

GOVERNMENT NOTICE NO 389 published on 25/11/2005

THE VETERINARY ACT, 2003

(No 16 of 2003)

REGULATIONS

(Made under Section 52)

**THE VETERINARY ACT (CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND ETHICS FOR
VETERINARIANS AND VETERINARY SPECIALISTS, 2005)**

PART 1	
PRELIMINARY	
Citation	1. These regulations may be cited as the Veterinary Act (Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Veterinarians and Veterinary Specialists) Regulations, 2005.
Application	2. These regulations shall apply to all Veterinarians and Veterinary Specialist practicing in Tanzania Mainland.
Interpretation Act No. 16 of 2003	3 In these regulations unless the context requires: “Act” means the Veterinary Act, No 16 of 2003; “certificate” means a certificate of registration issued to a registered veterinarian, veterinary specialist and veterinary facility, enrolled paraprofessional and enlisted paraprofessional assistant; “code” means a set of moral principles accepted by a society or a group of professionals; “code of Practice” means a set of professional standards agreed upon by members of a particular profession; “conduct” means behave or conduct oneself honorably and with dignity; “ethics” means that branch of philosophy, which is concerned with human character and conduct; “responsible Veterinarian” means veterinarian(s) accepting responsibility for the ethical conduct of a clinical practice; “welfare” means the state of well- being in which an animal is in reasonable harmony with its environment.

PART 11 PRINCIPLES OF CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT	
Code of conduct and ethics	<p>4. (1) Every registered Veterinarian and Veterinary Specialist, shall have the obligation to conduct affairs of the profession with the highest degree of honest, skill and integrity and shall be required to observe the code of conduct and ethics prescribed under these Regulations.</p> <p>(2) Violation of any of the provisions in these Regulations shall constitute professional misconduct or misbehaviour and may entail disciplinary action.</p>
Veterinarian role to society	<p>5. A registered veterinarian shall apply his veterinary medicine knowledge in the recognition, prophylaxis and treatment of animal diseases, improvement of animal productivity, enhancement of animal welfare and safeguarding of human health.</p>
Uphold the integrity of veterinary profession	<p>6. (1) Any Veterinarian by virtue of their knowledge and training have the obligation to maintain appropriate personal, moral and ethical standards in the practice of veterinary medicine and in those other aspects of their personal life, which may reflect upon the veterinary profession;</p> <p>(2) A Veterinarian shall promote and enhance the integrity of the profession by fostering a sense of trust and mutual responsibility between colleagues and in the event of a difference of opinion, viewpoints should be expressed with candour and respect and not by mutual denigration;</p> <p>(3) A Veterinarian who is working in the private or public sector shall promote and maintain an effective alliance in order to provide a service that reflects credit on the profession as a whole;</p> <p>(4) A Veterinarian shall respect the professional endeavors and integrity of their colleagues and neither exploits unfair situations nor use unreasonable action to gain an advantage over them;</p> <p>(5) A Veterinarian who become aware of professional misconduct, unprofessional conduct or discreditable conduct by a colleague shall take appropriate action; which may include reporting the matter to the Council;</p> <p>(6) A Veterinarian shall not practice veterinary medicine if his ability to practice with reasonable skill and safety is adversely affected by reasons of illness, excessive use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics or any other substance or as a result of any mental or physical disability;</p>

	<p>(7) A Veterinarian shall make every effort to identify and avoid potential conflict of interest in the conduct of their profession;</p> <p>(8) A Veterinarians shall have an obligation to remain familiar with all appropriate legislations affecting their professional endeavors;</p> <p>(9) A Veterinarian shall maintain registration with the Council in the jurisdiction in which he practice his profession and undertake to abide by the directions of that Council.</p>
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PART III
OBLIGATION TO STATUTORY FUNCTIONS, RESEARCH AND TEACHING

Statutory functions	<p>7. (1) Veterinarian shall seek from those in authority a full exposition of the statutory requirements, access to the relevant legislation and any associated instructions and requirements he is expected to administer and the duties to be performed;</p> <p>(2) Veterinarian shall fully appreciate the nature of any statutory powers and must administer the statutory requirements in a manner which is demonstrably competent, complete, correct, fair and impartial;</p> <p>(3) The Veterinarian shall ensure adequate communication with individuals appointed, accredited, delegated, engaged to carry out similar statutory functions in the same place and should keep records sufficient to confirm his actions in case of investigation or legal action.</p> <p>(4) The veterinarian shall endeavor to free him from any commercial, financial, relationship, or other pressure that may affect his professional judgment in exercising the statutory function.</p> <p>(5) Other than his entitled payment for statutory service, the veterinarian shall not receive financial advantage in any form from persons subject to the statutory functions; or hold financial interest in an enterprise which is the subject of those functions; or be perceived as being exceptionally well-treated by it.</p> <p>(6) Where a veterinarian is required to perform statutory functions in relation to a person who is also his clients in another veterinary capacity he shall declare that a conflict of interest exists but, having done so, this shall not preclude the veterinarian from providing the statutory service, he shall</p>
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	<p>ensure that the principles of the provision of that service are strictly adhered to.</p> <p>(7) Any Veterinarian who is performing statutory functions shall use his best efforts to ensure that affected colleagues in clinical practice are kept informed on matters affecting his clients and animals.</p>
Biomedical research	<p>8.(1) Any Veterinarian who is involved in research on animals shall use their best endeavours to ensure that the highest standard of management, animal handling and analgesia is used at all times, and that manipulation, experimental and euthanizing techniques used on animals are appropriate;</p> <p>(2) Any Veterinarian involved in experimental surgery or other skilled procedures on animals shall ensure that they have the necessary surgical skills and competence and that the appropriate requirements for animal experimentation have been met;</p> <p>(3) Any Veterinarian shall ensure that all research projects, which involve the use of animals, are well planned and include appropriate biometrical assessment to ensure that sample sizes are appropriate to the study's objective.</p>
Teaching	<p>9.(1) Any Veterinarian who is engaged in teaching shall have a particular obligation to convey by instruction, and example, the importance of high standards of ethical conduct in all fields of veterinary medicine.</p> <p>(2) Any animal used for teaching purposes must be handled carefully and be subjected to undue manipulation unless this is part of an approved protocol;</p> <p>(3) Any Veterinarian who is involved in teaching shall provide the best training for their students and regularly re-appraise teaching techniques to ensure the most appropriate methods are in current use.</p>
<p>PART 1V ANIMAL WELFARE RESPONSIBILITY</p>	
Animal welfare	<p>10.(1) Any Veterinarian shall have a special responsibility for animal welfare as the profession recognizes the need for the society to make use of animals for companionship, work, food, clothing, teaching, research, recreation and sport.</p>

	<p>(2) Any Veterinarian who becomes aware of an animal suffering or in distress must take action that could include carrying out a thorough examination of all mitigating circumstances in the particular case and offer professional advice on the relief of pain or distress.</p> <p>(3) Any Veterinarian in clinical practice have the responsibility for recommending appropriate preventive measures and providing suitable management and treatment of disease conditions and when necessary euthanasia of animals should be carried out as humanely as possible.</p> <p>(4) Any Veterinarian shall refrain from conducting unnecessary surgical procedures whether they be for purely cosmetic reasons or to correct an inherited abnormality not affecting the welfare of the animal.</p>
Live animal transport	<p>11.(1) Any Veterinarian shall use his best endeavours to ensure that animals being transported are handled, held and transported in a manner, which complies with regulatory, and welfare standards;</p> <p>(2) Any Veterinarian shall use his best endeavours to ensure those animals' requirements for space, ventilation; food and water are met while being transported.</p> <p>(3) Any Veterinarian shall liaise with other veterinarians, and with clients on all relevant matters of disease, injury, welfare and management involved in the transportation of animals.</p> <p>(4) Any veterinarian accompanying an animal or group of animals overseas must become fully familiar with, and observe at all times, the terms and conditions of the export certificate applying to that particular shipment.</p>
Animal processing industries	<p>12.(1) Any Veterinarian involved in animal processing industries must use their best endeavours to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) animals are handled, held and slaughtered in a manner which is humane and avoids unnecessary or unreasonable pain and distress; (b) animals' requirements for space, food and water are met adequately; (c) sick or injured animals at the processing plant are given immediate and appropriate attention;

	<p>(2) Any Veterinarian who is involved in animal processing industries shall liaise with other veterinarian's clients and any persons involved on all relevant matters of disease, injury, welfare and public health involving animals, which come to their notice.</p>
<p>PART V OBLIGATIONS AT VETERINARY PRACTICE FACILITY</p>	
<p>Competence and quality of veterinary services</p>	<p>13. (1) Veterinarians shall perform services only in the area of competence and shall only perform professional services when qualified by education or experience in the specific procedures involved.</p> <p>(2) Veterinarians have a responsibility to provide the best quality veterinary services within the prevailing circumstances in the practice facility;</p> <p>(3) Veterinarians shall strive to improve the quality of veterinary services and implement a quality assurance system within the practice facility;</p> <p>(4) Veterinarians shall safeguard the public and the veterinary profession against veterinarians deficient in professional competence on ethical conduct;</p>
<p>Facility professional image</p>	<p>14.(1) In every practice, irrespective of the nature of ownership of the practice facility, one responsible veterinarians shall be nominated as veterinarian in charge to take reasonable care to ensure that there is supply of adequate both human and financial resources.</p> <p>(2) The veterinary practice facility is operated to the standard expected in this Code.</p> <p>(3) Competent staff are employed and they are properly managed and supervised;</p> <p>(4) The staff and equipment are properly used and operated at a level commensurate with the overall capacity and capability of the veterinary facility;</p> <p>(5) All procedures are properly performed and appropriate consequential actions taken.</p> <p>(6) Any Veterinarian shall maintain a sanitary environment to avoid sources and transmission of infection, this includes</p>

	<p>proper sterilization or sanitation of all equipment used in diagnosis and treatment and the proper routine disposal of both waste materials and diseased animals.</p>
<p>Communication and information transfer</p>	<p>15-(1) Any Veterinarian shall be aware of the need for highly competent communication and inter-personal skills for the successful provision of veterinary clinical services.</p> <p>(2) The public has the right to be accurately and fully informed and to be treated with respect and courtesy at all times;</p> <p>(3) If the practice employs a number of veterinarians, responsible veterinarians must ensure that systems are in place to ensure sufficient exchange of information about patient(s) in such manner that clinical efficiency, animal welfare and owner's needs are met.</p> <p>(4) A practice employing newly registered or inexperienced graduates, must take into account that such persons may not have had the opportunity to develop sufficient competence or communication skills to perform at all times at an acceptable standard. Responsible veterinarians must ensure that the inexperienced practitioner is supervised and supported at all times until competency is achieved;</p> <p>(5) Responsible veterinarians must support the inexperienced veterinarian within the practice in general communication matters as well as in a professional sense, practice meeting, practice seminars, by making regular performance feedback/review meetings and formal induction of new employees into the practice, all assist in the successful adoption of the practice culture, professional standards and business ethics.</p>
<p>Pharmaceutical drugs and medicines</p>	<p>16.(1) Any veterinarian has the sole right to prescribe all types of drugs including controlled drugs for animal treatment.</p> <p>(2) The listed drugs shall be dispensed by veterinarians only according to Tanzania Food, Drugs and Cosmetic Act procedures.</p>
	<p>(3) Any veterinarian shall have legal obligation to controlled veterinary drugs include the keeping of a controlled drug register, and a storage which shall be kept locked and to ensure there is no unauthorized access to such restricted drugs.</p> <p>(4) Any veterinarian dispensing veterinary drugs must ensure that the client is aware of the correct method of use, route of administration, drug safety and efficacy, with holding times and special precautions relevant to the drug and the degree of</p>

	<p>disease protection expected from vaccine;</p> <p>(5) Any veterinarian who supplies restricted drug for client under supervision of paraprofessional or paraprofessional assistants shall lie the responsibility for use on the Veterinarian. The client and the paraprofessional must be fully conversant with the correct and proper use of drug.</p> <p>(6) Any veterinarian in practice upon observing adverse reactions that result from the administration of drugs or medicine to animals shall report to the local state veterinarian for his attention.</p>
Service and employment contracts and partnership agreements	17. Any veterinarian who enters a practice for any period, the relationship should be defined clearly in an agreed, fair and correctly prepared contract, which makes all accountabilities clear, failure to do so is likely to lead to difficulties and disputes, which may bring the whole profession into disrepute.
Continuity and emergency services of clinical services	18. Any Veterinarians who is engaged in providing a direct service to the public for the treatment of animals must make proper provisions at all times including emergency service for the relief of pain and / or suffering of animals either personally or through professional colleagues.
Alliance with unqualified persons	<p>19. (1) Any veterinarian shall not aid or countenance veterinary practice by unregistered person or allow his name or qualification to be used for such purpose.</p> <p>(2) Any responsible veterinarian must not allow unqualified persons to attend or treat cases requiring professional discretion or skills, diagnose or give any medical or surgical treatment to perform any procedure where there is risk of adverse consequences, which may lead to the death of an animal or prejudice its future well being, unless adequately supervised.</p> <p>(3) A veterinarian, whether present or not, is responsible for the technical competence of any non-veterinarian to whom he has delegated veterinary procedures or other duties.</p>
Emergency in a colleague's practice	<p>20.(1) If called as a substitute in the absence of a colleague, a veterinarian shall return any animals attended to the care of the original veterinarian on the colleague's resumption of practice;</p> <p>(2) It is important that nothing shall be done that could be construed as an attempt to attract or entice a client to the substitute's practice.</p>

<p>Confidentiality and the upholding of a client's trust</p>	<p>22. (1) A Veterinarians shall give information concerning an animal that arises out of the treatment of that animal as confidential to owner or agent and such information shall not be divulged to any other person without the owner or agent's consent unless there is a legal obligation to do so;</p> <p>(2) When the public or animals may be endangered, and the veterinarian determines that there is a legal obligation to divulge information in the public interest, every reasonable effort should be made to obtain the co-operation of the client before taking action.</p>
<p>Obligation to disposal of bodies</p>	<p>23. (1) A veterinarian shall obtain the consent of the owner or other authorized person before disposing of any patient, which dies while in the veterinarian's care provided that such consent is given within reasonable time.</p> <p>(2) The disposal of a dead animal, especially in companion animal practice, shall give the client no cause for complaint and cause no public offence or nuisance;</p> <p>(3) When a post-mortem examination is to be carried out, express permission of the owner shall be obtained beforehand and if the owner decides to collect the body, care shall be taken to see that its appearance is neither offensive, nor in any way unacceptable, and that it is placed in a suitable container;</p>
<p>PART V SUPERVISORY OBLIGATION</p>	
<p>Paraprofessionals and paraprofessional assistants.</p>	<p>24-(1) Any Veterinarian shall not allow paraprofessional and paraprofessional assistants to perform any procedure where there is a risk of adverse consequences that may lead to the death of an animal or prejudice its future well being unless adequately supervised.</p> <p>(2) Subject to the provision of sub-regulation (1), a procedure could be delegated and the following criteria should be applied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the intervention must not increase the risk of pain or stress to the animal or breach of animal welfare legislation. (b) legal requirements and ethical obligations involved in animal health certification are breached; (c) the level of training and type of intervention required satisfy the proper execution of the practice activity; (d) the veterinarian whether, present or not at the site or

	<p>the facility is responsible for the technical execution of the intervention;</p> <p>(e) Paraprofessionals shall consult veterinarians from time to time and shall report all undertakings in writing monthly.</p>
Veterinary students in practice	<p>25. (1) When veterinary students are engaged in 'veterinary practical work' the responsible veterinarians must explain the standard of behavior, including legal obligations, expected of them in dealing with patients and clients;</p> <p>(2) Students may be allowed to examine, test and treat animals under the control of a veterinarian, provided such duties are consistent with the ability of the student and the nature of the case being attended and at no time such activities be allowed to prejudice the interests of a client or the welfare of any animal.</p>
<p>PART VI PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIPS</p>	
Obtaining a second opinion	<p>26. (1) Veterinarian may recommend that a second opinion be sought when judgment indicates this would be desirable and feasible and shall obtain the client's approval before seeking a second opinion;</p> <p>(2) Veterinarians shall not hesitate in recommending to an animal owner to consult another colleague who is a registered veterinary specialist or who has particular skills or equipment, or who can provide a service not possessed by the first veterinarian.</p> <p>(3) When a client requests a second opinion, veterinarians shall accede graciously and make the necessary arrangements.</p>
Referrals	<p>27. (1) Veterinarians shall recognize their limitations, in either expertise or facilities, to successfully treat some cases, in these cases they should discuss with the client the risk benefit of alternative procedures including referral to a specialist and/or skills;</p> <p>(2) It is preferable that the referral veterinarian shall examine the patient in the presence of the original veterinarian and if there is a disagreement regarding the diagnosis or treatment, confer with the original veterinarian. At minimum, the original veterinarian must be kept informed;</p> <p>(3) Referral veterinarians have an obligation to provide referring veterinarians, with detailed reports on diagnoses, treatments and prognoses for animals, which are referred and</p>

	<p>if the referral veterinarian provides a written statement for the client, the original veterinarian should also receive a copy;</p> <p>(4) The referral veterinarian must be careful to avoid discrediting his colleague, in any way.</p> <p>(5) Any Veterinarian who have expertise in specific areas, and who is prepared to act as consultants, shall make this known to their colleagues; however they shall not represent himself as specialists unless they are so registered by the Veterinary Council of Tanzania.</p>
Super session	<p>28. (1) If a veterinarian is called by an owner to attend an animal known to have been attended recently by another veterinarian for the same reason, it should only be attended to after the veterinarian being superseded has been notified and the notification should be made as soon as possible after the consultation;</p> <p>(2) Veterinarians shall take into consideration the risks of attending to any animal without first ascertaining from the original veterinarian the initial diagnosis and details of any treatment prescribed making such enquiries to safeguard the interests of the animal, the legal position of the veterinarians concerned and enable the professional courtesies implicit in this rule to be observed;</p> <p>(3) If it is discovered during the course of a consultation that the patient has been in the recent care of another veterinarian for the same reason, then the latter should be notified as soon as possible after the consultation.</p>
Disputes between veterinarians	<p>29. (1) Any veterinarian shall communicate effectively and regularly with other veterinarians in the district in the interests of maintaining good professional relationships between clinical practices and for avoidance of conflict.</p> <p>(2) Veterinarians shall settle any professional dispute without recourse to publicity; as such action may bring the profession into disrepute. Such disputes should be settled by mediation or arbitration, and if necessary seek advice of the Veterinary Council of Tanzania.</p>
Professional secrecy	<p>30. (1) Any Veterinarian is obliged to respect his client's right to confidentiality and to safeguard all information associated with the disease status of an individual animal or group of animals;</p> <p>(2) A careful balance must be maintained between preserving confidentiality and communicating relevant information to colleagues and staff within the practice and information shall not be provided to any third party, including a second opinion</p>

	<p>or referral veterinarian, without the express approval of the client.</p> <p>(3) Whilst upholding the principle of confidentiality veterinarians must do so within the constraints of the law and with regard to statutory requirements. The mandatory reporting to a state veterinarian of the knowledge of suspicion of the presence of a notifiable disease in an animal, or group of animals, may threaten the relationship between a veterinarian and a client and should be handled tactfully. However statutory requirement must be adhered to;</p>
<p>PART V11 VETERINARIAN-CLIENT-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP</p>	
<p>Veterinarian-client-patient relationship</p>	<p>31. (1) A Veterinarian may choose whom he will serve and shall be full responsible once he has undertaken the care of an animal until the animal is released from their care;</p> <p>(2) A Veterinarian in his relations with client, shall consider the welfare of the animal for the purpose of relieving suffering and disability while causing a minimum of pain or fright.;</p> <p>(3) A Veterinarian shall inform the client of the nature, purpose, benefits, effects, risks and cost of a proposed procedure or treatment prior to commencing of any procedure or treatment and written estimate is recommended to include cost, identity of the owner or agent.</p> <p>(4) A Veterinarian shall inform his client the alternative procedures or treatments, and their respective nature, benefits, effect, risks and costs, so that the client has a full opportunity to chose between the various options.</p> <p>(5) A Veterinarian shall convey information on a particular treatment or procedure in a way that the client is able to understand.</p> <p>(6) Where the procedure involves surgery, an anesthetic, or euthanasia, the client's consent shall be obtained in writing with the original being retained by the veterinarian and the duplicate being provided to the client and when written consent is not practical verbal consent shall be obtained and verified by a third party.</p> <p>(7) Veterinarians shall be aware of the need to obtain consent when a proposed procedure or treatment is irreversible or has a high risk of failure or death of the animal.</p>

	<p>(8) In discussing options for treatment versus euthanasia with a client the veterinarian shall avoid imposing his or her own personal value judgment on the client.</p> <p>(9) If a client desires to consult with another veterinarian about the same case, the first veterinarian shall readily withdraw from the case, indicating the circumstances on the veterinary medical record of the animal, and forward copies of the animal's veterinary medical records to the other veterinarians who request them.</p> <p>(10) If a client requests referral to another veterinarian or veterinary hospital, the attending veterinarian shall honor the request and facilitate the necessary arrangements, which shall include forwarding copies of the veterinary medical records of the animal to the other veterinarian or veterinary hospital.</p>
Veterinary fees	<p>32. (1) The financial arrangement for the rendering of veterinary services shall be prescribed in the Schedule to these Regulations.</p> <p>(2) A Veterinarians shall not receive commissions, rebates or other forms of remuneration for referral of clients for professional services, without informing the client of the arrangement;</p> <p>(3) Veterinarians may not participate in an action, which would have the effect of coercing, pressuring or achieving agreement among veterinarians to conform to fixed fees or a fee schedule.</p> <p>(4) Veterinarians may not solicit clients or announce fees and services in a manner that is misleading, fraudulent or deceptive.</p>
Exercise of undue influence	<p>33. (1) A registered veterinarian shall not exercise undue influence on the patient or client including the promotion of the sale of services, goods, appliances, or drugs in such a manner as to exploit the patient, or client for the financial gain of the veterinarian or a third party.</p> <p>(2) A registered veterinarian shall not administer excessive treatments or promote excessive use of treatment facilities when not warranted by the condition of the animal patient.</p>

	PART VIII RECORD KEEPING AND DISEASE REPORTS
Veterinary medical records	<p>34. (1) Veterinary medical records shall furnish documentary evidence of the animal's illness, hospital care and treatment and serve as a basis for review, study and evaluation of the care and treatment rendered by the veterinarian.</p> <p>(2) A veterinary practice shall maintain a written or printed patient record cards/books or computerized retrieval data concerning each animal that a veterinarian attends and the minimum information required in the record cards/books or computerized data that can be retrieved shall include but not necessarily limited to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) name, address and phone number of the animal owner; (b) age, sex and breed of the animal; adequate history of the animal's conditions as it pertains to the animal's medical status; (c) physical examination findings and any laboratory data; (d) provisional or final diagnosis; (e) treatment and medication administered, prescribed or dispensed; (f) surgery and anaesthesia; (g) progress of the case; (h) fees charged. <p>(3) A veterinarian shall maintain veterinary medical records of an animal so that any veterinarian coming into a veterinary practice may, by reading the veterinary medical record of a particular animal, be able to proceed with the proper care and treatment of the animal.</p> <p>(4) Records shall be maintained for a minimum of ten years from the date that an animal was last treated by the veterinarian.</p> <p>(5) Veterinarian shall release a summary or a copy of the veterinary medical records of an animal to the client upon written request.</p> <p>(6) A veterinarian may charge a reasonable fee for duplicating veterinary medical records and for preparation of veterinary medical record file summaries for release to clients.</p>

	<p>(7) A veterinarian may not withhold the release of veterinary medical records or summaries to clients for nonpayment of a professional fee and the release of veterinary medical records or summaries to clients under these circumstances does not constitute a waiver by the veterinarian of the fee claimed.</p>
<p>Disease notification and reports</p> <p>Act No 17 of 2003</p>	<p>35. (1) Veterinarians in clinical practice shall report to the local state veterinarian for the time being responsible for regulatory function on the occurrence of any notifiable diseases as listed in the Animal Disease Act or all vaccinations of notifiable diseases carried out on a monthly basis.</p> <p>(2) Veterinarians in clinical practice shall submit a monthly report of all attended clinical cases in the veterinary practice facility and the report shall be made available to the local state veterinarian for the time being responsible for regulatory function of Animal Disease.</p>
<p>PART IX CERTIFICATION</p>	
<p>Certification</p>	<p>36. (1) Any Veterinarian shall not sign a certificate, which he knows or should have known is untrue, misleading, or inaccurate.</p> <p>(2) The certifying veterinarian is personally responsible for his signature on a certificate and therefore must ensure he retains the sole and indisputable right to issue or to refuse to issue a certificate.</p> <p>(3) The certifying veterinarian must familiarize with the form of certificate and any accompanying instructions, guidelines etc, and consider carefully all the implications of issuing it in the circumstances of each case.</p> <p>(4) The certifying veterinarian must only attest to compliance with law if he is familiar with the matters of law concerned;</p> <p>(5) The certifying veterinarian shall not issue a certificate if there is a demonstrable conflict between his own interest including those of his professional clients and the interests of the person or organization to whom the certificate is directed.</p> <p>(6) The animal(s) or products being certified must be clearly identifiable from the details on the certificate form to be completed later by another party</p>

	<p>(7) The veterinarian shall not sign and issue a blank or incompletely filled certificate form to be completed later by another party;</p> <p>(8) The certificate shall bear not only the veterinarian's signature but also clearly identify his name, qualifications and address or organization and where appropriate bear official or practice stamps.</p> <p>(9) The certificate shall bear the date on which the certificate was signed and issued and the time for which the certificate remains valid.</p> <p>(10) Only one original certificate shall be issued and where a copy or replacement is provided or retained it must be clearly marked COPY or DUPLICATE or REPLACEMENT as the case may be.</p> <p>(11) Where practicable the veterinarian shall ensure that the certificate being replaced is surrendered or withdrawn and either destroyed or clearly identified as to its revised status.</p> <p>(12) Where, after issuing a certificate, a veterinarian becomes aware that the certificate has not been issued or is no longer true, the veterinarian shall withdraw or cancel the certificate and identify the copies accordingly, and inform the affected parties of his action forthwith.</p>
<p>PART X PROFESSIONAL JUDGEMENT</p>	
Independent professional judgment	37. (1) A Veterinarian shall not permit a client or other person to direct, control or otherwise affect the veterinarian's exercise of independent professional judgment when providing professional services.
<p>PART XI CONFLICT OF INTEREST</p>	
Conflict of interest	<p>38. (1) A veterinarian may be asked for an opinion or to issue a certificate in an area where the veterinarian has, or may be thought to have, a vested interest in the matter and in such circumstances the veterinarian must declare a possible conflict of interest or choose not to be involved.</p> <p>(2) A veterinarian shall not represent conflicting interests except by the express consent of all parties after full disclosure of all the facts and acceptance of a fee from a buyer and seller to inspect an animal for soundness is <i>prima facie</i> evidence of a conflict of interest.</p>

PART XII OBLIGATION TO COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL FIRMS	
Veterinarians in commercial and industrial firms	<p>39. (1) Veterinarians employed in industry should not allow employers requirements or contractual obligations to compromise or override professional standards.</p> <p>(2) Any veterinarian may have a responsibility to advise his employers on the best technical information available.</p> <p>(3) When a veterinarian in industry enters an area to offer services, address the public or give advice on veterinary matters that may influence a clinical practitioner's clients, the practitioners affected shall be advised beforehand of the visit.</p> <p>(4) When a veterinarian is carrying out field trials or investigating any aspects relating to commercial products or service, these activities should be carried out in a professional manner with the appropriate veterinarian in clinical practice being kept fully informed.</p> <p>(4) Any veterinarian who undertakes trial, research or investigation work on behalf of an employer, veterinarians in industry shall ensure that all ethical and animal welfare requirements are satisfied.</p>
PART XIII EVIDENCE IN COURTS OF LAW	
Giving evidence in courts of law	<p>40. (1) Any veterinarian who is summoned or called in their professional capacity to give evidence in courts of law must give their evidence impartially and in the interests of justice and truth which is paramount and overrides any contrary interest of clients.</p> <p>(2) A veterinarian shall have the responsibility to prepare and declare in advance, their level of competence in the area to be considered, and present their evidence in a thorough and professional manner.</p> <p>(3) When a veterinarian is required to divulge information, while testifying, as a witness in a court case, he shall divulge only that information which is relevant to the case and take care to separate factual information from opinion, however, when providing evidence as an expert witness a veterinarian may provide opinion with care to obtain legal advice.</p>

**PART XIV
CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION**

Continued professional education	41. Veterinarians shall make use of the various methods of continuing education that are available to them, and these may involve participation in post-graduate continuing education programs, veterinary conferences and the regular reading of veterinary journals and other relevant publications.
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Dar es Salaam,
1st November, 2005

EDWARD LOWASSA, (MP),
*Minister for Water and Livestock
Development*