



PUBLIC STATEMENT

VICH confirms date of 7th public Conference

Washington, DC, 17th November 2022.

After two years of virtual connections, the VICH Steering Committee came together in Washington DC to progress the VICH activities.

VICH promotes the establishment of safe and effective veterinary medicinal products across the world through wider international harmonisation of technical requirements for their registration. The 41st VICH Steering Committee meeting, chaired by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the 15th VICH Outreach Forum (VOF) annual meeting ran from the 14th through 17th November 2022.

The 15th VOF meeting welcomed 60 participants representing 22 national regulatory agencies or animal health industry organisations from six continents. Participants took part, in person or remotely, in the 1,5-day meeting (including a pre-meeting of only WOA and VOF members), chaired by the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). The VOF members took note of updates on VICH activities and related WOA (World Organisation for Animal Health - formerly OIE) activities. They received an update on the status of the revisions to the Medicated Premixes Guideline (GL) and the nine VICH Anthelmintic GLs. Participants also received an overview of the approaches taken by the VICH full members – European Union, Japan, and United States – to address the stability testing of vaccines for veterinary use. These training materials have been added to the training section available on the VICH website at: www.vichsec.org.

The Steering Committee decided that the 7th VICH public Conference, which is open to all interested parties, will be held in Amsterdam - the Netherlands in November 2024.

The Steering Committee agreed to a structural reorganisation, as a result of which the VOF will become the VICH Forum (VF). This is intended to make the VOF more inclusive and to better address the needs of VOF members who may have diverse expectations.

The Steering Committee acknowledged that the consultation period of the nine revised Anthelmintic GLs will shortly come to an end, and that, after the review of the comments by the experts, the final revised GLs will be circulated for implementation next year. The Steering Committee thanked the experts for their efforts to date.

The Steering Committee took note of the progress of the Expert Working Groups on Quality, Biologicals, Pharmacovigilance, Anthelmintics, Safety, Combination Products, Bioequivalence, Metabolism and Residue Kinetics and Medicated Premixes. The Steering Committee thanked the Expert Working Groups for efficiently continuing their work over the past few difficult years to progress harmonisation efforts.

The Steering Committee continues to support the engagement with the VOF. Discussions were held on a global dossier format and future topics for the VOF and public conference.

The 42nd VICH Steering Committee and 16th VOF meetings are scheduled for 13th - 16th November 2023 in Japan. The meetings will be in person.

About VICH:

VICH is a trilateral cooperation programme among the European Union, Japan and the United States of America driving the harmonisation of technical requirements for the registration of veterinary medicinal products.

All VICH draft and final GLs are available on the VICH website. The translations of several VICH GLs are available on the website of WOAH at:

<https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-offer/veterinary-products/vich-outreach-forum/>.

MEMBERS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

EU: European Commission - European Medicines Agency (EMA)

Japan: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (JMAFF)

USA: US Food & Drug Administration (FDA) – Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) and US Department of Agriculture (USDA) – Center for Veterinary Biologics (CVB)

AHI: US Animal Health Institute

AnimalhealthEurope: representing the European Animal Health Industry

JVPA: Japan Veterinary Products Association

OBSERVERS

Australia: Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA)

AMA: Animal Medicines Australia

New Zealand: Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI)

AGCARM: Agricultural Chemicals & Animal Remedies Manufacturers' Association of New Zealand

Canada: Health Canada (HC) - Veterinary Drugs Directorate (VDD) and Canadian Centre for Veterinary Biologics (CCVB)

CAHI: Canadian Animal Health Institute

South Africa: Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) and South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA)

SAAHA: South African Animal Health Association

VMD: Veterinary Medicines Directorate – the UK

NOAH: *National Office of Animal Health* - representing the UK Animal Health Industry

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

WOAH: World Organisation for Animal Health

INTERESTED PARTY

AVBC: Association of Veterinary Biologics Companies, USA

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