



Dr. Paul Egesa

For Vice Chairman, Kenya Veterinary Association

While my proclivity as a veterinarian so far has largely been in the technical field of livestock breeding and reproductive technologies, today I throw in my hat into the ring for your worthy consideration for veritable service to this noble profession.

While veterinary has been my occupation and vocation for the last 25 years, the noble profession has also been a fulfillment of a lifelong passion during which I have had the privilege to work in diverse veterinary capacities in the private and public sectors.

From my early and nascent engagement as a veterinary professional working with Laboratory and Allied pharmaceuticals as a sales representative from 1995 to 1996, I joined Kenya Animal Genetic Resources Centre (KAGRC), then Central Artificial Insemination Station as a Veterinary Officer in 1997 where I currently serve as the Director Research and Technical Services. Over the last 23 years, I have been an integral part of the transformation of KAGRC from a fully government dependent institution to a dynamic semi-autonomous Government agency.

During my tour of duty at KAGRC, I responded to the need to avail the Centre's products and services directly to consumers. Driven by this, the Centre introduced agencies countrywide strictly for veterinarians. This underpins my belief in the versatility of the private sector in service delivery which has gone a long way in improvement of AI service delivery in the country.

I have also directly contributed to bringing KAGRC up from a stud with annual semen production of 200,000 doses to the current capacity to produce 2 million doses, sufficient to meet our national and regional needs. Beyond my official calling in Senior Management, I am also a hands on veterinarian albeit with a bias to the reproductive realm. I have provided voluntary service for over 20 years to the Agricultural Society of Kenya and the Livestock breeders show and sale as a steward and judge for Boran, Beef and Dual Purpose breeds. I am a certified Boran cattle inspector and Judge, and member of the Boran Cattle Breeders Society. In this respect, I have on occasion been invited to judge Livestock shows outside Kenya.

By virtue of my passion and dedication, I have also had the opportunity to participate in the design, development and operationalization of various AI centres on the continent, including the second bull station in Kenya at ADC Kitale. I have also had technical and professional training and engagements with the different global leaders in reproductive technologies. Through such liaison, I have been key to resource mobilization from development partners that has driven the transformation of KAGRC. Most recently, I spearheaded the development of a program to establish a goat stud in AHITI- Ndomba that is currently under construction.

All along, I have remained committed to staff development and I have continually nurtured new and younger veterinarians by equipping them with necessary exposure, skills and knowledge. I have been instrumental in developing a pool of technicians in Kenya and the wider African arena in field of livestock reproduction technologies.

I have been a key proponent for safeguarding global biological biodiversity and conservation of Animal Genetic resources. In this respect, I serve on the National Advisory Committee on Animal Genetic Resources. I continue to be part of the team that developed Kenya's country report that formed the State of the World report on Animal Genetic resources. I was also a key participant in the development of the National Strategy and action Plan for conservation of animal genetic resources in Kenya.

I have been a consultant and trainer in reproduction technologies for International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) funded programmes in Sierra Leone, Eritrea, and Zimbabwe. I have been a lead

in training of veterinarians and Veterinary paraprofessionals in semen processing and AI from Anglophone African countries including Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Cameroon, Zimbabwe, Sierra Leon, Malawi and Zambia.

I am a public spirited individual who believes in giving back to society. In this vein, I serve on the board of management of Nambale Urban Mixed Secondary school. Previously I served in the same capacity in Alung'oli Secondary School as chairman and St. Augustine Nasira Mixed Secondary School.

My world view has been greatly influenced in part by my training in diverse and varied fields. I have undertaken training in Strategic Leadership Development Programme, Kenya School of Government, 2014. I have additionally also undertaken Training of Trainers on Breeding Data Management in AI Systems, structure and organization of AI services, milk progesterone assay for pregnancy diagnosis, Artificial Insemination Database Application (AIDA) Software and Semen Production and Records Management (SPARM) Software with the International Atomic Energy Agency in collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (Rabat Morocco), 2002 and Department of Agricultural Research- Gaborone, Botswana, 2008

I also undertook the International Dairy Short Course (University of Wisconsin – Madison, USA, 2004), the Bovine Semen Processing and Reproduction Biotechnologies IMV Technologies (France, 2013), Embryo Transfer Technology, National Embryo Transfer School, (Senatobia, Mississippi USA, 2004), the Multiple Ovulation and Embryo Transfer (MOET) Technology, National Animal Genetic Resources Centre and Data Bank (Entebbe Uganda, 2003), the Gene bank Development for the Conservation of Animal Genetic Resources, International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA) (Tunis, Tunisia, 2009), and Establishment of National and Regional Gene banks for Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA) Region – International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)/ ASARECA (Addis Ababa Ethiopia, 2010).

Why Egesa?

During my wide and varied work engagements I have had the opportunity to interact with and interrogate the status of the veterinary profession in different jurisdictions in Africa, and indeed the world. It is therefore, my humble submission that I am deserving of your honored endorsement to take the veterinary profession in Kenya to the next level and align it with the best global standards. I remain convinced that the Kenyan veterinary profession has the requisite standards, expertise and professionalism to rise to the challenge.