Recommendations of the 3rd OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare

Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Animal Welfare
Seoul, Republic of Korea, 27 – 29 August 2013

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Evolution of the OIE animal welfare agenda

- **2000**: AW recognised as a strategic priority in the 3rd OIE Strategic Plan 2001-2005;
- **2002**: Adoption by the General Assembly of National Delegates of a Resolution leading to the creation of an animal welfare working group (AWWG);
- **2003**: Adoption of the General Principles;
- **2004**: First Global Conference on Animal Welfare - Paris 2004

Terrestrial Animal Health Code Ch. 7.1.
Evolution of the OIE animal welfare agenda

- **2005**: Adoption of the first Animal Welfare Standards:
  - The transport of animals by land
  - The transport of animals by sea
  - The transport of animals by air
  - The slaughter of animals for human consumption
  - The killing of animals for disease control purposes

- **2008**: 2nd OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare in Cairo, Egypt.

- **2009**: Adoption of new standards:
  - The control of stray dog populations
  - The welfare of farmed fish during transport
Evolution of the OIE animal welfare agenda

- **2009**: First meetings of the *ad hoc* Groups on AW & livestock production systems
- **2010**: Adoption of new standards:
  - Welfare aspects of **stunning and killing** of farmed fish for human consumption
  - Use of animals for **research and education**
- **2011**: OIE General Session: lack of consensus.
  - Animal Welfare and **broiler chickens**
- **2012**: Adoption of new standards.
  - Animal Welfare and **beef cattle production system**
  - **3rd OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**
Evolution of the OIE Global Conference agenda

**2004: First Global Conference on Animal Welfare - Paris 2004**
- The main objective of the Conference was to raise awareness of, and to explain, the OIE's animal welfare initiative.

**2008: 2nd OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare – Cairo**
- The most important outcome of the conference was the identification of key needs and tools to help OIE Members to strengthen their capacities, including good governance and relevant infrastructure, to implement the OIE standards.

**2012: 3rd OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare - Kuala Lumpur**
- The main objective of the Conference was to support the implementation by Members of OIE Animal Welfare standards, with a focus on addressing regional specificities and expectations.
**Attendance:** Ministers, high-level officials of VSs, NGOs, scientists, funding partners.

**Location:** “by hosting this event, the government of Malaysia marks its definite support to advancing animal welfare practice and the work of OIE in the field”

**Financing:** supported by the European Commission and the governments of Malaysia, Australia and Germany.
General objectives:

- To raise the profile of the OIE animal welfare standards
- To support the implementation by Members of OIE animal welfare standards, in particular attention to relevant strategies and tools, including at the regional level
- To encourage veterinary services and veterinary professions to take lead role in improving animal welfare.
Recommendations of the Global Conference:

- 9 Recommendations to OIE Member Countries
- 10 Recommendations to OIE, in particular OIE Animal Welfare Working Group
Recommendations to OIE Members:

Take steps to **comply with the OIE standards**, particularly those for quality of Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services.

To this end, Members should consider requesting relevant missions under the PVS Pathway.
Recommendations to OIE Members:

Members that have not already done so should quickly nominate national Focal Points for Animal Welfare (and other topics nominated by the OIE) under the authority of the National Delegate.
Recommendations to OIE Members:

Take into account the OIE standards for veterinary legislation in their veterinary legislation, create or update (as appropriate) a national legal framework that includes provision for national animal welfare programmes.
Recommendations to OIE Members:

Consider participation, if appropriate, in OIE twinning programmes for Collaborating Centres, Veterinary education establishments and Veterinary Statutory Bodies.
Recommendations to OIE Members:

Support the development of national programmes for raising awareness of animal welfare and educating key players, particularly veterinarians, livestock owners, animal handlers, religious and community leaders and other key groups, such as school children and women.
Recommendations to OIE Members:

Take steps to ensure that prescriptive animal welfare requirements do not create trade barriers non consistent with OIE standards, including by encouraging and supporting decisions on the equivalence and reciprocity of different animal welfare measures, while respecting the right of OIE Member Countries to determine the level of their national science-based measures.
Recommendations to OIE Members:

Encourage the private sector to respect OIE standards
Recommendations to OIE Members:

Promote the adoption by the United Nations of a Declaration addressing animal welfare, including close compliance with OIE animal health and welfare standards.
Recommendations to OIE Members:

Consult with religious and community leaders, and local authorities (with appropriate use of OIE delegates and focal points) in determining their countries official positions on development and implementation of OIE standards.
Recommendations to the OIE:

Continue to **develop global standards** according to the priorities set by the World Assembly of Delegates.

In the field of animal welfare, standards for livestock production systems (including broiler chickens, and dairy cattle) should be the first priority.
Recommendations to the OIE:

Work closely with donors and international and regional organisations, and continue to provide **appropriate technical support to Member Countries**, especially developing countries, to meet the OIE standards for quality Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services through the OIE PVS Pathway.
Recommendations to the OIE:

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Develop its **capacity building activities** including through negotiation with donors, to help Delegates, supported by nominated Focal Points, to comply with the obligations and responsibilities of OIE membership, including **participation in the standard-setting process**
Recommendations to the OIE:

Promote the role and responsibility of the Veterinary Services (including public and private sector veterinarians) in animal welfare; promote coverage of animal welfare in veterinary education and contribute to the provision of information on animal health and welfare, particularly to animal owners and handlers.
Recommendations to the OIE:

Collaborate and form partnerships with organisations representing all relevant sectors of the production and distribution chain for animals and animal products, to develop and promote the OIE animal welfare standards, as the key reference for national, regional and international trade.
Recommendations to the OIE:

Continue to collaborate with the International Organization for standardization (ISO) to promote the development of the proposed ISO Animal Welfare technical specifications consistent with OIE animal welfare standards.
Recommendations to the OIE:

Influence those responsible for making decisions on scientific research to develop new programmes addressing research priorities in animal welfare
Recommendations to the OIE:

In collaboration with donors and governments, continue to promote the use of twinning programmes for OIE Collaborating Centres, Veterinary education establishments and Veterinary Statutory Bodies, with a focus on improving good governance of Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services
Recommendations to the OIE:

Support the development and implementation of OIE regional animal welfare strategies, and consider the development of a global animal welfare strategy.
Recommendations to the OIE:

With active involvement of OIE Regional and sub-regional Representations, **collaborate with regional organisations**, as appropriate, in responding to the needs and priorities agreed by OIE Members at regional and sub-regional level.
Conclusions

- OIE is committed to supporting countries, especially Developing Countries, in the implementation of OIE standards, taking into account economic, cultural or social differences between countries.

- OIE advocates for regional strategies/initiatives to efficiently address the different paces of standard implementation.

- These initiatives should strongly rely on efficient national VSs as the key players in establishing appropriate and sustainable legislation and to ensure its efficient implementation.
Conclusions

- Need for raising the profile of AW in initial training of veterinarians globally
- Need for more research in animal welfare
- Efforts to coordinate with religious authorities for advancing animal welfare standards are an important way forward
- Other topics not reflected in the recommendations but of importance: AW and disaster management.
Preventing and controlling health risks associated with globalisation

The national Veterinary Services include official veterinarians assisted by veterinarians working in the private sector.

Scientific and Technical Review

Most recent issues:
- Brucellosia: recent developments towards 'One Health', Vol. 32 (1), April 2013
- Plurithematic issue, Vol. 31 (3), December 2012
- Good governance and financing of efficient Veterinary Services, Vol. 31 (2), August 2012

Bulletin online (OIE Magazine): Latest issue

Document database

Official disease status

OIE World Conferences

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Additional source of information:

- Proceedings of the 3rd OIE Global conference on AW (under development)
- Proceedings of the 2nd OIE Global Conference on AW
- Proceedings of the OIE Global conference on Rabies
Thank you for your attention

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de la santé animale

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