National Situation Regarding Animal Transportation in Jordan

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- **National Legal Framework on Transport of Animals**

- Core Legislation

Jordan has a legal framework that addresses animal welfare broadly and includes provisions relevant to transport:

- **Animal Welfare System / Regulations**

Jordan published animal welfare regulations in the Official Gazette covering housing, feeding, transportation, treatment, and more. These regulations criminalize mistreatment, including harmful transport conditions.

- **Animal Welfare (2010) Regulation**

Under the Animal Welfare System (2010) issued under the Agriculture Law and earlier legislation, the Ministry of Agriculture is mandated to promote animal welfare, prevent cruelty, and align with international welfare principles — including those from the WOAH.

- **Specific Ministry Instructions**

Ministry-level instructions (e.g., Animal Welfare Instruction No. 85/2222) set out transport requirements, such as ensuring animals are transported safely to avoid injury, with appropriate access to food and water, and transport means that meet internationally recognized standards (similar to WOAH standards).

Veterinary and Quarantine Regulations

Movement of animals (import, export, and transit) is subject to health certification, quarantine, and other veterinary controls under the Agriculture and Animal Health regulatory regime. These include requirements to inspect animals at entry points and to manage conditions of transit.

Alignment with WOAH Standards

The WOAH Terrestrial Animal Health Code (TAHC) provides detailed standards on animal transport:
· **Chapter 7.3** — transport by land: includes journey planning, vehicle design, handling, rest stops, documentation, and disease prevention measures.
· **Chapter 7.2** — transport by sea: focuses on welfare standards for sea vessels, competent personnel, inspections, and reporting between authorities.

Jordan's regulations are intended to align with these principles — for example, through transport requirements to avoid injury and ensure welfare — and Jordan participates in regional WOAH capacity-building efforts such as the 'Whole Journey Scenario' workshops aimed at implementing Chapters 7.2 and 7.3 across routes involving the Middle East, Europe, and North Africa.

- **Implementation Status in Jordan**
- ✔ **Existence of Regulations but Gaps in Application**

Veterinary officials in Jordan (including the Quarantine Department and WOAH focal points) acknowledge that **laws exist domestically** but the **real challenge is enforcement in the field.**

 Written regulations must be backed by:

- Proper inspections at entry/exit points
- Monitoring conditions throughout the journey
- Reporting and responding to welfare violations
- Mutual communication between exporting/transit/importing authorities

However, these practices are **not yet fully established or consistently applied.**

This highlights a common issue in many countries: *having a law is not enough without effective enforcement and practical application.*

- **Main Challenges in Implementing WOAH Transport Standards**
- **Training and Awareness of Stakeholders**

A consistent finding in Jordan's animal transport system is the **lack of training for all actors involved**:

- Government veterinary officers
- Drivers and handlers transporting animals
- Importers/exporters and brokers
- Border/quarantine officials

Without awareness of what WOAH expects (in terms of competence, journey planning, rest, handling, ventilation, etc.), *standards remain aspirational.*

- **Coordination Between Authorities**

Animal transport often crosses **multiple checkpoints and agencies** (ministry vets, customs, municipalities, and even police). Ensuring seamless **coordination** between them, especially for WOAH-aligned reporting, monitoring, and record-keeping, remains a challenge and is still developing.

► **Monitoring Throughout the Journey**

Effective implementation of WOAH's "Whole Journey" concept (ensuring welfare from origin to destination) needs systems to track conditions **beyond a single inspection point** — especially for long journeys, rest periods, space allowances, and emergency response. Practical mechanisms for this are still incomplete in Jordan.

- **Implementation Tools and Infrastructure**

- Some practical tools required by WOAH standards — like data systems, trained welfare inspectors, emergency transport contingency plans, and performance metrics — are **either insufficient or still under development**.

- Regional workshops under the WOAH "Whole Journey Scenario" concept have helped build awareness, but translating this into routine national practice takes time

▶ **Progress and Regional Engagement**

Jordan **participates actively in WOAH regional activities**, such as networks of contact points on long-distance transport, and workshops focused on aligning Middle East transport practices with international standards. These events help sharing experiences and building capacity

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