



April 8, 2023

Dear WFPHA Awards Committee and Governing Council:

Thank you so much. The [One Health Commission](#) (OHC) is greatly honored to receive the WFPHA Climate and Health Action Award for 2023. What a pleasant surprise!

We would additionally like to thank WFPHA member Dr. Ulrich Laaser for nominating the OHC for this award. Dr. Laaser has embraced the One Health concept and worked along-side the OHC on a number of initiatives highlighting our urgent global need to implement One Health thinking, acting and living at all levels of academia, government, policy and research.

For WFPHA participants who are not yet familiar, [One Health is a global, integrated, unifying approach](#) that aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people, animals and ecosystems. It recognizes and creates awareness that the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, plants, and the wider environment (including ecosystems) are inextricably inter-dependent.

The One Health movement mobilizes multiple sectors, disciplines and communities at varying levels of society to work together to foster well-being and tackle threats to health and ecosystems, while addressing the collective need for clean water, energy and air, safe and nutritious food, taking action on climate changes and contributing to sustainable development. There are so many of our most wicked challenges that are begging to be addressed by joining hands across disciplines and professions in One Health collaborations.

The One Health Commission is just one of [many organizations](#) around the world working to implement this paradigm shift that will bridge the many silos created by our current systems. Interested individuals can learn more about its work in this [overview document](#). Perhaps WFPHA members will want to participate in the annual global [One Health Day](#) that was launched in 2016 and/or follow our monthly [One Health Happenings](#) newsletter.

We also wish to thank all the [organizational sponsors](#) of the One Health Commission. Without their financial support there is no way we could do all that we do.

Finally, we are grateful to Dr. Annapaola Rizzoli of the Edmund Mach Foundation Research and Innovation Center, the first One Health center in Italy, who will be accepting this award in person in Rome on our behalf.

The One Health Commission is honored, via this award, to share the One Health concept with the WFPHA and the broader international public health community. It makes us feel good that WFPHA values what we are working toward and motivates us to continue and to expand our efforts.

Thank You, again, for this very kind award.

Warmly,

Cheryl Stroud, DVM, PhD  
Executive Director  
One Health Commission