Statutes of the World Association for Buiatrics (last modification: September 2, 1994)

1. The objectives of the World Association for Buiatrics (WAB) are to organize meetings on cattle diseases and production in order to report the results of research work and practical experiences in this field, to discuss the topics on an international basis and thus promote buiatrics in science and practice. As a rule, the meetings shall take place regularly in an average interval of 2 years, if possible in different countries. The WAB Committee shall determine the place of the next one and elect the coming organizer 4 years in advance. Meetings of the WAB shall not be held during the year of a World Veterinary Congress.

2. Veterinarians of all countries of the world, practitioners as well as scientists, may become members of the WAB, that means not only specialists for cattle but also everyone who cares for or is interested in general or special problems concerning health disturbances and production in cattle. Up to 10% of the members may be non-veterinarians. Veterinarians who are not members of the WAB may take part in the meeting too; National associations for buiatrics may become associated members of the WAB; however, only individual members present at the General Assembly have voting right.

3. Individuals who have made outstanding contributions for Buiatrics or to the WAB may be proposed for honorary membership. Proposals will be made by the Committee and require the approval of the General Meeting.

4. The WAB is affiliated to the World Veterinary Association (WVA) as an associate member. At the latest one year before the next meeting the WAB shall report the place and date of that meeting to the WVA. The statutes and rules of the WVA are to be observed.

5. The WAB is presided by the Committee consisting of 5 to 15 deputies of different nations. The Committee is elected for 4 years by the General Assembly, which is convoked on the occasion of a scientific meeting. Re-election is possible. An observer member of the Committee is the organizer of the next meeting. Following the election, the Committee will be constituted with one president, two vice-presidents and one secretary; all observers will be "members of the Committee". Moreover, each country may choose one representative to maintain liaison (correspondence) with the Committee.

6. The expenses of a meeting shall be covered by the participants' fees and if necessary by special allowances. The congress will be fixed by the local organizer and leader of the meeting who alone are responsible for the organization and of a duly financial course. Lecturers get no fee for their papers but are partly or totally free of charge. Persons who are not members of the WAB may have to pay a higher charge. In order to cover the expenses of the secretariat, the Organizing Committee of each WAB-congress has to provide a sum necessary to run the secretariat until the next WAB-Congress; if this contribution should be insufficient, the Committee may decide upon subscriptions to be received from the affiliated members.

7. The National Groups for Buiatrics affiliated to the WAB, the WAB correspondents (Contact Persons), and the Observers of the WAB will receive the WAB News Letters containing the relevant information about the WAB, in order to make these known to the Members of their respective Groups or Bodies. On the other hand, the National Groups for Buiatrics, the WAB Correspondents and the Observers of the WAB are bound to keep the WAB Secretary informed about the activities and other relevant events in their National Groups for Buiatrics or in the Body they represent (e.g. date and venue of coming congresses and workshops on diseases of cattle, changes of address, presidency or secretariat) in order to enable the WAB Secretary to maintain an up-to-date flow of information to all WAB Members.

8. The information of the Association shall be published in the veterinary journals. The official organ of the WAB is The Bovine Practitioner which may be ordered from: Dr. E. WILLIAMS, Editor, 1226 North Lincoln, Stillwater, Oklahoma 74075, USA. (FAX: 405-372-0939)

9. Changes of the statutes need a 2/3 majority of the members present at the general meetings of the Association.
The XIX World Buiatrics Congress, organized by the British Cattle Veterinary Association was held in glorious weather in the beautiful city of Edinburgh, Scotland on July 8-12, 1996 at the magnificent new Edinburgh International Conference Centre. The building was officially opened by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II the previous week.

The Opening Ceremony, attended by 1450 people, was held on Monday evening, July 9 at the Royal Museum of Scotland with Mr. Robert Hardy (Siegfried Farnon in BBC's Series "All Creatures Great and Small" by James Herriot) the Guest of Honor. Mr. Hardy also presented the Golf Competition trophies. Music was provided by the Scottish Youth Orchestra.

The 1996 Pfizer Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Advancement of Knowledge in the Origin and Treatment of Bovine Diseases Caused by Microorganisms was presented to Professor Etienne Thiry, Department of Virology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Liege, Belgium. The Award of $10,000 and plaque acknowledged Dr. Thiry's research in the area of bovine herpes 1 and 4 (BHV-1 & BHV-4) research.

The 1996 RM Gustav Rosenberger Memorial Award was presented to Dr. Pavol Mudron, Kosice Veterinary University, Slovakia. Sponsored by Rhone Merieux, it consisted a Scroll and $6,000 towards his research in Vitamin E in food animals.

There were 2024 registrants at the Congress, as follows:

1210 delegates
312 accompanying persons
165 speakers
121 poster presenters
216 trade representatives.

48 Countries were represented, including:

United Kingdom  622  France  104
USA            163  Spain      91
Germany       136  Italy      71

There were 165 oral presentations and 172 poster presentations; 637 attended 11 seminars, 12 workshops and 8 scientific visits. Simultaneous translations in English, French, German and Spanish were available in two theatres.

The scientific program consisted of 3 simultaneous lecture theatre sessions at the Conference Centre with workshops, seminars and visits at many scientific and agricultural sites. The program for the final day was extended into the afternoon to include an extra session on BSE (a special publication of the BSE day papers will be available in September, 1996).

The Congress Banquet was held on Thursday evening at the Royal Highland Showgrounds, attended by 800 people. The menu included the traditional "Haggis, Neeps and Tatties accompanied by a Dram of Whisky", also roast fillet of Scottish beef and smoked fillet of Loch Etive trout.

There was an extensive tour program for accompanying persons and others, which included Stirling Castle, Edinburgh Crystal and Glenkinchie Distillery, Loch Lomond and Edinburgh City.

At the World Association for Buiatrics (WAB) General Meeting on Friday morning, tributes were paid to Professor Jacques Espinasse, WAB President and Dr. Eli Mayer, Vice President who had passed away earlier this year. Their contributions to WAB and veterinary medicine in general were outstanding. They will always be remembered with much reverence.

The following officers were elected:

President: Dr. H.J. Breukink, The Netherlands
Vice Presidents: Dr. R. Ugarte, Uruguay and Dr. G. Gentile, Italy
Secretary-General: Dr. Pierre Lekeux, Belgium (re-elected).

Dr. James Jarrett, AABP Executive Vice President, AABP was elected to the WAB Committee to succeed Dr. Harold Amstutz who has retired. Other members of the Committee are W. Baumgarter, Austria; R.G. Eddy, U.K.; S. El
Amrousi, Egypt; K. Hamana, Japan; K.E. Leslie, Canada; B. Rheinberger, Australia; A. Rosenbom, Denmark; O. Szenci, Hungary; H. Navetat, France and W. Hofmann, Germany.

The WAB Committee unanimously agreed to support the recommendations on BSE published by the Office International des Epizooties (a copy of these recommendations can be obtained from the OIE, Fax: 33-1-42670987). Applications for membership in the WAB by the South Korean Association for Buiatrics and the Portuguese Association for Buiatrics were approved.

New contact persons to the WAB are:
Dr. J. Andreotis, Greece; Dr. J. Cannas de Silva, Portugal; Dr. Y. Efron, Israel and Dr. Hog-Ryal Han, Korea, Dr. H. Navetat, France.

The Secretary-General, WAB, revealed that the WAB account has 471,797 Belgian francs.

The XX WAB Congress will be held in Sydney, Australia on July 5-10, 1998.

Punta del Este, Uruguay, South America was proposed by the WAB Committee as the official venue of the XXI WAB Congress in 2000.

The Proceedings of the Congress are available from the BCVA office, The Green, Frampton-on-Severn, Glos, GL2 7ER, England (Fax: 01452 743117). The set consists of 3 volumes (2 proceedings, 1 poster presentation) at a cost of £66.00 (£1 = 1.55 U.S. dollars, approx.) plus £26 mail or £21 economy mail.

The Proceedings are also available as a single Compact Disc (2 volumes only; poster presentations not included) £10.00 each, plus £1.50 mail.

Mr. Robert Hardy

BCVS Past President Colin Whitaker and David Anderson, Scientific Program Chairman.

Prof. Etienne Thiry receiving the Pfizer Award from Dr. S. Tolling, representing the company (right) and Dr. Pierre Lekeux.

AACV representatives promoting the 1998 WAB Congress on July 5-10 in Sydney, Australia, hosted by the Australian Association of Cattle Veterinarians.

President Gatz Riddell and longtime member Dr. Edward Sterner at the AABP booth which was made available by reciprocal agreement with the BCVA.
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