PRESENTATION BY AVTA – VPP
CONFERENCE IN PRETORIA.

BY BENSON AMEDA
PRESIDENT
Africa veterinary Technicians Association (AVTA)

Is a membership organization whose aims are;

To promote and defended the interest of all Para veterinarians with a special interest in the Animal Resource industry to safeguard the profession in the African region
• To promote and improve the animal recourses industry through the Para-professional services.

• To act as the official voice of advocacy for the veterinary Para-profession
• To organize and facilitate meetings and other scientific exchange between members and member Associations regionally

• Provide and receive support from member veterinary Para –professional Associations.
MEMBERSHIP

1. Principle membership

• National veterinary Para-professional associations of countries recognized by the African Union, provided that such associations are private organizations funded mainly by subscriptions of its members and partnerships.
2. Private membership

- Include stakeholders and non-governmental organizations that add value to the Animal Resource Industry to be admitted for a specified period but shall have no voting rights.
3. Associate membership

• Include National veterinary regulatory authorities, National regulators of the veterinary practice and Para veterinary associations/specialty groups that are not regarded as principal members.
4. Honorary membership.

• Offered to non-Para veterinarians whom the Association considers to have rendered outstanding service to the veterinary profession in the region.
5. **Corporate membership**

- Major regional sponsors and partners may be granted corporate membership for a specified period.
VETERINARY PARA-PROFESSIONAL (Oie definition)

• Means a person who, for the purposes for the terrestrial code, is authorized by the veterinary statutory body to carry out certain designated task (dependent upon the category of veterinary Para-professional) in a territory, and delegated to them under the responsibility and direction of a veterinarian.
CATEGORIES

• Animal Health Technicians
• Veterinary Nurses
• Laboratory Technologists
• Meat Inspectors
• Artificial Inseminators
• CBAHW
• etc
SERVICES OFFERED BY PARA VETERINARIANS

- Veterinary disease control and surveillance (treatment and vaccination)
- Vector control
- Veterinary laboratory services (data collection and analysis)
- Veterinary public health – meat inspection
- Training institutions-lecturers and demonstrators
- Artificial insemination
- Extension services
- Disease reporting
- Protection of animal welfare
- Research institutions. Etc
CHALLENGES

- Lack of or inadequate legal recognition
- Inappropriate categorization of para-veterinarians
- Lack of standardization in training
- Intimidations
- Discrimination (e.g. in risk rewards, training etc)
- Restricted employment opportunities
- Ineffective research –extension- farmer linkages.

- Lack of appropriate veterinary infrastructure
STRATEGIC THEMES

**AVTA** will focus its activities on key themes that impact on the performance of the livestock sector and include:
- policy and legal frameworks.
- Standards, ethics and regulations
- Data bank and information.
- Capacity building and welfare of members.
THANKS