

## IFAH-Europe welcomes release of Commission's proposals package for revised legislation for veterinary medicines and medicated feed

**Brussels, 10 September 2014 – Today the European Commission published its proposed package for revised legislation for veterinary medicines and medicated feed. It will follow the ordinary legislative procedure whereby a final text must be negotiated and agreed on by the European Parliament and the European Council. IFAH-Europe, the federation representing the manufacturers of veterinary medicines and medicated feed premixes, welcomes this release of the legislative texts, and firmly supports the Commission's aim of improving the availability of veterinary medicines throughout Europe.**

The European Commission states the objectives of the revised legislation as follows:

- To improve the functioning of the internal market for veterinary medicines
- To stimulate more investment and innovation in veterinary medicines
- To reduce the administrative burden imposed on both manufacturers and regulatory authorities through compliance with the legislation

IFAH-Europe fully supports the European Commission on these. Rick Clayton, Acting Managing Director for IFAH-Europe added, "If these objectives are met, it will significantly help to increase access to veterinary medicines for animal carers, thereby improving animal health and welfare."

Currently, manufacturers of veterinary medicines are struggling with a regulatory system with some serious flaws:

- A highly segmented internal market and regulatory framework characterised by high product development and licence maintenance costs, limiting availability particularly in smaller markets and for minor species,
- Insufficient protection of intellectual property which stifles investment in innovation,
- A disproportionately high administrative burden which diverts funds and expertise away from new product development and risks depriving animals of modern medicines and treatment options.

"IFAH-Europe will work determinedly with the European institutions over the coming years to support the Commission's vision for a more efficient regulatory system for veterinary medicines in Europe", Rick Clayton continued. "The value our industry brings to society is very high, despite being quite a small sector. For example, veterinary medicines benefit public health by preventing zoonotic disease and supporting food security. We urgently need greater efficiencies to cut the red tape for our industry. We look forward to a streamlined registration process which delivers a single European marketing authorisation for all veterinary medicines."

IFAH-Europe also welcomes the revised medicated feed legislation. "We will work to help ensure this is capable of strengthening this important route for administering prescription medicines to companion and food animals," Rick Clayton said.

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**NOTE TO EDITORS:** [IFAH-Europe](#) is the representative body of manufacturers of veterinary medicines, vaccines and other animal health products in Europe. It promotes a single market in veterinary medicines across the EU ensuring the availability of medicines to protect the health and welfare of animals.

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