WOAH global animal welfare strategy and animal transport activities.

Leopoldo Stuardo Scientific Coordinator – Animal Welfare WOAH Standards Department Paris



Multi-regional Whole Journey Scenario (WJS) Workshop on long-distance transport by land and sea between Europe, the Middle East and North Africa
7th of November 2023
Tunis, Tunisia

) THE WOAH AND ANIMAL WELFARE: A STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT

Resolution No. XIV from the 70th WOAH General Session, 26 - 31 May 2002

 Animal welfare has been identified as a strategic priority for the WOAH since 2001. under the mandate granted by all Members.

Resolution No. XXXI from 85th General Session. 21-26 May 2017

 The WOAH Global Animal Welfare Strategy was developed from lessons learned from actions taken at national and regional level and aims to be a source of ongoing guidance for the WOAH's activities in this area, and it's based in four main pillars.



VISION

A world where the welfare of animals is respected, promoted and advanced, in ways that complement the pursuit of animal health, human well-being, socio-economic development and environmental sustainability.

STRATEGIC PILLARS



DEVELOPMENT OF ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS



CAPACITY BUILDING AND EDUCATION



IMPLEMENTATION OF ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS AND POLICIES



COMMUNICATION
WITH
GOVERNMENTS,
ORGANISATIONS AND
THE PUBLIC



OIE STANDARDS ON ANIMAL WELFARE



DEVELOPMENT OF ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS Terrestrial
Animal Health
Code: Section 7

Introduction to the recommendations for animal welfare (2003)

Transport of animals by land (1998/2005)

Transport of animals by sea (1998/2005)

Transport of animals by air (1998/2005)

Slaughter of animals for human consumption (2005)

Killing of animals for disease control purposes (2005)

Dog population management (2009)

Use of animals in research and education (2010)

Animal Welfare and Beef Cattle Production Systems (2012)

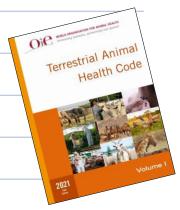
Animal Welfare and Broiler Chicken Production Systems (2013)

Animal Welfare and Dairy Cattle Production Systems (2015)

Welfare of Working Equids (2016)

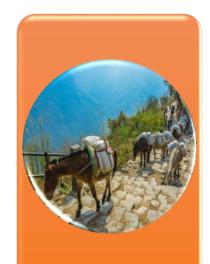
Animal Welfare and Pig Production Systems (2018)

Killing of Reptiles for their Skins, Meat and Other Products (2019)





OIE STANDARDS ON ANIMAL WELFARE



DEVELOPMENT OF ANIMAL WELFARE

STANDARDS

Aquatic Animal Health Code: Section 7

Introduction to recommendations for the welfare of farmed fish

Welfare of farmed fish during transport (2009)

Welfare aspects of stunning and killing of farmed fish for human consumption (2010)

Killing of farmed fish for disease control purposes (2012)





DEVELOPMENT OF ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS

ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS UNDER REVIEW (TERRESTRIAL CODE)

September 2023 meeting report

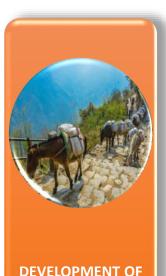
https://www.woah.org/app/uploads/2023/10/a-tahsc-september-2023-report.pdf





Other work in progress

- Chapter 7.6. Killing of animals for disease control purposes; First revised draft to be submitted to the Code Commission for their February 2024 meeting.
- Chapter 7.5. Slaughter of animals (proposed new title: Animal Welfare during slaughter) and related definitions; Presented for comments and adoption at the 2024 WOAH GS. Annex 10 and Annex 4 (Glossary) of the Report.
- Chapter 7.1. Introduction to the recommendations for animal welfare; Presented for comments (Inclusion of the 'Five domains' concept). Annex 29 of the Report.



ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS







• First WOAH AW Forum (Virtual) -March 2018.

'Supporting the implementation of WOAH standards'

Second WOAH AW Forum (Virtual) April 2019

'Animal transport: a shared responsibility'

Third WOAH AW Forum (Virtual) April - April 2021

'Animal Welfare and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals'

• Fourth WOAH AW Forum (Virtual) -October 2022.

'Animal welfare economics'

• Fifth WOAH AW Forum - Planned for November 2023.

'Developing national animal welfare legislation; different paths for the same destination'

To bring together members of the animal welfare research community, the global animal welfare movement and the global animal-source food sector to debate openly on topics relevant to animal welfare





The Second Forum took place on 11-12 April 2019 and the theme chosen was:

"Animal transport: a shared responsibility"

The Report of the containing the main discussions pointscan be found at:

http://www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/eng/Animal_Welfare/docs/pdf/Conferences/A_Report_1st_AW_Global_Forum.pdf



Second Forum in April 2019 'Animal transport; a share responsibility'

Potential revision of the Code **Chapters (Science based)**

- Animal-base oriented
- **Indicators**
- Criteria
- Contingency plans (e.g. feed)
- Monitoring (new technologies)
- **Neglected areas (laboratory** animals)



Communications



- Coordination
- Attitudes awareness campaigns
- OIE air transport not well known

Inclusion of other sciences

- **Economy and other** social sciences (local solutions for local problems)
- Applied ethology



Identification and Involvement of the main actors (across borders throughout the supply chain)



- **Competent Authorities** proactivity (e.g. Quarantine services)
- **Exporter**
- **Importers**
- **Civil Society**
- Role of police
- **Effective communications** (contact points)

Support the regulatory framework (Fit for purpose flexible - consistent. Focused on "Good regulatory practices")

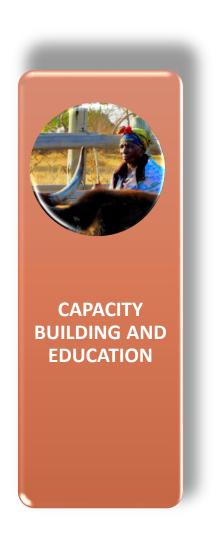


- Education (to all the concerned participants - behavioural changes (VPP))
- Training
- Coregulation (ISO 34 700)
- Use of OIE tools (PVS pathway)
 - Interaction between regulations (Sea - Land)









- WOAH Training Portal (https://training.oie.int/);
- Active participation of Animal Welfare Collaborating Centers (AWCC Network);
- National Animal Welfare Focal Point Seminars;
- Development of e-leaning modules.
 - Chapter 7.14. Killing of Reptiles for their Skins, Meat and Other Products.
- WOAH AW FP 'Flash Information Sessions', 16-17 November 2023.



- Regional Animal Welfare Strategies and Platforms:
 - Regional priorities;
 - Governance;
 - Action plan.
- Technical Specification ISO TS 34700, Animal welfare management General requirements and guidance for organizations in the food supply chain.
- Guiding documents; Animal welfare during transport





GUIDING DOCUMENTS; ANIMAL WELFARE DURING TRANSPORT



- To support the implementation of the WOAH Chapters on animal transport (sea and land).
- To be adapted (model) to the national or regional contexts.
- Two documents:
 - Emergency plan Model (land and sea transport)
 - Check list models (land and sea transport)



EMERGENCY PLAN MODEL



WHY?

When an unforeseen occurrence, such as an accident, malfunction of the truck or vessel, the closure of a road or the rejection of a consignment due to sanitary or other reasons occurs, a clear emergency plan should be part of the documentation accompanying the transport of animals.



CHECKLIST MODEL



Why?

To complement the WOAH standards but does not replace the recommendations provided in the Terrestrial Code. It aims to provide guidance as to what actions to consider when planning transport for animals.

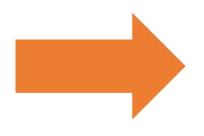


'WOAH GAWS IN ACTION'

Integration of WOAH activities regarding animal welfare during transport, through the GAWS pillars



Outcomes of the 2nd
WOAH Global Animal
Welfare Forum:
'Animal Transport; a
shared
responsability'





Revision of Chapter 7.2., 7.3., and 7.4., Animal transport by Sea, Land and Air. Inclusion in the TAHSC Work programme

Observatory
Thematic study on
animal transport





Whole Journey Scenario workshops, ToT on animal transport

Thank you! Merci! Gracias!

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