Annual report 2017

Healthy animals mean healthy people and a healthier planet
Message from the Secretary General and President

As re-elected President and as Secretary General we can both agree that we’ve had a fabulous year marking the 30 year anniversary of our association. It has served to remind us and take stock of the route travelled during these last three decades. 2017 was a pivotal year for us, not least because of the continued deliberations on the EU rules governing animal medicines, but also because of the launch of our new strategy based on our key drivers - availability, reliability and sustainability - for more One Health-focused action, and of course our new name: AnimalhealthEurope. In this annual report, we provide an overview of a few key highlights from the past year.

New name, new logo, still protecting the health of Europe’s animals

2017 was a milestone year for our association’s history, as we celebrated our association representing the animal health industry in Europe for 30 years and launched our new vision for more One Health thinking as we changed our name from IFAH-Europe to AnimalhealthEurope. With this new approach we aim to truly be the voice of the animal medicines industry, promoting the numerous benefits the industry brings and to highlight the sector’s more innovative and future-thinking approach to innovating for animal health. We were honoured by the presence of European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Vytenis Andriukaitis, at our gala dinner, who gave a rousing speech to enthused participants, reminding us that we are all One Health practitioners.

Facilitating an exchange of information:

Working with decision-makers and regulatory authorities has been very rewarding this year, as exchanges of dialogue have been forthcoming and, we believe, beneficial to all parties. Increasing exchanges with stakeholders have also led to enhanced partnerships and collaboration on key issues such as sustainable food production, One Health, antibiotic resistance, and we have even engaged with a vast range of industries calling for a more ambitious industrial policy in the EU.
AnimalhealthEurope is keen to keep up this cooperative approach, firstly to raise greater awareness of the reality surrounding issues often misunderstood, and to demonstrate the role of the animal medicines industry as an equal partner in finding solutions. We look forward in 2018 to continued collaboration with the European Medicines Agency and the European Food Safety Authority where we are again a registered stakeholder, as well as with our many partners.

**Monitoring the legislative review: Liaising with the Council and the Commission**

We have been eagerly following the revision of the legislation on veterinary medicines and medicated feed, now with the Council, before it heads to trilogue, which is normally scheduled for May 2018. Our focus centred around achieving the shared objectives set out by the Commission in 2014, in particular when it comes to the availability of animal medicines, for all species that need them, in all member states, and we feel confident that we will see the adoption of a future-proof set of rules in the second half of next year. With new diseases affecting pets and livestock, with potential impacts on food safety and our farming economy, it is clear that a simplified yet robust regulatory framework adapted to the needs and specificities of the animal health sector is of great importance.

**Looking forward to promoting animal health in 2018**

Our secretariat has been diligently working throughout 2017 promoting the numerous benefits of animal medicines for improved well-being, food safety, sustainable livestock production, protection against food-borne illnesses and zoonoses and more. This year, we were also honoured to chair the Agri-Food Chain Coalition to promote the implementation of innovation friendly policies in the agri-food chain sector within Europe. Our secretariat has also been engaging with more stakeholders to promote science-based decision-making and more One Health thinking when it comes to health-related policies. 2018 will see us dedicating a lot of efforts into the last stages of the legislative review. We will continue our work, more confident of the benefits our products bring, and ever more dedicated to ensuring a more business-conducive environment for more innovation in animal health.
Key figures

Turnover
€5.99 billion
Europe is 2nd largest market in the world

Competitiveness
1/3 of global animal medicines market

R&D investment
More than €400 million/year

Farm animals
More than 623 million

Employment
50,000 jobs

Number of companies
292

SMEs
112

Pets
80 million pet-owning homes
2017 at a glance

Roxane Feller appointed chair of AFCC
10 January 2017

The Agri-Food Chain Coalition (AFCC) appointed Roxane Feller, Secretary General of AnimalhealthEurope as its new chair for a one-year term in 2017. The multi-stakeholder coalition also launched a new website in January to strengthen communications and enhance understanding of the European agri-food chain sector’s important role and contribution to an innovative and sustainable Europe.

EMA Info-Day
16–17 March 2017

Another successful Info Day took place at the European Medicines Agency headquarters in London from 16-17 March. The EMA Info Day focused on the latest developments in scientific review, regulation and marketing authorisation procedures for veterinary medicinal products.

AnimalhealthEurope on Climate Change: More animal health solutions needed for climate-ready future.
05 June 2017

AnimalhealthEurope secretary general, Roxane Feller, raised awareness of the impacts of climate change on new animal disease outbreaks, during a speaking opportunity at the 3rd European climate change adaptation conference held in Glasgow, Scotland. Farmers across Europe faced with milder climates are seeing a wider geographical expansion of vector-borne disease and more humid environments escalating the spread of disease.

Joint declaration for an ambitious EU industrial strategy. #Industry4Europe Campaign
27 February 2017

AnimalhealthEurope and its contributors of the European manufacturing industry signed a joint declaration stating a readiness to step up their cooperation with the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Competitiveness Council to define and implement an ambitious and coordinated European industrial strategy to help safeguard the world leadership of European manufacturers and jobs in Europe.

Animal health & nutrition: Key to livelihood of EU livestock farming
20 June 2017

AnimalhealthEurope hosted a joint workshop with FEFAC (feed manufacturing) and FEFANA (specialty feed ingredients) along with Copa Cogeca (farmers) to discuss ways to develop a holistic approach to safeguard the sustainability of food systems for future generations. A key point raised is to have a regulatory framework with a proportionate risk assessment, instead of a policy mind-set focussed on hazards so that farming input sectors can bring innovations to the market as fast as possible.

Developing a Roadmap for Sustainable EU Livestock
27 June 2017

In 2016, EU40 - the network of young Members of the European Parliament - organised a trilogy of debates entitled “Sustainable EU Livestock: Actions towards an Innovative, Climate-Smart and Competitive Future”. AnimalhealthEurope
Election of President and officers
11 October 2017
Wijnand de Bruijn of Dopharma was elected for a second term by board members at our October general assembly. Alongside de Bruijn, treasurer Clint Lewis of Zoetis was also re-elected for a second term. He will be flanked by newly elected vice-presidents Hans-Guenther Dittrich of MSD animal health and Santiago de Andres from the Spanish National Association, Veterindustria.

Gala Dinner: Representing the Animal Health Industry for 30 years
11 October 2017
2017 was a milestone for us, as we celebrated our association representing the animal health industry in Europe for 30 years. To celebrate we held a Gala Dinner at the Concert Noble in Brussels on 11 October. During this event, we were honoured to welcome European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Vytenis Andriukaitis.

Launch of new brand and name
11 October 2017
At our gala dinner we announced our name change from IFAH-Europe to AnimalhealthEurope. With a new, more One Health focused vision, AnimalhealthEurope aims to truly be the voice of the animal medicines industry, promoting the numerous benefits the industry brings and to highlight the sector’s more innovative and future-thinking approach to innovating for animal health.
AnimalhealthEurope hosted a conference to discuss the One Health concept at the Renaissance Hotel in Brussels. Over 120 stakeholders, policy-makers, academia and research partners discussed ways to move forward from the concept into One health actions.

One Health Day – New infographic published
3 November 2017
First published at our One Health conference in October, this new infographic highlights the different elements of the One Health concept and what it means. Using findings from the 2016 Citizens Survey on Veterinary Medicines Awareness, the infographic underlines the important role that animal medicines and healthy animals play in the triad.

AnimalhealthEurope & NOAH reinforce relationship in face of Brexit
16 November 2017
UK and Europe animal health associations met at the London Vet Show to underline the continuing importance of veterinary medicines for our animals and reinforce the relationship between the two associations and to discuss issues of common interest. With the new EU Veterinary Medicines Regulation close-becoming reality, the associations agreed business continuity will require a closely aligned regulatory environment and co-operation between the two associations.

Animal medicines industry actions to #KeepAntibioticsWorking
18 November 2017
AnimalhealthEurope published an overview of actions the animal medicines industry is taking to promote responsible use of antibiotics and preserve their continued efficacy on European Antibiotic Awareness Day. A signatory association of the global ‘Animal health sector commitments and actions on antibiotic use’, supported by over 200 companies and associations, and 700,000 veterinarians worldwide, the animal medicines industry in Europe showed its commitment to addressing the global health challenge of antibiotic resistance.

Innovation is good news – opening eyes to resource efficiency in the European agri-food chain
23 November 2017
Hosted by MEP Czeslaw Adam Siekierski, the Agri-Food Chain Coalition hosted an event to re-affirm calls for innovation to be at the heart of EU agri-food policy making, including mechanisms fostering growth, investment, and new tools and inputs for the EU agri-food sector, which will enable more efficient use of resources.

Delivering on EPRUMA commitments to responsible use of animal medicines
5 December 2017
Held at the European Parliament in Brussels, the European Platform for Responsible Use of Medicines in Animals hosted an event to highlight actions taken by the partner associations since the 2016 publication of their 7 commitments to responsible use of animal medicines.
Availability of animal medicines in Europe

Future-proof legislation for animal health

Access to a wide range of animal medicines can help farmers optimise herd health management and animal welfare, while ensuring more efficient use of natural resource inputs. Improved availability of animal medicines can also help pet owners to keep the animals who share their homes free from disease.

Over the past decade, fewer new disease prevention and treatment options have been made available – or are sometimes not species-adapted – for the many different animals that exist in all parts of Europe. This is mostly due to high costs for licencing such products, linked to increasing data requirements and administrative burden, and lack of harmonisation across Europe under the current rules governing animal health products.

Turning the situation around

Revising the current legislation on veterinary medicines can help turn this situation around, but making sure that the new rules are equipped to handle future eventualities is a complex task, requiring a lot of time and expertise.

Back in 2010, the European Commission conducted a public consultation with the aspiration of devising better regulation by putting in place a simpler legal framework. After nearly 4 years of studying the issues, discussing and reviewing with stakeholders and experts, the European Commission published a draft proposal for the new rules in September 2014. The proposal ran with the headline that it aimed to:

- Increase the availability of veterinary medicinal products;
- Reduce administrative burden;
- Stimulate competitiveness and innovation;
- Improve the functioning of the internal market; and
- Address the public health risk of antimicrobial resistance.
The European Parliament and Council then started their review, with the Parliament agreeing on a number of amendments in March 2016. The Council deliberations continued well into 2017, and there were smatterings of impatience expressed on occasion, but the Estonian Presidency took up the dossier with vigour in the second half of the year and the mandate was agreed for trilogue negotiations with the Commission, Parliament and Council to begin onwards of January 2018.

**New rules must consider future animal health concerns**

Keeping the availability of medicines to the forefront, AnimalhealthEurope and its members are working alongside the EU institutions to ensure the new framework is better-tailored to the needs of Europe’s farmers and pet owners, and the specificities of the animal health sector. Like with any innovative business, the industry can only effectively operate in an environment which gives companies the confidence to invest in the research and development of new products and technologies. The current administrative burden involved in bringing veterinary medicines and vaccines to market under today’s EU regulatory framework is, to put it bluntly, not stimulating innovation, so this needs to remain a central focus of the revision.

The updated legislation must streamline procedures and so relieve some of the administrative burden while also speeding up the entire process of bringing innovations to market. By rewarding investment in innovation through improved protection periods for technical documentation, harmonising processes for registering and authorising medicines, and by taking science-based decisions in the interests of animal health and welfare, the animal medicines industry can respond to Europe’s need for new and improved disease prevention and treatment options.

Simply put, by putting in place legislation that is conducive to innovation, we will be in a significantly better position to invest more in research and development. This would lead to a wider availability of more medicines, for more species, in more countries in Europe, making the veterinarian’s job of ensuring the health of Europe’s animals just that little bit easier.
Our members provide solutions to prevent and treat animal disease. Without them, it would be simply impossible to raise healthy livestock or look after our pets.
## Our national association members

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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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<td>Belgium</td>
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<td>Czech Republic</td>
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As at December 2017