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PRESS RELEASE

Veterinarians asked to 'Run to help beat Rabies in Africa' as Registration for WSAVA 2015 Fun(d) Run Opens!

Delegates to [WSAVA World Congress 2015](#) are being urged to raise funds to control rabies in Africa by signing up for the third 'Fun(d) Run' organized by the WSAVA's charitable Foundation.

WSAVA World Congress takes place in Bangkok, Thailand, from 15-18 May 2015. A 5 km run and 3 km walking course through the heart of the city are being created and the event will take place during Congress. Proceeds will be used by the WSAVA Foundation's AFSCAN initiative to help launch a project in Africa to fight rabies in the most exposed countries and areas.

The African Small Companion Animal Network (AFSCAN), launched in early 2014, aims to advance standards of veterinary care across Africa through facilitating the creation of a sustainable network of companion animal veterinarians, associations and specialist groups in Sub-Saharan Africa. One Health is a focus for AFSCAN, making the surveillance and control of diseases, such as rabies, a priority for activity. AFSCAN has Zoetis as its major supporter.

Commenting, Dr Gabriel Varga, Chairman of the AFSCAN Board and Director of Business Operations for Zoetis North Europe region, said: "The AFSCAN project has ambitious goals

to transform the veterinary landscape across Africa and to make strides in controlling dangerous but preventable diseases, such as rabies.

"Our event in Bangkok will be our Third Fun(d) Run and we are delighted at the enthusiastic support it is receiving, which grows every year. More than 300 veterinarians braved challenging weather to take part in the event in Cape Town in September 2014!

"The proceeds from both of our previous runs were donated to Mission Rabies, a project led by Worldwide Veterinary Services (WVS) and Dogs Trust, which is contributing to work to eliminate rabies from the world by 2030 by running mass dog vaccination campaigns in disease hotspots in India and Africa.

"Our WSAVA Foundation Fun(d) Run and Walk for 2015 will be even bigger and better, with medals for the fastest 15 men and women. We hope it will be very well supported to enable us to get our rabies project, which we are running in partnership with Mission Rabies, off to the best possible start.

"We hope all delegates will want to take part, either in the Fun(d) Run itself or in the more leisurely walk - and that they will encourage their friends to sign up too!"

The WSAVA Foundation's Fun(d) Runs are kindly supported by Hill's Pet Nutrition and Zoetis. [Register now](#) to participate in the 2015 Fun(d) Run.



Participants taking part in the 2014 Fun(d) Run in Cape Town

Notes to editors:

About AFSCAN

The AFSCAN project, the first phase of which runs from April 2014 until April 2016, has been developed by the WSAVA Foundation with the backing of the global animal health company Zoetis and a Consortium of other supporters. Its Project Board is chaired by Dr Gabriel Varga, President of the WSAVA Foundation and Director at Zoetis and includes Professor Michael Day (University of Bristol, UK, and WSAVA Foundation); Dr Theo Kanellos and Mr Greg Andrews (Zoetis); Dr Remo Lobetti (referral practitioner, South Africa) and Dr Alex Thiermann (OIE).

Other supporters and sponsors of AFSCAN include the OIE, the North American Veterinary Community (NAVC) and veterinary digital content provider Vetstream; veterinary charity Worldwide Veterinary Services and its Mission Rabies Project; global veterinary equipment supplier KRUUSE; the Morris Animal Foundation; healthcare advertising agency Circa Health; the University of Veterinary Medicine in Kosice and the WSAVA.

About Zoetis

[Zoetis](http://www.zoetis.com) (zô-EH-tis) is the leading animal health company, dedicated to supporting its customers and their businesses. Building on more than 60 years of experience in animal health, Zoetis discovers, develops, manufactures and markets veterinary vaccines and medicines, complemented by diagnostic products and genetic tests and supported by a range of services. In 2013, the company generated annual revenue of \$4.6 billion. With approximately 9,800 employees worldwide at the beginning of 2014, Zoetis has a local presence in approximately 70 countries, including 27 manufacturing facilities in 10 countries. Its products serve veterinarians, livestock producers and people who raise and care for farm and companion animals in 120 countries. For more information, visit www.zoetis.com.

About Hill's Pet Nutrition

Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc. manufactures Hill's® Prescription Diet® brand pet foods, therapeutic pet foods available only through veterinarians, Hill's® Science Diet® and the new Hill's® Ideal Balance™ brand pet foods sold through veterinarians and finer pet specialty stores. Founded more than 60 years ago with a unique commitment to pet nutrition and well-being, Hill's is committed to its mission to help enrich and lengthen the special relationships between people and their pets. Hill's produces high-quality, great-tasting pet foods owners can trust and give to their canine and feline companions as part of a veterinary health care team recommendation. For more information about Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc., and Hill's Evidence-Based Clinical Nutrition™ visit HillsPet.com, or visit us on Facebook, keywords "Hill's Pet Nutrition."

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