



Activities and Achievements: The OIE -VSB Twinning Program AVBC -VCT 2018-2020, VCT, Nonthaburi, Thailand

The OIE-Veterinary Statutory Body (VSB) Twinning Program between the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council Inc. (AVBC) and the Veterinary Council of Thailand (VCT) was established in 2018 with the strategic time frame of 2018 – 2020 and the aims on strengthening the National Performance Veterinary Service (PVS) through the capacity enhancement of VSB and the development of veterinary education and accreditation standards in Thailand. The program was composed of 2 core components, under which the continual series of the three workshops had been conducted as the key activities as follows:

Component 1: VCT takes the role of promoting the capabilities and aligning the operations of other VSBs within the ASEAN region:

- **[The 1st workshop ‘the Roles of Veterinary Statutory Body \(VSB\) on Veterinary Paraprofessionals \(VPPs\)’](#), 26th – 28th June 2019, VCT, Nonthaburi, Thailand.**

With reference to OIE Competency Guidelines for VPPs, the workshop sought to establish an overview of key roles and tasks performed by VPPs for member boards; the legislative environment for VPPS; and training program for VPPS. The workshop also provided opportunity for members on reviewing and reflecting on current practices with a view to recommending how ASEAN VSBs will establish a system for VPP training and registration. The workshop also considered the hypothetical case of VPPs in supporting the management of a transboundary disease.

As the result, the workshop successfully concluded its key points in the conclusions and recommendations for the roles of VSB on VPPs, contributing by representatives from 8 ASEAN Member States or AMS (Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam and Thailand), OIE SRR-SEA, VCT, AVBC, Thai Veterinary Schools and Department of Livestock Development (DLD). It was highlighted in the recommendations that AMS with no existing VSB should establish a VSB or equivalent body and should consider VPPs adopting and/or adapting the OIE definition on VPPs to the ASEAN context.

Having recognized the VPPs' key roles and tasks in national VS, the AMS should also take into account the training and registration of VPPs needs to be aligned with the scope of their authority and the significance of their activities. It was noted that the title of VPPs covered veterinary nurses and those who were working in the sectors: animal health; veterinary public health; laboratory diagnosis. Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) was not considered as VPPs under the OIE definition.



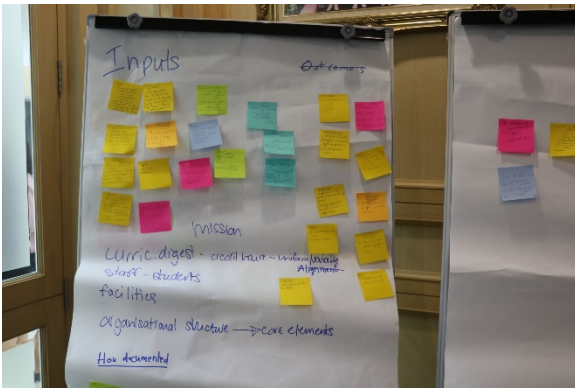
Component 2: VCT develops the capability to fully discharge the responsibilities as a VSB:

- **The 2nd workshop 'Fit-for-purpose' Accreditation Standards, 3rd – 4th Oct 2019, VCT, Nonthaburi, Thailand**



The workshop was conducted with objectives to gain the consensus of the minimum acceptable standards as the guideline for veterinary education in Thailand and tiered standards; accreditation process of the curriculum that meet the requirement of the standards such as OIE Day 1 Competencies; assessment of the competencies and examination processes.

The workshop had concluded its course with the fruitful results and constructive recommendations in various aspects for VCT's consideration to strengthen its role as National VSB and fill in the gap of improvement for the existing standards and processes of accreditations of the Veterinary Education Establishments (VEEs) in Thailand. The recommendations highlighted on the top five priorities for the VCT to improve its accreditation standards and processes, including rewriting the existing standards or developing the new one to fill the gaps identified; reviewing the processes and procedures for accreditation; developing rubric to be used as accreditation scoring tools; training future site team members; processing for ongoing input and improvement to accreditation standards from stakeholders as well as developing annual report format on maintenance of the VEE quality.



- **The 3rd workshop ‘Veterinary School Accreditation Standards II’, 24th – 26th February 2020, VCT, Nonthaburi, Thailand**



Taken forward the recommendations and key priorities to fill in the identified gaps of VCT's roles and existing accreditation standards from the 2nd workshop, the 3rd workshop was conducted continuously focusing on 6 priorities; (1) Assessment of 11 Accreditation Standards of the veterinary schools in Thailand, tools and outcomes (2) Reviewing of the process and procedures of the accreditation (3) Training of site visit team (4) Assessment of the OIE Day 1 Competencies as the minimum standard of veterinary education (5) Assessment of veterinary schools' Self Evaluation Report (SER) data (6) Tiers accreditation of veterinary schools.

Through the 3rd workshop, participants were engaged in the intensive discussion on the drafted standards, rubrics, SERs, site visit training, annual report and accreditation processes developed by AVBC; tiered accreditation standard based on local needs and OIE Day 1 Competencies; potential contribution towards the establishment of ASEAN veterinary school accreditation standard and moving forward to Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) for mobility of veterinarians within ASEAN. According to the key recommendations of the workshop, as the national VSB, the VCT would finalise the draft revised VEE accreditation standards (including ratio and rubric based on the recommendations) and Day 1 Competencies of the VCT, taken into account the fitness for purpose and suitability of the country's needs/ context. Regarding the leading role of the VSB in the region, VCT was recommended to assist the ASEAN Veterinary Statutory Body Network (AVSBN) in the development of appropriate VEE accreditation standards and the establishment of the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) for transboundary mobility of veterinarians within ASEAN.

The OIE-VSB Twinning Program between the AVBC and VCT has been successfully conducted. The program has greatly supported the VCT to pave the path and build up the capacity to become an effective and robust VSB; and take a leading role in development of a regional VSB network.

* The program acknowledges, Australasian Veterinary Board Council (AVBC), The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Australian Government, Veterinary Council of Thailand (VCT), Thai Veterinary Dean Consortium (TVDC), Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation (MHESRI), World Organization for Animal Health Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia (OIE SRR-SEA), and the Department of Livestock Development, Ministry of

Agriculture and Cooperatives (DLD, MOAC) and Thai Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA) and all the participants from ASEAN for their supports.