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ABOUT IFAH

The International Federation for Animal Health (IFAH) is a global body representing manufacturers of animal health products. It acts on behalf of companies and associations from both developed and developing countries across five continents.

IFAH’s mission is to foster a greater understanding of animal health and to promote a predictable, science-based regulatory environment that facilitates the supply of innovative, quality products into a competitive market place. These products contribute to the supply of safe, healthy food and high standards of health and welfare for animals and people.

To fulfil its mission, IFAH will:

- Act as the voice of the industry in dialogue with major international bodies that have an impact on the animal health industry (FAO, WHO, Codex, OIE, WTO and others);
- Encourage and assist the development of predictable, science-based regulatory procedures and standards;
- Represent the industry with a unified, global voice in dealings with governments, food-industry partners and consumers;
- Facilitate the international harmonisation of regulatory guidelines governing animal health products.
In the current economic climate, it is more important than ever that the animal health industry can invest secure in the knowledge that its products will be subjected to a proportionate, science-based regulatory framework. But our member companies are still being hampered by unnecessary, sometimes inappropriate regulatory burdens.

The legacy of a period during which the industry’s worth was under-valued, these burdens have driven spectacular increases in the investment required and the time taken to commercialise new products. The degree of risk attached to such investments has also risen, reflecting the impingement of political and economic factors on the regulatory decision-making process.

Since its inception, IFAH has striven to promote a better understanding of the animal health industry, and to underline the need for a more considered approach to its regulation. Both are essential if the industry is to fulfil a role that extends far beyond the protection of animal health and welfare, and that in coming years will have a crucial bearing on our ability to feed a growing population while keeping new and emerging disease threats at bay.

Gradually, those efforts are beginning to pay off. Regulators have begun to acknowledge the need to reform existing legislation, and to frame new rules in a more considered fashion. And in global debates on food production, health and disease control, the role played by animal health products is the subject of much broader recognition.

We can look back with great satisfaction on progress achieved in 2008. It was a year marked by significant achievements at global, regional and national level. The foundations for future success were also laid, with the appointment of talented new staff to our secretariat and the development of a strategic plan that will help to focus our efforts in coming years.

The regulatory tide continued to turn, with major developments reported on both sides of the Atlantic. In the US, new legislation enacted in 2008 promises to deliver further improvements in the efficiency of the registration review process. In Europe, meanwhile, regulators voiced their support for IFAH’s “1-1-1” approach. This calls for the development of a registration system under which a single dossier would be subjected to a single assessment, resulting in a single, unified authorisation.

Equally important were developments at global level. Here, IFAH has placed the animal health industry firmly at the centre of debates on issues such as antimicrobial resistance. It is also working closely with international organisations such as the OIE and FAO, helping to address issues such as the availability and quality of veterinary drugs in developing countries. The federation’s responsible, cooperative approach has earned growing respect for the industry, as well as a broader appreciation of its importance.

Our recent achievements are a tribute to the efforts of staff from member companies and associations. They also reflect the hard work of our secretariat, which was boosted in September by the arrival of Barbara Freischem as IFAH’s new Executive Director. Having worked for a leading animal health company and at the European Medicines Evaluation Agency, Barbara possesses a unique combination of industry and regulatory experience that we know is so valuable to our organisation. I wish her well, and look forward to working with her.

George Gunn
IFAH President
I am thrilled to have joined IFAH at such an eventful period in the federation’s development. Having worked within the animal health industry as well as the regulatory sphere, I am well aware of the sector’s importance, and of its huge potential.

Our role at IFAH is to create an environment in which that potential can be realised. To that end, the IFAH Board met with representatives of member companies and associations at a strategic session in Atlanta last October. The aim was to identify key goals for the federation in the period to 2011.

I was struck by the spirit of optimism and co-operation which characterised those meetings. This positive approach will provide a strong platform for IFAH as it works on the development of detailed action plans designed to achieve its goals.

Regulatory issues will remain high on the federation’s agenda as we strive to build on recent progress, delivering further improvements in the efficiency and proportionality of the regulatory framework within which our industry operates. We are also determined to promote a broader understanding and appreciation of the industry’s value to animals and society as a whole.

In that respect, I was delighted to read the positive comments made by OIE Director General Bernard Vallat elsewhere in this report. They amount to a clear recognition, not only of the role our industry already plays, but of the vital contribution it can make to fundamental goals being pursued at a global level.

The challenge now is to build a similar level of trust and respect among other key stakeholders. To achieve that, and to deliver on its other goals, IFAH must function as effectively and efficiently as possible. Leadership and clear lines of communication will be essential – at global, regional and national level, and in both developed and developing countries. We are already working on plans to strengthen the federation’s capabilities in this respect.

As a veterinary surgeon, my early professional background was focused on animal health and welfare. With global demand for animal-derived protein rising and with new challenges to both animal and human health emerging, the availability of effective tools for the treatment and control of animal disease has never been more important. I know that the industry can deliver those tools, and look forward to working alongside a group of people so committed to ensuring that it will succeed.

Barbara Freischem
IFAH Executive Director
Global demand for animal protein is expected to rise by 50% by 2020 as the population grows, and as more households in emerging economies join the world’s ‘middle classes’. The only way to meet this enormous increase in demand is by intensifying livestock production.

The inevitable consequence will be an increase in sanitary and environmental risks. These can only be controlled by the implementation of strict regulations, and by the use of effective products to treat and control disease.

We are already part of a ‘global village’. As the authors of a well-known report from the American Institute of Medicine put it: “There is nowhere in the world from which we are remote and no-one from whom we are disconnected.”

This interdependence has already begun to increase infectious disease risks at the human-animal interface. Three-quarters of emerging diseases are zoonotic – presenting risks to both animal and human populations. And in our global village, trade, business and cultural travel mean pathogens are transported around the world faster than the average incubation time of most epizootics.

Against this background, the OIE and other global bodies have adopted the ‘One World – One Health’ concept. This philosophy recognises the interdependent nature of human and animal health, and the need to pursue a global, multi-disciplinary approach to disease control.

Its success will rely on the involvement of both the public and private sectors, and on mutual cooperation between governments and individual disciplines. The European Technology Platform for Global Animal Health clearly represents a step in this direction. The OIE is pleased to be a partner in the ETPGAH, and to support the development of a similar initiative at global level.

Disease currently reduces potential global animal production by at least 20% a year. Losses are particularly heavy in developing countries, where they have a huge impact on those whose livelihood is dependent entirely on animal production. For that reason – and as a veterinary surgeon who worked for a number of years in the region – I applaud IFAH’s efforts to improve the availability of effective veterinary medicines in sub-Saharan Africa.

At a broader level, new vaccines, veterinary medicines and diagnostic tools will be required to limit the economic impact of disease, increase food production and protect the health of both animals and people. While avoiding damage to the environment, the OIE has a duty to support, even to promote the development of these products.

The successful development of effective new products will be greatly facilitated if – free from political interference but subject to appropriate precautions – the research community is allowed to take full advantage of the huge potential that biotechnologies have to offer, especially in the field of immunology. The OIE has already begun to address these topics, and our experts are drawing up initial recommendations that will be submitted to our specialist commissions and General Assembly of member countries.

Bernard Vallat
OIE Director General
The OIE

The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) is an intergovernmental organisation with a mandate from its 172 member countries and territories to improve animal health worldwide. In this capacity, the OIE is responsible for ensuring transparency of the animal disease situation worldwide, including diseases transmissible to humans, and the sanitary safety of world trade in animals and animal products.

The OIE publishes international standards in all fields covered by its mandate, including animal welfare and consumer protection. These services rely heavily on the veterinary services of all members. The OIE unceasingly promotes the quality of their governance and calls upon international solidarity to assist countries requesting support in this field.
The highly pathogenic H5N1 strain of avian influenza that emerged in Asia during 2003 has since been reported in more than 60 countries. It has killed almost two-thirds of the 405 people infected with the virus, has decimated the poultry industry in parts of Asia, and has cost affected countries an estimated US$20 billion.

Thankfully, the H5N1 strain is not easily transmitted either to or between humans, and a concerted response by national and international agencies has eliminated the virus in more than 50 affected countries. It has proved more difficult to eradicate elsewhere, however, and a global pandemic – triggered by viral mutation – remains a potential threat. Leaving aside the likely toll in terms of human life, experts have calculated that a pandemic could cost the global economy up to US$2 trillion.

Infectious diseases pose a growing threat to animal and human health as globalisation and climate change affect the distribution, incidence and virulence of individual pathogens. They could also jeopardise efforts to tackle poverty and starvation. "Trans-boundary" diseases were identified by the FAO’s 2008 summit on world food security as one of four key obstacles to raising global food output, which UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon believes must increase by 50% in the next 20 years to meet rising demand.

The animal health industry is at the forefront of efforts to tackle emerging disease threats. Its vaccines have been used by a number of governments to halt the spread of avian influenza. It has also developed vaccines that have played a key role in controlling other diseases – such as West Nile virus and bluetongue - which have spread beyond traditional geographical boundaries in recent years.

Harnessing Innovation to Combat New Disease Threats

The animal health industry has a key role to play in the fight against emerging infectious diseases.
The challenge facing the industry, governments and international agencies will grow, however, as diseases spread more rapidly. Driven by climate change, environmental pressures and increases in the global flow of animals, people and goods, more new pathogens will emerge, while the threat posed by existing diseases will widen. This means new forms of efficient, global cooperation are essential, IFAH believes.

Pooling research resources

Addressing the FAO summit’s round-table on trans-boundary diseases, the federation’s European Managing Director, Declan O’Brien, called for the creation of an "International Animal Health Technology Platform (IAHTP)." Modelled on a European initiative, this would bring key stakeholders together, pooling expertise and coordinating international research efforts, he said.

The European Technology Platform for Global Animal Health (ETPGAH) has already made significant headway, and has won praise from senior EU officials. It has adopted an action plan designed to deliver key goals contained in a Strategic Research Agenda. The plan outlines measures required to encourage the development of new and improved tools to control major disease threats. It also identifies areas in which research funding is required to plug gaps in the range of available vaccines and veterinary medicines.

Global organisations such as the OIE, FAO and WHO have embraced the ‘One World, One Health’ concept, which calls for a cooperative, interdisciplinary approach to the prevention and control of serious disease threats. Alongside the World Bank, these three agencies have drawn up a strategic framework for reducing the risks posed by infectious diseases.

The framework contains six key objectives, including the promotion of “inter-agency and cross-sectoral collaboration and partnerships.” These, it says, will improve collaboration between the public and private sectors. And citing likely partners in such initiatives, it names both the ETPGAH and IFAH.

IFAH’s proposal to establish a global version of the European technology platform was greeted positively by delegates at the FAO summit. And there are broader indications that governments, international agencies and other stakeholders recognise the need to join forces in the fight against emerging diseases.

The animal health industry is at the forefront of efforts to tackle emerging disease threats.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN 2008

- Addressing the FAO summit on world food security, IFAH calls for the establishment of an international technology platform for animal health, pooling expertise and resources in the fight against emerging diseases.
- At the World Veterinary Congress, IFAH outlines the European technology platform, and invites the World Veterinary Association to participate in a global version of the initiative.
- The FAO, OIE and WHO identify the establishment of "inter-agency and cross-sectoral collaboration and partnerships" as a key objective in the development of a strategic framework for reducing risks posed by infectious diseases.
IFAH has called for a ‘paradigm shift’ in the way regulations governing veterinary medicines are framed. And the federation has warned that failure to address existing problems could undermine the vital role played by the animal health industry.

The sector has struggled increasingly to handle the costs of compliance with catch-all standards applied to human and veterinary drugs. These ignore major differences in terms of product requirements and the conditions under which they are used. Crucially, they also take no account of the huge gulf in the respective resources of the two industries.

The global market for human drugs is worth 40-times more than its veterinary counterpart, while sales of the world’s leading pharmaceutical brand are 13-times higher than those of the best-selling animal health product. The gulf in spending power between the two sectors is equally spectacular. There is a 30-fold difference between the research budgets of the respective market leaders, for example, and the top-ranked human pharmaceutical company employs more research scientists than the world’s 20 leading animal health businesses put together.

Identical standards have been applied to a range of requirements, from tests on the safety and efficacy of new drugs to product labelling. In some countries common requirements have even been imposed on the distribution and sale of human pharmaceuticals and veterinary drugs.

In Europe, livestock pre-mixes must meet the same levels of microbiological purity applied to human drugs. This means products consumed by pigs from a feeding trough must comply with the same standards as drugs administered to children by intravenous injection in hospitals or clinics.

In the US, labelling requirements for veterinary medicines now actually exceed those for human drugs in some respects. In Japan, meanwhile, some pet medicines may no longer be prescribed for more than 14 days at a time after regulators there transposed rules designed to limit government spending on human drugs directly to the veterinary sector.

The growing regulatory burden has had a major impact on the animal health industry. Since the early 1990s, product development costs in the sector have rocketed by 150%, while the time taken to bring new drugs to market has risen by almost five years. Significantly, companies are now spending more than a quarter of their entire research budgets on "defensive" work designed to maintain approvals for existing products.

Not surprisingly, the rate at which innovative new products are being brought to market has slowed. Worryingly, this has coincided with a significant

Impact on the industry

Existing rules must be overhauled, abolishing requirements that are clearly either excessive or irrelevant.

Catch-all regulation

Current problems stem from the tendency to draw up single texts for the regulation of these two very different sectors. Veterinary versions may be tweaked slightly during the drafting process, but key requirements often remain identical. This has seen the animal health industry, which is in fact supportive of proportionate, science-based decision making, subjected to a growing – often unnecessary – regulatory burden.

How indiscriminate regulations have damaged the animal health industry and why a change of approach is essential to meet the challenges posed by existing and emerging disease threats.
increase in the threat posed by disease – not only to the health and welfare of the world’s animal populations, but also to human health.

Faced with new challenges such as the emergence of virulent new avian influenza strains and the spread of other, more established diseases, the need for products that can control or eradicate these infections has never been greater. But the availability of such products is under serious threat as the animal health industry struggles to cope with a ‘regulatory overload’.

Solving the problems

Those charged with drafting new regulations must take full account not only of the resources available to the animal health industry, but also of the needs of animals, their owners and the veterinary profession. Existing rules must also be overhauled, abolishing requirements that are clearly either excessive or irrelevant. National and regional rules must also be harmonised to avoid imposing unnecessary costs on what has become a truly global industry.

IFAH has worked hard in recent years, highlighting the magnitude of existing problems and tabling potential solutions that will unlock the full potential of the animal health industry. Encouragingly, those efforts are beginning to pay off.

In Europe, where the regulatory burden has taken a particularly significant toll, regulators have embarked on a drive to improve the quality of new legislation. They are also committed to the simplification of existing rules, taking account of the industry’s proposals on key issues such as data protection. At a broader level, they have responded positively to calls for the establishment of an approval process based on one dossier, one assessment and one licence for animal health products throughout the EU.

Much remains to be done, but with positive developments also being reported in other regions, the regulatory tide may at last have begun to turn.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN 2008

- IFAH publishes a booklet outlining the case for separate regulation of the veterinary medicines sector.
- In talks with authorities in Australia, Canada, Europe, Japan and the US, IFAH encourages the adoption of a ‘best practice’ approach to regulation. Optimising the regulatory framework will deliver a sustainable, competitive industry capable of providing innovative new products to meet existing and emerging disease threats, it says.
- IFAH continues to work alongside regulators in the US, the EU and Japan under the VICH initiative, which aims to harmonise regulatory requirements for veterinary products in these three regions and beyond. Significant progress towards the development of harmonised rules governing pharmacovigilance and target animal safety testing is achieved.
Salmonella food poisoning emerged as a growing problem in the UK during the 1980s and early 1990s. Salmonella enteritidis phage type 4 (PT4) – a virulent strain of the pathogen that had become increasingly prevalent in the country’s poultry flock – was a major contributor, responsible for 175,000 confirmed cases of food poisoning in the course of the epidemic. S. enteritidis (PT4) was identified as the cause of almost 100 food poisoning outbreaks in the UK during 1993 alone. Ten years later, however, that figure had fallen to less than ten.

Vaccines developed by the animal health industry, which were made available for use in UK layer flocks during 1996, were instrumental in tackling the disease. Recognising their impact, egg producers made vaccination a pre-condition for participation in a new ‘quality mark’ scheme adopted by the sector two years later.

Salmonella vaccines have since been used with equal success in many other countries, and are set to play a broader role in Europe. Under a new EU regulation, which came into force at the beginning of 2008, vaccination of all laying hens in member states with a salmonella prevalence of 10% or more is now mandatory.

The salmonella story is just one example of the animal health industry’s huge contribution to food safety and public health. IFAH member companies have developed a broad range of vaccines and veterinary medicines which, by enabling farmers to treat and control disease in animals, help to maintain a ready supply of safe, high quality food for consumers.
The food safety challenge

Zoonotic pathogens are one element of a much broader problem. Micro-organisms, parasites, chemicals, toxins and pollutants all pose a potential threat to food safety. The level of that threat has risen in the wake of increased international travel, population mobility and the globalisation of food supplies.

The true scale of the problem remains unknown but, in line with its commitment to the Millennium Development Goals, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has determined to quantify the impact of food-borne disease more accurately. Its Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group (FERG), will appraise current information and develop models capable of estimating incidence more accurately. Data generated by the initiative will be used, in particular to governments, to help plan prevention and control measures, and to increase levels of awareness about the need for rigorous food safety standards.

This is a huge task, and the WHO has called for the involvement of all stakeholders in the initiative. IFAH has made its commitment to the challenge clear from the outset, offering to share the federation’s scientific expertise and information with WHO experts. Its findings will also help the industry to prioritise and focus its research, providing valuable direction for initiatives such as the ETPGAH – the multi-stakeholder alliance spearheaded by IFAH-Europe, the federation’s European member association, in a bid to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of animal health research across both the public and private sectors.

Vaccines developed by the animal health industry have been instrumental in tackling salmonella for the benefit of consumers.

Protecting consumer health

The federation is equally committed to ensuring that its products do not pose a risk to consumers. As described in the previous article, veterinary medicines are subjected to rigorous scrutiny by regulators and scientists before they may be placed on the market. As part of that process, regulators set strict limits on levels at which traces of medicines are permitted in meat, milk, eggs and other food derived from animals. Known as maximum residue limits (MRLs), these are legal thresholds that must be respected.

To ensure the safety of consumers throughout the world, while facilitating global trade of safe food, such standards are set by the Codex Alimentarius Commission – a body jointly established by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the WHO.

IFAH plays an active part in Codex deliberations where animal health products and MRL calculations are concerned. Its members provide clinical data generated during the development of individual products, while the federation comments regularly on methods used by Codex to calculate residue limits. It continued to participate actively in Codex work throughout 2008, and remains committed to an initiative that has clear benefits for consumers worldwide.

WHO FERG-Initiative

For more information on the FERG initiative see www.who.int/foodsafety/foodborne_disease/ferg/en or contact:
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KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN 2008

- IFAH participates in the stakeholder session at the second meeting of the WHO’s Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group (FERG), held in Geneva during November 2008. The federation underlines its support for the initiative, and its willingness to share expertise and data with WHO experts.
- In the Codex Alimentarius arena, the federation submits detailed proposals on the establishment of practical maximum residue limits for veterinary drugs in food. It also holds discussions with the new chair of the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Food (CCRVDF), touching on a range of issues relevant to IFAH member companies.
ANTIMICROBIALS - VITAL CONTRIBUTORS TO ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

Why decisions on the availability of animal antimicrobials must be based on proper scientific evidence – and why policy-makers must weigh the risks and benefits involved in their decisions.

The antibiotic age is still less than a hundred years old, but it is hard to envisage a world without these ‘wonder drugs’. Their introduction rendered previously deadly illnesses curable, transforming medical practice almost overnight.

Their impact on veterinary medicine was similarly dramatic, and antimicrobials remain hugely important to the health and welfare of pets and livestock across the globe. They have played a key role in the development of efficient farming systems able to meet rapidly growing demand for supplies of safe, high quality food.

Prudent use of a valuable resource

We still have much to learn about the exact processes involved in the development of microbial resistance, and the contribution of individual factors to its emergence. One basic fact has been clear for a while, however: the development of resistance is inevitable, and the process is set in train the first time an antibiotic is used. As microbiologists put it, bacteria have only one aim – survival. This means it is vital that we use antimicrobials responsibly. Prudent use of these valuable products will minimise the threat posed by resistance.

This is an approach that has long been espoused by IFAH. Federation members have been instrumental in the establishment of national and regional initiatives designed to educate fellow stakeholders in the responsible use of antimicrobials. These have had a real impact, and where microbial sensitivity to animal antimicrobials has been surveyed, results show that levels of resistance are stable or in decline.

Veterinary antimicrobials are subject to a rigorous regulatory review process, which includes science-based risk/benefit analyses, risk assessments and risk management procedures. These ensure that appropriate controls on the use of a product are in place, minimising risks associated with the development of resistance in animals and its transfer to humans. Nor does
scrutiny and once a product has been approved, IFAH members undertake continuous monitoring of their products, which are also subject to post-marketing surveillance programmes run by regulatory authorities.

The level of scrutiny to which animal antimicrobials are subjected is poorly understood outside the sector. Nor is the importance of these products to veterinary medicine fully recognised. In a bid to address this situation, IFAH has begun to build closer links with the medical profession, playing an active role in major microbiological conferences.

The federation held a highly successful satellite symposium at the European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ECCMID), which took place in Barcelona during 2008. Feedback from clinicians who attended the symposium was encouragingly positive, and IFAH has now been invited to address the 7th International Symposium on Antimicrobial Agents and Resistance, which will take place in Bangkok during 2009.

Weighing risks and benefits

Policies on antimicrobial use must be based on appropriate scientific evidence. IFAH supports, and will participate actively in research to evaluate the significance that the development of antimicrobial resistance in animals may have for human medicine. Decision-making procedures must also include thorough risk assessments, and the federation is a strong advocate of a balanced approach to frameworks being constructed by the OIE, the FAO and WHO to deal with resistance issues.

Research conducted in the US highlights the complex nature of risk/benefit calculations. Scientists there developed a mathematical model addressing the impact on human health of antimicrobial use in animals. They found that small increases in the prevalence of animal disease risked triggering a much larger rise in the number of human infections.

“The model showed that the potential benefits to human health associated with the use of antibiotics in animal agriculture can far outweigh the potential risks,” the researchers concluded.

Antimicrobials remain hugely important to the health and welfare of pets and livestock across the globe.

These findings underline the true breadth of the role played by veterinary antimicrobials. Their contribution to animal health and welfare is generally acknowledged, but how widespread is a proper understanding of their role in the production of quality, affordable food? And how many realise the positive impact they have on consumers around the world? These are just some of the factors that must be weighed during any assessment of the risks and benefits associated with veterinary antimicrobial use.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN 2008

- IFAH addresses major microbiological conferences in Spain and Malaysia as part of its drive to raise awareness among the human medical community about the importance of antimicrobials to animal health and welfare. The federation’s messages receive a positive response, and it is invited to address the 7th International Symposium on Antimicrobial Agents and Resistance in Bangkok during 2009.
- The federation continues to play an active role in the development of resistance management policies by key international agencies including the OIE, the FAO and WHO.
"Vaccinate our cattle and then you can vaccinate our children, because if our cattle die then our children will die anyway." This was the stark message met by UNICEF staff pursuing a child immunisation programme in Sudan during the early 1990s.

The disease Sudanese villagers feared more than any other was rinderpest. This deadly viral infection, which can kill 90% of cattle in affected herds, had swept across Africa in the 1980s, inflicting disastrous losses.

In 1994, the FAO launched a global rinderpest eradication programme. Its aim was to eliminate the virus completely by 2010. Now, in the wake of a concerted vaccination campaign, it is on the verge of meeting that ambitious target.

This is a huge achievement, and will have a major impact on rural populations across much of Africa and parts of Asia. It is one victory in a much bigger battle, however.

Fighting poverty

About 75% of the world’s 1.5 billion poor, subsisting on less than a dollar a day, live in rural parts of developing countries. Two-thirds are reliant on livestock as their main source of food and income. Many live in areas where animal disease continues to take a heavy toll, however, posing a threat not just to their livelihoods, but to their lives.

Improving access to products that can prevent or treat these diseases is vital. Effective vaccines and veterinary medicines have the potential to preserve the livelihood of farmers, and to improve the productivity and value of their herds. By doing so, they can provide a pathway out of poverty.

IFAH is determined to play a key role in the provision of quality, effective veterinary products to farmers in the developing world. The federation is working with a range of partners to develop new and improved animal medicines. It is also at the forefront of a scheme designed to drive out the counterfeit and sub-standard drugs that circulate widely in many developing countries, and that compromise the efforts of farmers to protect their stock.

In 2008, IFAH joined the Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines (GALVmed), an NGO set up to improve access to animal health products in developing regions. The alliance
IFAH aims to encourage collaboration on research into vaccines and veterinary drugs for use specifically in developing countries. Having recently secured further funding from the UK government (DFID) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as well as the European Union, it hopes to oversee the development, registration and launch of several new products by 2015. It also plans to educate stakeholders about the role livestock health can play in eradicating extreme poverty and hunger.

Combating counterfeits

Trypanosomiasis, known as sleeping sickness in humans and as Nagana in animals, is a disease that continues to inflict suffering on man and animals in Africa. Drugs for the treatment of this parasitic infection – known as ‘trypanocides’ – have been available for many years. Yet, it continues to wreak havoc in sub-Saharan Africa, causing annual losses of up to US$4.5 billion.

Effective control of the disease has been compromised by the widespread sale of unregistered, often poor quality trypanocides. A recent survey carried out in Cameroon and Senegal found that two thirds of all veterinary medicines being sold in these two countries were either counterfeit or sub-standard. In Cameroon, that figure rose to 100% where trypanocides were concerned. The use of these products leaves ‘treated’ animals at the mercy of the disease, which is often fatal in the absence of effective therapy.

In a bid to combat counterfeiting, IFAH is working with the FAO to clamp down on the sale of unregistered and sub-standard drugs in Africa. The two parties have agreed to fund the establishment of two laboratories that will test the quality and efficacy of trypanocides. They will draft standards for these drugs, which will be presented to the OIE for adoption. Protocols for the quality control of trypanocides will also be developed, and money to finance the training of technicians will be made available. FAO Deputy Director-General James Butler said the collaboration marked “an important step” towards the development of effective controls on the quality of veterinary drugs in Africa.

Both IFAH and the FAO are keen to extend the initiative, which is intended eventually to cover other drug classes such as livestock wormers, insecticides and antibiotics. By guaranteeing the quality of products being used by farmers, this will have a positive impact on the health and productivity of herds in the region. As a result, it will also boost the financial prospects of producers.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN 2008

- IFAH becomes a member of the Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines (GALVmed). This NGO seeks to protect livestock and save human lives by educating stakeholders and encouraging the development of new or more suitable veterinary medicines for use in developing countries.

- IFAH and the FAO sign a memorandum of understanding, paving the way for the introduction of controls on the quality and efficacy of veterinary drugs distributed in sub-Saharan Africa.
REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Regulatory reform
IFAH-Europe submitted its reform proposals to a regulatory task force set up to advise on potential improvements to rules governing animal health products. The federation’s proposals – including its call for a registration system under which a single dossier, subjected to a single assessment, would result in a single, unified European assessment (the ‘1-1-1’ concept) – received widespread support. As a result, the task force agreed to extend the scope of its remit, and the year ended with a commitment by the European Commission to review the existing regulatory framework in 2010.

Efficient regulation
IFAH-Europe surveys members on a regular basis, identifying areas in which the efficiency of regulatory procedures can be improved. These form the basis of discussions with regulators, which focused on the development of improved packaging and labelling requirements and the introduction of electronic submission procedures. The federation is also involved in a pilot project designed to improve the efficiency of pharmacovigilance procedures. This involves the adoption of a synchronised approach to the submission and assessment of post-marketing surveillance reports.

Data requirements
The federation contributed to discussions on a range of new and revised guidelines outlining data requirements for veterinary products in the EU. Its input helped to secure key revisions to guidelines on environmental risk assessment and user safety, a draft guideline on approaches to risk-benefit assessment, and data requirements for bluetongue vaccines.

New regulations
IFAH-Europe welcomed the adoption by EU member states of revised regulations on the establishment of maximum residue limits (MRLs). Based on proposals issued by the European Commission, these are designed to stimulate innovation and address product availability issues. The year also saw the introduction of a more flexible approach by regulators to requests for variations to existing marketing authorisations.

In-feed products
The ‘zero tolerance’ approach to unavoidable carryover residues of coccidiostats in non-target animal feed is to be scrapped in favour of a control system based on MRLs. Again, the resolution of this protracted debate will have a positive impact for the industry in Europe.
ANTIMICROBIALS

Maintaining access to antimicrobials
IFAH-Europe participated in technical consultations held by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) on antimicrobial products. It was also involved in meetings of the EFSA's Consultative Stakeholder Platform, where it underlined the vital role played by animal medicines in the protection of animal health and welfare.

Responsible antimicrobial use
The European Platform for the Responsible Use of Medicines in Animals (EPRUMA), of which IFAH-Europe is a founding member, published a booklet outlining a best-practice framework for the use of antimicrobials in food-producing animals. The document was presented at the EU's 'Veterinary Week' conference, held in Brussels during November. Its aim is to help preserve antimicrobial efficacy by encouraging responsible use of these products by veterinary surgeons and animal owners.

COMMUNICATION

Working with partners
IFAH-Europe's annual conference was attended by almost 150 delegates, including representatives of the FAO, OIE, European institutions and academia. Keynote speakers from both the FAO and OIE emphasised the need for improved levels of international coordination and investment in animal health research. These are among the main goals of the European Technology Platform for Global Animal Health (ETPGAH), which is spearheaded by IFAH-Europe. A Disease Control Tools (DISCONTOOLS) project, which aims to identify gaps and prioritise disease targets, was launched as part of the ETPGAH initiative.

The federation was active in a number of other multi-stakeholder forums. It worked alongside the veterinary profession, farmers and the European Initiative for Sustainable Development in Agriculture (EISA) on the development of best-practice guidance for the use of antimicrobials, and with the European Agri-Food Network (EAFN) on eco-labelling issues.

Highlighting the industry’s role
IFAH-Europe representatives addressed a range of conferences and other events throughout the year. The federation also produced two new publications offering an insight into the industry and its products. Its vaccines fact sheet highlights steps involved in the development, registration and production of vaccines, and calls on all stakeholders to plan vaccination strategies in advance so that manufacturers can meet demand. A facts & figures booklet, which includes data on research and development and which outlines the benefits of animal health products to society, was also added to the federation's range of publications.
REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Efficient regulation
In the US, AHI’s main focus was the amended Animal Drug User Fee Act (ADUFA), which was enacted in August.

Implemented in 2003, the act has already had a positive impact on the efficiency of the drug review process. User fees have enabled the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) to hire more reviewers, and to invest in improved procedures and systems. In return, the agency must comply with targets for the timely review of new drug submissions. These will remain in place as a result of the 2008 amendments, which also pave the way for procedural changes that will reduce review periods further.

CAHI President Jean Szkotnicki was named chair of a committee set up by regulators in Canada to advise on how drug review procedures there can be made more efficient. Agencies are working to clear existing backlogs, and have already begun to address ways in which the review process can be streamlined. The introduction of phased reviews is one option being considered.

Proposals on the regulation of animal health products drawn up by INFARVET were endorsed by regulators in Mexico, and will be implemented under the country’s new Federal Animal Health Law. The association is now working on the development of detailed technical guidelines.

Quality standards
In Canada, CAHI is pursuing tighter controls on the manufacture of veterinary drugs under the guise of compounding. It has also stepped up calls for regulations to restrict the large scale import of unapproved drugs for ‘personal use’. Together, these two loopholes cost IFAH members an estimated Can$100 million a year in lost sales.

INFARVET worked with regulators in Mexico on the development of a draft regulation governing compliance with good manufacturing practice (GMP). Its protocol was included in new regulations on immunogenicity testing for avian influenza vaccines. The association also held talks with regulators on quality issues relating to the use of autogenous vaccines.

ANTIMICROBIALS

Maintaining access to antimicrobials
AHI and its coalition partners worked with regulators to amend and improve provisions in the US Farm Bill, under which the Department of Agriculture will conduct research on antibiotic resistance. The association also raised concerns about a proposal to ban all extra-label use of cephalosporin antibiotics in animals. This proposal was eventually withdrawn by regulators.

CAHI worked alongside Canadian regulators serving on the antimicrobial resistance task force established by the FAO/WHO food standards
agency, Codex Alimentarius. The task force will develop science-based guidance to assess human health risks associated with the presence and transmission of microbial resistance in food and animal feed.

**Monitoring antimicrobial use**
Manufacturers will submit information on antimicrobial sales to the US FDA, in line with the amended Animal Drug User Fee Act.

CAHI collated information on the amount of antimicrobials sold by its members in 2006 and 2007. The data were submitted to the Canadian Integrated Program on Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance (CIPARS).

**COMMUNICATION**

**Highlighting the industry’s role**
In the US, AHI’s Pet Night on Capitol Hill was attended by more than 700 delegates, including Members of Congress, congressional staff and a range of other allies and interested parties.

CAHI published and distributed a brochure explaining why vets in Canada should support the use of licensed animal health products. The association also appeared before the Senate Standing Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, aiding its analysis of increases in agricultural input costs.

'Regulation and safety: pillars of global competitiveness' was the theme of INFARVET’s 37th annual convention, which was attended by Mexican regulators, producers and the National Agricultural Council as well as the animal health industry.

**Working with partners**
AHI worked with the American Veterinary Medical Association and other allies to highlight the potentially damaging impact of US state legislation allowing non-economic damages in cases involving pets. Several such bills were defeated.

In Canada, CAHI staff fulfilled speaking engagements at events organised by a range of food chain partners, including the veterinary profession, producer and food industry groups. The association also coordinated a number of technical workshops attended by CAHI members and regulators.

A new strategic plan drawn up by INFARVET aims to reinforce the Mexican industry’s image as a reliable partner, strengthen links with fellow stakeholders, encourage innovation and promote robust regulation of the animal health sector.
REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Efficient regulation
SINDAN called on regulators to speed up the product review process in Brazil, which has slowed appreciably following the introduction of new legislation.

CAPROVE held regular meetings with regulators in Argentina, focusing on a range of technical issues as well as disease control programmes (notably foot and mouth disease).

Harmonisation of regulatory standards
CAPROVE and SINDAN were both active participants at the 2008 meeting of the Committee of the Americas for Veterinary Medicines (CAMEVET). This regional initiative, which involves regulators and the industry, aims to harmonise regulatory standards governing veterinary drugs in South and Central America. Progress towards the adoption of harmonised requirements for stability and good manufacturing practice was reported at the 2008 meeting.

Quality standards
CAPROVE is coordinating industry efforts to improve the quality of veterinary medicines in Argentina. A growing number of the association’s members have been granted full GMP certification, while more than 50 companies are now participating in an initiative to buy back date-expired products from distributors. CAPROVE continues to monitor distribution channels, alerting regulators to the presence of unethical activities in the sector.

SINDAN and its members worked towards compliance with new GMP standards, which will be introduced in Brazil during 2009.

ANTIMICROBIALS

Resistance monitoring
Draft legislation governing pharmacovigilance is being debated in Brazil. SINDAN welcomed proposals to step up post-marketing surveillance, which will enable closer monitoring of antimicrobial resistance. The association is also working closely with the country’s Agriculture and Health Ministries on plans for a third national seminar on antimicrobial resistance. To be held in 2009, the meeting will address a range of key issues, including best-practice guidelines for veterinary surgeons and farmers, surveillance schemes and usage monitoring.

COMMUNICATION

Highlighting the industry’s role
The importance of animal health to the welfare and productivity of livestock was highlighted by CAPROVE in a lecture tour across Argentina.

Working with partners
SINDAN published and distributed a range of leaflets promoting the responsible use of veterinary medicines in Brazil. The materials placed special emphasis on the use of foot and mouth disease vaccines, which play a key role in controlling the disease.

CAPROVE is an active and valued member of Argentina’s Agribusiness Chain. The association took part in a number of the forum’s meetings and events.
REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Efficient regulation
Regulatory changes are also in the pipeline in South Africa, where SAAHA has liaised closely with regulators during the development of proposed amendments to the Medicines and Related Substances Act. The new legislation will affect prescription medicines for both human and veterinary use.

In Israel, the Ministry of Health has responded to calls from the MAI for improvements in the efficiency of regulatory procedures by pledging to cut review times. MAI also held further talks with regulators and the veterinary profession on extra-label use and regulatory requirements for companion animal medicines.

In Indonesia, ASOHI continued its dialogue with the Ministry of Agriculture, which released new measures governing the regulation of veterinary medicines, along with new rules on the import of vaccines.

MAHNIA met with Malaysia’s Health Minister to discuss new guidelines on veterinary product registration. In the wake of the meeting, registration fees for some products were reduced, and the deadline for submissions was extended to the end of the year.

Quality standards
A joint committee was set up by MAI and the government to develop proposals for tighter controls on the distribution and use of veterinary medicines in Israel.

In Indonesia, ASOHI participated in training seminars on good manufacturing practice and quality control.

COMMUNICATION

Highlighting the industry’s role
MAI began to pursue a proactive campaign designed to improve awareness of the role played by the industry in Israel. The association also met with the Director General of the government’s Veterinary Services division to discuss problems and opportunities facing the industry.

ASOHI held a seminar designed to highlight the role played by companion animal products in Indonesia.

A packaging waste recovery scheme is due to be implemented in South Africa as part of a new Waste Management Bill. SAAHA is working closely with distributors to make sure the initiative works effectively.

Working with partners
SAAHA continued to develop its training course for animal health company sales representatives in South Africa. All newly appointed staff must sit the course, which aims to ensure responsible representation of the industry and its products.

MAI met with representatives from Israel’s slaughterhouse and food processing sectors to discuss safety, quality and traceability issues.

MAHNIA published four issues of a magazine advising livestock producers in Malaysia on animal health issues. First published in 2006, the publication has been an outstanding success.
REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Efficient regulation
The Animal Health Alliance called on the new CEO of Australia’s federal regulator, APVMA, to pursue improvements in the efficiency of the drug registration process. The association has commissioned independent research into the economic impact of delayed product approvals on the country’s livestock production industries. It is also assessing the APVMA’s cost-recovery policies, which will be reviewed in 2009.

AGCARM made extensive submissions to regulators in New Zealand regarding changes to the Agricultural Chemicals and Veterinary Medicines (ACVM) Act. It was also involved in discussions on the development of a new classification system for veterinary medicines.

Data protection
AGCARM continued to campaign for the introduction of stronger data protection provisions in New Zealand. A report on the issue commissioned by regulators has been delayed.

COMMUNICATION

Highlighting the industry’s role
National association head Peter Holdsworth aims to raise the profile of parasite control in the veterinary profession during his term as President of the Australian Society for Parasitology.

AGCARM remains at the forefront of safety and environmental campaigns in New Zealand. The association’s members participate in the country’s ‘Agrecovery’ programme designed to manage plastic packaging waste, and will support a new agrichemical waste collection scheme due to be launched in 2009.

Working with partners
In Australia, the Animal Health Alliance participated in a range of multi-stakeholder events, including conferences on animal welfare, companion animal issues and pain management in sheep.

ANTIMICROBIALS

Maintaining access to antimicrobials
The CEO of Australia’s Animal Health Alliance represented IFAH at a satellite symposium held during the 13th International Congress on Infectious Diseases (ICID). The symposium focused on responsible use and the importance of antimicrobials to both animal and public health. Alliance staff are also part of the Australian delegation to the Codex task force on antimicrobial resistance, which is working on the development of risk analysis texts.

Monitoring antimicrobial use
Best-practice guidelines, antimicrobial monitoring and surveillance programmes are under development in New Zealand. AGCARM has expressed the industry’s support for these initiatives. The association continued to liaise with regulators of both veterinary and human drugs, as well as NGOs, on the issue of microbial resistance.
ANIMAL HEALTH INDUSTRY PROFILE

ANIMAL HEALTH INDUSTRY IN 2008
$19,190 million

Nominal growth = +7.2%
Real growth = +2.8%

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GLOBAL ANIMAL HEALTH MARKET EVOLUTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Period (years)</th>
<th>CAGR % p.a.*</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nominal</td>
<td>Real</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
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* Compound annual growth rate percentage per annum

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### ANIMAL HEALTH MARKET BY PRODUCT GROUP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Group</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>YoY%*</th>
<th>Share</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$m</td>
<td>Nominal</td>
<td>%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medicinal feed additives</td>
<td>2,150</td>
<td>2.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biologics</td>
<td>4,725</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anti-infectives</td>
<td>2,905</td>
<td>4.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parasiticides</td>
<td>5,450</td>
<td>4.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other pharmaceuticals</td>
<td>3,960</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>20.6</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>19,190</td>
<td>7.2</td>
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* Year over year percentage

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### ANIMAL HEALTH MARKET BY REGION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>YoY%*</th>
<th>Share</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$m</td>
<td>Nominal</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>6,310</td>
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<td>Latin America</td>
<td>2,260</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Europe</td>
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<td>East Europe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Far East</td>
<td>2,960</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rest of world</td>
<td>535</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>100.0</td>
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* Year over year percentage

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### ANIMAL HEALTH MARKET BY SPECIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>YoY%*</th>
<th>Share</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$m</td>
<td>Nominal</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cattle</td>
<td>5,135</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheep</td>
<td>920</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>4.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pigs</td>
<td>3,135</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>16.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poultry</td>
<td>2,065</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companion animal / Other</td>
<td>7,935</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>41.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>19,190</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Year over year percentage

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WHO’S WHO AT IFAH

IFAH is led by a 17-strong Board of Directors comprising representatives from member companies and industry associations throughout the world. Headed by President George Gunn, the Board is the federation’s decision-making body. It receives support from a Brussels-based secretariat, national and regional member associations, and from core teams, task forces and working groups focused on issues identified by IFAH as strategic priorities for the animal health industry.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT**
George Gunn, Novartis Animal Health

**VICE-PRESIDENTS**
Jose Barella, Merial Ltd
Eric Marée, Virbac SA
Juan Ramón Alaix, Pfizer Animal Health
Ruurd Stolp, Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health (until October 2008)

**TREASURER**
Joachim Hasenmaier, Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health

**DIRECTORS**
Lykele van der Broek, Bayer HealthCare Animal Health Division
Paul Derks, Janssen Animal Health
Sebastião Costa Guedes, SINDAN, representing South and Central America
Dominique Henrion, Vétóquinoal
Peter Holdsworth, The Animal Health Alliance, representing Australia/New Zealand
Alexander Mathews, AHI, representing North America
Declan O’Brien, IFAH-Europe, representing Europe
Yuhei Okamoto, JVPA, representing Asia/Pacific
Francisco Ortiz, AAHA, representing South-East Asia
Jeff Simmons, Elanco Animal Health
Carol Wrenn, Alpharma Animal Health Division

SECRETARIAT

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S OFFICE**
Barbara Freischem, Executive Director
Florentina Pardo, Executive Assistant

**COMMUNICATIONS**
Kim Hardie, Communications Director (as from April 2009)
Myriam Alcain, Communications Manager
Laurence Leclercq, External Communications Officer
Pamela Barcelonna, Senior Secretary

**TECHNICAL AFFAIRS**
Rick Clayton, Technical Director
Sylvie Meillerais, Technical Project Manager
Yara Antonissen, Technical Assistant
Marie-Hélène Delvaux, Executive Secretary

**ADMINISTRATION AND IT**
Linda Moortgat, Administration Manager and IT Coordinator
CORPORATE MEMBERS

› Alpharma Animal Health Division
› Bayer HealthCare Animal Health Division
› Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health
› Elanco Animal Health
› Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health
› Janssen Animal Health
› Merial Ltd
› Monsanto Company (until end 2008)
› Novartis Animal Health
› Pfizer Animal Health
› Vetoquinol
› Virbac SA

MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS*

Argentina CAPROVE, Cámara Argentina de la Industria de Productos Veterinarios
Australia The Alliance, Animal Health Alliance (Australia) Ltd
Belgium Pharma.be, Association Générale de l’Industrie du Médicament
Brazil SINDAN, Sindicato Nacional da Indústria de Produtos para Saúde Animal
Canada CAHI, Canadian Animal Health Institute
Denmark VIF, Veterinærmedicinsk Industriforening
Europe IFAH-Europe, International Federation for Animal Health-Europe
France SIMV, Syndicat de l’Industrie du Médicament Vétérinaire et Réactif
Germany BfT, Bundesverband für Tiergesundheit
Indonesia ASOHI, Indonesian Veterinary Drugs Association
Ireland APHA, Animal & Plant Health Association
Israel MAI, Manufacturers Association of Israel
Italy AISA, Associazione Nazionale dell’Industria della Salute Animale
Japan JVPA, Japan Veterinary Products Association
Korea KAHPA, Korea Animal Health Product Association
Malaysia MAHNIA, Malaysian Animal Health and Nutrition Industries Association (until end 2008)
Mexico INFARVET-CANIFARMA, Industria Farmacéutica Veterinaria
Netherlands FIDIN, Vereniging van Fabrikanten en Importeurs van Diergeneesmiddelen in Nederland
New Zealand AGCARM, New Zealand Association for Animal Health and Crop Protection
Portugal APIFARMA, Associação Portuguesa da Indústria Farmacêutica
South Africa SAAHA, South African Animal Health Association
South East Asia AAHA, Asian Animal Health Association
Spain Veterindustria, Asociación Empresarial Española de la Industria de Sanidad y Nutrición Animal
Sweden LIF, Läkemedelsindustriföreningen
Switzerland SGGI Chemie Pharma Schweiz, Swiss Society of Chemical Industries
United Kingdom NOAH, National Office of Animal Health
United States AHI, Animal Health Institute

* Contact details are available on the IF AH website (www.ifahsec.org)
ACRONYMS

ADUFA
Animal Drug User Fee Act (USA)

APVMA
Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority

CAMEVET
Committee of the Americas for Veterinary Medicines

CCRVDVF
Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Food

CIPARS
Integrated Program on Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance (Canada)

DFID
United Kingdom Department for International Development

DISCONTOLS
Disease Control Tools, a project funded by the European Commission

EAFN
European Agri-Food Network

ECCMID
European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases

EFSA
European Food Safety Authority

EISA
European Initiative for Sustainable Development in Agriculture

EPRUMA
European Platform for the Responsible Use of Medicines in Animals

ETPGAH
European Technology Platform for Global Animal Health

FAO
Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations

FDE
Food & Drug Administration (USA)

FERG
WHO Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group

FSC
Food Safety Commission (Japan)

GALVmed
Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines

GMP
Good manufacturing practice

IAHTP
International Animal Health Technology Platform

ICID
International Congress on Infectious Diseases

MRL
Maximum residue limit

NGO
Non-governmental organisation

OIE
World Organisation for Animal Health

UN
United Nations

UNICEF
United Nations Children's Fund

VICH
International Cooperation on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Products

WHO
World Health Organisation

WTO
World Trade Organisation