

# **62nd REGULAR SESSION OF THE IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE**

## **SENIOR REGULATORS' MEETING**

**Thursday, 20 September 2018**

### **Session I**

#### **Regulatory framework for radiation safety in specialized areas — occupational radiation protection in veterinary medicine**

##### **Chairperson's summary**

I would particularly start by highlighting that radiation use in veterinary medicine is increasing. Medical applications in veterinary medicine closely mirrors the medical use of radiation for humans. The procedures, equipment can be the same.

But there are differences, including the types of workers in veterinary medicine, the location where services are provided and other hazards that may impact radiation protection and safety.

Throughout the presentations and the discussion, many challenges were identified which lead to the conclusion that there is a crucial need to raise awareness of both the practitioners and the regulators on these with particularly a fundamental and urgent need to ensure appropriate education and training.

The dedicated Safety Report that was presented is being published. It will certainly help the regulators for licensing and inspecting these activities. Possible initiatives were also discussed on how to further promote this report and its application.

In more details, the meeting highlighted the following key elements:

- The need to improve the regulators understanding of the radiation protection challenges in radiation used in veterinary medicine.
- The safety report can help the regulators when evaluation, licensing and inspection in veterinary medicine.
- It is important to provide the professionals in veterinary medicine with a resource with practical radiation protection and safety guidance to protect workers and the public from unexpected exposure to radiation.