

## Constitution



Association of Veterinary Consultants

### Denomination

#### *Article 1*

The Association is known as the Association of Veterinary Consultants. (The Association). The official address of the Association will be the address of the Hon. General Secretary of the Association.

### Duration

#### *Article 2*

The Association is of unlimited duration, unless it is decided to terminate it in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

### Aims and objectives

#### *Article 3*

The aims and objectives of the Association are:

- to ensure professional standards of its members are maintained at a high level by following a Code of Practice.
- to inform the outside world of the existence of experienced veterinarians able to provide expertise to industry, governments and other organisations.
- to assist and advise its members on all matters pertaining to the execution of their professional duties.
- to promote the image of the veterinary profession to the public and the world at large.
- to encourage close relationship between its members and all branches of the veterinary profession.
- to promote the acquisition and dissemination of published information concerning veterinary issues related to the members' declared interests and activities, including the action and use of veterinary medicinal products, feed additives, animal feed and nutrition and, human food safety and production.
- to provide a forum to assist its members in keeping abreast of scientific



and veterinary progress in matters relating to the pharmaceutical, animal feed, human food and animal health industries and other areas relating to members' declared interests.

### *Article 4*

Membership shall be open to independent veterinary consultants with a fully registered veterinary qualification in one of the Member States of the European Union and from any other country at the discretion of the Board, involved in advising government service or research institutes, companies associated with the pharmaceutical and animal health or animal production related industries.

### *Article 5*

Applications for membership must be proposed and supported by at least two members of the Association and will be decided upon by the Board by a simple majority vote.

### *Article 6*

Membership shall be terminated by the Board in case of serious professional misconduct but only after giving opportunity to the member(s) concerned to justify his/her actions.

### Board

### *Article 7*

The Association shall be governed by the Board, consisting of at least four members, of which one is the President. The Board is elected by and from the membership of the Association. The Board shall serve for a period of two years and be eligible for re-election. The Board may fill vacancies occurring during its period of office by co-option.



### *Article 8*

The Board will take its decisions by a simple majority vote. In case of parity, the vote of the Chairman will be decisive. The Board shall take its decisions in accordance with the Constitution and the Internal Rules of the Association.

### *Article 9*

The Board shall call an Annual General Meeting during each calendar year, which shall be announced at least four (4) weeks in advance. Other meetings may be arranged by the Board, either on the initiative of the Board or by a request by at least 10 percent of the membership. Such meetings shall be announced at least four (4) weeks in advance and must be held within 3 months after receipt of the request.

### Finance

### *Article 10*

The annual membership fee and other fees will be determined by the Board. A Statement of Income and Expenses and a Balance Sheet on the previous year shall be presented for approval at the Annual General Meeting.

### Amendment of the constitution

### *Article 11*

The constitution can be amended on the proposal of the Board or on the proposal of at least 2 members. The proposal shall be put on the agenda of the next Annual General Meeting. The proposal is accepted when it obtains 2/3 of the valid votes.

### *Article 12*

The Association may be terminated on a proposal submitted to the Annual General Meeting in accordance with article 11, provided 2/3 of the member-



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### Termination

ship which is eligible to vote is present. If this is not the case the Board shall call a new meeting at which the proposal will be dealt with in accordance with article 11.

*Approved by the Annual General Meeting of the AVC  
in Windsor, October 2, 2004*