

Workshop Evaluation Summary

Overall Evaluation

Participants were asked to complete a survey at the end of the workshop. All 35 attendees responded to this request.

- 89% rated the workshop as excellent to very good (or 100% excellent-good)
- 91% rated the sessions very useful to useful
- 92% of the regulators heard something they will apply to their work as a regulator
- 100% of those who answered this question said the workshop helped to work towards more and better regional cooperation/convergence

The moderator and the excellent organisation by DIA were highly appreciated and the workshop book was regarded as very professional.

Attendance

Confirmed delegates: 41

Final number of delegates: 35 from 16 countries; 6 no-shows (14%)

13 delegates from Asian priority countries

Sessions

Many positive comments were received, both during the sessions and afterwards. Participants found most sessions equally useful and indicated that they learned a lot.

They specified information they would now apply to their work as regulator and information from all the different sessions was mentioned here. Key points were:

- Collaboration at all levels
- Open meetings with applicants
- Standardised export certificates
- Risk-based review
- Pharmacovigilance
- Record keeping

Suggestions for improvement

A point of criticism was that some important countries were missing, particularly more delegates from ASEAN countries would be an improvement (e.g. Thailand and South Korea).

Also some of the sessions could use more time. A lot of content was covered for the time available, leading to information overload. It might be better to decrease the number of sessions and increase the time per session, however when asked about the different topics participants indicated to be satisfied with the content and all sessions were seen as relevant.

Missing topics

When asked if any topic was missing the following topics were mentioned:

- Explanation on VICH guidelines and VICH Outreach Forum
- Food safety issues related to VMP authorisation
- The role of veterinarians in achieving the workshop objectives

How did this meeting contribute to better convergence

- By getting to know people from the region and seeing that most regulators in the room see the benefits of such an approach
- The need for cooperation because of the lack of capacity to implement appropriate regulatory standards
- Understanding that the starting point is different in different regions

Future meetings

- It was suggested to organise this workshop in Latin America as well as in Africa
- A follow up meeting in Asia including all ASEAN countries was also recommended
- Capacity building workshops on specific topics were suggested, e.g. full GMP inspection, dossier assessments, pharmacovigilance etc.

Suggestions for further actions

- To make all the information (presentations, workbook) publicly available
- To share contact details of participants to facilitate continuing contact between them

Lessons learnt by the organisers

- A good moderator is essential for a successful workshop. Claire made a big difference
- The Workshop work book was a good idea
- Could a more central location to the target region attract more delegates?
- Contact delegates early; do not rely on letters of invitation; personal follow-up to explain the event and encourage attendance is important and could have been done earlier.