



## World congress of pig veterinarians to meet in Africa for the first time

**South Africa selected over China, Japan and Canada at the world congress of pig veterinarians in Hamburg / Current congress in Hamburg is the most successful in IPVS history**

2004-07-01 (Hamburg) – The 20th world congress of pig veterinarians will be held in South Africa in 2008. The decision was made this morning by the general assembly of the 18th congress of pig veterinarians, which closed today in Hamburg. This will see the congress, which is organised by the International Pig Veterinary Society (IPVS), being staged on the Dark Continent for the first time. “We have the healthiest pigs in the world,” said the scientific director of the South African IPVS, **Dr. Pieter Vervoort**, on the decision, “The congress will give us the chance to show the world what Africa is all about,” he went on to say. China, Japan and Canada had also put in bids for the 2008 congress.

The universities of Pretoria (South Africa) and Utrecht (Netherlands) will be supporting the organisation of the event in Durban in 2008, and the congress motto will be “Enhancing pig herd health.”

The 18th world congress of pig veterinarians closed at lunchtime today in the Congress Centrum Hamburg with the vote and the handover of the presidency to Denmark. With just under 2,500 participants and 850 scientific first publications, this has been the biggest conference since the IPVS was founded in 1967.

Today also saw the end of the international IPVS presidency for **Henning Bossow** from Lower Saxony. The new president is the Dane **Bent Nielsen**, who will be organising the next congress in Copenhagen in 2006. The new IPVS secretary is **Christoph Pahlitzsch**, a practising veterinarian from Lower Saxony.

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