Paravet graduation certificates signed for the first time by Ministry of Agriculture

On the 3rd of October 2016, DCA celebrated the graduation of 15 paravets, 5 women and 10 men,- in Mazar-e-Sharif. The graduation ceremony was inaugurated by a speech of Dr Zia Formuly of DCA Mazar. He welcomed all participants and congratulated the 15 graduates, wishing them every success in their future career as paravet. He also transferred conveyed the congratulations of Dr Raymond Briscoe, DCA Executive Director. Dr Briscoe in addition thanked USAID/RADP-North for funding the training of these 15 paravets.

Congratulations were also received from Dr Ibrahim Frotan, Head of the Prevention and Disease Control Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL). Dr Frotan mentioned that MAIL appreciated DCA for its quality animal health services, and its fruitful coordination with MAIL. He told the graduating paravets that they were lucky as this was the first time that a representative of MAIL signed the DCA paravet certificates. A big step forwards in the recognition of the public-private partnership in the animal health and livestock sector!

After a series of speeches by representatives of RADP-N, DAIL, and DCA trainers, the paravets performed a role playing. They <u>played-acted as</u> newly graduated paravets who returned to their community and introduced themselves as being paravets now. They showed how to explain to the farmers that the <u>farmersy</u> could come to the paravet for any treatment or vaccination they needed for their livestock. Subsequently, two paravets (one male and one female) on behalf of all graduates expressed their gratitude to USAID/RADP-N, DCA, and the Regional Training Coordinator and Trainers.

The ceremony was concluded by a speech of Eng. Kateb Shams, General Director of DAIL in Balkh province. He stressed that thanks to this training of paravets also farmers in remote areas in Balkh and other provinces will have access to essential -animal health services now-.

Text edited from a report by Dr Hamed Nawabi, DCA Mazar Regional Training Coordinator

