiat Adenike (Chair of the SCOH) gave the presentation on behalf of IVSA and the SCOH.

#### **7.3.1.5. Committee meetings**

Adetona Mutiat Adenike (Chair of the SCOH) explained that a meeting with the publication team already took place and that a full committee meeting will be scheduled soon.

### **7.4. Working Group on Alumni (WGA)**

#### **7.4.1. Alumni committee members**

Vincenzo Gaita (Chair of the WGA) discussed the first committee meeting as well as the action points and tasks of the WGA, including solving the issues with Member Planet.

Iina Airasmaa (PRC) advised on having a common membership planet with Member Press, as it would provide solutions for Alumni issues and offer many features to be used by IVSA Global student members. Depending on the time it will take for the new platform to be operational, there might be considerations to take into account as it relates to resuming operations with Member Planet, or waiting until Member Press is fully operational, in order to avoid having to change during a critical period. Iina Airasmaa (PRC) further discussed that the membership portal will indeed take some time to be operational, and advised to use Google Forms for now. The Membership Portal should also have a link to the IVSA Paypal account as well.

Vincenzo Gaita (Chair of the WGA) agreed to discuss it further with the WGA Public Relations Officer, and discussed shifting priorities towards projects the Working Group on Alumni can do right away, such as the Mentor-Mentee Project.

#### **7.4.2. Committee Collaborations**

Vincenzo Gaita (Chair of the WGA) explained the collaboration with the SCoCA on the Soft Skill Survey, as well as Organizing Webinars with graduated students.

#### **7.4.3. Post grad database**





Vincenzo Gaita (Chair of the WGA) informed that this project was discussed during the previous year, but wasn't started. Vincenzo Gaita (Chair of the WGA) discussed sending mails to the MOs directly or through the EO bulletin about Internship opportunities. This project would consist of creating a database of internships or job opportunities.

Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) advised to contact the MOs through the MOD team, and explained that Karoline Aamo (Secretary to the MOD and the DAD) is in charge of the EO bulletin.

#### **7.4.4. Alumni Network**

Vincenzo Gaita (Chair of the WGA) discussed the creation of a network of discussion in the form of a chatroom between new veterinarians, students and older veterinarians. Vincenzo Gaita (Chair of the WGA) will advertise this project, and explained that the subject was already discussed during the last regional meeting.

#### **7.4.5. Sponsors**

Vincenzo Gaita (Chair of the WGA) discussed a meeting with VVC, and explained that the WGA will be organizing a live event during the Symposium.

#### **7.4.6. Creating a group for peer reviewing of scientific content**

Vincenzo Gaita (Chair of the WGA) explained that it would need to be a graduated veterinarian, and that an application process through a CV needs to be implemented.

Merel Knoops (President) agreed on the benefits of having Post Graduates help with this particular aspect. However, a Taskforce might not be the suitable format to organize this as they are temporary. On the other hand, creating a Subcommittee would be better.

Vincenzo Gaita (Chair of the WGA) explained having experience with this topic and expressed interest in managing the Subcommittee.

### **7.5. Standing Committee on Wellness (SCoW)**

#### **7.5.1. Ongoing:**

##### **7.5.1.1. Wellness Ambassador project**

Naveesha Shergill (Chair of the SCOW) explained that the proposal and application for the Wellness Ambassador Program are being handled.

##### **7.5.1.2. World Kindness Day**





Naveesha Shergill (Chair of the SCOW) provided information about this project and the SCOW's involvement.

#### **7.5.1.3. Wellness Toolkit website update**

Naveesha Shergill (Chair of the SCOW) explained that the SCOW team has been working on this, with some substantial change being made.

#### **7.5.1.4. Vet Show Academy**

Naveesha Shergill (Chair of the SCOW) discussed receiving an opportunity to write bimonthly blogs for Vet Show Academy, along with Mairin-Rua Ni Aodha (Chair of the SCAW), to which they both agreed.

### **7.5.2. Completed:**

#### **7.5.2.1. Lift Me Up Challenge**

Naveesha Shergill (Chair of the SCOW) explained that the Chairs have already completed the challenge, which has been published.

#### **7.5.2.2. International Conference on Stress Management**

Naveesha Shergill (Chair of the SCOW) explained that this was in fact the SCOW's first ever Webinar. Unfortunately, since the platform that was used was Google meet, it could not be recorded.

#### **7.5.2.3. Committee members**

Naveesha Shergill (Chair of the SCOW) discussed organizing an introductory meeting with all the new members, as well as individual meetings, and discussed organizing team building activities as well.

### **7.5.3. Queries:**

#### **7.5.3.1. IVSA South Africa partial reimbursement (MOD)**

Naveesha Shergill (Chair of the SCOW) explained that IVSA South Africa won the Wellness Week competition the previous term. Naveesha Shergill (Chair of the SCOW) contacted the winners via email in order to discuss money transfer. However, IVSA South Africa responded by saying that the money transfer would take almost six months. Naveesha Shergill (Chair of the SCOW) then discussed contacting Nabeelah Rajah (MOD)





and Panagiotis Doerffer-Efraimidis (Treasurer) in order to find a better solution to this issue.

## **7.6. Standing Committee on Career Attributes (SCoCA)**

### **7.6.1. 1st Committee Meeting**

Izabela Baclawska (Chair of the SCoCA) explained the Committee was able to hold their first meeting and divide tasks.

### **7.6.2. November training**

Izabela Baclawska (Chair of the SCoCA) explained the announcement will be made very soon, and discussed the importance of having Trainings for IVSA members to benefit from.

### **7.6.3. ExCo Live Meeting training**

Izabela Baclawska (Chair of the SCoCA) discussed working with a trainer from the IAAS (International Association of Students in Agronomy and Related Sciences) who offered to organize a training for all the Officials in groups of 20 to 25 trainees. Izabela Baclawska (Chair of the SCoCA) discussed the benefits of having two sessions of two hours each in order to make it beneficial to all participants. Izabela Baclawska (Chair of the SCoCA) also relayed the intention to provide officials with an opportunity to choose topics of interest that will be explored during the training.

### **7.6.4. Updates:**

#### **7.6.4.1. SCoCA Blog**

Izabela Baclawska (Chair of the SCoCA) explained the Blog will be launched during the month of November, and that the Committee team is already working on publications to share.

#### **7.6.4.2. Others**

Izabela Baclawska (Chair of the SCoCA) discussed that the publications of the SCoCA will be following different themes about different topics. Furthermore, Izabela Baclawska (Chair of the SCoCA) discussed gathering information about the previous trainers from Vera Gonzales, and also discussed a meeting with the IAAS Trainers' network, who are interested in collaborating with the IVSA.

Izabela Baclawska (Chair of the SCoCA) also discussed attending the Youth NGO Trainer





Network Meeting during the month of November.

## **8. Public Relations Coordinator (PRC) Update –**

### **8.1. Social Media**

#### **8.1.1. Differentiation**

Iina Airasmaa (PRC) discussed making some differentiation between our communication channels (Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, etc ...) and explained the specificities of each platform. Iina Airasmaa (PRC) also discussed using Twitter more to promote and create a different type of interaction with our Partners.

There was some discussion regarding the promotion of sponsored content, and the restriction of the IVSA Facebook page, and the way to move forward regarding this issue.

#### **8.1.2. Account verification**

Iina Airasmaa (PRC) discussed looking into account verification on Facebook and Instagram, and added that Twitter does not take any such requests.

### **8.2. Website**

#### **8.2.1. Membership Portal**

Iina Airasmaa (PRC) explained the benefits and importance of the Membership Portal, and gave some additional information about the project, as well as some of the main issues that the project currently faces. Iina Airasmaa (PRC) then discussed the pricing and explained it would be beneficial to start a one-year trial period, upon which the package can be upgraded.

Iina Airasmaa (PRC) then explained that the platform's content would be managed by all of the ExCo, at least during the first months, in order to ensure a good transition. The technical side will be handled by the PRC. The verification of Membership will be done through watermarked certificates in order to ensure they are not counterfeit. Merel Knoops (President) discussed the importance of guiding members through the new process of using certificates to prove membership in order to avoid confusion and to make sure that the process is secure.

Iina Airasmaa (PRC) further discussed the speed issue of the website which will be looked into before implementing the Membership Portal into it.

Merel Knoops (President) discussed the importance of checking membership status on a





yearly basis in order to detect students that have graduated, and prevent them from receiving membership benefits without having to join as Alumni members. Iina Airasmaa (PRC) explained that the platform can handle this process, and discussed the possibility of also implementing the EDU+ Platform into the Membership Portal. However, the amount of time it would take is unsure, and it might be take a substantial amount of time until the platform's infrastructure is ready to host the EDU+.

Nicole Hartman (ERO) inquired about the situation of schools for which the IVSA Membership fee is paid for all students through the University's Student body, and if it would mean that members would have to pay a separate fee through the membership portal. Iina Airasmaa (PRC) explained that this will have no implication on the Membership fee that is a completely separate thing. The issuance of a certificate would be through the President and EO of the given MO, and would be the requirement needed to apply for Congress/Symposium or any other Membership benefits and opportunities, as a proof of being an IVSA Member recognized by the local MO.

After some more discussion, Iina Airasmaa (PRC) moved to approve the amount of 148,00 Euros for the membership portal.

All members of ExCo voted unanimously in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

### **8.3. PR Network**

Iina Airasmaa (PRC) discussed setting up the PR Network soon, after which considerations will be made as to what kind of role the PRC team will have. Iina Airasmaa (PRC) explained that the PRC team could then act as a support for the different teams.

### **8.4. IVSA Journal**

Iina Airasmaa (PRC) explained that the call for entries had been opened, and discussed sharing a reminder. Iina Airasmaa (PRC) also explained the chosen theme for the Journal, and discussed some relevant topics to be discussed in the form of articles by the Officials themselves.

### **8.5. PR Toolkit**

Iina Airasmaa (PRC) explained that it will be available for all MOs, and that it can be available for members of the PR Network as well.

Some discussion about the merging of the Youtube channels ensued. It was discussed whether the IVSA Sub-Saharan Africa Youtube Channel should be merged into the IVSA





Global Youtube Channel. It was then decided that IVSA Sub-Saharan Africa should be encouraged for creating this platform. A point of agreement was to make sure their initiative would not be diluted or taken away by implementing it across regions for the sake of being homogenous.

Merel Knoops (President) moved to go into a recess of 10 minutes at 16:21 PM GMT+1 without any objections.

Merel Knoops (President) called the meeting back to order at 16:32 PM GMT+1.

## **9. Member Organization Director (MOD) Update –**

### **- Bylaw Amendment on GA Inclusivity:**

Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) explained that this will be scheduled for December.

### **- DAD Assist**

Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) discussed the need to involve MOs more into the work of the Development Fund, including fundraising activities. Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) then discussed allocating points towards assisting the DAD when determining the Top MO.

## **9.1. Communication and MO involvement**

### **9.1.1. Top MO and Core Challenges**

Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) discussed including the Core challenges into the Top MO competition and allocating points towards that. Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) also discussed the importance of not sharing the point allocation system with all MOs publicly, as it would be detrimental. Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) then discussed the Core Challenges and the SCoVE's involvement through organizing an Academic Challenge. Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) also explained the SCOW's contribution to this project, and provided information about the winners' selection process.

## **9.2. Exchanges and International events**

### **9.2.1. ExCo and IVSA Indonesia Online Exchange**

As a form of compensation for IVSA Indonesia, who in cancelling the Symposium have also lost a big opportunity to interact with the ExCo and the rest of the Officials, the ExCo agreed to hold an Online Exchange with IVSA Indonesia during the month of December.

### **9.2.2. Online Exchange guide**





Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) explained that many MOs had reached out to the MOD team about organizing Online Exchanges. During the process of making a guide, IVSA India provided the MOD with a completed guide of their making. Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) explained that the guide contained all the necessary information, and discussed sharing that version instead of the MOD guide. Furthermore, Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) discussed giving IVSA India full recognition by not amending the slides, and promoting them as they are.

### **9.2.3. All Online Exchanges on MOD Team social media (Instagram)**

Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) encouraged all the Officials to share information and pictures about online exchanges in order to promote them.

### **9.2.4. Meeting with The Netherlands' OC**

Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) discussed the meeting with IVSA The Netherlands, and explained the Organizing Committee (OC) is currently handling all issues with success.

### **9.2.5. SGA Certificates**

Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) discussed receiving queries regarding members demanding their Attendance Certificates for the 69<sup>th</sup> Congress SGA. Iina Airasmaa (PRC) explained that the certificates cannot be issued as all the information regarding attendance might have been lost in the immediate past president's Webex account, which has since expired.

It had been decided during the past term that since the SGA did not have some of the main components of a Live event, the attendance did not experience a full Congress experience, and could not be considered as having attended a full event which would mean that they would have voting rights.

## **9.3. Information and committees**

This point was not discussed.

## **9.4. Regional Representatives**

### **9.4.1. Screening for Regional Teams/Standing Committees (feedback and complications)**

This subject was exhausted in other agenda points with the exception of the issue with IVSA Indonesia. Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) discussed meeting with IVSA Indonesia in order to find solutions.





### **9.4.2. Screening suggestion**

Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) encouraged other Officials to provide comments and suggestions about the new screening process.

## **10. Development Aid Director (DAD) Update –**

### **10.1. IVSA Scholarship Grant**

#### **10.1.1. Task Force**

Elen Hernandez (DAD) explained that the Taskforce members have been selected, and that the First meeting was held. The process for applications of the first round was agreed upon during the meeting, as well as the true aim of the taskforce to make sure that members were all in agreement and awareness of the nature of their tasks.

#### **10.1.2. Application Date**

Elen Hernandez (DAD) explained that the Taskforce aims to launch applications by January 1<sup>st</sup>. Members of the Taskforce advised to hold live interviews in order to better assess the candidates. Finally, Elen Hernandez (DAD) discussed announcing the winners in February.

### **10.2. BSAVA Book Donation**

Elen Hernandez (DAD) explained there was no update regarding the BSAVA Book Donation project.

### **10.3. Philippines Microscopes**

Elen Hernandez (DAD) provided some history about the hardships that IVSA faced regarding this project, and then explained that the contract with the microscope company had been drafted and approved by ExCo, and signed by the President of the IVSA. Elen Hernandez (DAD) is currently waiting on the Treasurer of IVSA to make the transfer in order to purchase the microscopes and finish this project.

Elen Hernandez (DAD) then discussed getting pictures and a short story to promote on Social Media.

### **10.4. Vetbooks Ohio State**

There were no updates regarding this project.





### **10.5. 10,000 Paws Project**

Elen Hernandez (DAD) explained that a new contract has been drafted and will be sent to ExCo for approval.

### **10.6. BeKind Award**

Elen Hernandez (DAD) explained that a post has been shared on social media to start the new term regarding the BeKind Award. Elen Hernandez (DAD) then explained that it is very difficult to send the awards to the last term's winners due to the ongoing pandemic. Elen Hernandez (DAD) hopes that Ania Cieckiewicz (Trustee) will be able to send the awards to IVSA France in the next few months.

### **10.7. Vetbooks for Africa**

Elen Hernandez (DAD) explained that due to the ongoing pandemic, and in order to help raise funds for Vetbooks for Africa, it was decided that the month of November will contain a Sponsorship Month campaign. Some material has already been posted about this on social media.

## **11. Secretary General Update**

### **11.1. IVSA History Project**

Mehdi Amrani (Secretary General) discussed using the October EO Bulletin to communicate with Member Organizations about the History Project. A single reply was received regarding this project, but overall, the MOs' participation was deemed insufficient. Mehdi Amrani (Secretary General) explained that the History Project would have to rely on the documents that are in the possession of the Immediate Past President of IVSA. A letter was sent to a former active IVSA Member believed to be in possession of some additional documentation regarding IVSA and its history, but the letter received no reply. The issue is and remains that those documents cannot be accessed remotely as they are not digitized, but no free solution was found. Mehdi Amrani (Secretary General) encouraged members of the Officials to share any information that might be helpful or that might provide a solution to this issue. Mehdi Amrani (Secretary General) also thanked Daniel Lund (Trustee) for sharing an old document from IVSA Denmark to the then Executive Committee of IVSA about Apartheid.

Some more discussion ensued regarding the process of digitizing the old documents currently in IVSA's possession.

### **11.2. IVSA Wiki updates**





Mehdi Amrani (Secretary General) discussed the updates that have been made to the IVSA Wiki. The Strategic Plan section has been restructured in order to account for the fact that IVSA has adopted a new Strategic Plan. The Wiki currently contains the previous version as well as the new version for archiving purposes, and a new page was created in order to receive the Regions Strategic Plan that was approved by ExCo at the end of the previous term.

Mehdi Amrani (Secretary General) then discussed the updates that need to be made to the Committees Section. Some Committees currently have no section dedicated to them in the IVSA Wiki. An email was sent to the Committees and the CC in order to organize the process of organizing the Committee section updates of the IVSA Wiki. A primary deadline was set for the end of November to give the Committee Chairs time to draft the new and updated manuals. The submissions will then be reviewed and amended as needed and uploaded into the Wiki.

Mehdi Amrani (Secretary General) then discussed various topics such as the overall structure of the Wiki, and some specifics about the manuals and the information provided in them which in some cases seems to be outdated. Mehdi Amrani (Secretary General) discussed the necessity of reviewing all the content of the Wiki to make all the necessary changes. Merel Knoops (President) advised to compile all the necessary information into one single file that would be sent to all officials, upon which tasks shall be divided to make the process easier and more clear to all parties involved.

Mehdi Amrani (Secretary General) finally announced that since the CC team has had one less secretary after the appointment of a new CC, the Secretariat assignments had to be reconsidered, and a new interim opportunity for a joint secretariat position was made available to interested members of the Secretariat who wish to fill this new interim position. In the end, the position was given to Jasmin Schneider (Secretary to the DAD and the CC). A meeting will be scheduled to brief the new appointee on all projects and work of the CC team and responsibilities towards the CC and the Committees. This matter was also discussed with Elen Hernandez (DAD) to ensure there will not be any impact on the DAD projects, since both the DAD Secretaries are now Joint Secretaries.

## **12. External Relations Officer Update**

### **12.1. Sponsors:**

#### **12.1.1. Purina Institute:**

Nicole Hartman (ERO) explained that Purina Institute decided to move to Diamond Tier, and that ideas were discussed about using the additional money to be received.





### **12.1.2. Purina Brand:**

Nicole Hartman (ERO) explained that Purina Brand will remain at the Silver Tier.

### **12.1.3. IVC Evidencia**

Nicole Hartman (ERO) explained that the MoU with IVC Evidencia has been on hold as there were still some ideas to be discussed regarding how the funds will be used.

### **12.1.4. Royal Canin**

Nicole Hartman (ERO) discussed a meeting and a presentation with Royal Canin at the end of November.

### **12.1.5. Multiview**

Nicole Hartman (ERO) explained that the Multiview sponsorship was sorted out, and that the money should be transferred soon.

## **12.2. Partners:**

### **12.2.1. Banfield**

Nicole Hartman (ERO) explained that Banfield has been sharing information about some of their CE events, which IVSA shared to fulfill its obligations.

### **12.2.2. GARC- MoU Approved**

Nicole Hartman (ERO) explained that the MoU with the GARC has been signed and approved.

### **12.2.3. VMS- Marketing Webinars**

Nicole Hartman (ERO) discussed the Webinar Series and asked the Officials to promote these events.

### **12.2.4. Vetbooks for Africa**

Nicole Hartman (ERO) explained that the visitation had to be delayed because of the ongoing pandemic. Nicole Hartman (ERO) will prepare a presentation that will be sent to Vetbooks for Africa in order to promote IVSA in countries and universities they will visit.

## **12.3. Potential sponsors / partners:**





### **12.3.1. Vetiqo**

Nicole Hartman (ERO) discussed the MoU being still in development.

### **12.3.2. IFPACS**

Nicole Hartman (ERO) discussed the MoU being still in development.

### **12.3.3. VVC**

Nicole Hartman (ERO) discussed waiting on VVC to send a draft of the agreement for it to be discussed and approved by the ExCo.

### **12.3.4. Bioethicus**

Nicole Hartman (ERO) explained the proposition made to IVSA by Bioethicus, and the advantages of partnering with this group. The specifics are still being discussed.

### **12.3.5. Expedition Project**

This project is still at the early stage, and no significant progress has yet been made.

## **12.4. Upcoming projects:**

### **12.4.1. Committee Booklets**

Nicole Hartman (ERO) discussed using the already available booklets, and explained that the edits to the SCoCA Booklet are in progress, as well as the How to Use Document.

### **12.4.2. Regional Booklets**

Nicole Hartman (ERO) explained that this project will be on hold until December.

## **13. President Update**

### **13.1. Partner communication**

#### **13.1.1. EAEVE**

Merel Knoops (President) explained that the visitations have been promoted through the EO Bulletin and social media.





### **13.1.2. FECAVA**

Merel Knoops (President) explained there has been no close contact with FECAVA during the last period of time. However, Merel Knoops (President) attended an event organized by FECAVA. (See 14.1. **FECAVA Mental Health & Wellbeing Working Group Meeting**)

### **13.1.3. EVERI**

Merel Knoops (President) discussed attending the EVERI General Assembly and giving a presentation.

### **13.1.4. WVA**

Merel Knoops (President) discussed the Animal Welfare Awards, and being in constant touch with the WVA and CEVA to ensure the results are better promoted.

### **13.1.5. WSAVA**

WSAVA officially canceled their joined March Congress with FECAVA, which will affect IVSA as it benefits from 50 volunteer spots for the WSAVA Congress, and 10 FECAVA Scholarships. FECAVA decided to provide the Scholarship winners with free Online Passes. Merel Knoops (President) discussed contacting WSAVA to offer similar advantages, but there has been no answer yet.

### **13.1.6. OIE**

Merel Knoops (President) discussed meeting with the OIE along with Adetona Mutiat Adenike (Chair of the SCOH) in which various topics were discussed, including the OIE Junior Ambassador Program and the rewards for the previous winners.

### **13.1.7. ASTUCORP**

Merel Knoops (President) explained that the MoU has been signed (See 3. **Action Points**)

## **13.2. Other things that require attention**

### **13.2.1. Tax fine**

Additional information was provided regarding the Tax fine.

### **13.2.2. Online governmental services**





Merel Knoops (President) explained that in order to gain access to Online Belgian Governmental services, a Belgian ID is required. Merel Knoops (President) discussed some measures that were taken to enable IVSA to use Online services although without any significant breakthrough.

### **13.2.3. NGO Status**

Merel Knoops (President) explained the NGO status would allow IVSA to receive Donations and be tax exempt. Upon research, it unfortunately seems like IVSA is not eligible at this point in time.

### **13.2.4. Reminder IVSA etiquette (emails, signatory power, events)**

Merel Knoops (President) reminded all Officials to copy the President's email into all communications with external partners.

### **13.2.5. Skribbl Team building**

Merel Knoops (President) provided details about this activity.

### **13.2.6. Vice-President**

Merel Knoops (President) moved to appoint Iina Airasmaa (PRC) as Vice President.

All members of ExCo voted unanimously in favor of the motion. Motion Passes.

## **14. Attended Events**

### **14.1. FECAVA Mental Health & Wellbeing Working Group Meeting**

Merel Knoops (President) discussed collaborating on promotional material about Mental Health and Wellbeing in the veterinary profession. Merel Knoops (President) also discussed the involvement of the SCOW and the WGA in regards to this project.

### **14.2. WVA Webinar: The Impact of COVID-19 on the Veterinary Profession**

Merel Knoops (President) provided some information about the presentation given on behalf of IVSA and Veterinary Students around the world, which received great reviews.

### **14.3. WVA & CEVA Animal Welfare Award Ceremony**

Merel Knoops (President) discussed the award ceremony for the WVA/ CEVA Animal Welfare Competition, which took place in Brussels.





#### **14.4. European Commission: Animal Health Advisory Committee**

This event was attended by the President and the SCAW Chair of IVSA. Merel Knoops (President) then discussed some of the topics that were presented.

#### **14.5. FECAVA Council Meeting:**

Merel Knoops (President) provided some information about this event.

#### **14.6. FVE GA**

Merel Knoops (President) discussed the proceedings of the FVE General Assembly.

#### **14.7. EVERI GA**

Merel Knoops (President) discussed giving a presentation on behalf of IVSA which also received good reviews.

### **15. Upcoming Events**

#### **15.1. ExCo Meetings:**

##### **15.1.1. 2nd ExCo Live meeting**

Merel Knoops (President) explained that the Live Meeting has been scheduled for the 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> of December. Merel Knoops (President) also discussed safety measures and eventually holding the event completely online to avoid any complications. Merel Knoops (President) will send an email to the ExCo for further discussion.

##### **15.1.2. 5th ExCo Online Meeting**

Merel Knoops (President) discussed the 5<sup>th</sup> ExCo Online Meeting being scheduled for the 28<sup>th</sup> of November.

#### **15.2. 69th IVSA Symposium - Special General Assembly**

Merel Knoops (President) explained that the ExCo already approved the dates for the SGA and provided some information about the program. However, it is still unclear whether it will be possible to have some essential personnel among the Officials meet live to ensure the event runs smoothly.

Merel Knoops (President) discussed the applications for the Online Organizing Committee (OOC), and explained that since the dates are now selected, the members of the Online Attendance Committee (OAC) can also be selected. Merel Knoops (President) also





explained that Iina Airasmaa (PRC and Vice President) will be in charge of the OAC.

### **15.3. 70th IVSA Symposium - Mexico**

Nabeelah Rajah (MOD) explained that a meeting will be scheduled for the month of November, and that more updates will be made available during the next meeting.

### **16. Any Other Business (AOB) –**

Merel Knoops (President) explained that since stepping down, the previous CC has not been able to move forward with the duties of the Taskforce on Equity and Diversity. Hence, Merel Knoops (President) opened the call for manifestation of interest in Chairing the Taskforce among the Officials. Merel Knoops (President) then discussed receiving a single application from Naveesha Shergill (Chair of the SCOW), and opened discussions regarding this subject.

Naveesha Shergill (Chair of the SCOW) explained the many wellness components to Equity and Diversity, and provided more arguments regarding the special meaning and the importance of this Taskforce holds for IVSA, and herself.

Merel Knoops (President) moved to appoint Naveesha Shergill (Chair of the SCOW) as Chair of the Taskforce on Equity and Diversity.

All members of ExCo voted unanimously in favor of the motion. Motion Passed.

Naveesha Shergill (Chair of the SCOW) was also elected Chair of the Taskforce on Equity and Diversity.

Merel Knoops (President) discussed the results from the Monthly Reports and expressed some concerns about the state of the Wellness within the Officials. Merel Knoops (President) discussed implementing an active system of feedback to ensure Officials are taking care of their own Mental Health. Merel Knoops (President) encouraged the members of ExCo to also take care of the wellness of their secretaries and all the people working with them.

Merel Knoops (President) also discussed implementing an additional performance report around the middle of the term to help Officials improve their skills and the fields in which they are lacking.





The meeting was adjourned at 06:11 PM GMT+1.

Mehdi Amrani  
International Veterinary Students' Association  
Secretary General 2020-2021

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mehdi Amrani', is written over a light blue horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

