

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AnimalhealthEurope welcomes new rules on animal medicines

Brussels, 13 June 2018; AnimalhealthEurope welcomes the outcomes agreed by the negotiators for the new rules on animal medicines which should help to deliver greater access to a wide range of animal medicines to improve animal health management and animal welfare in Europe.

Echoing a comment from the association's President Wijnand de Bruijn at their 7 June event on ['Innovation in Animal Health and Sustainable Livestock Production'](#), AnimalhealthEurope Secretary General Roxane Feller said, *"We see light at the end of the tunnel, but it's a long tunnel. We now hope for a rapid application of the provisions so that we can improve the availability of animal health solutions for more animals, in more countries in Europe. The new rules lend to a much-improved system which can ensure more medicines become available simultaneously across Europe. This is good news for farmers, vets and pet owners, particularly in smaller member states who have previously not had many solutions readily available or accessible."*

The new rules include a number of positives in terms of medicine safety and addressing antibiotic resistance. A more responsive and risk-based pharmacovigilance system will ensure the continued safety of licensed medicines, and a single EU product database, linked to the EU pharmacovigilance database will help to provide a better overview of products available for use.

When it comes to rules on antibiotics, Roxane Feller commented, *"We welcome the plans for the establishment of a list of 'Critically Important Antibiotics' for human health based on scientific advice from the EMA and European agencies, and lend our support to clear rules regarding the ban of routine prophylactic use of antibiotics in line with the industry's responsible use of medicines approach."*

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Notes for Editors:

- Today, 13 June the Council prepares its approval of the new Regulation on Veterinary Medicines, to be approved in the Environment Committee of the European Parliament on 20 June, before going to plenary later this year.
- [AnimalhealthEurope](#) is the representative body of manufacturers of veterinary medicines, vaccines and other animal health products in Europe. It represents innovators and generics alike, as well as large, medium-sized and small companies. AnimalhealthEurope promotes a single market in veterinary medicines across the EU ensuring the availability of medicines to protect the health and welfare of animals.