



American Veterinary One Health Society

www.avesociety.org

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Founders: Karl F. Meyer & James H. Steele

Almost 30 years ago, the Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases (ProMED) was launched as an Internet-based service to identify events related to emerging, re-emerging, and endemic infectious diseases and toxins affecting humans, animals, plants, and all-natural life in the world. Public health, animal health, researchers in health sciences and environmental health experts throughout the world have contributed to a global network where data is mined, summarized, monitored and interpreted to create an early warning system for potential threats such as SARS, Chikungunya, Ebola, Zika, MERS, Influenza and COVID-19, among many others. Unfortunately, the very existence of ProMED is at risk because a sustainable open-source, freely accessible-to-all system necessitates funding that is no longer available. The President of the American Veterinary One Health Society (AVOHS) and its Board of Directors are reaching out to you because we believe that you want to preserve ProMED services at all costs.

We feel strongly that One Health, Public Health, and scientific leaders must come together to rescue this vital resource that has served as a common network for health information sharing and collaboration for almost thirty years. The loss of the ProMED program would create a grave void in a world where health risks are climbing precipitously, for both naturally occurring and intentional health threats. We hereby officially request your organization's and/or personal endorsement of the commitment outlined in this letter, to demonstrate the importance of ProMED to potential investors and leaders who are like-minded in wanting to protect health and security for across the globe. Please let us know as soon as possible if you and/or your organization are comfortable signing and returning this proposal. This will give us permission to include your name and/or organization as a staunch supporter for the ProMED system. In this vein, please send us your ideas on how we might be able to acquire the funding to sustain ProMED on into the future.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. If you have any questions or wish to discuss further, please contact me (kambecker6260@gmail.com) and/or our Executive Director, Dr/BG John Poppe at exec.dir@avohsociety.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen M. Becker
President, AVOHS



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