



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry



Animal Welfare Workshop

6- 7 November 2007

Siam City Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand



Draft Report

Animal Welfare Workshop
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MONDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2007

Welcome Address

Dr Chaweewan, Deputy Director General of the Thai Government, Department of Livestock Development and vice president, OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania welcomed participant to the Animal Welfare Workshop and to Thailand. She summarised the objectives of the workshop which were to discuss the OIE Guidelines for Animal Welfare from an Asian perspective, drawing on Australian and regional experiences on animal handling and welfare and to consider the value of Asian countries, DAFF and OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania developing a strategy to implement the guidelines.

Dr Chaweewan wished participants well for a constructive workshop.

Dr Gardner Murray, the President of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania thanked Dr Chaweewan Leowijuk for her opening address and welcomed participants to the OIE/DAFF Animal Welfare Workshop. He also passed on the OIE Director General, Dr Vallat's, best wishes for a successful Workshop

Dr Murray was impressed by the number of people who were attending the meeting. 37 participants from 15 countries and 3 international organisations would attend the workshop (Attachment 1). This was a good mix of industry and government organisations.

Gardner Murray emphasised the importance of animal welfare and the increasing public attention being given to the subject. He said welfare could not be divorced from sound animal health practices and this is why OIE and animal health services in individual countries had key roles to play in supporting animal well being.

He pointed out OIE initiatives such as including animal welfare as a key component of its 3rd and 4th Strategic Plan and that land transport, sea transport, humane slaughter and killing for disease control guidelines had been approved by the International Committee. Guidelines under development were laboratory animal welfare, dog population control and animal welfare for production systems.

Given the importance Australia attaches to animal welfare and its considerable experience in policy development, research, handling and transport arrangements, the Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) had no hesitation in organizing and funding this joint OIE/DAFF

Workshop to discuss OIE guidelines and consider practical means of their implementation.

Similar OIE/DAFF Workshops were held in Bahrain in September 2005, Oman in November 2005 and Dubai in June 06. Dr Ghazi Yehia will discuss the outcomes of these meetings in his presentations and we can no doubt learn from the Middle East experience.

In conclusion, Dr Murray again thanked participants for making available their very valuable time to discuss the key global issue of animal welfare. He wished them well for a successful Workshop.

TUESDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2007

Welcome / Introduction

Dr Murray again welcomed participants to the Workshop.

He advised that the objective of the workshop was to discuss the OIE Guidelines for Animal Welfare from an Asian perspective drawing on Australian experiences on animal handling and welfare. A second objective was to consider the value of the OIE value of Asian countries, DAFF and OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania developing a strategy to implement the guidelines.

He said the first part of the Program (Attachment 2) would provide background information and allow time for some questioning. Issues covered would include: OIE Guidelines, Regional Perspectives, Industry Perspectives and International Initiatives.

This would be followed by a breakout session where 2 Groups would be formed to, inter alia, discuss the range and nature of welfare issues in the Region and consider what might be done to improve the situation in a practical and measured way.

Following reports from the 2 Groups recommendations on a way forward would be discussed.

He advised that participants would be given a CD with papers and presentations before they left and would receive a full draft report of the Workshop by the 16 November 2007 for comment. If the workshop agreed he said he would seek to present the workshop outcomes at the Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania meeting in Queenstown, New Zealand in November 2007.

In conclusion, he advised that Ms Kristy McPhillips would provide information on administrative and other arrangements immediately before morning tea.

PRESENTATIONS:

Outline of OIE Guidelines on Animal Welfare

Dr David Bayvel, Chair of the permanent OIE Animal Welfare Working Group.

Dr David Bayvel provided an overview of the OIE Guidelines for Animal Welfare. He presented a global overview of animal welfare trends, strategic emphases, OIE/WAHO achievements and other international initiatives.

He discussed the welfare versus' rights debate and the differences in animal welfare between the southern and northern hemisphere and some aspersions debated about the northern hemisphere being ahead of the southern hemisphere and developing countries verses non developed countries.

He said the OIE approach was to deal with welfare, not animal rights. OIE was trying to take a science based outcomes approach rather than one based purely on prescription. He stressed that animal welfare can not be used as a market access issue

He concluded by describing OIE's strategic objectives and key features such as stakeholder engagement.

In response to a WSPA question on the World Bank and its role in animal welfare, Dr Bayvel advised that the OIE works closely with the World Bank on both animal health and welfare issues. The two published International Finance Corporation documents (Quicknote and Good Practice Note) cross refer to the published OIE Guidelines and were the subject of formal consultation with key international stakeholders including WSPA. The role of the World Bank Group in contributing to the implementation of OIE Guidelines is likely to be included in the program for the second OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare to be held in October 2008 in Cairo Egypt.

Regional Perspectives on Animal Welfare

Republic of Korea

Mr Hwang Lee, Animal Protection and Welfare Division, National Veterinary Research Service

Mr Hwang Lee discussed the regional situation on animal welfare in the Republic of Korea from a government perspective. He described organisational structures in the Republic of Korea (RoK) dealing with animal welfare and the promulgation of the new Animal Production Law (APL) on 26 January 2007. There has been much discussion in the RoK on all aspects of animal welfare with considerable consumer and media interest in layer hens and intensive pig production. The APL covers companion animals, laboratory animals and farm animals such as

transport and slaughter. He advised that the government was previously focused on companion animal welfare but now is doing more work on farm animals.

Mr Lee noted EU efforts to include animal welfare in FTA negotiations and pointed out NGO's has been most helpful in providing advice to Government.

He advised that RoK has an animal welfare labeling system known as ORGA (meaning organic) Animal Welfare.

In response to questions from Indonesia and Thailand on enforcement, Mr Lee advised that prosecutions could be recommended by officials and fines applied. He said NGO's can report problems to the government officials.

In response to a question from WSPA, Mr Lee advised the RoK welfare barometer applied to companion animals at this point in time. It was generally agreed that in "barometer" approach was a good idea.

Mr Ian McIvor ALEC, complimented the Government of the RoK and its new legislation.

Indonesia

Dr Wiwiek Bagja, Indonesian Veterinary Medical Association

Dr Bagja discussed the regional situation on animal welfare in Indonesia from a government perspective. She advised on the animal welfare legislation had been in place since 1967.

A responsibility of the relevant sub Directorate in the Ministry of Agriculture is to prepare guidelines and training material. Deans in a number of key universities supported training in animal welfare.

Dr Bagja emphasised that legislation on itself was not the answer. There is a need to change culture and train often uneducated people in animal welfare. If these plus other obstacles mitigated against rapid improvements as did a lack of prioritisation of work, limited knowledgeable human resources and poor infrastructure which did not meet contemporary needs.

Dr Bagja concluded that animal welfare in Indonesia is still considered in a phase of introduction, done in form of public campaign and through education to government officials in related institutions. She said that regulation and technical guidance on animal welfare implementation are still in the phase of drafting with consideration of culture, custom, economy and religion aspects. She said despite the obvious obstacles efforts would be made to progressively improve approaches to animal welfare.

In response to a question from Pakistan on the management of stray dogs, Dr Bagja used as a case example the situation in Bali where actions included castration, spaying and if appropriate euthanasia.

Industry perspectives on Animal Welfare

South East Asia Industry - Animal Welfare Issues – Who shall lead the way

Dr Solomon Begnino Managing Director, FoodPro Consultancy

Dr Begnino discussed the regional situation on animal welfare in South East Asia, he said at times in the region a number of industry initiatives were bordering on cruelty and indifference. He suggested welfare could be looked at from an animal perspective and he expanded on this theme.

Dr Begnino summarized legislative developments in a number of countries in the region and some shortcomings. Legislation was key to progress and lack of enforcement was a major problem.

Some emphasis has been given to companion animal, but now greater attention was being to production animals. This was in large part due to the new genetics in the intensive production industries and attributable efforts.

He concluded by saying that producers would have to accommodate to the new “genetics”. Economic drivers including export potential for the larger segments of industry and small holders would lead to progressive improvements.

In response to a question from Vietnam on the relationship between hygiene and animal welfare, Dr Begnino said that good animal health and welfare practices were both necessary for the production of safe products.

Indonesia Industry - Animal Welfare Issues

Mr Teguh Boediyana, Executive Director, APFINDO

Mr Teguh Boediyana advised that his talk would deal with the specific's of the beef industry in Indonesia. He said that APFINDO is an association of those who have cattle and beef cattle businesses in Indonesia and there are 14 members and they import approximately 350,000 head per year and between them have 5000 to 10,000 head of feedlot capacity.

Mr Boediyana said Indonesia provides 70% of its product demand, smallholders providing the backbone of the supply. 30% of demand was met from importers including 350,000 head of feeder cattle from Australia and 50,000 tonnes of frozen beef and offal. Imported cattle are fattened in a feedlot for 2-3 months.

He emphasised the importance of good animal welfare practices to his industry and discussed cooperative projects with Australia at abattoirs and feedlots.

The LiveCorp representative expanded on Australian support including restraining boxes at abattoirs. Discussion on this point reinforced the value of such activities to support Halal slaughter, operator safety and improved meat hygiene.

WSPA asked a question on the forced hydration of animals. Advice provided indicated that the practice has been carried in central Java, Indonesia for 30 years. It is now illegal but some forced hydration still occurs.

Animal Welfare Issues

Ms Sofia Parente, World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA)

Ms Parente described the role and work of WSPA, the Asian Coalition for Food Animals, WSPA's work in China and its policy objectives to replace long distance transport of animals with meat. She advised that WSPA have 800 member societies from 148 countries and has two offices in Asia, in Bangkok and Beijing.

She advised of WSPA's consultative status with the Economic/Social Council of the United Nations, and of a MoU with OIE.

In discussing WSPA's views on banning long distance transport of animals, she said there had been clear welfare problems including up to 1% mortality rates in export sheep from Australia to the Middle East. She said that, in phasing out the livestock export trade, OIE standards should apply.

Ms Parente called for the introduction of OIE standards into national legislation.

Finally Ms Parente told the workshop of a global project that they have underway into replacing long distance transport of animals to slaughter with a frozen meat trade. She said that more animals than humans are transported in one day and that it is time to put an end to long distance transport but realises it is a long term goal as all participants in the production sector need to be involved.

In response to a question from Dr Bayvel, Ms Parente advised that the WSPA peer reviewed documents on banning the long distance transport to slaughter would be available next year.

International Initiatives

Welfare Challenges in the Middle Eastern countries

Mr Ghazi Yehia, OIE Regional Representative for the Middle East

Mr Ghazi Yehia gave an overview of the animal welfare challenges in Middle Eastern Countries. He said animal welfare was a very wide and complex subject. It included animal health and production.

He said the Middle Eastern countries commonly operated “through the heart” on the basis of religious beliefs and human ethics. There had been interest in animal health, production and welfare in the region since the time of Hammurabi 3000 years ago.

Three workshops have been held in the region leading to the development of a Regional Strategic Plan, outputs and implementation arrangements. There was no conflict between OIE standards and religious requirements.

Dr Yehia described the proposed Animal Health Decree for the Middle East and said the Middle East was the most advanced OIE region in the development of animal welfare issues. He invited participants to the OIE Cairo Conference scheduled for October 2008.

Australian Legislative Framework

Ms Kristy McPhillips, Australian Government, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry

Ms Kristy McPhillips outlined the Australian legislative framework. She advised that under the Constitution, state and territory governments are responsible for animal production and welfare within their jurisdictions. Although the Australian Government does not have legislative responsibility for this issue, it plays a leadership role by engaging the states and territories in the development of *Model Codes of Practice for the Welfare of Animals*. The Model Codes of Practice are in place to define acceptable animal management practices, to promote humane and considerate treatment of animals, good husbandry practices, and to inform all people responsible for the care and management of animals about their responsibilities.

Ms McPhillips advised that the Australian Government provides the legislative and administrative framework which underpins livestock export. State and territory governments provide and administer animal welfare legislation, which applies to all participants in the live export chain.

Ms McPhillips also discussed the Australian governments, which includes, federal, state and territory and local government along with animal welfare lobby groups, the animal industries, the research community and the veterinary profession development and implementation of the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy (AAWS). The AAWS provides a national framework for animal welfare that aims to maintain and improve the high standards of animal welfare that currently exist in Australia. The AAWS will ensure the ‘welfare of all animals in Australia is promoted and protected by the development and adoption of sound animal welfare standards and practices’.

She concluded by saying Australia has high level animal welfare standards for all uses of animals and that the Australian Government consults widely in all standards and guidelines developed by the government.

Australian Export Industry

Dr Danielle Marotti, Meat and Livestock Australia & Mr Cameron Hall, LiveCorp

Dr Danielle Marotti and Mr Cameron Hall outlined how the Australian livestock export industry operates.

Dr Marotti outlined the three research and development activities MLA was managing including land transportation, the “Fit to Load” guide and the “Fit to Export” guide. She described the design and preliminary results of the cattle transportation project for 6, 12, 24 and 48 hours of travel and advised the scientific paper for the project will be published in early 2008.

Ms Marotti concluded by saying the welfare research program shows the significant commitment of the sheep and cattle industry to providing rigorous science based information to inform the welfare debate and underpin the development of welfare standards. As an example the research looking at welfare outcomes from different transport durations has been essential in informing the drafting of the Australian land transport standards. The communication activities also demonstrate the ongoing commitment of industry to increasing awareness of animal welfare within industry and their support for development of proactive communication materials.

Mr Cameron Hall opened his address by stating long haul livestock transport could be carried out professionally and humanely. He said Australia had the highest shipping standards and much research was being funded to reduce mortality rates from 0.18% to 0.9% respectively.

He described cooperative work being carried out at cooperative feedlots in Indonesian; stunning in the Philippines; slaughter house design in the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia; the husbandry of cattle under palms in East Malaysia including Sabah, Sarawak and Peninsula Malaysia.

He concluded by saying that sound animal welfare practices was intrinsically good and made good commercial sense as well.

In response to a question from WSPA, Dr Marotti said that her work on land transportation of cattle would be peer reviewed and published. The paper would not deal with behavioural issues. Discussion indicated the importance of developing simple objective measures to determine stress, the need to cooperate and coordinate research activities and the importance of training animal handlers.

Breakout Session

The workshop participants were divided into two groups

Group 1 and Group 2 spokesperson presented their groups discussion. Reports of the breakout groups can be found attachment 3 and 4.

Dr Murray in summarizing the presentations of the breakout groups said there were a number of common themes, they were as follows:

- The importance of recognising cultural religious, ethical and social issues.
- The level and nature of training and education needs.
- The need for public awareness
- The importance of countries providing details of focal/contact points to OIE
- The value of writing a broad based strategic plan for the region with recommendations on implementation.
- Recognition of the fact that incremental approaches were appropriate.
- A need to work closely with NGO's, industry and academic institutions.
- The value of outcomes focused standards and guidelines.
- The need to consider in due course matters of socio-economic importance including incentive structures and cost/benefit.

A number of issues were raised during plenary session discussion including:

- The need to modify human behaviour patterns;
- Supply chain welfare issues recognizing that countries and parts of countries will have different priorities for attention;
- The importance of private industries and NGO's in supporting animal welfare improvements;
- The value of articulating broad based policy/strategic approaches for general application with customization of country needs;
- The use of objective standards and where they might be applied and under what conditions; and
- The importance of socio-economic assessments to provide a basis for introducing good welfare practices.

Recommendations

The participants fully supported the development of a broad based strategic plan for the region with recommendations on implementation would be useful in achieving improvements in animal welfare in the Asian countries. It was noted that this could follow the model we have facilitated in the Middle East. Thus there would be a need for further extension work to continue build upon the outcomes of the workshop.

The workshop agreed upon 9 recommendations to further the adoption of OIE consistent Animal welfare guidelines throughout the region to facilitate improved arrangements for production animals. They were as follows:

1. NOTED and SUPPORTED OIE policies and strategies on animal welfare including the development of Standards and guidelines.
2. AGREED that countries should provide OIE with the names and addresses of animal welfare focal points.
3. AGREED OIE should give consideration to providing training for nominated focal points.
4. AGREED that a writing group be formed to draft a broad based regional animal welfare strategy for consideration by OIE in May 2008 and countries in the region.
5. NOTED Australia would fund the meeting of the writing group.
6. AGREED that documentation formulated at the workshop breakout sessions, together with the records of the meeting be used to inform the writing group in its work.
7. AGREED that the writing group should provide broad guidance on the implementation and the establishment of a regional animal welfare coordination working group comprising of key stakeholders.
8. AGREED that Dr Murray should report to the Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania meeting in Queenstown in November on the outcomes of the workshop.
9. NOTED the draft report of the workshop will be distributed to participants by 14 November 2007.

Conclusion:

Dr Murray advised that the recommendations are open for comment for a two-week period until 28 November 2007, with the expectation that the recommendations would be adopted in the absence of objections. This would allow Dr Murray to present the Workshop Report and Recommendations to the Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania meeting in Queenstown in November 2007.

A WSPA representative advised the workshop of the Universal Declaration on Animal Welfare, a WSPA initiative to have a global and formal recognition of animals as sentient beings. She said the Universal Declaration on Animal Welfare will encourage governments and intergovernmental agencies worldwide to take actions that will produce benefits for animals, people and the environment alike – benefits that are important for the members of the United Nations (UN) and the UN Millennium Development Goals. She advised that WSPA is aiming to have a resolution adopted by the UN in 2010 and a number of countries, such as the Philippines have already taken the lead in terms of promoting the UDAW in the international arena. WSPA would therefore like to invite other countries in Asia to promote UDAW in their countries and internationally.

Closing Ceremony:

Dr Chaweewan thanked participants for their involvement in a successful meeting. She also thanked DAFF for funding the workshop. She concluded by saying she agreed with the recommendations and wished participants a safe return to their homelands.

Dr Murray also thanked the participants again for making time to attend the workshop and expressed his willingness to discuss this issue at any time and to receive inquiries.

Dr Murray thanked the Thai Department of Livestock Development, speakers and participants for their contributions. He also expressed his appreciation to DAFF for funding the workshop and to Kristy McPhillips for organising a most successful workshop and to Nicky Hungerford for her assistance during the workshop.



ANIMAL WELFARE WORKSHOP

PARTICIPANTS LIST

Name	Organisation	Country
Dr Gardner Murray	Consultant/ Chair	Australia
Ms Kristy McPhillips	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	Australia
Dr Linda Corner	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australian Embassy Thailand	Australia
Dr Bill Matthews	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	Australia
Dr Danielle Marotti	Meat and Livestock Australia	Australia
Mr Cameron Hall	LiveCorp	Australia
Mr Ian McIvor	Australian Livestock Exporters Council	Australia
Dr David Bayvel	Chair of the permanent OIE Animal Welfare Working Group & Biosecurity Authority, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	New Zealand
Ms Sofia Parente	World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) - Asia	
Dr Kate Blaszak	World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) - Asia	
Dr Chaweewan Leowijuk	Department of Livestock Development	Thailand
Dr Ronello Abila	OIE SEAFMD Regional Coordination Unit	Thailand
Ms Nicky Hungerford	OIE SEAFMD Regional Coordination Unit	Thailand
Dr Ghazi Yehia	OIE Regional Commission for the Middle East	Lebanon
Mr Teguh Boediyana	APFINDO	Indonesia
Dr Solomon Benigno	Food Pro Consulting	
Dr ETTY Wuryaningsih	Directorate of Veterinary Public Health	Indonesia
Dr Wiwiek Bagja	Indonesian Veterinary Medical Association	Indonesia
Mr Zafarullah Baloch	Livestock & Dairy Development	Pakistan



	Department, Government of Balochistan	
Mr Muqarrab Ali Khan	Livestock & Diary Development Department, Peshawar	Pakistan
Mr Moon Kap Kim	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Republic of Korea
Mr Hwang Lee	National Veterinary Research Quarantine Service (NVQRS)	Republic of Korea
Dr Victor Atienza	Bureau of Animal Industry	Philippines
Dr Angel Antonio Mateo	Bureau of Animal Industry	Philippines
Dr Khin Maung Win	Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department	Myanmar
Dr Myint Htay	Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department	Myanmar
Dr Dam Xuan Thanh	Department of Animal Health	Vietnam
Dr Tran Ngoc Thang	Department of Animal Health	Vietnam
Dr Pennapa Matayompong	Department of Livestock Development	Thailand
Dr Than Sovyra	Department of Animal Health and Production	Cambodia
Dr Fhaisol Bin Mat Amin	Department of Veterinary Services	Malaysia
Dr Redzuan Bin Ibrahim	Department of Veterinary Services	Malaysia
Dr Leow Su Hua	Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority	Singapore
Dr Li Weihua	China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center, Ministry of Agriculture	China
Ms Wu Pei-I	Bureau of animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine	Chinese Taipei
	Council of Agriculture	
Ms Chou Wen-Ling	Animal Industry Department Council of Agriculture	Chinese Taipei



ANIMAL WELFARE WORKSHOP

*Organised and sponsored by the Australian Government, Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry*

6-7 November 2007

**Kamolmart Room
Siam City Hotel
BANGKOK, THAILAND**

PROGRAM

WORKSHOP CHAIR: Dr Gardner Murray

WELCOME RECEPTION

6.30pm – 8pm, Monday 5 November 2007

Location: Kamolporn 1 Room, Siam City Hotel

Registration: 5:30pm – 6:30pm

Welcome Addresses:

- Dr Chaweewan Leowijuk, Deputy Directory General, Department of Livestock Development.
- Dr Gardner Murray, President OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania.



ANIMAL WELFARE WORKSHOP

Tuesday 6 November 2007

Registration: 8am – 9am – Kamolmart Room, Siam City Hotel

TIME	ISSUE	PRESENTER
9.00am	Welcome/Introduction	Dr Gardner Murray, President OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania
9.10am	World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Guidelines for Animal Welfare <i>Question time available</i>	Dr David Bayvel Chair of the permanent OIE Animal Welfare Working Group.
9.45am	Regional Perspectives on Animal Welfare: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Korea ▪ Indonesia <i>Questions & Answers – 5 mins each</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr Hwang Lee, NVRQS ▪ Dr Wiwiek Bagja, Indonesian Veterinarian Association
10.30am	MORNING TEA	
11am	Industry perspectives on Animal Welfare: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ South East Asia Animal Welfare Issues ▪ Indonesian animal welfare issues ▪ WSPA <i>Questions & Answers – 5 mins each</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr Solomon Begnino, FoodPro Consultancy ▪ Teguh Boediyana, APFINDO ▪ Ms Sofia Parente, WSPA
11.45am	International Initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Welfare Challenges in the Middle Eastern countries ▪ Australian regulatory framework ▪ Australian Export Industry <i>Questions & Answers – 5 mins each</i>	Mr Ghazi Yehia , OIE Middle East Ms Kristy McPhillips, DAFF Dr Danielle Marotti, MLA & Mr Cameron Hall, LiveCorp
1.00pm	LUNCH – Patummat Restaurant	
2.15pm	Plenary Discussion	Gardner Murray
2.45pm	Breakout session to discuss animal welfare issues in the region	Participants will be divided into 2 groups
3.30pm	AFTERNOON TEA	
4.00pm	Breakout session continued	
5.00pm	Close – Day 1	Dr Gardner Murray

**OFFICIAL DINNER HOSTED BY THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES & FORESTRY**

7pm - Pre-dinner drinks: Garden Pavilion

7.30pm - Dinner: Spice & Rice, Private room on the 2nd floor - Siam City Hotel



ANIMAL WELFARE WORKSHOP

Wednesday 7 November 2007

TIME	ISSUE	PRESENTER
9.00am	Review of outcomes from Day 1	Dr Gardner Murray
9.15am	Report on breakout session discussions	Chair of each group
10.10am	Plenary Discussion	Workshop Participants
11.00am	Next steps/other issues - Recommendations	Dr Gardner Murray
11.30am	Closing Ceremony	Dr Gardner Murray & Dr Chaweewan Leowijuk
12pm	LUNCH- Patummat Restaurant	



ANIMAL WELFARE WORKSHOP GROUP 1 Report

Question 1: What are the key issues/problems on animal welfare in countries, regions and sub-region?

- Outline the key differences and , if any.
- What are the priority areas?
 - Must recognize the differences in religious, cultural, local conditions, and that the OIE guidelines must take note of these important considerations.
 - There is a need to increase awareness through all levels of personnel/staff through more training and education.
 - There is a need for harmonisation as different messages are articulated by different stakeholders which can be confusing for public. Stakeholders should come together to come up with agreed positions. OIE-DAFF workshop is a good example.
 - Myanmar said that there is a need for gradual and sustainable development of animal welfare programs, taking into consideration various social, ecological & conservational issues to achieve harmony and balance.
 - There is a perceived need for OIE to take lead in training and provision of refresher courses for member countries.

Question 2: What are the values of the OIE Guidelines for Animal welfare progressing animal welfare issues?

- *What OIE Guidelines should be developed?*

[OIE Guidelines currently under development include laboratory animal welfare, dog population control, wild animals, and animal welfare for production systems.]

- Taiwan said that the OIE guidelines provide a good reference point to base standards on.
 - Pakistan said that it is important to have legislation that can enforce guidelines.
 - New Zealand where concerned with the lack of feedback from member countries on draft OIE guidelines and suggested member countries should appoint an animal welfare focal/contact point.
 - Singapore suggested OIE develop guidelines on stray cat population management.
 - WSPA advised that aquatic animal welfare is important especially when fish farming is becoming a major source of fish and wild caught volumes fall.
 - Pakistan advised that Governments can work with NGOs eg WSPA on natural disaster emergency preparedness & response.
 - Pakistan also suggested that the best animal welfare practices should be documented to raise awareness of what is possible to achieve.
-



Question 3: How can we improve the animal welfare situation in the region/countries?

- **What options are worth considering? Eg the development of a strategic 'umbrella' plan to support in country activities.**
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 - It was suggested that regional /national animal welfare coordination groups could be established to bring together all stakeholders to assist in implementation of OIE Guidelines, and address other regional/national issues.
 - The GCC strategic plan drawn up after 2004 OIE conference and the Middle East 8th regional commission conference in Bahrain 2005 could be used as a possible model for the region or sub region. The group noted the importance of using a questionnaire to establish priority needs & points of commonality within the region to develop Strategic Plan.
 - It was agreed that translating the OIE guidelines into national languages would be very useful in implementing the OIE guidelines.
 - The production of illustrated pamphlets to capture key messages of OIE guidelines in simpler format to reach wider audience would also be useful.
 - It was noted that support from OIE animal welfare collaborating centres (eg Teramo, Italy; Massey, NZ) to member countries within the region would be very beneficial.
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Question 4: Do you have any additional comments?

- New Zealand made the comment of not underestimating the importance of contribution made by animal health to welfare.
- Vietnam advised that ignorance in animal welfare is widespread and would like OIE to lead and guide less developed countries. An example of how this could be done would be to go through the mass media, with OIE preparing suitable communication material for member countries in addition to material produced by individual countries and each country could contribute an article.
- The group agreed that it is important that each country nominate a animal welfare focal point.
- The Republic of Korea said it is not easy to access resources on animal welfare information amongst Asian countries, and sometimes it's not in English. They said there is a need for more research on benefits of +ve/-ve economic impact from animal welfare, particularly in developing countries with no export markets.
- Cambodia advised that the education level in their country is not high and there is a need to simplify and adapt guidelines to suit local conditions.
- Myanmar suggested that a task force to educate people in animal welfare issues at regional level should be established.
- Pakistan advised that there was a lack of clarity in roles between vets, farmers and government particularly when it came to disease reporting.
- WSPA suggested countries within the region respond to future request from DG to provide details of OIE guideline implementation initiatives on an annual basis.



Australian Government

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry



- There are school education program on animal welfare or responsible pet ownership in countries such as New Zealand, Singapore and ROK and it should be encouraged for other countries to do the same.
- ROK suggested that OIE should be referred to as WAHO hence forth.



ANIMAL WELFARE WORKSHOP Group 2 Report

Question 1: What are the key issues/problems on animal welfare in countries, regions and sub-region?

- Outline the key difference and similarities, if any.
- What are the priority areas?

Countries in group 2 explained what their animal welfare situation was in their country:

China:

- At an introductory stage
- Production are varied, farmers pay less attention on animal welfare
- However, government pay more attention now
- Production cost increased in association with the animal welfare

Thailand

- There are no animal welfare problems at GAP farms.
- There are animal welfare problems at small holders for red meat, transportation, slaughter workers.
- commercial benefit in AW practise
- GAP accreditation by Department of Livestock and Development- animal welfare is a part of inspection

Australia

- Bad farmers become poor farmers
- Focussed on average/ standard practice – small population have different interpretation that caused problem—environmental issues quite unique issue
- Balance between commercial viability Vs morality

Indonesia

- large volume of animals, lack of education, law and regulation, human resources
- Problems on recognition of OIE guidelines Vs traditional practice
- Profitability oriented as a key issue
- Right (and simple) messages on animal welfare to send across
- Food safety as a key driver, hence, to be linked with

Malaysia

- Mainly economic driver for animal welfare

“Key Tricker” – cultural and religion

- Step-by-step approach to address the problems
- NGOs network, local-social network
- Specific situations of individual countries/ locations



Conclusion points:

- Group 2 agreed that animal welfare has been commonly practiced throughout the region, but varied, depending on economic, socio-cultural and religious drivers. Key issues are similar, except Australia. Animal welfare is still in infant stage. It is well recognised however that adopting/ adapting animal welfare can be economically/ commercially beneficial as well as increasing productivity/ profitability.
- Although not strictly enforced within existing legislation/ regulation, accreditation scheme normally include animal welfare as a key consideration.
- There are implementation problems/ issues
 - Different perception and interpretation of animal welfare by various groups
 - Inadequate manpower and resource to implement (less priority)

Recommendations:

- Basic standards implementable—minimum requirements;
- Step-by-step approach to address the problems;
- Make use of existing networks—NGOs, local-social cultural groups;
- Specific situations of individual countries/ locations; and
- Model development and responsible entity (influential personality).

Question 2: What are the values of the OIE Guidelines for Animal Welfare in progressing animal welfare issues?

- *What OIE Guidelines should be developed?*

[OIE Guidelines currently under development include laboratory animal welfare, dog population control and animal welfare for production systems.]

- Indonesia said that there is enough OIE Guidelines for the time being—as existing ones not even fully implemented, more guidelines mean more implementation issues.
- Australia suggested that production guidelines/ on-farm guidelines as minimum requirement would be practically achievable.
- Thailand suggested that locality/ country specific guidelines—e.g. climatic differences, tropical VS temperate, should be developed.
- The group noted that most data/information came from developed countries to develop guidelines and that they needed modification to fit the developing context
- OIE member countries should be more active in commenting on the guideline draft(s), especially from a developing country perspective.

Recommendation:

- Encouraging implementation of the developed guidelines;
- Simplify the guidelines for layman language;
- Development of manual(s) on training of trainers; Conduct of training of these courses;



- Included in university curriculum;
 - Public awareness and information distribution, this could be achieved by having a media star distribute information;
 - Development of key indicators—should be standardised and based on specific country’s situation and locality;
 - Should prioritise key issues in terms of implementation of the OIE guidelines
 - Need to identify target audience; and
 - OIE to provide assessment tool.
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Question 3: How can we improve the animal welfare situation in the region/countries?

- **What options are worth considering? Eg the development of a strategic ‘umbrella’ plan to support in country activities.**
 - Through the development of “Strategic Plan” at regional, subregional, national level (to be supported by all relevant stakeholder including NGOs, industry , etc.)
 - Implementation of OIE guidelines should provide incentive/rewarding system to encourage compliance.
 - Commercial driver/ requirement will be emerging; there is a need for a “competent” entity to ensure reasonable expectation/ implementation
 - Animal welfare issues to be put into the right context (of other guidelines/ standards)- such as GAP, food safety standards, etc.
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Question 4: Do you have any additional comments?

Any change to existing OIE guidelines or development of new guidelines should have outcome focus rather than prescriptive in nature.