# Annual Report 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023





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### Abbreviations



- AHT Animal Health Technician
- BVF Black Veterinary Forum
- CCS Compulsory (veterinary) Community Service
- CPD Continuing Professional Development
- DALRRD Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
- ELC Equine-Librium College (Pty) Ltd
- FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- HWSETA Health and Welfare Sector Education and Training Authority
- Hybrid A mixture of in-person and remote attendees
- MSSA Marketing Surveys & Statistical Analysis
- NWU North-West University
- PAHC Primary Animal Health Care
- SAAAHT South African Association of Animal Health Technicians

- SAALAS South African Association for Laboratory Animal Science
- SAAPRA South African Animal Physical Rehabilitation Association
- SAAVT South African Association of Veterinary Technologists
- SADC Southern African Development Community
- SAVA South African Veterinary Association
- SAVC South African Veterinary Council
- TARDITsolo Agriculture and Rural Development Institute
- TUT Tshwane University of Technology
- UNISA University of South Africa
- UP University of Pretoria
- VNASA Veterinary Nurses Association of South Africa
- VSBs Veterinary Statutory Bodies
- WVA World Veterinary Association





#### Vision

<u>The</u> custodian of quality veterinary and para-veterinary standards.

#### Mission

Through the Act, the SAVC mission is to protect the interest of those dependent on animals by safeguarding the health and welfare of all animals and the environment, assuring veterinary public health, regulating the educational, ethical and clinical standards of the veterinary and para-veterinary professions.



Core functions in terms of the Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act, Act 19 of 1982, in line with objectives:

- Regulate the practising of the veterinary and para-veterinary professions and the registration of persons practising such professions
- Determine minimum standards of tuition and training required for degrees, diplomas and certificates entitling the holders thereof to be registered to practise the veterinary professions and para-veterinary professions

### **Executive summary**



- Exercise effective **control over the professional conduct** of persons practising the veterinary professions and para-veterinary professions
- Determine the **standards** of professional conduct of persons practising the veterinary professions and para-veterinary professions
- Encourage and promote efficiency in and responsibility concerning the practice of the veterinary professions and para-veterinary professions

### **Executive summary**



- Protect the interests of the veterinary and para-veterinary professions
- Maintain and enhance prestige, status and dignity of veterinary and para-veterinary professions and integrity of persons practising such professions
- Advise the Minister concerning any matter affecting a veterinary or a para-veterinary profession.

### **Executive summary**



#### Council started implementing its 2022-2025 strategic goals namely:

- 1. Transformation.
- 2. Service Excellence.
- 3. Stakeholder Engagement.
- 4. Digital SAVC.



## Council successfully implemented its strategic goals through achieving key milestones

- The SAVC for the first time in its history escalated issue of transformation into strategic level in strategic plan for the period 2022-2025. Transformation Committee formed to drive all transformation initiatives with clear mandate of ensuring inclusivity in professions regulated by SAVC.
- Wellness Committee also established to look after administration and registrees' wellbeing, ensuring the effective functioning of all.



#### Stakeholder engagements

- 126 electronic messages via email platform, MailChimp
- 292 registrees participated on Annual Declaration platform to confirm compliance with all requirements of Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act, Act 19 of 1982
- 271 CPD provider events successfully accredited through online CPD Provider Portal application process



In addition to Council and committee meetings, the following **4** meetings took place with **external stakeholders**:

• 14 June 2022

Associations (BVF, SAAAHT, SAALAS, SAAPRA, SAAVT, SAVA and VNASA)

• 24 June 2022

Institutions Management (ELC, NWU, TARDI, TUT, UNISA and UP)

• 22 July 2022

**Student Representatives (**BVF, SAAAHT, SAALAS, SAAPRA, SAAVT, SAVA and VNASA)

• 28 February 2023

Associations (BVF, SAAAHT, SAALAS, SAAPRA, SAAVT, SAVA and VNASA)



#### Webinars presented

- 24 May 2022: How do I ... thrive instead of just surviving?
- 28 June 2022: How do I ... manage the employer/employee relationship?
- 23 August 2022: How do I ... ensure that I practice ethically?
- 18 October 2022: How do I ... use digital marketing to my advantage?
- 15 November 2022: How do I ... cope in difficult economic times?



#### International liaison

- Continued valued membership: World Veterinary Association (WVA)
- In collaboration with Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations (FAO) in project of sustainable business in animal health service provision through training for Para-veterinary Professions.
- Council approved participation in another FAO funded project aimed at capacity building and collaboration with other Veterinary Statutory Bodies (VSBs) in SADC Region. These agreements ensure that high standards of veterinary profession are maintained.



#### Amnesty for unregistered Animal Health Technicians (AHTs)

- Council approved registration amnesty for unregistered AHTs, both employed and unemployed qualifying AHTs.
- Implementation of project underway, advert for AHT registration amnesty published on 20 January 2023 and placed on different media platforms such as SAVC website, LinkedIn, Facebook. Also disseminated to relevant stakeholders like Associations, Provincial Directors and Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD).



#### **New Rules for Para-Veterinary Professions**

- Promulgated in Government Gazette: 9 December 2022 new rules for para-veterinary professions (veterinary nurses, veterinary technologists, laboratory animal technologists and animal health technicians)
- These rules went through review process to align them with rules for veterinary profession.
- Provides for para-veterinary professionals to perform specified services, in accordance with relevant rules, for own account. Certain services and procedures may only be performed under veterinary supervision, whether direct or indirect (will require close collaboration with veterinarians).



#### **Effective Council meetings were conducted**

- The SAVC held **three** (3) **hybrid** (physical and virtual combined) Council meetings. These meetings are normally held over a period of two days, starting with an open meeting, followed by a closed one that deals with confidential matters.
- The observers from the regulated professions were allowed to attend the open Council meetings.



#### **Policy Gap Analysis**

• SAVC continued with the process of reconfiguring and re-aligning its policies. Policies developed or updated and approved by Council:

o Gift and donation Policy

Procurement Policy (Reviewed)

Acting Allowance Policy

o Investment Policy

Reimbursement Policy

o Remote Work Policy.



#### **Relevant Industry Developments**

- The Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD), Ms Thokozile Didiza, approved new rules for the para-veterinary professions (veterinary nurses, veterinary technologists, laboratory animal technologists and animal health technicians).
- Para-veterinary professions can now register and operate their own Primary Animal Health Care (PAHC) facilities. This was a huge milestone in the transformation of the veterinary sector in South Africa.
- These rules have been in operation since December 2022.

# Challenges mitigated and to be mitigated





- The seventh year of the CCS for veterinary graduates commenced in early 2022.
- The SAVC, the South African Veterinary Association (SAVA) and South African Association of Animal Health Technicians (SAAAHT) joint project, funded by the Health and Welfare Seta (HWSETA), to address perceived lack of mentoring for CCS veterinarians is continuing successfully.

# Challenges mitigated and to be mitigated



#### Needs analysis

- The Marketing Surveys & Statistical Analysis (MSSA) research need for veterinary and para-veterinary services in South Africa (Needs Analysis)
- Commenced February 2020 and funded by Health and Welfare Seta (HWSETA)
- Initiated after SAVC established there was no sufficient statistics available regarding supply & demand for services – to assess needs in society
- Research completed and report was disseminated to the relevant stakeholders.

### **Changes affecting Council**



#### Changes affecting Council

The following members of the Council were appointed by Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD), Ms Thokozile Didiza, on 31 July 2022:

 Sr E Bornman, Mr IB Dladla, Dr S Fouche, Dr SM Higgerty, Dr AT Kgasi, Dr BA Lubisi, Dr ME Machedi, Ms N Maharaj, Dr HJ Marais, Ms B Mogodi, Mr TP Mohlabi, Dr SD Morris, Dr NP Moswa-Kato, Ms JPP Mousley, Dr NT Ndudane, Prof DN Qekwana, Mr S Qwabe, Dr BW Tindall, Dr PEA van Dam and Dr IJ Venter.



### Report on committees



### Committees

Council exercised all functions under its Committees namely-

- Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Accreditation
- Education
- Executive
- o Finance, Audit and Risk Assessment
- Food Safety and Security (FSS)

### Committees



- Heritage and Transformation of the Professions (disbanded February 2023; replaced by Transformation Committee)
- Inspections
- Investigation
- Registration and Authorisation
- o Review
- $\circ$  Specialisation
- Standards

## Registration

- A total of **6 907** veterinary and para-veterinary professionals were registered on 31 March 2023.
- 637 persons were authorised to perform veterinary or veterinary para-professional services where need was motivated.

### Registration statistics 2022 - 2023



| PROFESSION   | NUMBER OF REGISTREES | %   |
|--|----------------------|-----|
| Veterinarians (including restricted registrations)   | 3 500                | 51  |
| Veterinary specialists                               | 219                  | 3   |
| CCS veterinarians (including 2021 CCS veterinarians) | 379                  | 5   |
| Veterinary nurses                                    | 723                  | 10  |
| Veterinary technologists                             | 398                  | 6   |
| Animal health technicians                            | 1 601                | 23  |
| Laboratory animal technologists                      | 13                   | 0   |
| Veterinary physiotherapists [Section 20(5)]          | 74                   | 1   |
| TOTAL  | 6 907                | 100 |

### Balance sheet

| ASSETS                        | Note | 2023       | 2022       |
|-------------------------------|------|------------|------------|
| ASSETS                        |      |            |            |
| Non-Current Assets            |      | 20 862 920 | 20 224 430 |
| Property, plant and equipment | 2    | 9 203 180  | 9 438 203  |
| Investments                   | 3    | 11 659 740 | 10 786 227 |
| Current assets                |      | 16 152 502 | 18 699 826 |
| Trade and other receivables   | 4    | 594 682    | 643 731    |
| Cash and cash equivalents     | 5    | 15 557 820 | 18 056 095 |
| Total Assets                  |      | 37 015 422 | 38 924 256 |

### Balance sheet

#### EQUITY AND LIABILITIES:

| Accumulated funds  |   | 33 526 519                              | 34 479 509                             |
|--|---|---|--|
| Balance 1 April 2022<br>Net surplus for the year<br>Communication Services-Capital<br>Unrealised capital (loss) gain |   | 34 479 509<br>89 237<br>-1 042 227<br>0 | 31 438 452<br>65 312<br>0<br>2 975 745 |
| Skills development fund  | 6 | 695 712                                 | 491 287                                |
| Current liabilities  |   | 2 793 191                               | 3 953 460                              |
| Trade and other payables   | 7 | 2 793 191                               | 3 953 460                              |
| Total Equity and Liabilities   |   | 37 015 422                              | 38 924 256                             |

### Income statement

| INCOME   | Note | 2023                                 | 2022                                 |
|--|------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Veterinarians<br>Para-veterinary Professions<br>Other income | 8    | 13 447 406<br>3 542 689<br>4 992 838 | 12 331 713<br>3 165 961<br>4 431 656 |
|  |      | 21 982 933                           | 19 929 330                           |



## Thank you