

IN THE FIELD OF ONE HEALTH

“We are delighted to continue One Health Day in the future”

DR. CHERYL STROUD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ONE HEALTH COMMISSION

First One Health Day celebrated on 3 November 2016

156 ONE HEALTH EVENTS HELD IN 37 COUNTRIES

A Rabies Awareness Workshop in Uganda, a Regional One Health Strategic Planning Meeting in the Caribbean, an evening of academic talks and public discussion in Finland, a One Health Walk in Colorado, a One Health Awareness Week in Afghanistan and the launch of the Climate Vets Network in Australia... these are but six examples from 156 events held in 37 countries across six continents at the occasion of the first One Health Day on 3 November 2016.

“ONE HEALTH DAY ANSWERS THE URGENT NEED FOR A ONE HEALTH TRANS-DISCIPLINARY APPROACH TOWARDS SOLVING TODAY’S CRITICAL GLOBAL HEALTH CHALLENGES.”

PROF. AB OSTERHAUS, CHAIR ONE HEALTH PLATFORM

“Recent global disease events, like the outbreaks of Ebola, MERS CoV and Zika, have underpinned the increasing impacts of zoonotic diseases on human and animal health. It has also become clear that changes in the environment, like population growth and climate change, are drivers for the emergence of such zoonoses”, says Prof. Dr. Ab Osterhaus, Chair of the One Health Platform Foundation Board. “One Health Day answers the urgent need for a One Health trans-disciplinary approach towards solving today’s critical global health challenges. It is a timely initiative that gives scientists and advocates a powerful voice for moving beyond current provincial approaches to emerging infectious diseases, antimicrobial resistance, climate change, environmental pollution, and many other problems, to a holistic default way of doing business.”

One Health Day was officially launched on 31 March 2016 as a joint initiative of the One Health Platform, the One Health Commission and the One Health Initiative Autonomous pro bono Team. They called upon individuals and groups from around the world to implement One Health educational projects and awareness events under the auspices of One Health Day. Seven months later, their call had generated an inspiring array of projects worldwide.

But equally important: this global partnership is growing into a sustainable platform for One Health supporters around the world. Regional One Health Day Spokespersons in Africa, Asia, Oceania, the

Middle East, Europe and the Americas liaised with project teams in their respective regions, while a network of One Health Day Country Ambassadors worked within their countries to encourage creation of inspiring events. Student groups from all disciplines were given the option to compete for cash prizes and global recognition. And many participating teams have requested a translated version of the One Health Day logo, into French, Indonesian, Vietnamese, Turkish, Greek and more. All promotional materials, including the event guidelines, the One Health Day brochure and the event submission form, are freely downloadable from the One Health Day website.

“The amazing number of global events planned by scientists, health practitioners and students has really exceeded our expectations and demonstrates the great interest and need for health professions to work together. We are delighted to continue this initiative in the future”, states Dr. Cheryl Stroud, Executive Director of the One Health Commission. ■



The inaugural One Health Day is dedicated to Jack Woodall (1935-2016), extraordinary scientist and admired One Health Leader.

