

## TVET CERTIFICATE V in ANIMAL HEALTH

### VETERINARY ETHICS AND JURISPRUDENCE

**ANHVE501**

**Apply veterinary ethics and jurisprudence**

*Competence*

**Learning hours: 30**



**Credits: 3**

**Sector: Agriculture and Food Processing**

**Sub-sector: Animal Health**

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#### **Purpose statement**

This specific module describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge, attitude required to demonstrate professional behaviour, to manage stakeholders' relationship with high level of respect of laws and regulations governing veterinary profession. This module will cover the following elements of competence:

- Demonstrate professional behaviour
- Manage stakeholders' relationship
- Respect laws and regulations in veterinary profession

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### **List of acronyms**

RCVD: Rwanda Council of Veterinary Doctors

RARDA:

RAB: Rwanda Agricultural Board

ICT: Information and Computer Technology

VCPR: Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship

OIE: World Animal Health Organisation

WTO: World Trade Organization

PVME: Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics

OTC: Over the counter drug

SDN: Societe des Nations

UN: United Nations

AWA: Animal Welfare Act

FMD: Foot and Mouth Disease

PPR: Peste des petits ruminants

BSE:

CBPP:

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Figure 1: Lambs are jumping in joyful as sign of happiness behaviour and sign of having health and welfare

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## Learning Unit: LU: 1: Demonstrate professional behaviour

### LO 1.1 Apply professional ethics

#### ● Topic 1: Explanation of common terms used in veterinary medical ethics

##### 1.1.1. Languages of veterinary medical ethics

There are several definitions used to notify ethical issues that brought by philosophers as ethics originate from philosophy of antiquity era, we can't talk about ethics separately to their philosophical origin and their deontological meaningfulness.

##### ✓ Useful terms related to veterinary ethics

✚ **Values** are principles of how people should live, work in society.

✚ **Norms** are standards, at which people should reach to acquire a desirable value.

❖ Values and norms are associated with particular religions, cultures, professions, or virtually any other group that is at least partly characterized by its moral outlook.

✚ **Morality** is philosophical study that is more or less systematic set of beliefs, usually held in common by a group, about how people should live.

❖ This involves a set of values or principles' norms or standards, commandments regarding desirable conduct of the overall group of people or society in general in a given group of individuals or country in general concerning what to do or not in a society or group eg, how every citizen of a country should respect as behaviour. Moral is a collective view or reason.

❖ In veterinary profession we can apply morality by looking at norms/standards of conducts elaborated by veterinary service of a given organization or state eg: values elaborated by RCVS

✚ **Ethics:** *Ethics* refers to the particular philosophical study of morality, morality ethics or moral philosophy is a branch of philosophy that involves systematizing, defending, and recommending concepts of **right** and **wrong** and moral **good** and **bad conduct** to any system or code of moral rules, principles, and values. Ethics is an individual's view or reason

- ❖ **The act which is ethical** is explained as individual's side of view of each member of the group or society in interpretation and application of elaborated values' norms /standards. In other words, ethics is a capacity of making choice by your self about implementation of norms of the society. Eg: how each citizen feels about any conduct value elaborated by his/her country
- ❖ The field of ethics, along with aesthetics, concerns matters of value, and thus comprises the branch of philosophy called "axiology".

In veterinary profession, we apply ethical concept by looking at how every vet interpret, apply, feels about values of conducts elaborated by veterinary service of state or local veterinary service eg: how a veterinarian interprets and choose the option to apply RCVD's code of conducts in Rwanda.

- ✚ **Veterinary ethics:** is a study of desirable conducts or behaviours of an individual veterinarian at workplace.
- ❖ *Ethics* and *morality* are now used almost interchangeably in many contexts, but the name of the philosophical study remains *ethics*.

- ✚ **Deontology:** The term deontology comes from the Greek word deon, for "duty," and logos, "science." Deontologists primarily define what is "good" or "right" as a function of behaviour and the context in which that behaviour occurs. So, **Deontological ethics** in philosophy are ethical theories that place special emphasis on the relationship between duty and the morality of human actions. This involves duty "the best to be done responsibly": by reflecting on what must be done in reality in context of being done because is better to do it without looking at its future interest.

- In other words: This branch of ethics people define what is morally right or wrong by the actions themselves, rather than referring to the consequences of those actions, or the character of the person who performs them.

- ✚ **Veterinary deontology:** this is a philosophy that reflects veterinarians on their thinking on what is better to do regardless to the interest which may come in future eg: deontology looks at alleviation of a problem rather than anything else even without looking at money.

- ✚ **Veterinary medicine:** is practices of delivering treatment or care to the animal in purpose of alleviate suffering and insuring welfare principles

- ✚ **Advertising.** Communication that is designed to inform the public about the availability, nature, price of products or services in order to influence clients to use certain products or services.
- ✚ **Attending veterinarian.** A veterinarian (or a group of veterinarians) who assumes responsibility for primary care of a patient.
- ✚ **Consulting veterinarian.** A veterinarian (or group of veterinarians) who agrees to advise an attending veterinarian, government or industry, on the care and management of a case or issue.
- ✚ **Dispensing.** The direct distribution of products by veterinarians to clients for use on their animals.
- ✚ **Ethical product.** A product for which the manufacturer has voluntarily limited the sale to veterinarians as a marketing decision. Such products are often given a different product name and are packaged differently than products that are sold directly to consumers. “Ethical products” are sold only to veterinarians as a condition of sale that is specified in a sales agreement or on the product label.
- ✚ **Fee-splitting.** Payment by a receiving veterinarian of part of their fee to the referring veterinarian who has not rendered professional services. Under this definition, the use of consultants, laboratory services, and online pharmacies does not constitute fee-splitting.
- ✚ **Impaired veterinarian.** A veterinarian who is unable to perform his or her duties in veterinary medicine with reasonable skill and safety because of a physical or mental disability including deterioration of mental capacity, loss of motor skills, or abuse of drugs or alcohol.
- ✚ **Legend drug.** A synonymous term for a veterinary prescription drug. The name refers to the statement (legend) that is required on the label (see veterinary prescription drug).
- ✚ **Marketing.** Promoting and encouraging animal owners to improve animal health and welfare by using veterinary care, services, and products.
- ✚ **Merchandising.** The buying and selling of products or services.

✚ **Over the counter (OTC) drug.** Any drug that can be labelled with adequate direction to enable it to be used safely and properly by a consumer who is not a medical professional

✚ **Practice of veterinary medicine.** To diagnose, prognose, treat, correct, change, alleviate, or prevent animal disease, illness, pain or suffering, deformity, defect, injury, or other physical, dental, or mental conditions by any method or mode including the:

- Performance of any medical or surgical procedure, or
- Prescription, dispensing, administration, or application of any drug, medicine, biological hormone, biological apparatus, anaesthetic, or other therapeutic or diagnostic substance, or
- Use of complementary, alternative, and integrative therapies, or
- Use of any procedure for reproductive management, including but not limited to the diagnosis or treatment of pregnancy, fertility, sterility, or infertility, or
- Determination of the health, fitness, or soundness of an animal, or
- Rendering of advice or recommendation by any means including telephonic and other electronic communications with regard to any of the above.
- Representation of, directly or indirectly, publicly and privately, an ability and willingness to do an act described above.
- Use of any title, words, abbreviation, or letters in a manner or under circumstances that induce the belief that the person using them is qualified to do any act described above.

✚ **Prescribing.** The transmitting of an order authorizing a licensed pharmacist or equivalent to prepare and dispense specified pharmaceuticals to be used in or on animals in the dosage and in the manner directed by a veterinarian.

✚ **Prescription drug.** A drug that cannot be labelled with adequate direction to enable its safe and proper use by non-professionals.

✚ **Receiving veterinarian.** A veterinarian (or group of veterinarians) to whom a patient is referred and who agrees to provide requested Veterinary Services. A new VCPR is established with the receiving veterinarian.

✚ **Referring veterinarian.** A veterinarian (or group of veterinarians) who is the attending veterinarian at the time of referral.



✚ **Testimonials (or endorsements).** Statements intended to influence attitudes regarding the purchase or use of products or services.

✚ **Veterinarian-Client-Patient relationship (VCPR).** A VCPR means that all of the following are required:

a. The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the patient and the client has agreed to follow the veterinarian's instructions.

b. The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the patient. This means that the veterinarian is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the patient by virtue of:

i. A timely examination of the patient by the veterinarian, or

ii. Medically appropriate and timely visits by the veterinarian to the operation where the patient is managed.

c. The veterinarian is readily available for follow-up evaluation or has arranged for the following:

i. veterinary emergency coverage, and

ii. Continuing care and treatment.

d. The veterinarian provides oversight of treatment, compliance and outcome.

e. Patient records are maintained.

✚ **Veterinary prescription drug.** A drug that is restricted by federal law to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian, according to section 503(f) of the federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

❖ To prescribe this drug, the law requires that such drugs be labelled with the statement: "Caution, federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian."

- **Topic 2: Description of principles of veterinary ethical conducts**

### 1.1.2. Principles of veterinary medical ethics

These are terms reflecting to good qualities and admirable conducts or behaviours of a veterinary practitioner

#### ✓ General views of veterinary medical ethics principles

Veterinarians are members of a scholarly profession who have earned academic degrees from comprehensive universities or similar educational institutions.

Veterinarians practice veterinary medicine in a variety of situations and circumstances. Thus professional conduct upholds the dignity of the veterinary profession.

All veterinarians are expected to adhere to a progressive code of ethical conduct known as the Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics (PVME).

The PVME is comprised by the basis of the Principles called **Golden Rule**. This one focuses on well conduction of their career. In context that Veterinarians shall accept this rule as a guide to their general conduct and abide or adhere to those Principles.

For the case of veterinary service in Rwanda, RCVD (Rwanda council of veterinary doctors) is in charge of advising on all questions relating to veterinary medical ethics and to review the Principles when necessary depending upon situation of veterinary service in Rwanda to ensure that those principles remain current and appropriate.

### 1.1.3. Discussion on Principles of Veterinary medical ethics

In detail Principles of veterinary ethics are described below.

#### 1.1.3.1. General view on principles related to duties of a veterinarian at work

a. A veterinarian shall be dedicated to providing competent veterinary medical care, with compassion and respect for animal welfare and human health.

b. A veterinarian shall provide veterinary medical clinical care under the terms of a veterinarian-client -patient relationship (VCPR).

c. A veterinarian shall uphold the standards of professionalism, be honest in all professional interactions, and report veterinarians who are deficient in character or competence to the appropriate entities to be corrected accordingly but with an adequate professional secret and respect.

d. A veterinarian shall respect the law and also recognize a responsibility to seek changes to laws and regulations which are contrary or not allowing/directing to the best interests of the patient and public health.

e. A veterinarian shall respect the rights of clients, colleagues, and other health professionals, and shall safeguard medical information within the confines of the law.

f. A veterinarian shall continue to study, apply, and advance scientific knowledge, maintain a commitment to veterinary medical education, make relevant information available to clients, colleagues, the public, and obtain consultation or referral when indicated this is done as a long life obligation.

g. A veterinarian shall, in the provision of appropriate patient care, except in emergencies, be free to choose whom to serve, with whom to associate, and the environment in which to provide veterinary medical care.

❖ This is done without incomprehensible feelings or causes otherwise it could be a segregation which is a bad attitude in veterinary field.

h. A veterinarian shall recognize a responsibility to participate in activities contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.

#### **1.1.3.2. Annotations on principles of veterinary medical ethics**

1. A veterinarian shall be dedicated to providing competent veterinary medical care, with compassion and respect for animal welfare and public health.

a. Veterinarians shall first consider the needs of the patient: to prevent and relieve disease, suffering/distress or disability while minimizing pain or fear.

b. Regardless of practice ownership, the interests of the patient, client, and public require that all decisions that affect diagnosis and treatment of patients are made by veterinarians. Do not be pressured by anyone in your decisions.

c. The choice of treatments or animal care shall not be influenced by considerations other than the welfare of the patient, the needs of the client, and the safety of the public.

d. The medical judgments of veterinarians shall not be influenced by contracts or agreements made by their associations or societies because these are more morally than ethical, judge according to the situation in case.

e. Performance of surgical or other procedures in any species for the purpose of concealing genetic defects in animals to be shown, raced, bred, or sold is unethical.

However, should the health or welfare of the individual patient require correction of such genetic defects, but here it is recommended that the patient be rendered incapable of reproduction to not be wrongly selected as normal in breeding because it will disseminate those genetic defects to the buyer.

f. Attending veterinarians are responsible for choosing the treatment regimens for their patients.

It is the attending veterinarian's responsibility to inform the client of the expected results and costs, and the related risks of each treatment regimen.

g. Veterinarians may not promote, sell, prescribe, dispense, or use secret remedies or any other product for which they do not know the ingredients.

h. In humane euthanasia of animals is an ethical veterinary procedure.

## **2. Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR).**

A veterinarian shall provide veterinary medical care under the terms of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR).

A veterinarian shall use the veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR) as the basis for interaction among veterinarians, their clients, and their patients.

a. It is unethical to engage in the practice of veterinary medicine without a VCPR.

b. Veterinarians shall honour a client's request for a prescription in lieu of dispensing eg while there is need of discontinuing treatment and referring.

c. Veterinarians may terminate a VCPR under certain conditions, and they have an ethical obligation to use courtesy and tact in doing so.

i. If there is no ongoing medical or surgical condition, veterinarians may terminate a VCPR by notifying the client that they no longer wish to serve that patient and client.

ii. If there is an ongoing medical or surgical condition, the patient shall be referred to another veterinarian for diagnosis, care, and treatment. In this conditions, the former attending veterinarian shall continue to provide care, as needed, during the transition.

d. When an attending veterinarian assumes responsibility for primary care of a patient, a VCPR is established with the attending veterinarian.

e. Clients may terminate the VCPR at any time. Do not force him/her to continue treating the patient while client/owner disrupt the relationship

**3. A veterinarian shall respect the law and also recognize a responsibility to seek changes to laws and regulations which are contrary to the best interests of the patient and public health.**

a. Veterinarians shall obey all laws of the jurisdictions in which they reside and practice veterinary medicine. Example: obey laws of RCVD and laws of Government in general as a citizen.

b. Veterinarians shall report illegal practices and activities to the proper authorities. Focus on practices related to animal field.

c. The RCVD Judicial department may choose to report alleged infractions (suspected violations) by members and no members of the RCVD to the appropriate agencies.

d. It is unethical to place professional knowledge, credentials, or services at the disposal of any nonprofessional organization, group, or individual to promote or lend credibility to the illegal practice of veterinary medicine.

**4. A veterinarian shall respect the privacy rights of clients, colleagues, and other health professionals and shall safeguard medical information within the confines of the law.**

a. Veterinarians and their associates shall protect the personal privacy of clients.

i. Veterinarians shall not reveal confidential issues unless required to by law

ii. Unless it becomes necessary to protect the health and welfare of other individuals or animals.

b. Veterinary medical records are an integral part of veterinary care. The records must comply with the standards established by state and federal law.

i. Medical records are the property of the practitioner (vet) and the practice owner (client). The original records must be retained by the practitioner for the period required by law.

ii. The information within veterinary medical records is confidential. It must not be released except as required or allowed by law, or by consent of the owner of the patient.

iii. Veterinarians are obligated to provide copies or summaries of medical records when requested by the client. Veterinarians shall secure a written consent to document that provision.

iv. Without the express permission of the practice owner, it is unethical for a veterinarian to remove, copy, or use the medical records or any part of any record for personal or professional gain.

**5. a veterinarian shall continue to study, apply, and advance scientific knowledge; maintain a commitment to veterinary medical education; make relevant information available to clients, colleagues, and the public; and obtain consultation or referral when indicated.**

a. Veterinarians shall strive to enhance their image with respect to their colleagues, clients, other health professionals, and the general public. Veterinarians shall present a professional appearance and follow acceptable professional procedures using current professional and scientific knowledge based decisions.

b. Veterinarians shall strive to improve their veterinary knowledge and skills, and they are encouraged to collaborate with other professionals in the quest for knowledge and professional development. Example: improve ICT Skills, languages speaking skills, driving skills and so on to be increasingly and continually brighter.

c. When appropriate, attending veterinarians are encouraged to seek assistance in the form of consultations and/or referrals. A decision to consult or refer is made jointly by the attending veterinarian and the client. Attending veterinarians shall honour a client's request for referral.

- i. When a private clinical consultation occurs, the attending veterinarian continues to be primarily responsible for the case and maintaining the VCPR.
- ii. Consulting veterinarians should communicate their findings and opinions directly to the attending veterinarians. It is acceptable for the consulting veterinarians to communicate directly with the clients, when performed in collaboration with the attending veterinarians.
- iii. Consultations usually involve the exchange of information or interpretation of test results. However, it may be appropriate or necessary for consultants to examine patients.

- ❖ When advanced or invasive techniques are required to gather information or substantiate diagnoses, attending veterinarians may refer the patients. A new VCPR is established with the veterinarian to whom a case is referred.

d. Referral is the transfer of responsibility of diagnosis and treatment from a referring veterinarian to a receiving veterinarian.

The referring and receiving veterinarians shall communicate.

- i. The referring veterinarian shall provide the receiving veterinarian with all the appropriate information pertinent to the case before or at the time of the receiving veterinarian's first contact with the patient or the client.
- ii. When the referred patient has been examined, the receiving veterinarian shall promptly inform the referring veterinarian. Information provided shall include diagnosis, proposed treatment, and other recommendations.
- iii. The receiving veterinarian shall provide only those services or treatments necessary to address the condition for which the patient was referred and shall consult the referring veterinarian if other services or treatments are indicated.
- iv. Upon discharge of the patient, the receiving veterinarian shall give the referring veterinarian a written report advising the referring veterinarian as to continuing care of the patient or termination of the case. A detailed and complete written report shall follow as soon as possible.
- v. The receiving veterinarian shall advise the client to contact the referring veterinarian for the continuing care of the patient. If the client chooses continuing patient care of a veterinarian other than the referring veterinarian, the receiving veterinarian shall release a copy of the medical records to the veterinarian of the client's choice.

e. When a client seeks professional services or opinions from a different veterinarian without a referral, a new VCPR is established with the new attending veterinarian. When contacted, the veterinarian who was formerly involved in the diagnosis, care, and treatment of the patient shall communicate with the new attending veterinarian as if the patient and client had been referred.

i. With the client's consent, the new attending veterinarian shall contact the former veterinarian to learn the original diagnosis, care, and treatment and clarify any issues before proceeding with a new treatment plan.

ii. If there is evidence that the actions of the former attending veterinarian have clearly and significantly endangered the health or safety of the patient, the new attending veterinarian has a responsibility to report the matter to the appropriate authorities of the local and state association or professional regulatory agency.

#### **1.1.3.3. Overall take home message (summary) on Principles of veterinary medical ethics**

- i. Besides other qualities, a veterinarian must have those qualities:
  - Having higher level of professional judgement which is judging things basing on scientific knowledge and view
  - Impartiality: decisions of a vet must be not favouring one part intentionally
  - Obedience to the law: a veterinarian must obey laws and regulations of veterinary profession and for government in general
  - Independence: the decisions of a veterinarian must be free from any pressure.
  - Commitment: a veterinarian must attend and practice his/her works with higher level of willingness and in consideration of animal welfare as first option.
  - Confidentiality: activities of a veterinarian are confidential between him/her and individual client
  - Honesty: a veterinarian must have higher quality of mutual respect.
  - Transparency: a veterinarian must have higher standards of transparency to avoid any kind of falsification.
  - Objectivity: a veterinarian must do each activity in goal oriented manner
- ii. Having a high standard of veterinary ethics have advantage whereby the society will consider you as a veterinarian who is integral, honest, transparent, responsible, confident and confidential keeper, objective, respect, obedient to the law, loyal person, a man with commitment or courage man, problem solver, serious vet who is not easily convincible by whoever. This increases a veterinarian's value among the society, clientele and safe regally.

#### **LO 1.2 Endorse responsibility and accountability**



- **Topic: Discussion on duties of a veterinarian in his/her long life professional career**

#### **1.2.1. Role of a veterinarian in public health (human health or society in general)**

Animal health service is complex and wide with diverse clients accessing service provided by different professionals and paraprofessionals

- a. **A veterinarian shall recognize a responsibility to participate in activities contributing to the improvement of the community and the betterment of public health.**
- The responsibilities of the veterinary profession extend beyond individual patients and clients to the society in general. So, veterinarians are encouraged to make their knowledge available to their communities and to provide their services for activities that protect public health even may contribute to the benefit of the society in other way than treating animals.

#### **Why veterinarians in public or humans' health?**

Keywords: to understand the overall roles of a veterinarian in public health, we can see the mission of different items such as **One Health, one medicine, public health, animal health, veterinary public health.**

**Back ground:** The emergence of previously unknown infectious diseases, as well as the introduction of infectious diseases to areas where they did not exist, presents significant challenges to the global population. These emergence events threaten public health and can potentially cause an economic burden resulting from their spread in humans, animals, or both.

Paul Gibbs highlights how the threat of emerging zoonoses became a driver for multi-disciplinary collaborations resulting in coining of the term **One Health** – an umbrella for animal, human, and ecosystem health. In this concept, One Health should go beyond disease emergence and not be restricted to zoonotic diseases. So, a comparative and translational medicines and toxins are examples of how the One Health concept can extend beyond zoonotic pathogens.

There is motivation by which human and veterinary medicines can cooperate in more ways than just fighting zoonoses, eg. Public health workers know that veterinarians work at many health departments

related to human and environmental health issues and relate them to animal health and this duty is known as veterinary public health.

However, they are not aware of, or have little collaboration with animal health agencies and epidemiologists this may bring a very good outcome by noticing that is relevant if public health epidemiologists be familiar with animal health and/or collaborate with those agencies in this, individuals responsible for animal health (i.e. because animal health do not aim at diseases exclusively affecting animals); even about diseases affecting humans, veterinarians should make efforts on zoonotic diseases and areas where multi-disciplinary work is more effective and needed because animal and human disciplines have largely overlapping methodologies where more collaboration would speed development as each discipline learns from the other's experience.

One example to be mentioned is *Salmonella* outbreak investigations, which were often, closed in concluding that the source was an animal product. Stronger collaborations with the animal health sector would allow continuing investigations to better understand the entire contamination pathway and result in control measures to prevent further outbreaks in both humans and animals.

Disease control strategies in human and animal populations remain largely independent from one another but still these domains should remain closer because we should care about animal health for the sake of human health.

However, in reality, people gain an interest in animal health because of zoonoses. It may be difficult to foster interest in animal health by the human health sector if we leave zoonoses out of the equation.

Another example is that education of veterinary students and public health students both must learn to combat rabies because it affects both parts so, the same case as anthrax and so on. Is very crucial if we value One Health initiative was by joining animal health, human health, and environmental health interests.

Is better that both sides keep positively a mindset of one health than separating largely their minds even if each part should still be independent

#### b. Relationship in veterinary service delivery

In relation to animal health side of view, veterinary service is delivered by 2 main personnel (workers) grouped into: “veterinary professionals and veterinary paraprofessionals “

- **Veterinary professionals** involve the individuals earned with academic degrees of veterinary medicine and related field known as Veterinarians whereas,
- **Veterinary paraprofessionals** where: **Veterinary** meaning animal issues skilled personnel mainly about treatment and the word **para** meaning in relation with....

This category involves individuals that have acquired skills and knowledge that can help in good conduction of veterinary profession; they can handle some tasks on animal and big tasks while directed by veterinary professionals.

The term para-vet or quasi-vet has popularly noted to sound bad in context of minimizing the skills of such personnel; as a result, the term veterinary paraprofessional has been adopted.

Both personnel have globally same working areas where their responsibilities emphasize in:

- ✚ **Animal welfare and animal health promotion:** through prevention and treatment of animal diseases, injury, also through alleviation or relieve of animal pain, suffering and distress

- ✚ **Promotion of public health through:**

- i. Application of their scientific knowledge such as animal product quality inspection (meat, milk, honey, eggs, etc.),
- ii. Animal diseases prevention, diagnosis, treatment and control emphasizing on zoonotic diseases, restraints and control of animal born harms, accidents or injuries to humans, etc.

- ✚ **Promotion and Conservation of livestock resources:** through application of farming, production improvement and technological skills to improve livestock economy and income.

- ✚ **Protection of environmental biodiversity:** by strengthening the ecosystem and environment in general through knowing, mastering and application of ecosystem related skills

c. Take home message:

Veterinary practitioners have different areas of specialization, different levels of academic degrees and achievements e.g. veterinary medicine, animal (livestock) production/husbandry, animal health, wild life and aquatic resource management, veterinary technology etc., everyone should master his/her area of specialization, in order to relate and collaborate with others to build an unbreakable network to overcome constraints related to animal field and improve this field.

## LO 1.3 Respect corporate values and norms in veterinary profession

- Topic: Application of philosophic ethical principles in measuring values and norms in veterinary profession

### 1.3.1. Applying philosophical ethics theories in veterinary profession

Many different philosophers stated application of values and responsibilities for proper conduction of different profession. Lets' see some of them.

A philosopher called Immanuel Kant has elaborated a theory which states that, **morality** involves a set of norms of what to do and what to not do in the society or group and **ethics** being the capacity of each individual to make choice by him/herself on what to do concerning norms set by group, whereas **deontology** talks about doing an action responsibly by seeing it to be either good or bad and come up deciding what to do.

#### ➤ Comparison of morality and ethics and deontology in veterinary profession,

Veterinary service of each country elaborate standards /norms related to professional conducts of its members eg: in Rwanda we have the case of RCVD and its members. The examples of those standards are cost of treatment, protocol to be used in treatment, etc.

These are **moral** because they are elaborated to be followed by the all members of the group as reference.

Each vet may decide what to do or not in his/her own veterinary service delivering depending on the case on field without relying on those standards set by the group. This is **ethical**

In deciding what to do on field, each vet should perform an operation according to what s(he) feels to be better and do it responsibly. This is **deontological**

To understand these theories, we are going to use examples of our veterinary field.

**Example:** Take the case of esophageal obstruction by a foreign body (eg: mango) there are different treatment options to do such as: manual massage to flow the mango towards stomach or backwards in

mouth, manual removal of the mango through the mouth, oral gastric intubation to push back the mango into the stomach or perform esophagotomy (surgically entering into esophagus to remove the mango and suture).

In this case, each vet will choose an option to do e.g. the one which alleviate the problem faster without considering the one which will pay much or the one that a vet can do to show himself as having greater potential in front of the society! The essential is to save the patient. Here your choice is deontological.

By applying deontology, there are different theories to look about; lets' see some of them.

- a. **Consequentialism theory:** This theory is from Kant and refers to measuring and comparing the outcomes of the event. Here we weigh an event's positive outcome(s) [positive consequence(s)] over its negative outcome(s) [negative consequence(s)] and come up deciding to do it or not.

By applying this in veterinary profession, as an example, we can look at possible side effects of any drug, we may choose to administer drug in a route which may delay working or which may cause a little irritation and damage than a route which can cause serious problem that may lead to death of the patient. e.g.: injectable Calcium has 2 probable sides effects depending on the route of administration used which are I/V or S/C, we may choose to infuse it subcutaneously, the route which may cause local irritation on the skin than intravenous route which can cause cardiac arrest.

Consequentialism occurs in different forms:

In addition, a veterinarian should implement different deontological theories such as concerning morality theory such as:

- i. **Utilitarianism theory** (by Socrates) this states that we should choose to do "greater good to greater number of people" meaning to do the best which is seen to be beneficial to many people, in veterinary profession, a veterinarian should decide to perform what is more beneficial than other. So, vet should be an utilitarian.

Example: Take an example of dystocia, if both mother and fetus cannot survive at same time, but the mom can recover, without considering the fetus life, we should take into our mind to recover the mother at first round. By applying utilitarianism theory, a veterinarian should choose to give life to the mother than the fetus.

Also, in case of a problematic pregnancy that can lead to the death of the mother, vet should decide to abort out the fetus to recover the mother.

- ii. **Teleological theory:** (by Aristotle), **tele** meaning “far”, this involves looking at the end or future happiness or interest through accepting current small or little suffering in a short period to get greater and durable happiness by the end (in future). So, vet should be a teleologist.

By applying this in veterinary profession, a veterinarian shall choose to apply or to not worry about a little pain to the patient in purpose of treating a long term suffering of the patient.

Example: In any case the animal is suffering and a vet wants to alleviate that pain, s(he) shouldn't be worried about the pain of restraining the patient because what your treating is more than the problem you are causing.

Another example here, circumcision is somehow challenging and most of the times cosmetic or esthetic purpose, but when we compare pain and suffering of circumcision to its importance in future like reduction of risks of accidental injuries, minimization of venereal diseases, esthetic appearance of the penis, hygiene and safety etc. we should choose to do it.

Always a vet chooses to solve a greater and durable problem than a little and short term pain which may arise from such operation. This is veterinary teleological ethics.

- iii. **Universalization theory (by Kant)**, this theory is famously known as **morality of Kant**: This theory refers to universalize each action we do, by projecting it and expect or imagine the predictable result if everyone world widely do the same. If the outcomes can be good, we decide to do it, if not, we refuse it. So, vet should have a universalization mindset.

❖ By applying this in veterinary profession, we can use an example of falsification. Let take an example in veterinary pharmacy, the client come to buy multivitamin but s(he) hasn't full information or awareness about this drugs, a pharmacist wants money or selling multivitamin is less beneficial than selling oxytetracycline, if a pharmacist decides to falsify by giving oxytetracycline instead of multivitamin. This pharmacist should universalize that action, imagine if every pharmacist on the world to the same what will be the result of our veterinary profession? Here the outcome is negative, so, we should avoid it.

❖ On other hand, take an example of emergence case which is fetal or life threatening (that can lead to death of the patient), let's take hemorrhage or prolapsed placenta as examples. A farmer calls you to assist him/her but s(he) hasn't money payment yet, but s(he) accepts the cost of treatment you schedule or propose, and you have all tools and materials and you are in good position to

perform it. Here we universalize decisions that veterinarians to see probable outcomes world widely.

- If a vet decides to not treat the animal due to problem of money and the animal dies. If everyone does the same, how our veterinary profession will be on the entire world? it will be worse, better to avoid it. Because, remember that a key purpose of veterinary profession is animal welfare.
- If a vet decides to treat the animal and recover it, the result will be good, and if everyone do the same on the entire world our veterinary profession will be good.

### **1.3.2. Some laws leading vets to hold high standards of veterinary moral ethical norms and values**

#### **1. A veterinarian shall uphold the standards of professionalism, be honest in all professional interactions, and report veterinarians who are deficient in character or competence to the appropriate entities.**

a. Complaints about behaviour that may violate the Principles shall be addressed in an appropriate and timely manner.

b. All veterinarians in local or state associations have a responsibility to monitor and guide the professional conduct of their members. In Rwanda this association is called RCVD.

- Members of local and state committees are familiar with local customs and circumstances, and those committees are in the best position to confer with all parties involved. Veterinarians must respect law or code of conduct elaborated by state or local level veterinary law/code, when it seems to be appropriate
- Local and state veterinary associations shall consider adopting the Principles or a similar code as a guide for their activities and include discussions of ethical issues in their continuing education programs. State or local veterinary code may address complaints prior to, concurrent with, or subsequent to review those code at the state or local level when it seems to not be appropriate.

c. Veterinary educators shall stress the teaching of ethical issues as part of the professional veterinary curriculum for all veterinary students. Concomitantly, veterinary medical examiners are encouraged to prepare and include questions regarding professional ethics on examinations.

d. Veterinarians shall not slander or injure the professional standing or reputation of other veterinarians in a false or misleading manner. Veterinarians shall be honest and fair in their relations with others and they shall not engage in fraud, misrepresentation, or deceit.

e. Veterinarians shall use only the title of the professional degree that was awarded by the school of veterinary medicine where the degree was earned. All veterinarians may use the courtesy titles Doctor or Veterinarian (Dr. or vet or Dr. Vet)

f. It is unethical for veterinarians to identify themselves as members of an RCVD-recognized specialty organization if such certification has not been awarded and maintained. Only those veterinarians who have been certified by an RCVD-recognized veterinary specialty organization should refer to themselves as specialists.

g. A veterinarian having supervisory authority over another veterinarian shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that the other veterinarian conforms to the Principles.

h. A veterinarian may be responsible for another veterinarian's violation of the Principles if the veterinarian orders or with knowledge of the specific conduct, approves the conduct involved; another case is if the veterinarian has supervisory authority over another veterinarian and knows of the conduct at a time when its consequences can be avoided or mitigated, but fails to take reasonable remedial action.

i. Veterinarians who are impaired shall not act in the capacity of a veterinarian and shall seek assistance from qualified organizations or individuals. Colleagues of impaired veterinarians shall encourage those individuals to seek assistance and to overcome their impairment. Example here is when a vet gets a mental problem he/she shall not continue practicing until he/she recover to avoid problem that may arise through.

j. Veterinarians shall disclose (reveal) to clients' potential conflicts of interest. Do not be harmed by social conflicts, reveal them.

k. Advertising by veterinarians is ethical when there are no false, deceptive, or misleading statements or claims. A false, deceptive, or misleading statement or claim is one which communicates false information or is intended, through a material omission, to leave a false impression.

l. Testimonials or endorsements are advertising, and they shall comply with the guidelines for advertising. In addition, testimonials and endorsements of professional products or services by veterinarians are considered unethical unless they comply with the following:

i. The endorser must be a benefice user of the product or service.



ii. There must be adequate substantiation that the results obtained by the endorser are representative of what veterinarians may expect in actual conditions of use.

iii. Any financial, business, or other relationship between the endorser and the seller of a product or service must be fully disclosed.

iv. When reprints of scientific articles are used with advertising, the reprints must remain unchanged, and be presented in their entirety.

m. The principles that apply to advertising, testimonials, and endorsements also apply to veterinarians' communications with their clients.

**2. A veterinarian shall, in the provision of appropriate patient care, except in emergencies, be free to choose whom to serve, with whom to associate, and the environment in which to provide veterinary medical care.**

a. Veterinarians may choose whom they will serve. Both the veterinarian and the client have the right to establish or decline a Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship and to decide on treatment.

The decision to accept or decline treatment and related cost shall be based on adequate discussion of clinical findings, diagnostic techniques, treatment, likely outcome, estimated cost, and reasonable assurance of payment.

Once the veterinarian and the client have agreed, and the veterinarian has begun patient care, they may not neglect (abandon) their patient and must continue to provide professional services related to that injury or illness within the previously agreed limits. Veterinary medicine is done by emphasizing on animal welfare first of all.

As subsequent needs and costs for patient care are identified, the veterinarian and client must confer and reach agreement on the continued care and responsibility for fees.

If the informed client declines further care or declines to assume responsibility for the fees, the VCPR may be terminated by either party.

b. In emergencies, veterinarians have an ethical responsibility to provide essential services for animals when necessary to save life or relieve suffering, subsequent to client agreement (or until such agreement can be obtained when no client is present).

Such emergency care may be limited to euthanasia to relieve suffering, or to stabilization of the patient for transport to another source of animal care.

c. When veterinarians cannot be available to provide services, they shall provide readily accessible information to assist clients in obtaining emergency services, consistent with the needs of the locality. Try to have a network of action with other veterinarians to allow service delivery

d. Veterinarians who believe that they haven't the experience or equipment to manage and treat certain emergencies in the best manner, shall advise the client that more qualified or specialized services are available elsewhere and offer to expedite referral to those services. Be open and not malign to treat while you can't, better to make a referral

e. Veterinarians who provide emergency services shall send patients and continuation of care information back to the original veterinarians and/or other veterinarians of the owners' choice, as soon as practical.

f. Veterinarians (to include those attending, consulting, receiving and referring) are entitled to charge fees for their professional services.

i. Regardless of the fees that are charged or received, the quality of service must be maintained at the usual professional standard.

ii. A veterinarian may charge a fee for the services the veterinarian provides in conjunction with the use of third-party providers such as laboratories, pharmacies, and consulting veterinarians.

iii. Payment by or to a veterinarian solely for the referral of a patient is fee-splitting and is unethical. This corruption, it must be avoided

iv. A veterinarian may not accept payment of any kind, in any form, from any source, such as a pharmaceutical company or pharmacist, manufacturer of medical appliances and devices, for prescribing or referring a patient to said source. This corruption, it must be avoided.

In each case, the payment violates the requirement to deal honestly with clients and colleagues. The client relies upon the advice of the veterinarian on matters of referral and prescribing. All referrals and prescriptions must be based on the skill and quality of the veterinarian to whom the patient has been referred or the quality and efficacy of the drug or product prescribed.

v. It is unethical for a group or association of veterinarians to take any action which coerces, pressures, or achieves agreement among veterinarians to conform to a fee schedule or fixed fees.

## Learning Unit 2: Manage stakeholders' relationship

### LO 2.1: Identify and communicate with stakeholders

- **Topic1: General view on types of stake holders.**

**2.1.1. Significance of stake holders:** a stakeholder is any person, group of person, institution, company that has interest in activities of a given institution or company.

**2.1.1.1. Categories of stakeholders**

Depending on how a stakeholder works with a given institution or company, we distinguish:

- 2.1.1.1.1. **Primary stakeholders:** these are stakeholders get direct interest from a given institution or company but they may be inside or outside an institution eg primary stakeholders of your school are head master, teachers, cooks, hygiene provider workers, contractual visitors, local government, etc.
- 2.1.1.1.2. **Internal stakeholders:** These are type of “primary stakeholders”. Because they work daily within an institution and get an interest as a salary or any other source of income directly after investing their works into the institutional activities directly.
- 2.1.1.1.3. **Secondary stakeholders:** These, are people that get interest from the institution without investing in that institutional activities.
- 2.1.1.1.4. **External stakeholders:** These are stakeholders that are outside the institution but still in relation with the institutional /company's activities indirectly. They do not work within an institution daily and get interest without investing into the institutional daily activities. Eg: secondary stakeholders of the school are: banks, traders near your school, car and motorcycle drivers, etc.

- **Topic2: Explanation of stake holders in veterinary profession**

### **2.1.2. Stakeholders in veterinary profession**

These are people, company, institution that have interest in activities of animal field.

Types of veterinary professional stakeholders:

When we look at veterinary profession activities in general, Stakeholders are:

2.1.2.1. **Primary veterinary professional stakeholders:** these are people, company or institutions that work daily with veterinary profession or animal activities and have direct interest for animal field. **e.g.:** veterinarians, veterinary clinics and veterinary hospitals, veterinary paraprofessionals, farmers, farming companies, veterinary drugs pharmacies etc.

2.1.2.2. **Secondary veterinary professional stakeholders:** these are people, company, institutions that do not involve in veterinary profession or animal farming activities directly but get interest in animal field as indirect interest. e.g. animal traders and animal by-product traders such as meat, eggs, milk, wool, dried or processed skin traders, animal body parts (flesh skin, bones, etc.) traders

When we take an example of veterinary clinics, stake holders are:

2.1.2.3. **Internal veterinary stake holders:** these are people that work daily within a veterinary or animal investment institution and get an interest as a salary or any other source of income directly after investing their works into the clinic directly. Eg: Employees, Manager, Owners of a veterinary hospital

2.1.2.4. **External veterinary stakeholders:** these are people that do not work within a clinic daily and get interest without investing into the clinic's daily activities. Eg: Suppliers, Society, Government, Creditors, Shareholders, customers in a veterinary company

## **LO 2.2: Interact with Veterinary professional's stakeholders**

### **Topic: Apply relation and communication among veterinary practitioners.**

### 2.2.1. Relationship in veterinary profession

Like other careers, veterinary profession is complex and made of several personnel with different area of specialization related to veterinary medicine

- i. **Professional to professional relationship:** Veterinary doctor to veterinary doctor
- ii. **Professional to paraprofessional relationship:** Veterinary doctor to another animal scientist.
- iii. **Paraprofessional to paraprofessional relationship:** Animal scientist to another animal scientist.

This relationship should be more strongly tight, friendly, confidential, professionally goal and objective oriented.

### LO 2.3: Interact with non veterinary professional stakeholders

- **Topic: Relationship and collaboration of a veterinarian and the society.**

Relationship in veterinary professional does not remain closed among veterinarians but also should extend to get friendly, purposeful and interest oriented both economically and sociologically with the society. Avoid unfair and non-benefice or non interest oriented relationship because this will be a bad peer.

A veterinarian should have an adequate relationship/ collaboration with:

**2.3.1. Suppliers:** collaborate with suppliers such as vehicle/ motorcycle transporter to get products

**2.3.2. Society:** collaborate friendly with anyone in society to maintain a good reputation

**2.3.3. Government:** collaborate responsibly with government and obey government law to maintain a good image and position in front of the law.

**2.3.4. Creditors:** only few people improve their business without loan, a good mean to improve your veterinary oriented business is to work together with loan providers (eg. banks) and maintain a good reputation in front of them.

**2.3.5. Shareholders Customers:** some customers are vital in your business (veterinary professional activities) do not lose them unless necessary, they will give you a kind of hope of your business in future.

**2.3.6. Record keeping, reporting and transmission:** Proper recording and record keeping is very important in proper performance of veterinary medicine and animal production (farming) as human brain cannot

memorize everything, is better write each important event or any parameter found to be needed for future use as reference or evidence.

Example: Pathognomonic signs of disease, definitively diagnosed disease on one individual, stock of drugs, drugs sold, etc.

**2.3.7. Setting of fees and pricing:** any kind of business has fees to be paid on a given product, activity or operation done, price of product. This avoids doing things in disorganized and vague manner. This increase good image (hope) of integrity in front of clients and minimize confusion, ambiguity and misinterpretation to clients.

**The prices of each operation service of a veterinarian is established by RCVD, these prices are in range, so each veterinarian should refer to the established range price for such operation and ask for fees that he/she feels to be convenient to him/her.** This will involve the price discussion between a vet and client. This is discussed based the patient's case, treatment option (cost of drugs, tools and equipment cost, transport fees, treatment schedule to be followed (time the vet will attend the patient, client's payment potential, etc.

## Learning Unit 3: Respect laws and regulations in veterinary profession

### LO 3.1: Respect laws and regulations in veterinary profession

- **Topic 1: A general view on laws and regulations in veterinary profession**

#### 3.1.1. A general word on veterinary jurisprudence

- Jurisprudence** is a word which has etymology from Latin language **jus** or **juris** meaning law and **prudentia** meaning knowledge or study or science. So jurisprudence is the study or knowledge of laws
- Veterinary jurisprudence** refers to the study of laws applied in veterinary profession

Veterinary jurisprudence involves a set of laws to be respected while the one applying or handling issues related to animal field either veterinarians, farmers of different species, terrestrial, aquatic, domestic, wild or endangered animal, trade of animal and their by-products (meat, milk, honey, eggs, etc.), trade of veterinary drugs, animal products manufacturers, etc.

These laws are categorized into international, regional and state/official/country's level laws, etc.

International organization for animal health on worldwide level state laws governing veterinary profession and animal field laws and regulations which its country members should follow, these ones are also respected at regional level then at state level.

Not only international laws exist, also regional level members elaborate laws and regulations to be followed by regional states.

Again at state level the ministry in charge of animal production (husbandry)/ animal health elaborate laws and regulations governing veterinary profession and animal husbandry or animal health in general to be followed by each institution that has activities related to animal field.

Next to the ministry that has animal matter in its charge, each country has an institution either governmental or non-governmental that collect different groups, institutions, individuals that carry out animal related activities. The case of Rwanda we have Rwanda agricultural board (RAB) which is governmental and Rwanda council of veterinary doctors (RCVD) which is non-governmental entities.

RAB being the greatest institution to elaborate laws governing animal industry in terms of domestic and aquatic animals plus bee keeping regulations Whereas wild animals and endangered animal species, either terrestrial or aquatic fall into RDB regulations and control.

In deed RCVD is in charge of regulations related to veterinary professionalism in Rwanda. In deed wild animals and endangered animals, either terrestrial or aquatic fall into RDB regulations and control.

Every veterinary practitioner and farmer or farming institution or any other animal issue related practitioner has to respect the elaborated law and regulations with high standards level of ethics.

### 3.1.2. Definition of law and regulation in veterinary profession

- **Veterinary law:** Refers to any law governing veterinary activities in a long time.
- **Veterinary regulation:** Refers to any temporary law governing veterinary activities, this law may be abolished at any time but must be respected until it is abolished. Regulation depends on circumstance or a current situation.

### 3.1.3. The purpose of veterinary professional laws and regulations:

a. To regulate combating and prevention of infectious animal diseases, veterinary medical practice, the circulation of products of animal origin, veterinary control of the import, the export and transit of live animals and products of animal origin.

b. Determine the rights and obligations of public and local government institutions, as well as of individual persons, respecting required criteria for establishing any business in veterinary field, veterinary public health, veterinary medicinal products, animal feeding stuffs, animal welfare activities, in this field

#### **3.1.4. Veterinary professional laws and regulations in international context**

We can't talk about veterinary service at national level without talking about its status at international level, at world scale, regional scale. Otherwise veterinary service in Rwanda reports at international level.

Veterinary profession at international level is under control of OIE (French acronym meaning Office International des Epizooties) in English world animal health organization. Currently this organization is expressed in English as stated here but still with the acronym OIE.

This organization has been created under formerly world organization namely SDN (Societe des Nations) which has been replaced by UN (United Nations) after an outbreak Salmonellosis that affected the world after first world war.

##### **3.1.4.1. General mission of OIE**

###### **a. Improving animal health and welfare as well as veterinary public health worldwide**

The OIE's international standards on **animal health and welfare** are prepared and updated by recognized scientific experts and are adopted at annual general sessions of the World Assembly of OIE Delegates.

**Recognized as reference by the World Trade Organization (WTO)**, these standards are designed to prevent and control animal diseases, including zoonoses, ensure the sanitary safety of world trade in terrestrial, aquatic animals, animal products, and improve animal welfare.

###### **b. Transparency: Sharing, in real time, accurate information on the global animal health situation**



Nowadays, through the effects of globalization, infectious diseases can often spread at lightning speed. **60% of the pathogens that affect humans are of animal origin.** Effective surveillance, enabling early detection of these diseases at their animal source, is therefore crucial so that they can be quickly controlled, thereby protecting animal and human populations.

Since its creation, one of the OIE's historic missions has been to ensure transparency and improve knowledge of the **global animal disease situation**, including zoonoses. This mission is fulfilled on a daily basis thanks to a unique tool, the OIE **World Animal Health Information System** ([WAHIS](#)).

#### **c. Collecting, analyzing and disseminating veterinary scientific information**

The OIE collects and analyses the latest **scientific information** on prevention and control of animal diseases. This information is then made available to Member Countries so that they can apply the most effective methods.

The work of the OIE is supported by a **worldwide network of expertise** that has expanded and consolidated over the years. The permanent exchange of information and the constant strengthening of the scientific and technical competencies of the members of this network all help to ensure the scientific excellence of the OIE worldwide.

#### **d. Solidarity:**

- i. **Developing international solidarity to control animal diseases more effectively:** The OIE supports its Member Countries and helps them **strengthen and improve the structure of their national animal health systems** in line with the Organization's international standards, notably by acting on the quality of the national Veterinary Services, diagnostic laboratories and veterinary education.
- ii. To help developing and emerging countries deal effectively with health threats, the OIE provides support through a range of programs, notably within the framework of the **PVS (Performance of Veterinary Services) Pathway**, aimed at consolidating national animal health systems by providing customized assistance. These programs are partly financed from contributions received by the OIE Animal and Welfare World Fund.

#### **e. Other information about OIE**

- General mission of OIE is summarize as followed: Transparency, dissemination of Scientific information, International solidarity, Sanitary safety of international trade, Promotion of Veterinary Services, Food safety and animal welfare.
- General organizational structure of OIE is summarized as:

World Assembly, Council, Headquarters, OIE Regional Representations, OIE Regional Commissions, Specialist Commissions, Our members, Delegates.

OIE (World Animal Health Organization) has deferent active country members including Rwanda. So for any notifiable disease fatality case we should report in OIE, and seek for its help in cases that require international expertness such as conflicting situation with another country member about animal issues misunderstanding, wildlife issues, international animal/animal (by)products, etc.

Official notifiable diseases status that is announced at monthly **basis** in OIE information are : **FMD, Rinder pest, BSE, CBPP, African horse sickness, (PPR) Peste des petits ruminants, Classical Swine Fever**. A long list of notifiable diseases will be discussed later on

- By combating disease OIE has different measures including “**OIE Reference Laboratory**” the principal mandate of which is to function as a world reference center of expertise on designated pathogens or diseases; and “**OIE Collaborating Centre**” for research, expertise, standardization of techniques and dissemination of knowledge on a specialty.
- The OIE has elaborated institutes worldwide that provide an ongoing contribution of these institutes to the work of the OIE ensures that the standards, guidelines and recommendations developed by the **Specialist Commissions** and published by the OIE are scientifically sound and up-to-date.
- In 2019, the OIE has a global network of 254 Reference Laboratories covering 106 diseases or topics in 37 countries, and 58 Collaborating Centres covering 50 topics in 28 countries. In Africa, OIE regional point is situated in Bamako (Mali).
- The OIE has a procedure for **the validation and certification of diagnostic assays**, based on regular evaluations by experts. The diagnostic tests validated as fit-for-purpose are included in the Register of the OIE.

- For use by veterinary services and technical experts, the OIE collates, develops and distributes recommendations on a variety of topics related to animal health. **OIE has different collaboration measures with its country members in matter related to veterinary domain such as:** OIE National Focal Points Training; Public-Private Partnerships in Veterinary Services; Emergency management. Planning for emergencies; Interagency cooperation for emergency management; **OIE** Collaborating Centre Network for Veterinary Emergencies; Vaccine banks; Global studies; Laboratory Twinning; Animal health in the World
- OIE elaborate 2 types of codes or laws to be followed concerning animal matter in country members. Terrestrial code and aquatic code

#### ❖ **Terrestrial Animal Health Code**

The *Terrestrial Code* provides standards for the improvement of terrestrial animal health and welfare and veterinary public health worldwide including standards for safe international trade in terrestrial animals and their products.

#### ❖ **Aquatic Animal Health Code**

The *Aquatic Code* provides standards for the improvement of aquatic animal health worldwide. It also includes standards for good governance, the welfare of farmed fish and use of antimicrobial agents in aquatic animals.

### **3.1.5. Veterinary professional laws and regulations in national context**

Laws and regulations governing veterinary profession are at first round elaborated by MINAGRI, the ministry in charge of animal health. At second range veterinary profession is under a governmental entity called RAB, at next round these laws and regulations are under control of RCVD which is the entity in charge of quality of veterinary service delivery in a whole land of Rwanda.

Depending on different areas of Rwanda, veterinarians of a given area may agree upon some regulations related to veterinary activities in their local situation eg: at sector level, by applying and respecting overall laws and regulations from uppermost.

### **3.1.6. Categories of veterinary professional laws and regulations in Rwanda**

These involves a set of laws and regulations to be followed in animal related field and are elaborated in Rwanda official gazette as there are official gazette reflecting on other careers. The main areas in which laws and regulations focus on are: domestic animal farming, aquaculture and fishery, animal and animal products trade, animal and animal movements, domestic animal infectious and contagious disease, wildlife and endangered animal keeping, manufacturing of products origin etc.

## Topic 2: Implementation of laws and regulations governing veterinary matters in Rwanda

### 3.1.7. Penalty against violation of laws and regulations in veterinary profession in Rwanda

As laws and regulations elaborated and published by Rwanda official gazette state it, for any activity to be carried out in veterinary profession or any other animal industry, has also a corresponding punishment to someone committed it which run from imprisonment, fine, warning or any other according to the criminal case.

#### Detail on laws and regulations on:

##### 1. Animal health:

(1) The animal health measures approved for the purposes of this Act shall take into consideration the principles of

- (a) harmonization with the international standards;
- (b) risk assessment and science-based measures;
- (c) regionalization;
- (d) being least-trade restrictive, necessary and proportional to the risk

##### 2. Animal welfare:

- Any person who owns or is in charge of an animal shall comply with regulations on animal welfare and shall provide such animal with:

- (a) A sufficient and suitable diet;
- (b) Access to sufficient and clean water;
- (c) Proper shelter and housing which are:

- (i) Appropriate for the animal's behavioural patterns; and
- (ii) Sufficient to protect the animal from unsuitable weather conditions;
- (d) Veterinary care when needed to treat and prevent suffering and disease; and
- (e) Humane care and treatment.

- No owner or person in charge of an animal shall permit an act by another person that causes an unnecessary suffering to an animal.

### 3. Conservation of livestock resources:

- **Detained animal, animal product or animal-related item**

An animal, animal product, animal-related item or other thing seized and detained under this Act shall not be detained after:

(a) a determination by a veterinary inspector that the animal, animal product or animal related item or other thing is in conformity with the provisions of this Act; or

(b) the expiration of one hundred and eight days after the day of seizure, or any other period as may be prescribed, unless before that time proceedings are instituted in relation to the animal, animal product or animal-related item or other thing, in which case it, or the proceeds from its disposition, may be detained until the proceedings are finally concluded.

- **Disposal of infected or contaminated animal, animal product or animal-related items**

The Authority may dispose of an animal, animal product or animal-related item or other thing, or require its owner or person in charge to dispose of it, where the animal, animal product or animal related item or other thing:

(a) has been in contact with or in close proximity to another animal, animal product or animal-related item or other thing that was, or is suspected of having been, infected or contaminated by a notifiable disease, causative agent of a disease, [or a toxic substance] at the time of contact or close proximity;

- (b) is, or is suspected of being, infected or contaminated by a disease or a toxic substance;
- (c) is, or is suspected of being, a vector or the causative agent of a disease or a toxic substance; or
- (d) if required to prevent suffering or otherwise to ensure the animal's welfare.

#### **4. Promotion of public health**

In their roles in society, Veterinarians used their scientific knowledge in the benefit of the society including protection and promotion of human health, to achieve this, veterinarians play a role of inspector for animal origin food for human consumption. In this function, customs, port, airport, airline, postal shipping, police and local authorities shall assist veterinary inspectors in the performance of their functions under this Act by providing such facilities and assist as the service may request from time to time.

#### **5. Regulations concerning veterinary inspection.**

(a) The Minister may, on the advice of the Authority, make regulations and issue orders or notices which he or she considers appropriate to give effect to the provisions of this Act.

(b) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of subsection (a), regulations, orders or notices made under subsection (a) may provide for any or all of the following matters:

(i) designating ports of entry at which animals, animal products or animal-related items or other things, may be landed and imported, as well as points of entry at which animals, animal products or animal-related items or things intended for importation may be inspected;

(ii) the movement of animals, animal products or animal-related items or other things into, within, or out of, any infected place, infected zone, infected compartment, containment zone, free zone or free compartment;

(iii) the examination, inspection, cleansing, destruction, disposal, seizure and detention of any animal, animal product or animal-related item or other thing;

(iv) prescribing risk assessment studies as the basis for approving sanitary measures under this Act;

(v) prescribing the documents and their contents, which are to be provided in connection with the importation or landing of any animal, animal product or animal-related item, as well as the

certificate which is to be issued by the Authority of the country from which such animal or animal-related item is to be exported;

(vi) the fees to be charged under this Act and the persons to whom they are to be paid and the manner in which they may be recovered;

(vii) animal welfare rules, including for:

- the transport of different species of animals carried by air, land or sea;
- housing, handling and feeding; and
- the use of animals for research purposes, the use of animals for exhibitions, zoos or recreational purposes, including sports and companion animals.

(viii) the marking by tagging or in any other manner of any animal and other thing imported in Rwanda whether as a condition of landing or otherwise;

(ix) animal identification systems and packaging and labelling of animal products for trace back to the country of origin;

(x) the application to animals imported in Rwanda of any test for any notifiable or other infectious or contagious disease or of any treatment, vaccination or inoculation;

(xi) requirements, procedures and forms required for the import, export and transit of animals, animal products and animal-related items into, in or from Rwanda;

(xii) the quarantine of animals, the duration of the quarantine to be imposed on each category of animal, the category of animals to be exempted, and the circumstances under which exemption may be granted;

(xiii) the stations to be used for animal quarantine, designating different stations where quarantine may be done, the requirements relating to the operation of quarantine stations and international transport facilities;

(xiv) procedures to be followed by veterinary inspectors, official analysts and official laboratories in the exercise of their functions under this Act;

(xv) the cleansing and disinfection, and the subjection to quarantine of vessels used for the transportation of animals;

(xvi) emergency response planning and measures;

(xvii) prescribing the time at which, and prescribing and regulating the mode and conditions under which, animals may be destroyed and disposed of;

(xviii) the diseases to be classified as notifiable diseases;

(xix) causing or requiring notice to be given of the appearance of any disease or toxic substance among animals;

(xx) animal health actions and treatments on any place or thing that is likely to contain a vector or to be contaminated by any disease or toxic substance;

(xxi) requirements for ante and post mortem examination;

(xxii) requirements for animal reproduction;

(xxiii) procedures for the gathering of animals in markets or farms;

(xiv) the regulation of veterinary drugs;

(xxv) requirements for the transport, killing and slaughter of animals;

(xvi) regulating animal feeds;

- establishing standards for livestock production systems;
- in consultation with the Ministry responsible for health, the prescription of veterinary medicinal products, and the regulation of persons who produce, sell, distribute, export or import veterinary medicinal products; or
- any other matter required to be prescribed under this Act or for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Act.

#### ✓ **Powers of a veterinary inspector**

1. Except for a dwelling place, a veterinary inspector may, without a warrant, but upon the presentation of his or her identification card and for the purpose of determining whether this Act is being violated:

a. enter any slaughterhouse, premises, vehicle, vessel, port facility or other place where activities in relation to animal health or veterinary public health is being carried out, or is suspected of being carried out, may



(i) inspect or search such premises, and examine any animal, or open and examine any animal product, animal-related item, object or substance which is or is suspected of being, used in activities relating to animal health or veterinary public health;

(ii) require the owner or person in charge of such premises to submit any information or documentation regarding such animal, animal product, animal-related item, object or substance;

(iii) weigh, count, measure, mark, open, take photographs, read any values of any instruments and take samples in the prescribed manner of anything on the premises and submit it to an official laboratory for analysis by an official analyst, or secure or prohibit access to the same;

(iv) examine, make copies of or take extracts from any book, statement or other document found at such premises that the veterinary inspector believes on reasonable grounds as containing any information relevant to this Act, and demand from the owner or any person in charge of the premises an explanation of any entry in it;

(v) inspect any operation, process or system used or carried out on such premises;

(vi) seize any animal, appliance, product, material, object, substance, book, statement or document which appears to provide proof of a contravention of any provision of this Act, providing a signed receipt in the prescribed form, detailing the reasons for the action, which shall be countersigned immediately by the owner or person in charge of such premises, animal or object;

(vii) order the destruction or disposal of carcasses of diseased animals;

(viii) issue notices and order modifications in the animal premises if not in compliance with this Act;

(ix) Order the seizure of animals for the purpose of further testing and analysis;

(x) Prohibit the movement of animals; and

(xi) Decontaminate or disinfect, or order the decontamination or disinfection of any vehicle, premises or place.

b. in relation to any animal, make examinations, apply tests, take samples, use vaccines and apply marks as may be reasonably necessary for the purposes of this Act;

c. stop and search any vessel, container or vehicle, upon entry into, movement within or exit from the country;

d. for a prescribed period, stop the distribution, sale or use of any animal, animal product or animal-related item which the veterinary inspector has reason to believe is infected with or may spread a notifiable disease;

e. require the owner or person in charge of animals, animal-related item or premises to give:

(i) Assistance or carry out instructions as may be reasonably necessary to facilitate the exercise of the veterinary inspector's functions or to implement the provisions of this Act;

(ii) Information as may be reasonably necessary in connection with the furtherance of the eradication of any animal disease or for the implementation of this Act.

f. Where a veterinary inspector is satisfied that there has been a failure on the part of the captain of any vessel to comply with a requirement of this Act or with a condition imposed pursuant thereto, and this poses a veterinary health hazard, he may:

(i) Detain the vessel and communicate the decision to the Chief Veterinary Officer and the Comptroller of Customs; and

(ii) Immediately provide a written and signed notice of detention justifying the particulars of the non-compliance to the captain of the vessel.

g. Upon receipt of the communication under subsection

h. (i) The Chief Veterinary Officer shall, without delay, take the appropriate sanitary action to prevent veterinary health hazards.

2. A veterinary inspector shall not enter any dwelling place for the purposes of subsection (1) without the consent of the owner or occupier unless a warrant has been issued by a magistrate.

3. A veterinary inspector exercising his or her duties under this section, may request the presence and assistance of a police officer as he or she considers necessary.

4. Where a veterinary inspector has reasonable grounds for believing that an owner or person in charge of an animal, animal product, animal-related item or premises has failed to comply with this Act, he may serve a written notice on that owner or person in charge:

(a) Stating the veterinary inspector's grounds for believing that the Act is not being complied with;

(b) Specifying the measures which the veterinary inspector deems that the owner or person in charge shall take in order to remedy the failures referred to in paragraph (a);

(c) Requiring the owner or person in charge to implement those measures, or measures which are at least equivalent to them, within the time period specified in the notice.

5. In carrying out any duty under this section, a veterinary inspector shall present an identification card or other proof of appointment or designation as a veterinary inspector.

6. Where no person is in actual occupation of any premises, or where the occupier or owner cannot be located, service of any notice under this Act shall be made by affixing the notice to a conspicuous place on the premises, and such affixing shall be considered as good service of the notice.

#### ✓ **Storage and removal of seized animals**

An inspector who seizes and detains an animal, animal product or animal-related item or other thing under this Act, may:

a. Require its owner or the person having the possession, care or control of it at the time of the seizure to remove it to any place; or

b. Store it at the place where it was seized or remove it to any other place for storage.

##### i. Prohibition on the interference with seized animals

Unless authorized in writing by the Authority, no person shall remove, alter or interfere in any way with any animal, animal product or animal-related item or other thing seized and detained under this Act.

##### ii. Detained animal, animal product or animal-related item

An animal, animal product, animal-related item or other thing seized and detained under this Act shall not be detained after:

iii. Disposal of infected or contaminated animal, animal product or animal-related items

- ✓ The Authority may dispose off an animal, animal product or animal-related item or other thing, or require its owner or person in charge to dispose of it, where the animal, animal product or animal related item or other thing:

a. Has been in contact with or in close proximity to another animal, animal product or animal-related item or other thing that was, or is suspected of having been, infected or contaminated by a notifiable disease, causative agent of a disease, [or a toxic substance] at the time of contact or close proximity;

b. Is, or is suspected of being, infected or contaminated by a disease or a toxic substance;

c. Is, or is suspected of being, a vector or the causative agent of a disease or a toxic substance; or

d. If required to prevent suffering or otherwise to ensure the animal's welfare.

#### ✓ **Offences and penalties**

1. A person commits an offence if he or she either personally or indirectly through an employee or agent:

a. Fails to comply with any order, direction or permit lawfully made or granted under this Act;

b. Attempts to improperly influence a veterinary inspector in the exercise of the inspector's official functions under this Act;

c. Imports any animal, animal product or animal-related item without a permit or certificate where required, or through a designated port of entry;

d. Exports any animal, animal product or animal related item except in accordance with this Act;

e. Fails to allow a search or inspection authorized under this Act;

f. Carries out activities which require a permit or other authorization by the Authority without receiving such permit or authorization;

g. Otherwise contravenes the provisions of this Act, Shall be liable on conviction to a fine or to imprisonment, or to both fine and imprisonment.

2. A person commits an offence if he or she either personally or indirectly through an employee or agent:

a. possesses, sells, transports, imports or exports any animal, animal product or animal related-item knowing that it is infected or contaminated or that it may transmit a notifiable disease;

b. intentionally permits or causes the introduction or spread of any notifiable disease, assaults, resists, threatens, or wilfully obstructs any officer while exercising lawful powers under this Act;

c. impersonates a veterinary inspector;

d. knowingly or recklessly provides information which is false, for the purpose of obtaining any document under this Act;

e. alters, forges, defaces, or destroys any document issued under this Act; or

f. tortures or treats an animal contrary to animal welfare requirements, shall be liable on conviction to a fine and/or imprisonment, or to both fine and imprisonment.

3. Where an offence under this Act has been committed by a body corporate and is proved to have been committed with the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to any neglect or default on the part of, any director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate, or any person who is purporting to act in any such capacity, such director, manager, secretary or other officer as well as the body corporate is guilty of that offence.

#### ✓ **Offences by officials and penalties**

1. A veterinary inspector, official analyst or staff of the Authority commits an offence if he or she

a. agrees to do or abstains from doing, permits, conceals, or connives in doing any act or thing contrary to the proper execution of his or her official duties under this Act or other laws;

b. discloses any confidential information acquired in the performance of his official duties relating to any person, firm, or business, except when required to do so by his or her supervisor in the course of official duties, or where ordered to do so by any court;

c. in connection with any official duty, directly or indirectly asks for or takes any payment, gratuity or other reward to which that inspector is not entitled; or

d. otherwise abuses his or her powers granted under this Act.

2. Upon conviction for an offence under subsection (1) a veterinary inspector, official analysts or staff of the Authority shall be liable to dismissal by the Authority, he or she shall cease to function as a veterinary inspector, and may be ineligible for reappointment and shall be subject to such other penalty applicable to civil servants.

✓ **Procedure for offences**

1. Where a veterinary inspector reasonably believes that a person has contravened any of the provisions of this Act, he or she shall provide such information to the Chief Veterinary Officer.

2. The Chief Veterinary Officer shall determine whether the matter shall be forwarded to the Police or whether an administrative penalty is applicable by the Authority.

3. Where a matter has been forwarded to the Police in accordance with subsection (2), the Police shall carry out an investigation and shall, where found necessary, issue a summons ordering the person accused of contravening the Act to appear before a magistrate in accordance with the Magistrates Code of Procedure Act.

✓ **Administrative penalties**

1. The Authority may suspend or revoke any permit or other authorization it has issued under this Act or take any other administrative penalty.

2. Where the Authority has grounds for suspending or revoking a permit or other authorization issued under this Act, a veterinary inspector shall issue a written notice to the owner of the animal, animal product or animal-related item, providing the reasons for the decision, and may include in the notice, an obligation to pay a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars.

3. If a person commits repeated violations of this Act, a permit or other authorization issued by the Authority, the Authority shall recommend, stating reasons, to the Registrar of the High Court that the business operating license be revoked.

4. Upon receipt of such recommendation to revoke the business license, the Registrar may suspend or revoke the business license within seven days.

✓ **Fixed penalty notice for prescribed offences**

1. This section applies to any offence as may be prescribed by regulations as a fixed penalty offence.

2. Where on any occasion a veterinary inspector finds a person who the veterinary inspector has reason to believe is committing, or has on that occasion committed, a fixed penalty offence, he or she may give to that person a fixed penalty notice offering that person the opportunity of discharging any liability to conviction for that offence, by payment of such fixed penalty.

3. Where a person is given a fixed penalty notice in respect of a fixed penalty offence—

a. no proceedings shall be instituted for that offence before the expiration of the period for paying the fixed penalty; and

b. such person shall not be convicted of that offence if the fixed penalty is paid before the expiration of that period.

4. A fixed penalty notice shall:

a. be in the form set out in regulations;

b. give such reasonable particulars of the circumstances alleged to constitute the offence to which the notice relates; and

c. state:

i. the amount of the fixed penalty, which shall not exceed twenty per cent of the maximum amount of any fine or fines that are specified under this Act in respect of the offences to which the fixed penalty notice relates;

ii. The period for paying the fixed penalty which shall not exceed twenty-one days upon receipt of the fixed penalty notice.

iii. The person to whom, and the address at which:

- The fixed penalty may be paid; and
- Any correspondence relating to the fixed penalty notice may be sent;
- The method or methods by which payment may be made; and
- The consequences of not making a payment within the period for paying the fixed penalty.

5. The Chief Veterinary Officer may extend the period for paying the fixed penalty in any particular case if he or she considers it appropriate to do so by sending notice to the person to whom the fixed penalty notice was given.

6. The admission of guilt and the fixed penalty paid under this section shall be dealt with by the magistrate in the same manner as adjudication in court of an offence punishable on summary conviction and for which no conviction is recorded.

✓ **Forfeiture**

1. Where a person is convicted of an offence under this Act, the court may, on its own motion or at the request of any party to the proceedings, in addition to any penalty imposed, order that any animal, animal product or animal-related item or other thing by means of or in relation to which the offence was committed or any proceeds realized from its disposition, be forfeited to the Crown.

2. Where the owner or person in charge of an animal, animal product or animal-related item or other thing is convicted of an offence under this Act and a fine is imposed, the animal, animal product, animal-related item or other thing:

a. may be detained until the fine is paid;

b. may be sold in satisfaction of the fine; or

c. may be destroyed at the expense of the owner or person in charge of an animal, animal product or animal-related item or other thing.

3. Where the court does not order the forfeiture of an animal, animal product or animal-related item or other thing, then the animal, animal product or animal-related item or other thing, or any proceeds realized from its disposition shall be returned to the owner or person in charge at the time of its seizure.

✓ **Evidence**

1. In any prosecution for an offence under this Act, a declaration, certificate, report or other document of the Authority or an analyst, inspector or police officer, purporting to have been signed on behalf of the Authority or the analyst, inspector or police officer, is in the absence of evidence to the contrary, proof of the matters asserted in it.

2. In any prosecution for an offence under this Act, a certified copy of an extract from any record or other document that is made by the Authority or an analyst, an inspector or a police officer is admissible as evidence.



✓ **Limitation on liability**

The Crown shall bear no liability for loss resulting from the destruction or disposal of any animal, animal product or animal-related item carried out in accordance with this Act.

✓ **Good faith defence**

No staff of the Authority, official analyst or official or reference laboratory or any government entity shall be liable to suit or to prosecution in respect of anything done in good faith in the performance of official functions under this Act.

**f. Biodiversity conservation**

- **National Park:** means an area of land declared to be a National Park by or under this policy and applicable law
- **Partnership:** affiliation between RDB-T&C and other stakeholders, individuals or groups for the purpose of conserving or managing some aspect of biodiversity.
- **Policy:** A definite course or method of action selected (by government, institution, group or individual) from among alternatives and in the light of given conditions to guide and, usually, to determine present and future decisions.
- **Protected area:** An area of land and/or sea especially dedicated to the protection and maintenance of biological diversity, and of natural and associated cultural resources, and managed through legal or other effective means.

Wildlife Conservation and National Development Rwanda's wildlife sector generates many economic benefits for the country, with park based tourism being the largest single source of revenue.

**Legal implications:** Currently, there is no Wildlife Law to ensure the protection and management of wildlife. Other sectoral laws and regulations (e. g: environment, biodiversity, compensation for damages caused by animals, use and management of land, water resources, etc.) that are relevant to conservation and wildlife management do not address all the relevant contemporary issues.

In reference to the above issues, The Government should enact a Wildlife Law that is expected to be in harmony with other wildlife-related policies and laws, in order to build the necessary synergies, reduce duplication and improve the impact of the overall policy and legal framework.

The Law shall:

Be formulated within the context of the Constitution, and other relevant laws, especially those relating biodiversity, forestry, environment, land, agriculture and decentralization, to create harmony, elicit synergies and facilitate smooth wildlife management.

- Define the powers, authority and roles of the competent authorities in charge of wildlife protection and management and other stakeholders that contribute to the implementation of this policy,
- Domesticate international and regional conventions, protocols, norms and standards relevant to the sector so as to manage and regulate the sector in the wider national interest.
- Provide a legal basis for establishing and managing National Parks and other categories of protected areas as provided in this policy.
- Establish new institutional arrangements, and define the responsibilities and authority of relevant institutions.
- Set up a framework of incentives for managing existing wildlife resources and creating new categories of protected areas and provide for their gazettelement and management.
- Provide for issuing of Regulations, Guidelines and Instructions for specific wildlife management activities.

Conservation and wildlife management are cross-sectoral in nature, and therefore require a multi-sectoral integrated approach, which the Wildlife Law shall make binding.

There shall therefore be need for:

- Strengthening of the role of the Central Government in policy formulation and regulation, and reduce its implementation roles.
- Devolution of substantial authority for wildlife resource management to local governments, and strengthen their capacity.
- Improved engagement of private sector, civil society and communities in wildlife management.

Equipping new institutions with adequate flexibility in decision making and use of financial resources while remaining adequately accountable to the public

### **LO 3.2: Apply handling laws and regulations of veterinary profession**

- **Topic 1: Description on laws and regulations regarding animal matter commonly applied in Rwanda and in other countries.**

### **3.2.1. Laws and regulations governing animal matter in Rwanda**

These laws and regulations are diverse but all regarding animal or veterinary related field and are assorted according to the issue in concern.

#### **3.2.1.1. Stray cattle and other domestic animals:**

The Authority shall, in collaboration with the Ministry responsible for health and other authorities, approve measures to:

a. Control the populations of stray animals, including programs and strategies to control animals which may pose a risk for public health or security; and

b. By controlling stray animals, any cattle or other domestic animal found traveling in absence of its owner is considered as “stray”. It should be captured by local authority and arrested at cell office, fed and secured by a security agent and the authority make publication of this situation.

Measure taken:

- if the owner is found he/she should pay fine of each day plus feeds stuffs given to the animal, if s(he) lack payment the animal is sold and fine is taken and the rest amount is given to the owner
- If the owner is not found, there is public selling of the animal after 12 hours of publication of public sell advertisement
- Penalties depend on species: 15,000frws for cattle and horse, 1000frws for small ruminants, 5000frws for dog and cat, 2000frws for pig, 300frws for poultry and rabbit

Stray dogs and cats should be euthanized when the owner is lack.

#### **3.2.1.2. Animal welfare**

##### **a. Prohibition of maltreatment to the animal**

No person shall torture, beat, injure, mutilate, neglect or treat with cruelty or overload an animal means it shall be unlawful for any person to torture any animal, or to neglect to provide adequate care, sustenance or shelter, or maltreating any animal e.g.: by beating it, or subjecting any dog or horse to dogfights or horse

fight, by killing or causing them to be tortured or deprived of adequate care, sustenance or shelter, or by using them in research or experiments not expressly authorized by the committee on animal welfare.

The killing of any animal other than cattle, pigs, goats, sheep, poultry, rabbits, horses and farmed crocodiles is likewise hereby declared unlawful except in the following instances:

1. When it is done as part of the religious rituals of an established religion or sect or a ritual by family or cultural habit of indigenous social communities. However, leaders shall keep records in cooperation with the Committee on Animal Welfare;

2. When the pet animal is afflicted with an incurable communicable disease/s determined by a competent clinician.

By applying this policy, different countries have elaboration laws that protect animal to insure animal rights and welfare principles are protected. These laws mostly focus on:

- Animals Used in Research
- Captive Animals
- Companion Animals
- Farmed Animals
- Wildlife

#### **Examples of laws and regulations involving protection of animals from maltreatment**

##### **1. Humane Methods of Slaughter Act or the Humane Methods of Livestock Slaughter Act:**

This federal law requires that some animals be stunned into unconsciousness before slaughter, so that they will not experience pain.

The Humane Methods of Slaughter Act requires that animals be stunned into unconsciousness before slaughter, to minimize pain. Though chickens, turkeys and other birds feel pain just like other animals, they are not protected by this law. Enforcement of this law has been found by government inspectors to be “inconsistent.”

##### **2. Federal Animal Protection Laws**

There are only a handful of federal animal protection laws:

The Animal Welfare Act: is the primary federal animal protection law. The AWA mainly involves animals kept at zoos and used in laboratories, as well as animals who are commercially bred and sold like those in puppy crushes.

The AWA directs in setting minimum standards regarding animals' "handling, care, treatment, and transportation." Dog fighting and cockfighting are also prohibited under the Animal Welfare Act.

3. **The "28 Hour Law ":** This law, necessitates vehicles transporting certain animals for slaughter to stop every 28 hours to allow the animals for exercise, food and water. The law does not apply if the vehicle in which animals are being transported contains access to food or water, and there are many other exceptions as well. Vehicles that transport birds like chickens and turkeys, are exception.

4. **The Endangered Species Act:** This law predated the federal Endangered Species Act and protect animals, plants, which, if adverse behaviour were not halted, would lead to a threatened or endangered designation.

This protects fish, mammals and birds, as well as plants listed as threatened or endangered in any country and beyond. The ESA outlines procedures for federal agencies to follow regarding listed species, as well as criminal and civil penalties for violations.

5. **The PACT (Preventing Animal Cruelty and Torture) Act:** the PACT Act makes some of the most egregious forms of animal cruelty specifically crushing, burning, drowning, suffocating, impaling or sexual exploitation in or affecting interstate commerce or within the territorial jurisdiction of the given county's crime. Among its numerous exceptions are "habitual and normal" agricultural and veterinary practices as well as slaughtering animals for food.

## 6. State and Local Animal Protection Laws

Most animal protection laws are enacted and enforced at the state level. Because there are so many state laws involving animal protection, this won't be a detailed guide, but an overview of the types of laws you'll generally find at the state level.

- a. State animal protection laws are primarily concerned with companion animals, though there are also some state wildlife protection laws.

- b. Farmed animals and animals used in laboratories are often excluded from state animal protection laws, as are wildlife in some contexts.

✓ **Each state also has laws governing some aspects of the “hands-on” care of animals.**

For example:

1. There are laws regulating how long animal shelters must “hold” stray animals before they can be adopted or euthanized.
2. There are also laws about how frequently pets must be vaccinated against rabies.
3. States often also have some regulations concerning commercial breeding of companion animals.
4. “Hot car laws” criminalize leaving an animal in a vehicle in extreme weather, and some hot car laws allow these animals to be rescued from vehicles in certain circumstances and make the rescuer immune from civil or criminal liability.
5. Anti-tethering laws limiting how long pets can be tied up or chained outside, especially in extreme weather, are also growing in popularity, as are laws allowing pets to be included in domestic violence protective orders.
6. Wildlife: State also has wildlife protection laws, as well as laws regarding the time and manner under which it is sanctioned to kill wildlife through hunting and fishing.
7. Wild animal performance bans: Some states regulate the use of wild animals in performances. E.g.: use of elephants in entertainment.
8. Farmed animals: This law regulates farmed animals’ protection; a number of states have adopted measures to limit the use of “intensive confinement” farming practices.
  - ❖ Such practices entail confining animals in restraints that are so small the animals often can’t fully stand up or move around.

❖ Chickens and hens kept in battery cages don't have room to stretch their wings.

9. In Rwanda endangered, species protection law is elaborated and controlled under RDB, and prohibition of commercialization of their products is under ministry of commerce.

❖ Endangered species include wildlife and aquatic dangerous species such as crocodiles, hippopotamus, etc.



Figure 1: Application of laws and regulation regarding animal and veterinary matters.

## ● Topic 2: Animal diseases outbreaks occurrences and their notification

### 3.2.2. List of notifiable diseases according to species affected

#### 3.2.2.1. General notifiable diseases

The list below comprises diseases which notably should be notified rapidly once any case occurs:

Foot and mouth disease, Swine vesicular disease, Peste de petits ruminants (small ruminants pest), Lumpy skin disease, Bluetongue, African horse sickness, Classical swine fever, Newcastle disease, Vesicular stomatitis, Rinder pest Contagious bovine pleura-pneumonia, Rift Valley fever, Sheep pox and goat pox, African swine fever, Highly pathogenic avian influenza

#### **3.2.2.2. Multiple Species Disease**

Anthrax, Aujeszky's disease, Echinococcosis/hydatidosis, Heartwater, Leptospirosis, New World screwworm (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*), Old world screwworm (*Chrysomya bezziana*), Paratuberculosis, Q fever, Rabies, Trichinellosis.

#### **3.2.2.3. Cattle Diseases**

Bovine anaplasmosis, Bovine babesiosis, Bovine brucellosis, Bovine cysticercosis, Bovine genital campylobacteriosis, Bovine spongiform encephalopathy, Bovine tuberculosis, Dermatophilosis, Enzootic bovine leucosis, Haemorrhagic septicaemia, Infectious bovine rhinotracheitis, infectious pustular vulvovaginitis, Malignant catarrhal fever, Theileriosis/ East coast fever, Trichomonosis, Trypanosomiasis (tsetse-borne) Sheep and Goat Diseases, Caprine and ovine brucellosis (excluding *B. ovis*), Caprine arthritis/encephalitis, Contagious agalactia, Contagious caprine pleuropneumonia, Enzootic abortion of ewes (ovine chlamydiosis), Maedi-visna Nairobi.

#### **3.2.2.4. Ovine (sheep) notifiable diseases**

Ovine epididymitis (*Brucella ovis*), Ovine pulmonary adenomatosis, Salmonellosis (*S. abortusovis*), Scrapie

#### **3.2.2.5. Equine notifiable diseases**

Contagious equine metritis, Dourine, Epizootic lymphangitis, Equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern and Western), Equine infectious anaemia, Equine influenza, Equine piroplasmiasis, Equine rhinopneumonitis, Equine viral arteritis, Glanders, Horse mange, Horse pox, Japanese encephalitis, Surra (*Trypanosoma evansi*), Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis.

#### **3.2.2.6. Swine notifiable Diseases**

Atrophic rhinitis of swine, Enterovirus encephalomyelitis, Porcine brucellosis, Porcine cysticercosis, Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome, Transmissible gastroenteritis.



#### **3.2.2.7. Avian notifiable diseases**

Avian flu, Avian chlamydiosis, Avian infectious bronchitis, Avian infectious laryngotracheitis, Avian mycoplasmosis (*M. gallisepticum*), Avian tuberculosis, Duck virus enteritis, Duck virus hepatitis, Fowl cholera, Fowl pox, Fowl typhoid, Infectious bursal disease (Gumboro disease), Marek's disease, Pullorum disease, Psittacosis.

#### **3.2.2.8. Lagomorph notifiable diseases**

Myxomatosis, Rabbit haemorrhagic disease, Tularemia

#### **3.2.2.9. Bee notifiable diseases and Pests**

Acariosis of bees, American foul brood, European foulbrood, Nosemosis of bees, Varroosis, Africanized honey bee and varroa mite

#### **3.2.2.10. Fish notifiable diseases**

Epizootic haematopoietic necrosis, Infectious haematopoietic necrosis, Oncorhynchus masou virus disease, Spring viraemia of carp, Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia, Mollusc Diseases and Pests, Bonamiosis (*Bonamia ostreae*, *B. exitiosus*, *Mikrocytos rougleyi*), Marteiliosis (*Marteilia refringens*, *M. sydneyi*), Mikrocytosis (*Mikrocytos mackini*), MSX disease (*Haplosporidium nelsoni*), Perkinsosis (*Perkinsus marinus*, *P. olseni/atlanticus*), Giant African Snail.

#### **3.2.2.11. Crustacean notifiable diseases**

Taura syndrome, White spot disease, Yellow head disease, Other Diseases and Pests, Leishmaniosis, West Nile Virus

- Topic3: Description of measures of preventing and controlling contagious diseases of domestic animal in Rwanda with Rabies as an example.

3.2.3. Prevention and fight against contagious diseases for domestic animals in Rwanda.

#### **3.2.3.1. Different terms used in contagious domestic animal disease fighting**

For the purpose of the law concerning animal contagious diseases in Rwanda, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

1. **An area suspected to be infected:** includes all areas surrounding infected area;
2. **An area to be protected:** refers to an area surrounding the area that is suspected to be infected, a distance which is determined by the District Mayor, basing on a report of competent veterinary personnel;
3. **Infected area:** includes all buildings, cowsheds, homesteads enclosure, pastures which could have been infected with a pathogenic agent;
4. **Safe area:** refers to an area with concise boundaries where no disease is declared in a defined period of time. Moreover, there is in the area a veterinary doctor dealing with epidemic control;
5. **Quarantine:** refers to measures taken to follow-up livestock entered in a given area of the country so as to know exactly their health status and to stop the disease from spreading;
6. **Livestock products:** refers to milk, meat, fish, eggs, honey, skins, horns, manure, clotted blood, wool and feathers;
7. **Isolation:** refers to measures taken to confine infected animals or those suspected infected in one area in a bid to prevent them from meeting other animals that are not yet infected;
8. **A disease:** refers to symptoms or body changes or one of the two that may indicate an infection;
9. **Infectious diseases:** A disease caused by a pathogenic agent in direct or indirect way;
10. **Domestic Animal:** refers to all mammals, birds, fish and bees;

11. **An animal suspected to be infected with an infectious disease:** refers to any animal presenting symptoms or other flaws so that, by that time, it is assumed infected with that disease;

12. **An animal that is suspected to be infected** means any animal that has stayed in a particular place and conditions likely to make it infected. Such conditions are specifically explained in reference to each disease in this Law;

13. **An animal infected with an infectious disease:** refers to an animal which, when still alive or examined after death, has symptoms or other flaws to the extent that by that time, it is highly doubtful not to be infected with that disease;

14. **Liquidating an animal** refers to a measure taken by the management of the Rwanda Animal Resources Development Authority (RARDA) when a disease is declared, aimed at slaughtering all infected animals within a herd and animals from other herds which have been in contact with them for the purpose of stopping the disease from spreading;

15. **Flaws warranting a purchaser to return an animal:** refer to hidden flaws that a purchaser discovers on an animal after purchase;

16. **Infection:** refers to identification of any organism on an animal, which can be a disease vector;

17. **Competent veterinary authorities:** refers to a veterinary doctor appointed by the government, or a private veterinary doctor who signed a contract with the Rwanda Animal Resources Development Authority (RARDA) for the purpose of taking measures meant for ensuring animal health care in case epidemics outbreak within the conditions that are provided for by this Law;

18. **Veterinary Control Post:** refers to a set of English words meaning the site where the checking of animals and livestock products takes place in a given country;

19. **Veterinary Quarantine Border Post:** refers to a set of English words meaning the entry points sites where the checking of animals and live stocks put in quarantine occurs.

### **3.2.3.2. Law concerning fighting against contagious diseases of domestic animal in Rwanda**

Contagious diseases are on the list of the world animal health organization, (OIE) in French and the list includes those contagious diseases which are common as well as those which are not common in Rwanda.

Contagious diseases which are common in Rwanda shall be appended with this Law.

#### **3.2.3.2.1. Contagious disease surveillance**

Diseases discussed in Article 3 shall be checked on all animals whether domestic or wild, that can be infected, according to characteristics of each disease.

In a bid to prevent the spreading of a disease, any livestock movements for any reason require prior authorization by a Competent Veterinary Doctor.

The Rwanda Animal Resources Development Authority (RARDA) shall determine the format of such authorization.

The Rwanda Animal Resources Development Authority (RARDA) shall ensure permanent and continuous and active epidemic control. Whenever necessary, the Rwanda Animal Resources Development Authority (RARDA) shall take quick and necessary measures to curb the spreading of the epidemics.

#### **3.2.3.2.2. Immunization of contagious diseases**

The immunization of an animal shall be the responsibility of its owner. During the immunization process, all the owners of animals shall have to attend the process and have all their concerned animals immunized. The Rwanda Animal Resources Development Authority (RARDA) shall provide the schedule for the General immunization process and the needed vaccine for each type of disease.

#### **3.2.3.2.3. Urgent measures taken when a contagious disease breaks out**

When a disease which is found on the list referred to in Article 3 of this Law is suspected or broke out, the District Mayor, basing on the report by the Competent Veterinary Doctor, shall define infected areas, areas suspected to be infected, areas to be protected and safe areas by clearly defining natural boundaries.

#### **✓ General measures taken in case a given disease is suspected**

##### **a. Notification of diseases**

Every person has a duty to report an animal suspected of catching a contagious disease without delay.

Any person seeing or owning an animal which has caught or is suspected to have caught one of the diseases referred to in Article 3 of this Law shall, without delay, inform the nearest sanitary veterinary or authority.

Such notification is also required for animals that got in contact with animals suffering from one of those diseases, or got infected with it, according to provisions of Article 4 of this Law.

The notification is an obligation especially for the staff of the Rwanda Animal Resources Development Authority (RARDA), animal health service staff, employees in charge of controlling livestock products, in charge of slaughterhouses, dairies, security services, local authorities, doctors, people in charge of agricultural and breeding extension, at the District level, the Department emigration, immigration and custom officers, since their daily activities enable them to suspect possibility of contagious diseases.

#### **b. Quarantine and Isolation**

Any animal bred in Rwanda shall be kept in a closed cowshed or pasture in a way that it cannot be in contact with other animals that are bred elsewhere.

In his/her activity, when a veterinary authority realizes or suspects one of the contagious, diseases described in Article 3 of this Law, if possible, he/she, immediately isolates the ill animal or suspected to be infected and he/she lets know the district authorities, and at the same time he/she informs them about the measures taken. The Mayor of the relevant District shall approve the appropriate measures taken and make them known to the public.

#### **c. Deciding on what to be done after taking samples.**

The competent veterinary doctor shall take samples and send them to an authorized so that he/she can confirm the disease. When the test is positive, the competent veterinary doctor shall confirm the disease and immediately inform the Mayor of the District thereof for him or her to confirm measures taken and to inform all the population about the disease by means all communication means.

#### **✓ Measures taken when a contagious disease is confirmed**

When one of the infectious diseases referred to in Article 3 of this Law is confirmed, the district authority, after hearing on the opinion of the competent veterinary, shall give specific instructions for each contagious disease, in accordance with the present Law.

The district authority shall define boundaries for infected area, area suspected to be infected the area that must be protected and the safe area and he/she takes general and specific measures depending on the disease.

**a. Controlling the spreading of contagious disease**

The District authority may, within the context of controlling the spreading of a contagious disease, take some of the following decisions:

1. Visiting and controlling livestock health;
2. Counting animals and putting identification to them;
3. Quarantining either entering or quitting livestock in areas that are near those which are infected with contagious diseases as described in Article 3;
4. Suspending commercial shows and cattle markets, and livestock movements, bringing, transporting or taking animals into another area;
5. Cleaning, spraying disinfectants;
6. Taking measures of isolating, immunizing, examining and treating animals;
7. Isolating and liquidating infected animals;
8. Burning carcasses of dead animals, and any materials got in contact with them, and deemed likely to constitute a way of contamination.

The District authority shall inform the Rwanda Animal Resources Development Authority (RARDA) about such decisions for approval before immediate implementation. Where there is isolation or quarantine, the relevant animal shall continue to be looked after by its owner.

During that period, sanitary veterinaries take care of the cattle, making sure that instructions relating to animal health regulations are being properly implemented.

**b. Declaring end of application of measures**

For the purpose of common interest, measures discussed in Article 11 of this Law can be abolished only by the authorities of the Rwanda Animal Resources Development Authority (RARDA) after the report by the District authority basing on the report by the veterinary officer.

**c. Penalties against any stockbreeder whose animal is caught outside the isolation place**

Any competent authority can immediately decide, slaughtering without any compensation any animal that is caught outside the isolation place or illegally wandering in suspected areas in accordance with Article 10 of this Law. Article 14: Liquidating animals infected of contagious disease

When the measures taken in the paragraph 2 of Article 10, for isolation and limiting spreading of a disease, fail, the District authority shall, for general interest and basing on the decision taken by the Rwanda Animal Resources Development Authority (RARDA) declare the liquidating of the animals suffering from contagious diseases, and shall immediately implement it.

A stockbreeder or farmer may, for his or her own interest and after advice by the Rwanda Animal Resources Development Authority (RARDA), decide to liquidate his/her animal which happened to catch or is suffering from a contagious disease.

**d. Liquidating process**

When it is decided that all animals referred to in Article 14 of this Law have to be liquidated, the District authority shall, before implementing the decision, explain to the stockbreeder about it and about the way a fair compensation shall be given to him/her. Where such animals have to be slaughtered, this shall be done on the spot at the presence of a veterinary officer where possible. When they are taken to an authorized slaughterhouse or to another place, the veterinary authority shall give instructions to be followed so that other areas cannot be infected and also define the destination of parts of their bodies.

**e. Beneficiaries of the right to compensation**

A stockbreeder against whom a decision of liquidating his or her animal in accordance with Article 14 of this Law is taken shall be given a fair compensation referred to in Article 15 of this Law. Shall also have the right to a fair compensation, a stockbreeder against whom a decision of liquidating his/her animal following a contagious disease and where he or she has no hand in his or her animal being contaminated is taken.

However, where it is proven that the stockbreeder had a hand in spreading the disease; this stockbreeder shall be given no compensation.

**f. The carcasses of dead animals**

The bodies of an animal that died of infection of any of the diseases described in Article 3 of this Law shall be buried in an indicated place or burnt by means of specific chemicals or in any up-to-date fashion approved by the veterinary authority.

**g. Deciding on the livestock movement**

The Rwanda Animal Resources Development Authority (RARDA) shall give on a regular basis instructions governing movements, shifting and transport of the livestock; commerce and transport of livestock products likely to be the source of the spreading of the diseases.

**h. Requirements for livestock shifting**

Any person who wants to transfer animals to one area of Rwanda from infected area, areas suspected infected or protected areas; he/she must have a transfer authorization delivered by the veterinary authority.

The Rwanda Animal Resources Development Authority (RARDA) shall define the format and content of the transfer authorization and describe the terms of transit, transfer, transport and conditions under which this decision can be reviewed, impeded or abolished.

**i. Hygienic conditions in a breeding place during the disease period**

In areas infected with one of the diseases described in article 3 of this law, houses, cattle-sheds, fences and other premises in which livestock live and vehicles used to carry animals must be sprayed. Manure, waste from cattle-sheds and all types of remaining of animal foodstuffs shall be kept clean according to instructions given by the veterinary authority.

**j. Epizootic control fund**

There is hereby established within the Rwanda Animal Resources Development Authority (RARDA), an epizootic control fund with funds which may be used whenever necessary and in case of emergency, especially in providing compensation and in immunizing livestock when one of the diseases referred to in Article 3 of this Law breaks out.

Funds allocated to the fund shall be kept on a bank account opened with the National Bank of Rwanda.

The audit of the property of Epizootic Control Fund shall be carried out in accordance with the audit of State finances.



The management, the utilization and sources of the fund shall be determined by a Presidential Order.

#### **3.2.3.2.4. Specific measures for each contagious disease**

As described above in overall information about fighting contagious diseases in general, measures to be taken into account are concern any contagious disease with specificity to any disease in question.

Take rabies disease as a typical example and consult the cases of other diseases in Rwanda official gazette.

##### **3.2.3.2.4.1. Rabies as an example of a contagious disease**

###### **a. Animal considered to be infected with rabies**

✓ **An animal is considered to be infected with rabies if:**

- i. It bites or scratches a human being without any sound reason which could led to its behavioural change;
- ii. It bites or scratches a human being or a domestic animal in a zone declared infected<sup>3°</sup> It has symptoms which undoubtedly cannot be attributed to any other disease;
- iii. Dogs and cats that got in contact with another animal which is rabies positive;
- iv. It is bitten or scratched by another animal which is rabies positive.

###### **b. Confirmation that the disease is over**

Every animal suspected to be infected with rabies shall be considered not so after the period of twenty-five (25) days without showing the infection's symptoms.

###### **c. Surveillance of rabies**

Where rabies is suspected, the veterinary authority shall immediately, upon assistance by the nearest authority, lock up all animals suspected to be infected with rabies and follow-up for a period of fifteen days (15).

When the follow-up did not prove the existence of the disease, the period of follow up shall be extended to three (3) months.

The management of the Rwanda Animal Resources Development Authority (RARDA) shall also determine the period for which animals which bite or scratch.

The management of the Rwanda Animal Resources Development Authority (RARDA) may order that such animals be killed where it is established that they constitute a threat to the human life or they cannot be locked up in a given area for being followed up.

**d. Notification of rabies**

Any stock breeders or stock keeper whose animals are suspected to be infected with rabies shall immediately inform the nearest veterinary doctor.

**e. Prevention of rabies**

Any person, being the owner, shepherd or caretaker of an animal noticing the animal shows symptoms of rabies shall immediately kill and incinerate the latter, where necessary may get assistance from the nearest security and veterinary services.

A straying animal with symptoms of rabies must be immediately killed by veterinary services in collaboration with security services.

In the area where the rabies disease is confirmed, movements of cats and dogs are forbidden unless they accompany their owners, attached with chain or muzzled.

Wandering dogs and cats are caught and taken to a lock-up place. Cats are killed on the spot while after forty- eight (48) hours, dogs are given back to their owners provided the latter show the proofs of the fact that their dogs were received a virid immunization.

Where the rabies disease breaks out in other animals, the District Mayor, basing on the report by a competent veterinary authority, shall declare quarantine against any allegedly infected animal. In that case, such animals cannot neither be given to someone nor be sold until the authorization to do is issued a competent veterinary authority.

**f. Liquidating animals infected with rabies**

Where an animal infected with rabies bites another animal, the latter shall be liquidated within ten (10) days as of the day on which the bite takes place.

The meat from animals that are dead following the rabies infection shall only be eaten if the bite parts are removed in the presence of a competent veterinary authority.

**g. Actions taken on carcasses of animals suspected to be infected with rabies**

A carcass of a dead animal as a result of rabies or suspected to be infected with rabies shall be incinerated or buried after being sprayed with relevant chemicals.

**h. Immunization against rabies**

Immunizing dogs and cats against rabies shall be compulsory by rabid vaccine each year.

**Topic 4: Transportation of animals and their products in Rwanda**

**3.2.1.4. Transport and trade of meat**

**3.2.1.4.1. Animal slaughtering, meat inspection**

Slaughtering as a business requires permission from district level while slaughtering as requirement of 1 occasion should be requested at sector level and a written permission is provided within 24 hours after request.

Meat inspection is done by a competent veterinarian in charge of public health most of the times at sector level. This one provides an inspection certificate and movement permit of meat.

Meat should be transported after being inspected by an authorized veterinary inspector/authority, this one certify and provide the permit of transport of meat.

**3.2.1.4.1. Components of meat certificate**

- Sheet number (batch or certificate number)
- Species slaughtered
- Number of animal
- Origin

- Destination
- Number of days in journey
- Names, signature and stamp of the inspector

#### **3.2.1.4.2. Organization and aquaculture and fishing**

- Request of fishing activity in RDB
- Form and content of the aquaculture and fishing concession contract
- Requirements for issuance of fishing license and its period of validity
- Aquaculture and fishing zones
- Importation, marketing and distribution modalities of aquaculture and fisheries products, equipment and materials

#### **3.2.1.5. Animal transportation**

##### **3.2.1.5.1. Requirements for transporting animal in Rwanda**

1. Any person who wishes to transport any animal or animal product shall apply to the Authority in the prescribed form for a transit permit and shall pay the specified fee.

2. An application for a transit permit shall be submitted to the Authority in the time period and in the manner prescribed by regulations.

3. Upon receipt of an application made in accordance with subsection (2), the Authority shall

a. evaluate the application in accordance with the prescribed criteria;

b. determine if an application meets the prescribed requirements;

c. issue the applicant with an import permit including any required conditions, in the prescribed form if the applicant meets prescribed requirements.

4. At the port of entry, the veterinary inspector may, in addition

a. inspect the animal, animal product or animal related-item in transit to verify the animal health status;

b. upon the detection of a notifiable disease

- i. refuse entry;
  - ii. detain or confiscate the animal, animal product or animal related item; or
  - iii. apply sanitary treatment or action.
- c. apply animal health measures;
- d. refuse entry to an animal, animal product or animal related-item if the international veterinary certificate is inaccurate or unsigned.

5. Vehicles carrying animals, animal products or animal-related items stopping in a port or passing through a port situated in the territory in Rwanda, shall comply with the conditions prescribed by the Authority on their way to a port situated in the territory of another country.

#### 3.2.1.5.2. **Export of animals, animal products or animal-related items**

1. A person who intends to export an animal, animal product or animal-related item shall submit the animal, animal product or animal-related item, and any document prescribed, for examination by the Authority.

2. Where upon examination the Authority taking into consideration the requirements of the importing country

- a. is satisfied that the requirements of the importing country have been met, the Authority shall issue the certificate;

- b. is not satisfied that the animal, animal product or animal-related item intended to be exported satisfies the provisions of the importing country, the Authority shall

- i. Subject the animal, animal product or animal -related item to appropriate treatment in order to remove the risk; or

- ii. Deny issuance of the certificate.

3. For the purposes of issuing international veterinary certificates the Authority may—

- a. carry out biological tests, vaccinations or disinfection procedures;

b. carry out inspection, approval and certification procedures of animals and establishments;

c. observe animals during transport to the place of shipment and at the point of departure; and

d. send advance notice to the importing country.

#### **3.2.1.5.3. Quarantine stations**

1. The Minister may prescribe quarantine stations upon recommendation of the Authority and all animals required to be quarantined under this Act, or under any import permit granted there under, shall be placed within such stations in accordance with the orders of a veterinary inspector.

2. Where the Minister prescribes a station for the quarantine of animals for the purposes of this Act, the quarantine station shall

a. meet the international standards for the reception and quarantine of the animals to be received there; and

b. have available a veterinary inspector or a duly qualified veterinarian authorized by the Authority to provide veterinary attention at the station daily.

#### **3.2.1.5.4. Quarantine of animals**

1. Any animal shall, where required by the Authority, or upon being landed for import, be placed in quarantine for such period and subject to such conditions as may be prescribed.

2. A Veterinary Inspector may, with the approval of the Authority, direct that an animal be placed in quarantine if he has reason to believe that the animal

a. may be suffering from a notifiable or other infectious or contagious animal disease;

b. may have been in contact, during its transportation

i. With any animal which is or may be suffering from a notifiable or other infectious or contagious animal disease;

ii. With an animal which has not been tested or inspected to determine if it is suffering from an animal disease; or

iii. With any animal which is not exempted from the requirement of being placed in quarantine; or

c. has otherwise been exposed to the risk of contracting a notifiable or other infectious or contagious animal disease.

3. Any animal removed from quarantine in contravention of subsection (2) may be seized by a veterinary inspector and detained, destroyed or otherwise disposed of as the Authority may direct.

4. Subject to the approval of the Authority, a veterinary inspector may destroy an animal in a quarantine station without payment of any compensation, where the animal develops a prescribed or other infectious or contagious animal disease while in a quarantine station or which, in the opinion of the inspector, shows symptoms of any disease, the spread of which would endanger animal health.

5. Nothing in this section shall be construed as restricting the power of the Authority to impose, as a condition in an import permit in respect of any animal to be imported into Rwanda, the requirement that the animal be placed in quarantine for such period and subject to conditions as the Authority may specify in the import permit.

#### 3.2.1.5.5. Transport certification

Animal transportation requires planning, loading, caring, unloading and post loading care. To transport the animal, the one should request a transport certificate to the veterinary authority at sector level comprising:

- Sheet number (batch number)
- Number of animals to be transported
- Species
- Sex
- Ear tag(s)
- Owner
- Origin
- Route to be taken

- Destination
- Purpose of transport (slaughtering, farming, marketing, ...)
- General health status eg: disease free, some tolerable diseases ...
- Identification of animals eg: ear tags, features...
- Colour if the animals to be transported are less in number e.g.: 1, 2, 3...

Transport of animals should fulfil standards set for requirement of transport depending on route to be taken either, terrestrial by land, aquatic or airways.

Transport of animal by land has 2 categories:

**3.2.1.5.6. Guiding (leading) animals by land:** eg: transporting small ruminants, on people should guide no more than 8 small ruminants, when guiding many small ruminants one individual should go in front another one at back.

**3.2.1.4.3.7. Transport of animals by vehicle:** small ruminants must have litter of at least 5 cm of width, one vehicle should transport no more than 36 small ruminants.

By transportation of cattle by land, on March, the owner should be closer to his/her cattle as close as possible. When a vehicle is to be used, it shall not load beyond 8 adult cattle, never tie animal body e.g. tail to the vehicle, no litter on floor, avoiding slippery and/or brightening floor. Further information refers to Rwanda official gazette on animal transport.

#### Topic 5: Description of laws and regulations governing veterinary drugs issues.

##### **3.2.1.6. Order organizes the veterinary pharmacy practice in Rwanda**

This Order organizes the veterinary pharmacy practice in Rwanda.

###### **a. Practice of veterinary pharmacy**

Practice of veterinary pharmacy, including import and export of veterinary medicines.

###### **b. Meaning of different terms**



i. Practice of veterinary pharmacy: activities related to the preparation, manufacture, quality inspection, packaging, sale and delivery of veterinary medicines, dressing and surgical materials for veterinary use;

ii. Veterinary Pharmacy: establishment that has as main activities the possession, sale, preparation, preservation, quality control of veterinary drugs and other pharmaceutical products;

**c. Practice of veterinary pharmacy**

Before engaging in any veterinary pharmaceutical activity, all applicants must obtain a permit for the practice of veterinary medicine issued and registered by the Minister in charge of veterinary services after consultation with the Rwanda Veterinary Council.

- The authorization to practice veterinary pharmacy is granted on personal, individual or moral basis and is bound by professional secrecy.
- Control and inspection of pharmaceutical establishments: No pharmaceutical company shall be open to the public without prior inspection by the Ministry in charge of veterinary services.

**d. Pharmaceutical establishments**

Practice of veterinary pharmacy shall be performed only in following veterinary pharmaceutical establishments:

i. Medicines and veterinary pharmaceuticals:

a. Drugs for veterinary use;

b. Drugs with stupefying effects;

c. Materials for veterinary use certified as conforming to the contents of all approved accepted pharmacopoeias in Rwanda;

d. Packaged products and equipment that are not mentioned in paragraph (a) but meant to be used in diagnosing animal diseases or pregnancy;

e. Acaricide or insecticide products for veterinary use;

f. Cleaning and disinfection materials for barns

d. Veterinary medicines: substance or preparation presented as having preventive or curative properties against animal diseases, and any product that can be administered to animals in order to restore, correct or modify functions of their organs. Are also considered as veterinary medicines, products used to diagnose animal diseases;

**e. Requirements to practice veterinary pharmacy**

Nobody can practice veterinary pharmacy if he/she does not meet following requirements:

i. To hold a Bachelor degree in pharmacy that is recognized by Republic of Rwanda, or an equivalent degree;

ii. To hold a Bachelor degree in Veterinary medicine that is recognized by the Republic of Rwanda or an equivalent degree;

iii. To be registered with the Rwanda Veterinary Council;

iv. To be a Rwandese by nationality or, for non-nationals, hold a permit from the Minister in charge of veterinary services.

The building where a pharmaceutical establishment is installed shall bear a sign clearly marked with the name of the veterinary pharmacist managing the pharmacy.

**f. Authorization to keep veterinary medicines**

Apart from state owned veterinary institutions or other institutions with special license, nobody else than a pharmacist or a member of the Rwanda Veterinary Council can open a veterinary pharmacy

**3.2.1.6. Veterinary medicinal products importation**

1. No veterinary medicinal product shall be imported, sold, distributed, manufactured or used in Rwanda unless it is registered as prescribed.

2. The Authority may determine exceptions to the requirement of registration in subsection (1),

(a) There are sanitary needs or emergencies that justify the importation, production or use of unregistered veterinary medicinal products;

(b) There is no sufficient availability or affordability of registered veterinary medicinal products to face a veterinary need; or

(c) For research or trial purposes.

3. The requirement of registration in subsection (1) does not apply to traditional animal remedies prepared at the local level and administered in accordance with customary usage.

4. The Authority shall coordinate with the Ministry responsible for animal health on the registration, authorized uses, the sale and prescription of veterinary medicinal products, including

(a) The professionals who are entitled to prescribe veterinary medicinal products, the conditions and forms to use for the veterinary prescriptions;

(b) Permitted uses, with special attention to minimizing and/or phasing out non therapeutic uses;

(c) Data collection, record keeping and obligations of documentation and official notification linked to the prescription and use of antimicrobials;

(d) The use of veterinary medicinal products in feed;

(e) The sale and distribution of veterinary medicinal products and feed containing veterinary medicinal products, with special attention to antimicrobials, especially those used in human medicine.

5. In the event of an outbreak, where a zoonotic disease is suspected, the Ministry of Health shall be notified immediately.

#### **3.2.1.7. Law establishing Rwanda Council of Veterinary Doctors and determining its mandate, mission, organization and function.**

RCVD (Rwanda Council of Veterinary Doctors) is established to assemble all animals' scientists who practice veterinary activities in Rwanda and handle problems facing veterinary profession. it emphasizes on ethical conducts of its veterinarians as well as improvement animal resources, and overall success of veterinary field in Rwanda.

## LO: 3.3: Sensitize farmers and technicians about animal welfare

- Topic 1: Description of animal threats and importance of minimizing them.

### 3.3.1. Threats of animals and their control measures

Threats of animals refer to different challenging events (or situations) that interfere a wellbeing status (welfare) of the animals.

#### 3.3.1.1. General view on animal welfare principles

##### 3.3.1.1.1. Animal welfare significance



Figure 2: Lambs are jumping in joyful as sign of happiness behaviour and sign of having health and welfare

Animal welfare is the well-being of nonhuman animals. Formal standards of animal welfare vary between contexts, but are debated mostly by animal welfare groups, legislators, and academics. Animal welfare science uses measures such as longevity, disease, immune suppression, behaviour, physiology, and reproduction, although there is debate about which of these best indicate animal welfare.

Generally, Animal welfare refers to how an animal can cope with the conditions in which it lives. An animal is considered to be in good welfare if it is; **healthy, comfortable, well nourished, safe, able to express innate behaviour** and **isn't suffering from unpleasant states** such as **pain, fear** and **distress**.

If an animal is in a state of good welfare, it is prevented from acquiring disease, receives veterinary treatment, has appropriate shelter and nutrition, it is handled in a humane manner and its life is ended in a humane way.

#### **3.3.1.1.2. Proper use of animal for laboratory research in accordance with animal welfare**

Using animals in so many researches also affecting animal life is also controversial to the principles of animal rights and welfare freedoms. How to make medical research in accordance to animal right and freedom?

The principles of the **3 R's (Reduction, Refinement and Replacement)** are accepted to be the main guide for using laboratory animals). The 3 R's endorse that efforts should be taken to replace the use of live animals by non-animal alternatives, to reduce the number of animals used in experiments to the minimum that is required to obtain meaningful results and to refine procedures so that the degree of suffering is minimized.

The outcome of applying 3R's is that the quality of laboratory animals (especially rodents) has improved consistently over the last few because in laboratory researches there is use of different microbial colonies attenuated to be used on laboratory animal, although many are subclinical, agents still have the capacity to influence both physiological and immunological functions on the animal, therefore impairing welfare.

#### **3.3.1.1.3. Slaughtering**

Is prohibited to slaughter an animal without putting into account its right and welfare freedoms

eg: inducing it in struggling. To avoid this, we should handle it humanely, fairly, stunning, etc.

This has importance in different considerations:

- Animal side: it minimizes anxiety, stress, muscle degeneration and overall bad status.
- Slaughters/ Butchers: it minimizes probable accidental injuries that may arise from struggling and fighting of the animal
- Consumers: Physiologically, fear and excitement result from adrenalin release into blood stream; adrenalin causes vasoconstriction, muscle contraction or tremors, this causes temporary muscle degeneration. This reduces quality of meat in terms of preservation or storing, processing and adrenaline consumption to consumers will have similar actions in consumer's body.

#### **3.3.1.1.4. Restraining**

Proper restraining is a key point in slaughtering process, where it reduces anxiety and struggle to the animal being slaughtered, provides safety to handlers.

#### **3.3.1.1.5. Treatment**

An animal has right of being free from any kind of pain, stress, distress or suffering. Treatment is one of rights of the animal and during treatment protocol of an animal, animal welfare should be taken into account and

It must be done in curative objective purpose and must be done by a competent clinician/ veterinarian, if no progression a referral should be done, in case of chronic and incurable disease, euthanasia is another option to do.

#### **3.3.1.1.6. Hygiene**

Hygiene is vital in animal related issue, either in farming/ husbandry (eg: management, nutrition, etc.), disease treatment (eg: in surgical operations), animal products handling (eg: milking), animal products processing (eg: yoghurt processing).

**3.3.1.1.7. Feeding:** Animal has a right to feed and a purposeful animal husbandry where feeding help an animal to survive, grow, produce and reproduce

#### **3.3.1.1.8. Housing**

an animal has right to have shelter and this shelter should fulfill all criteria of avoiding threatening conditions of the environment that may affect a wellbeing of an animal such as adverse (harmful) weather conditions, excessive sun rays, stressful wind, predators, accidental injuries eg: fracture in hooves (avoided by a good floor), collapse or falling down, it must minimize escaping attempt because it leads to more problematic outcomes, minimizing traumatizing wall.

- **Topic2: Explanation of animal welfare (or animal rights) principles and their importance**

### 3.3.2. Sensitization (extension education) about animal welfare/animal rights

#### 3.3.2.1. Animal rights and animal welfare comparison

In animal freedom issues, many discussions are encountered which some arguments improve good consideration of animal rights, other fall it down. To take a good understanding everyone can decide to improve his/her humane consideration of animal. Let's see some arguments concerning this issue.

✓ **Comparison and discussion about animal rights versus animal welfare is presented below:**

**Animal rights** and **welfare** usually are put into the same category or on the same side of an argument, but

They do have a difference in the fact of the rights of humans using animals. According to Abigail Geer,

"Animal rights advocates are campaigning for no cages, while animal welfare promoters are campaigning for Bigger cages" ("**Animal Rights** and **Animal Welfare** ") respectively.

**Animal rights** are the rights that are free from human services that can potentially or certainly hurt them. Animal rights supporters believe that animals have the same value to the world as humans do. On the PETA website, members "believe that every creature with a will to live has a right to live free from pain and suffering. So, animal rights fighters claim abolition of any animal use by humans.

The use of animals for food is probably the oldest and the most widespread form of animal use. Since the beginning of civilization, men have been surviving by hunting and feeding on animals. Animals remained hunted by men for food and for survival. With the evolution of manhood, animals were traded for other benefits in return and as the evolution continues to its present state today, animals can be bought for a price deemed reasonable by the market. And as a result of commercialization, animals have been slaughtered for the purpose of being bought and sold by wholesaler or distributors to end consumers. So, animal rights fighters are totally opposing to this.

Other debate expresses animal right fighting by asking question? If you had the option to participate in experiments that caused you pain, would you? If you had the alternative to live in a cage or in a house which would you prefer? If you had the choice to live or die which would you choose? The truth is that the majority of humans would fancy living in a house and would not be a part of painful experimentation because they are neglected, mutilated, genetically manipulated, put on drug regimens that cause chronic pain and crippling. Exactly this is opposite to animal right. So, why do we think that non-human animals deserve any different?

Although **animal rights** and **animal welfare** frequently fall on the same side of an issue, there is a fundamental difference between the two ideologies: the right of humans to use animals.

**Animal rights supporters** believe that it is morally wrong to use or exploit animals in any way that human beings should not do so. **Animal welfare supporters** believe that it can be morally acceptable for human beings to use or exploit animals, as long as the suffering of the animals is either eliminated or reduced to the minimum. For people who think like this, the suffering to animals is at the heart of the issue, and reducing the suffering reduces the wrong that is done but supporters of animal rights don't think that doing wrong things humanely makes them any less wrong.

Do animals really need rights as human beings? Animals should not have all the same rights as human beings. There are many rights that are entirely irrelevant to animals, such as freedom of religion, freedom of speech, the right to vote, and the right to an education. Accepting that animals have rights restricts human beings to use them, and may even cause people to die who might otherwise have lived. For example, it means that human beings can't use animals in medical experiments even if this restriction could lead to the death of many human beings from a disease for which a cure could be discovered through animal experimentation.

The treatment of animals and justifying what is right and wrong has been a very big issue for a long time. Animals are used for many purposes in our society such as food, clothing, research, companionship. We all know that animal cruelty is against the law and that all animals have rights but it's the specifics that are a little more complicated. We want animals to be happy and do what they please, but how are we supposed to know what animals want or exactly how they are feeling?

The ethical treatment of **animals** basically has two viewpoints **Animal Rights** and **Animal Welfare** at the same time. Animal Rights means that we have no moral justification to use animals for any human purpose no matter how humanely we treat them. Basically an animal right activist is trying to get rid of all use of animals.

#### **Conclusion:**

One can imagine a spectrum with **animal rights** at one end, **animal welfare** in the middle, and the belief that **animals do not deserve any moral** consideration on the other end. Animal rights principles involve considering animals at same rank to human beings, they claim to not use animal for benefit of human or human use even using animals as source of food for human, they disagree the term: "food animals", they provide all human rights to animals whereas animal welfare focus on animal wellbeing but admit that animal can be used as source of food to human, they agree upon the term: "food animals" the essential element to



care being performing non suffering slaughter. Every people is encouraged to respect that animal should not suffer.

### 3.3.2.2. Five animal rights / animal welfare freedoms

Animals should live in following conditions:

- Have a proper housing (well-constructed shelter)
- Proper feeding (free from hunger and first)
- Disease prevention and treatment (free from disease)
- Free from pain and distress (free from suffering)
- Freedom to express their normal behaviours (right to display their innate behaviours)



Figure 3: a veterinarian is diagnosing health parameters of a dog.

### 3.3.2.3. Challenges of animal welfare

Animal welfare as a mindset which aims at applying activities that provide a well being of animal as duties and which must be followed by everyone to effectively get a good result, it has different limitations or problems such as:

- Ignorance of a great number of people about animal rights/ welfare freedoms
- Poverty of people: how people can satisfy animal needs while your children are not yet satisfied?
- Donor prioritize human welfare than animal welfare: there are greater number of non-governmental or governmental organizations investing/helping in human welfare then the ones investing/ helping in animal welfare. They say human first, animal later but later until when?
- Inadequate funds of animal welfare

- Inactive veterinary board(s)
- Inadequate of practical knowledge, skill, and attitude concerning some practices that require welfare done on animal such as slaughtering process, euthanasia,
- Some people do not agree upon animals deserve any moral consideration and abuse their rights voluntarily, etc.

#### **3.3.2.4. Solutions to animal welfare challenges/limitations**

Basing on the key factor or root of any limitation animal welfare, each one can be solved according to its case but among other different possible solutions we can say:

- Animal welfare education at primary school level curriculum
- Fostering of rescued dogs and cats young whose mothers dead or abandoned
- Release of liberated captured wild animal or birds (foxes, monkeys, cranes, wild pigeons, etc.)
- Fund raising for animal welfare
- Establishment of laws punishing people who abuse animal rights or welfare freedoms
- Sensitization campaign of animal welfare
- Punishment to animal rights abusers, etc.

#### **3.3.2.5. Farmers**

Farmers should be aware clearly about animal rights and animal welfare, and be mobilized to respect and apply them.

- Farmers should know how to apply as farming as a business
- Farmers should understand the advantages of taking care to their animals and that disease prevention is first step of animal health, welfare and productivity.



Figure4: a farmer taking care of a ewe in friendly situation as sign of having tender love to it.

- Some animals are slaughtered being victim to diseases that would be healed easily this is unkindness to animals, for this reason, farmers are encouraged to be kind and treat their animals first.

#### **3.3.2.6. Technicians**

Technicians should apply their veterinary profession with high standards of scientific knowledge, skills and attitudes in handling animal issues with a mindset if animal wellbeing first of all.

#### **3.3.2.7. Slaughters**

Slaughters should be aware about animal rights or freedoms and apply them especially during slaughtering process mainly applying humanely killing of animals while minimizing stress to the animal being slaughtered.

#### **3.3.2.8. Transporters**

Transport is one of most stressful events in animal issues. So, For the journey to be effective, it must be planned and conducted by a competent person, well skilled animal behavior and welfare mindset and experience animal handling.

Transporters should aware and apply animal rights or freedoms especially minimizing stressful conditions in transport from planning the journey, loading of animals, caring of animal during transport (eg: reduce accidental injuries among animals, feeding accordingly, non-delayed intervention to care/help a collapsed animal of any other case needing human intervention during journey, etc.), proper unloading, post unloading care, etc.

### 3.3.2.9. Traders

Animal trade industry is one of great issues concerning animal industry, it involves some practices carried out on animals' body, so, traders should be aware about animal rights or welfare freedoms, animal behaviour, how to perform some examinations or assessments to animals' body while minimizing stress, trauma, anxiety to animals being traded and/or minimizing worries to animal owners.

Take an example or small ruminants most of the time sheep in our local markets, traders assess body weight by lifting and fall down sheep, pressing on upper flank regions to assess body condition scoring at loin, these activities are worried about, whether are not painful or not. These should take animal welfare into account.

### 3.3.2.10. Authorities

All activities done by the society is under authority's supervisions or laws, they should:

- Help veterinarians to implement sensitization of farmers and society in general about animal rights and animal welfare freedoms by encouraging the population to improve their level of preventing unkindness to animals.
- Announce the presence laws defending animal rights and presence corresponding punishments to animal rights violation or abuse and apply them to fight against animal abuse mindset.

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**Comment [G1]:** The reference of internet not linked. It will be in blue color when it is linked

