Recommendations of the OIE 3rd Global conference on Animal Welfare

Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Animal Welfare of the Europe Region
March 5-7 2013, Teramo (Italy)

Organized with EC financial support

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OIE Sub-Regional Representation in Brussels
OIE Global Conferences

› 1st OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare (Paris, 2004) → to raise awareness of, and to explain, the OIE's animal welfare initiative.

› 2nd OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare “Putting the OIE Standards to Work” (Cairo, 2008) → active involvement of VSs and veterinarians to improve animal welfare; identification of key needs and tools to help OIE MCs to strengthen their capacities to implement the OIE standards.

› 3rd OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare (Kuala Lumpur, 2012)

› (reminder: OIE Global Conference on rabies control, Seoul, Sept 2011)
Third OIE Global conference on Animal Welfare

- Addressing regional expectations -
OIE 3rd Global Global Conference on AW

- **Attendance** - ministers, high-level officials of VSs, private vets, NGOs, scientists, multilateral and bilateral funding partners

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

- **Financing** – supported by the European Commission and the governments of Malaysia, Australia and Germany.
General objective: To

- Raise the profile of the OIE AW standards in general
- Support the implementation by Members of OIE AW standards, with particular attention to relevant strategies and tools, including at the regional level
- Encourage VSs and the veterinary profession to take lead role in improving animal welfare
Importance of the Global Conference Recommendations

› Feuilles de route to:

• OIE Member countries (9 recommendations)
• OIE itself (10 recommendations) [in particular to the OIE AWWG]

(do not forget to read the ‘considering’)
Recommendations to countries

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 countries

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.
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 countries

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

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 countries

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 countries

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<td>Encourage the private sector to respect OIE standards</td>
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Recommendations to countries

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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 countries

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Consult 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

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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

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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**

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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.
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

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

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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.
OIE Global Conferences

› 1\textsuperscript{st} OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare

› 2\textsuperscript{nd} OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare

› 3\textsuperscript{rd} OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare

› 4\textsuperscript{th} OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare

   Chile?
   Date?
   To be confirmed
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.
www.oie.int

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

“The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.”
Gandhi