



SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS TO THE JOINT COE-EU-OIE DECLARATION ON ANIMAL WELFARE

PROPOSAL OF FRANCE

If we want clearly specify on collaboration of 3 institutions on animal experimentation and use of wild animals in circuses and zoological parks, the reference to DG Environment should be added in the provision on concerned European Commission Directorates General.

Thus, the request is to add reference to DG Environment

PROPOSAL BY WSPA

To include the following statement within the Declaration (on second page):

Development and agreement on the biological characteristics of animals, to include species specific behaviour.

New 7

Aware that the future development of international animal welfare legislation, standards and guidelines will depend on the provision of adequate resources by the Council of Europe, European Commission and the OIE;

PROPOSALS BY EUROGROUP

Ms Sonja Van Tichelen

Preamble (additional point)

- Recognising the benefits of higher animal welfare standards for the economic development, animal health, biodiversity and sustainable development.

Mr John Avizenius

Bullet Point 3 of the Agreement

Barriers to progress in improving animal welfare must be identified and addressed, even those relating to cultural traditions and regional heritage. The responsibilities of

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veterinary services and other agencies involved in improving animal welfare must include the enforcement of animal welfare rules and regulations.

Dr. Maggy Jennings

Preamble points 1 – 7

1. Refer to Treaty and Protocol and the recognition of animals as sentient beings not commodities.

- Add a point about the need to recognise the benefits of high animal welfare for animal health, sustainable development and biodiversity, more humane and effective science, and the economy.
- Add a point about Bearing in mind that identification, development and implementation of high standards of animal welfare requires provision of appropriate resources.

Points in the Declaration

Bullet point 2 : Insert “European Union” after Council of Europe.

Bullet point 3 : Amend to: “Barriers to progress should be identified and addressed; the responsibilities etc...”

Bullet point 5 : Amend to : “... including consumers about the importance of animal welfare and make them more sensitive to the issues of concern.”

Bullet point 7 : Delete “involved in animal welfare” and insert “whose employment may have an impact on animals and their welfare”.

Add

- Activities that are likely to cause most suffering should be identified and priorities and adequate resources provided to deal with them.
- The conflicting interests of animals in different situations should be more widely recognised and guidelines should take this into account. (for example, a requirement to develop a vaccine for Avian flu will have a significant impact on the use of laboratory animals).

Mr Peeling

1st page

To add: Recognising that through concerted action at the international level, countries are able to elevate animal welfare norms to a high degree than would be possible unilaterally.

Justification: It is with regard to this issue, of raising norms that citizens turn to supranational bodies such as CoE, OIE and EU.

New paragraph

“Recognising animals primarily as sentient beings, and their status as such in the treaty establishing the EU”

Justification: This is fundamental to the development of animal welfare norms and policies.

2nd page

New paragraph

“Agree the ultimate aims of removing cruelty from, and elevating animal welfare norms relating to, the use of animals by people, in Europe and throughout the World”.

Justification: The draft Declaration does not set the context for these agreements. It says what we will do, but not what we are trying to achieve.

Amend 5th bullet point

“...paid to increasing awareness of civil society [regarding the importance of animal welfare], including”

Justification: More specific.

Amend 6th bullet point

“...in the curricula [of all animal related] undergraduate and post graduate ...”

Justification: Removes implicit veterinary bias.

Amend 7th bullet point

“... training to all persons involved in animal care on a professional basis, including veterinarians and Para veterinarians.”

Justification: Reduces undue emphasis on veterinary profession.

PROPOSAL OF FELASA

1st page: no comments

2nd page:

- First bullet: add ... OIE and recognised guidelines and recommendations set by NGOs should
- Second bullet: add ...OIE and recognised guidelines and recommendations set by NGOs should ...
- Third bullet : addVeterinary Services or the relevant National Authority should ...
- Fourth bullet: add ...All parties of civil and scientific society
- Fifth bullet: addcivil and scientific society ...
- 6th and 7th bullet : General comment FELASA has published recommendations for education and training of persons involved in the use and care of laboratory animals. These apply to caretakers, research technicians, scientists and laboratory animal science specialists. FELASA also assesses and accredits existing education and training programmes in laboratory animal science. Additional information can be found at : www.felasa.eu

PROPOSALS BY COPA-COGECA

Third bullet point

Identified economic barriers and knowledge gaps to progress in animal welfare should be recognised and responded to. (delete rest of paragraph)

Fourth bullet point

All parties of civil society including farmers should be actively integrated in (the progress of) the formulation and communication of animal welfare rules and codes of good practice and their implementation.

Fifth bullet point

Special attention should be paid to increasing awareness of civil society, including consumers, about animal welfare but also to increasing economic pressures to operators like farmers.

NEW

Ninth bullet point

Animal welfare standards should be part of WTO/SPS agreements.

Tenth bullet point

New standards should be science-based and also take on board practical experiences.

Mr Paul De Winter, COPA

Ajouter au premier bullet point après « établies par l'OIE ; » : « Pour cette raison, les normes européennes pour le bien-être des animaux doivent faire partie des négociations dans l'OMC ».

PROPOSAL BY EUROPEAN LIVESTOCK AND MEAT TRADING UNION (UECBV)

“UECBV” expresses its support to an effective coordination between the three organisations in the sector of animal welfare.

In the specific case of farming animals, such coordination should have as a primary goal ensuring the harmonisation and equivalence of welfare rules implemented all over the world in order to overcome problems related to competition on the global markets.

A leading role should be taken by OIE for that purpose.

In addition, with the aim of reaching a harmonised and appropriate approach towards the implementation of animal welfare rules throughout the different countries, “UECBV” would like to underline the importance of the involvement of the whole civil society and stakeholders in the elaboration of animal welfare rules.

Socio-economical implantations as well as the practical experience gained during daily activities carried out by business operations in constant contact with animals should be fully taken into account during such process.

That is why “UECBV” believes it important to underline, within the joint declaration, the need to increase the dialogue of the three organisations of welfare rules in order to ensure the establishment of practically and socio-economically feasible rules.

PROPOSAL BY ISAE

6. Aware of the necessity to promote closer and more effective co-operation between the relevant international organisations and national entities, in particular in areas such as the elaboration of standards, assistance and co-operation, the implementation of animal welfare guidelines, **scientific research** the integration of stakeholders, awareness-raising, education, training and promotion of best practices;

New bullet point

- Stimulate and coordinate animal welfare research and sharing of knowledge in order to have a continuing firm scientific base for animal welfare rules and guidelines.

PROPOSAL BY FEDERATION OF VETERINARIANS OF EUROPE (FVE)

The following amendments to the draft Declaration are suggested on behalf of the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE):

1. Third bullet point

to include after “the responsibilities” the words “and the mandate”

The sentence will then read as follows: “the responsibilities and the mandate of Veterinary Services should include the enforcement of animal welfare;”

Justification: responsibilities can only be taken up properly when accompanied by the relevant mandate.

Adequate means should also be available.

2. Fifth bullet point

to replace the word *consumer* by the word “citizen”.

Justification: the word consumer refers to buyers in the market place. Not only consumers but all citizens have an interest in animal welfare and should be involved.

3. Sixth and seventh bullet points

In these two items, dealing with education and training, reference should be made to stimulating *research* in the field of animal welfare.

Justification: improving animal welfare should not be limited to training and education of the current knowledge. There also is a strong need for broadening our knowledge through research.

4. Add an extra bullet point to underline that one of the objectives of the co-operation is to support producers in their efforts to improve animal welfare (and not to threaten their economical viability).