



Regional Animal Welfare Strategy Coordination Group Meeting 3



3-4 April 2012 OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific, Siam City Hotel Bangkok, Thailand Report

In an ever-changing world it is the learners who survive; the learned find themselves fully equipped to live in a world which no-longer exists

Eric Hoffman

MEETING SUMMARY

The third meeting of the Regional Animal Welfare Strategy – Asia, the Far East and Oceania Coordination Group (RAWS CG) was held in Bangkok, Thailand on 3 and 4 April 2012. The Coordination Group comprises country representatives from Bhutan, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Republic of Korea and Thailand, industry representatives, a non-government organisation representative from the World Society for the Protection of Animals, World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) representatives from the Regional Representation (Tokyo), the Sub-Regional Representation (Bangkok) and the OIE Animal Welfare Working Group. The group is chaired by Dr Gardner Murray and the Secretariat is provided by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Apologies for this meeting were received from representatives from the intensive animal production industry and the European Commission. Dr Ian Dacre provided apologies for Day 1 of the meeting but was able to attend Day 2. The Australian industry representative resigned from the committee in August 2011 following a change in employment. The list of attendees is at Attachment 1.

The purpose of the meeting was to examine how the RAWS CG can best work with and support the OIE, as well as improving understanding of OIE policies and priorities and gain the views of members on current and future welfare matters; review the draft RAWS Implementation Framework and make recommendations on future priority actions; and prepare a report of outcomes for the Regional Commission and OIE.

The meeting featured presentations and discussions about animal welfare issues, developments and priorities at organisational, national and international levels; the report from the secretariat and activities such as communications and monitoring.

Small group discussions were held on specific questions relating to proposed revisions of the RAWS and Implementation Plan combined document, the RAWS Implementation Framework, the RAWS action plan and the features and function of the newsletter, the RAWS News.

The RAWS CG emphasised the importance of maintaining the balance of representation on the Coordination Group. It was most important that industry and NGOs were active participants. Equally important was the participation of key observers, for example the European Commission. In this regard, other observers (eg National Veterinary Association representatives) could be invited to particular meetings depending on the nature of agenda and key issues to be discussed.

During the meeting two break-out working groups were formed to consider the draft RAWS Implementation Framework and draft Action Plan. A summary of the output of these groups' deliberations is at attachment 2.

In plenary discussions it was agreed that the key elements, policies and principles of the 2008 RAWS remain valid and current but that, in view of developments, the RAWS be updated and, following agreement by OIE, be published as a RAWS 2012-15 Strategy. The revised RAWS will reflect the achievements under the RAWS since 2008 and the goals and objectives of the RAWS for 2012 to 2015. Reasons for supporting this approach included the following;

- At the time of its development it was intended that the RAWS be a living document and be subject to periodic review.
- The current RAWS IP is not a management plan *per se* and there is a clear need to develop a more detailed action plan working document that would reflect country and OIE developments.
- The revised document would set the scene in a policy/strategic sense from 2012-2015 and be managed in accordance with the OIE's 5th Strategic Plan and future planning frameworks.

In developing the RAWS 2012-15 Strategy the CG agreed;

- that key strategic elements of the RAWS Implementation Plan (IP) be included in the RAWS 2012-15 Plan, and that relevant parts of the IP be included in a new RAWS CG Action Plan.
- To form a writing group to revise the documentation and that draft documents be sent to RAWS CG members for agreement prior to submitting the draft strategy to OIE for endorsement.

The agenda for the meeting is at Attachment 3

RECOMMENDATIONS

Through the course of the meeting the following recommendations were developed and agreed.

General

The RAWs CG

- **AGREED** that substantial progress has been made in improving animal welfare in the Region since the 2007/08 RAWs Strategy was first published, and that the extent of progress should be documented and submitted to the Regional Commission and OIE General Assembly.

On the Committee

The RAWs CG

- **AGREED** that the yet to be appointed new Chair of the OIE AWWG be invited by the DG to be a Member of the RAWs CG when David Bayvel relinquishes the position in July, 2012.
- **AGREED** that Dr Boonpeng be asked if he wishes to remain a Member of the RAWs CG and if not a new appointment be sought to cover the intensive industries, and that a new appointment be sought to cover the extensive livestock industries following the resignation of Cameron Hall.
- **AGREED** that observers such as those from FAVA, the NZ/Australia Collaborating Centre for Animal welfare Science and Bioethical Analysis and the EU be encouraged to attend RAWs CG Meetings and that notice of meetings be advised as far in advance as practical.

On the RAWs Newsletter

The RAWs CG:

- **NOTED** the circulation of the February edition of the RAWs News.
- **AGREED** that the RAWs News be circulated on a quarterly basis and include short information contributions from countries, NGOs and industry, **NOTING** that the approach to newsletter production will be kept under ongoing review.

On the Website

The RAWs CG:

- **SUGGESTED** OIE Paris follow-up and advise on the request from the Tokyo meeting that RAWs activities and actions on the OIE website with links to the OIE Regional Representation and Sub-Regional Representation websites.

On Communications

The RAWs CG:

- **NOTED** that David Bayvel will provide the Secretariat with details of the NZ Animal Welfare Toolkit for Veterinarians and background

information on the EU-funded CALLISTO project for distribution to RAWS CG Members.

- **NOTED** that Ian Dacre and a representative from OIE will examine opportunities for synergies between the WSPA and OIE Strategies and report to the next RAWS CG Meeting on the outcomes.

On the RAWS

The RAWS CG:

- **AGREED** that the key elements, policies and principles of the 2007/08 RAWS remain valid and current but that, in view of developments, the RAWS be updated and, following agreement by OIE, be published as a RAWS 2012-15 Strategy.
- **AGREED** that key strategic elements of the RAWS Implementation Plan (IP) be included in the RAWS 2012-15 Plan, and that relevant parts of the IP be included in a new RAWS CG Action Plan.
- **AGREED** that Jim Paradise, David Bayvel and Gardner Murray form a writing group to revise the documentation and that draft documents be sent to RAWS CG members for agreement prior to submitting the draft strategy and action plan to OIE for endorsement.

On national animal welfare Strategies

The RAWS CG

- **AGREED** that counties develop animal welfare strategies to meet national priorities consistent with the RAWS in a manner similar to OIE SEACFMD approaches.

On the OIE 3rd Global Conference on Animal Welfare

The RAWS CG:

- **NOTED** developments and arrangements being made by Malaysian Government and the OIE.
- **AGREED** that the Secretariat approach OIE and seek agreement to establish a RAWS booth at the Congress.
- **AGREED** that the RAWS CG holds its next meeting in association with the Congress, and that the Secretariat explore with the OIE the opportunity to hold a joint (selected) Focal Point and RAWS CG Meeting to consider syndicate discussions held at the Tokyo Focal Point/RAWS meetings in November/December 2011.

Secretariat

The RAWS CG:

- **ENDORSED** in principle suggestions for the Secretariat – that Australia continue in the role of a further 12 months - but **AGREED** that the Secretariat needs to prioritise work in accordance with resource availability.
- **NOTED** it is likely that DAFF will be in a position to fund 2 RAWS CG Meetings before June, 2013.

- **AGREED** that when the RAWS 2012-15 Strategy is endorsed by OIE, agendas for RAWS CG meetings should focus on key strategic matters and reviewing implementation of the Strategy.
- **AGREED** that RAWS CG information be posted on the OIE Regional website when it is up and running.
- **AGREED** that the President of the Regional Commission be asked to encourage Delegates to advise on animal welfare progress against the RAWS.

Other

The RAWS CG:

- **AGREED** that a RAWS CG Report be made on its 2011 and 2012 meetings to the Regional Commission Meeting for Asia, the Far East and Oceania at its meeting at the time of the General Assembly in May, 2012.

Acknowledgments

The RAWS CG:

- **THANKED** both the RAWS Secretariat and OIE SR SEA for organizing a successful Meeting.
- **ACKNOWLEDGED** the contributions to support the RAWS CG through the Australian DAFF.
- **THANKED** and **ACKNOWLEDGED** the outstanding work by Dr David Bayvel in his role as Chair of the OIE AWWG over the last 10 years and as a Member of the RAWS CG and its predecessor Organisations.

MEETING REPORT

3 - 4 APRIL 2012

Welcome

Dr Gardner Murray welcomed Regional Animal Welfare Strategy (RAWS) Members to the 3rd RAWS Coordination Group (RAWS CG) Meeting, and thanked the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Regional and Sub Regional Representations, OIE Headquarters and the RAWS Secretariat and Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) for planning, organising and funding the event.

The purpose of the Meeting was to review the combined draft Regional Animal Welfare Strategy and Regional Animal Welfare Strategy Implementation Plan single document, discuss arrangements for the OIE Third Global Animal Welfare Conference and review Regional Animal Welfare Strategy activities since the 2nd Meeting of the RAWS Coordination Group in November 2011.

The form of the meeting would include presentations, plenary discussion, break out groups and conclusions and recommendations. Gardner Murray asked that presenters stick to their allocated time, and that they provide a short summary of talks to the Secretariat for inclusion in the Record of the Meeting. He proposed that David Bayvel and Jim Paradice chair each of the breakout groups and that Tomoko Ishibashi and Ian Dacre act as rapporteurs.

Agenda Items and Presentations

(Some powerpoint presentations were provided by participants on USB data drives and electronic copies are available from the Secretariat.)

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Animal Welfare Direction

Dr David Bayvel, Chair of the OIE Animal Welfare Working Group (AWWG) (Wellington)

OIE Asia, the Far East and Oceania Welfare Developments in 2011-12

Dr Tomoko Ishibashi, OIE Regional Representation (Tokyo)

Recommendations and Progress since Tokyo Meeting, November 2011

Mr Jim Paradice, Animal Welfare Branch, Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Canberra)

Secretariat Report: Arrangements and Communications

Mr Jim Paradice, Animal Welfare Branch, Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Canberra)

Secretariat arrangements include provision of communications work, funding, meeting organisation and preparation of meeting recommendations and report.

Secretariat Arrangements

The implementation process of the RAWs has been coordinated by an interim Secretariat, funded and managed by the Australian Government Animal Welfare Branch. It is expected a more permanent arrangement will be established by July 2013. According to the Terms of Reference, DAFF will provide Secretariat service for the initial 2 years of the Coordination Group at which point both the Group and Secretariat arrangements will be reviewed. The Secretariat will provide administrative support in collaboration with OIE Paris and OIE AFEO regional representative offices and will assist in sourcing funding to facilitate the Coordination Group's ongoing operation.

The current arrangement is funded until 2012-13 options for future secretariat arrangements include

- Rotational secretariat provided by participating countries
- Participating countries cover their own participation costs
- Australia continue in role for a further 12 months

RAWs News

At the first meeting of the RAWs Coordination Group in April 2011, members recognised the importance of effective communication and agreed to the Secretariat circulating a newsletter to help achieve this. The newsletter, titled the RAWs-News is a quarterly production designed to keep countries in the OIE Asia, Far East and Oceania Region fully informed of OIE animal welfare developments in general, and progress of the Regional Animal Welfare Strategy (RAWs) in particular.

The Secretariat is responsible for writing and distributing the newsletter and seeks regular input from member countries and organisations on regional animal welfare activities and initiatives. The RAWs-News is still a fledgling product and the Secretariat welcomes feedback from RAWs Coordination Group members on its format, content and overall style.

SharePoint

SharePoint is an online collaborative service, originally launched under the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy and now available to RAWs Coordination Group members. This tool facilitates easy distribution of announcements and meeting materials, provides a calendar to advise of upcoming meetings, seminars, workshops, conferences and events, includes discussion areas, DAFF contacts and much more.

Jim Paradise provided RAWs members with a PowerPoint presentation on SharePoint and a real-time on-line demonstration during the meeting. This

presentation steps you through the basic functions of SharePoint including how to view meeting materials, how to add documents to the site and how to change your password. Members have been sent login details. Meeting materials including the agenda, travel and RSVP forms, presentations and summaries are currently available on SharePoint and, for future meetings, the Secretariat will be relying more heavily on SharePoint for distribution of meeting materials.

Please contact Ms Lee-Ann Swift on lee-ann.swift@daff.gov.au if you are having any difficulties with SharePoint.

Meetings and correspondence

Current arrangements, according to the Terms of Reference, are:

- Annual face to face meetings (due to the significant workload in this early phase of the Group, meetings are currently being held twice a year)
- Regular email correspondence including country updates to inform others in the region of in-country activities/initiatives
- Teleconferences – currently underutilised

In December 2011, some Coordination Group members participated in the OIE Animal Welfare Focal Point meeting in Tokyo. Other opportunities to attend global animal welfare events exist, potentially including attendance at the OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare, to be held in Malaysia in November 2012.

Country Update - Malaysia

Dr Che Zalina, Department of Veterinary Services (Kuala Lumpur)

From Jan to March 2012, several activities related to animal welfare have been conducted by the government (DVS) and some of it involved the collaboration by the industry.

1. Legislative Developments

- Animals Act 1953 (revised 2006): Malaysia has reviewed the Animals Act 1953 (revised 2006) in terms of animal cruelty penalties and has forwarded amendments for more severe punishment. Now it is in the final process to be approved by the parliament.
- Draft of Animals Welfare Bill: A draft of Animals Welfare Bill 2012 has been completed at DVS level and it will be forwarded to the Attorney General's Office before June for review and comment.
- Malaysian Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (MAWAC): Malaysia has formed a Technical Advisory Committee on Animal Welfare which aims to provide advice to the government in addressing issues related to animal welfare while waiting for the parliament to pass the legislation of animal welfare. The Committee will be met for their second meeting in June 2012.

2. Government Initiatives

- Malaysian Animal Welfare Policy & Strategy (MAWePS): Malaysia is in the process of preparing the Animal Welfare Policy & Strategy. The first workshop had been held in Selangor in Feb 2012, to outline the Malaysian Animal Welfare Vision, Mission and Strategies. Second workshop will be held in April together with the stakeholders and NGOs to plan the national activities pertaining animal welfare.
- The National Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines: Malaysia is in the process of preparing the National Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines. In the 1st workshop held on Jan 2012, 7 drafts on Malaysian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines had been prepared.
- Accreditation System for Animal Welfare Codes of Practice: Malaysia is in the process of developing an Accreditation System for Animal Welfare Codes of Practice for Abattoirs, Pet Shop and Animal Breeding Centers. This system supposed to take off in June 2012.

3. Industry Initiatives

- Malaysian National Animal Welfare Foundation (MNAWF): MNAWF is organizing Animal Welfare Weeks, Human – Animal Interaction Programs, public seminars on Responsible Pet Ownership and Canine Behavior Training Courses. Graduation Day for Canine Behavior Training Course will be held on 21st April 2012. It is the 10th Graduation Day and more than 800 pet owners had been trained for the year 2011.
- Veterinary Association Malaysia (VAM): An education program is being carried out in several schools regularly throughout the year.

4. Training

- Animal Welfare Training of Trainers (AWTT) for white meat (poultry) Module 1 was held on 14 to 16 March 2012 in Cheras, Selangor.

Country Update - Indonesia

Dr Ira Firgorita, Ministry of Agriculture (Jakarta)

Animal welfare in Indonesia has been one of the government concerns during the last three decades. However, implementation of animal welfare in Indonesia is still far from satisfactory.

Some influencing factors:

- culture,
- tradition,
- level of education, awareness and welfare of the community
- lack of regulatory measures, manpower and infrastructure required to support law enforcement.

Progress

Development of National Provision on Animal Welfare

- In general, basic provision concerning issues on animal welfare is contained in Law 18 of 2009 regarding Livestock and Animal Health.
- As the first priority, a draft of Government Regulation Concerning Veterinary Public Health has been prepared, where Animal Welfare issue will be part of the regulation.
- The proposed regulation consists of provisions for housing and cage, raising and nursing, transporting, usage and use, slaughtering and killing, proper treatment and caring of animals by human, and disasters management.

Development of guidelines and minimum standards

- the first priority would be more focused for farmed animal, pet animal, and wild life
- in cooperation with the concerned NGOs and other government agencies (Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Forestry, Indonesian Veterinary Medicine Association/IVMA)
- Development of Guidelines for Animal Welfare implementation in Ruminant and Poultry Slaughter House (2011-2012)

Live cattle importation from Australia

- Live cattle importation from Australia to Indonesia is reopened with new regulatory framework throughout the supply chain.
- Positive effect in terms of effort for increasing animal welfare for cattle handling and slaughtering, especially for imported Australian cattle.
- On the other hand this regulatory has a negative effect due to the regulation need to be implemented in a considerably short time.

Some challenges are :

- The process of audit in determining slaughter houses allowed to slaughter Australian cattle only looks at the animal welfare requirements, ignoring other aspects from Indonesian Government side such as hygiene regulation.
- Other problems which arise from the new regulatory framework encouraging the approved slaughter house to implement stunning which lead to Halal.
- The Government of Indonesia, Indonesian Feedlotter Association (APFINDO) and Meat and Livestock Australia agree to conduct verification for all slaughterhouses which are approved to be part of the supply chain.
- Indonesian Council of Ulama (MUI) and Government are conducting further studies on the use of stunning implementation in the slaughter house and increased monitoring and evaluation.

Capacity building for the officials

- Halal slaughter man Training; Organized by Directorate of Veterinary Public Health and Post-Harvest and Indonesian Council of Ulama/MUI (February 2012)

- Capacity building for personnel in supply chain of Australian slaughter cattle (Provision of modules and organization of trainings are undertaken by MLA)
- Training on humane slaughter for poultry (2011) in cooperation with IVMA, Srikandi Foundation, RSPCA – UK, and the University of Bristol, UK.
- Workshop for Animal welfare Auditor and Animal welfare Officer in Supply chain slaughter houses. (Mei 2012)

Seminar, National Meetings and other activity

- Seminar on Animal Welfare in all provinces
- Ied Qurban slaughter points (Moslem festivals) improvement programs to comply the Hygiene and animal welfare requirements; (workshop in Solo, 2011; National Meeting, July 2012; Establishment of 5 Slaughter points model, 2013)
- Control population program in conjunction with Rabies control (workshop Bali, 2011; National meeting, July 2012; Establishment of control population Animal welfare Public Awareness, “on air” road show in 10 Provinces (Mei – August 2012)
- Provision of animal welfare publications (leaflet, video and brochures)
- Attended the LEGS Regional Training of Trainers Course organized by the WSPA in the Philippines. (NGO : Srikandi Animal Care, Malang)

National Animal Welfare Expert Sub- Committee

- Is recommended to be established as part of existing Expert committee under the Directorate General of Livestock and Animal Health Services (Animal Health and Veterinary Public Health Expert committee as a result from National animal welfare meeting with stake holder in March 2012.
- This expert committee shall include representatives’ animal welfare expert from professionals association, universities, NGO and will provide inputs related to animal welfare problems for Indonesian Government as a result from National animal welfare meeting with stake holder in March 2012,

Conclusions

- Indonesian Government currently is increasing its effort in implementing animal welfare not only for imported cattle, but also for local cattle and other species. Increasing participation and support for this effort also came from professionals association, NGO private sectors, and universities.
- Indonesia supports and commits the effective implementation of animal welfare practices. However, issues on animal welfare should be viewed as an integrated part of food safety and quality to ensure human health

Country Update - Thailand

Dr Pennapa Matayompong, Department of Livestock Development (Bangkok, Thailand)

The followings are the summary of animal welfare activities and initiatives in the first quarter of 2012.

Legislative developments

The Bill on Cruelty Prevention and Animal Welfare Management has already been approved by the cabinet. It is now in the process to be considered for approval by the parliament.

Additionally, the legislation for the use of animals in scientific work is being drafted. Meanwhile, the Ethics for Use of Animals in Scientific Work stipulated by the Office of National Research Council of Thailand are applied in every institution using animals for research and education. The ethics are in accordance with the International Guiding Principles for Biomedical Research Involving Animals of the Council for International Organization of Medical Science. To monitor the use of animals in scientific work, at the institutional level; every institution must have an institutional committee to consider and approve the animal use in each scientific work and at the national level; a committee of the Office of National Research Council of Thailand will monitor the animal use in scientific work of each institution and cooperate with the research funding agencies to acknowledge these ethics. Also, the journal editors are requested to publish only the articles having the approval evidence of animal use.

Animal Welfare Sub-Committee

While waiting for the parliament to pass the legislation of animal welfare, the Animal Welfare Sub-committee was set up on 17 February 2012 by the Agricultural Standards Committee under the Agricultural Standards Act B.E. 2551 (2008). The Animal Welfare Sub-committee is composed of a mixture of stakeholder representatives chaired by the Director General of the Department of Livestock Development (DLD). The main responsibilities are to establish animal welfare strategy of Thailand, to communicate, cooperate with stakeholders on animal welfare standards and monitor animal welfare implementation and to provide comment on animal welfare issues for the OIE.

Disaster Management

The DLD has permanently set up the Emergency Response Team at the Regional and Provincial Levels; one team for each of 9 Regions and one team for every 10 district in a Province for each of 77 Provinces. Each team composes of a minimum of 10 officers who prepare for and respond to any emergency incident, such as a natural disaster or an animal disease outbreak. The measures and SOP for disaster management have been clearly established for the animal disaster preparedness, animal disaster relief and post-disaster rehabilitation. In addition, the maximum budget of 50 million Baht (1.7

million USD) can be immediately permitted by the Governor for alleviation of sudden affliction.

Conferences

In the 37th International Conference on Veterinary Science held in Thailand on 29 February – 2 March 2012, the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) and the Thai Veterinary Medical Association under the Royal Patronage (TVMA) hosted a half day session on the Disaster management for animals: The need for National Animal Welfare Emergency Management. The presentations were delivered by the various organizations regarding the frameworks for animal relief in the aftermath of disaster including the case studies; and the Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS) were presented by the WSPA representatives. Draft guidelines of network and implementation on disaster management for animals in Thailand were proposed and discussed in order to set up working team(s) to relieve animals in disaster situations and avoid duplication of work.

Training

Two officers, one from the DLD and one from the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, attended the LEGS Regional Training of Trainers Course organized by the WSPA in the Philippines. Both officers are required to be conducted in country LEGS Training Courses.

Two training courses on animal welfare pre-slaughter and slaughter will be conducted in the second quarter of 2012. One course will be provided for the DLD meat inspectors (190 persons) and the other one will be provided for Poultry Welfare Officer of private poultry slaughterhouses (52 persons).

Country Update - China

Dr Weihau Li, China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center (Qingdao)

In 2011, China animal welfare working group edited the 'Good Practice for the Welfare of Farm Animals' including animal production model code for the welfare of animal (pig, dairy cattle, poultry), the land transport and slaughter of pig/poultry/cattle 'transportation and culling for the purpose of disease control'. In 2012, animal welfare working group will draft the animal welfare standard with the reference of 'Good Practice for the welfare of Farm Animals'.

In 2011 animal welfare working group translated and published 'Livestock Handling and Transport' (3rd Edition, T. Grandin), and 'Domestic Animal Behaviour and Welfare' (4th Edition, D.M. Broom and A.F. Fraser) and 'Long Distance Transport and Welfare of Farm Animals' (Edited by Michael C. Appleby etc.). Those two books are very useful for the animal welfare in China.

To strengthen awareness of the animal welfare in undergraduate. Nanjing Agricultural University edited the textbook 'An Introduction to Animal

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Protection' (Edited by Lu Chengping). And by now, several universities including China/Nanjing/Shandong Agricultural University have set up animal welfare curriculum or added the content of animal welfare in the continuous education.

Country Update - Australia

Mr Jim Paradise, Animal Welfare Unit, Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Canberra)

Australia's Livestock Exports

To ensure animals are being treated in line with international standards, animal welfare has been put front and centre through the implementation of the export supply chain assurance system (ESCAS). This is the single biggest reform in the history of the live export trade and the Australian Government is supporting exporters to implement these important changes.

The government accepted all of the independent Farmer review recommendations as well as the findings of the Industry-Government Working Groups (IGWGs). The Farmer review recommends that the ESCAS apply to all existing Australian markets for the export of animals for slaughter by the end of 2012.

Improved Animal Welfare Program

On 21 October 2011, as part of the regulatory reforms for the live export trade, the Australian Government announced the Improved Animal Welfare Program (IAWP), a \$10 million funding allocation over four years ending in June 2015.

The funding is available in order to improve animal welfare outcomes in Official Development Assistance (ODA) eligible countries that import livestock from Australia. The details of any programs delivered through this assistance program will be settled with eligible nations.

Welfare Standards and Guidelines

The Land Transport Standards and Guidelines have been endorsed and are expected to be implemented into legislation during 2012. Sheep, cattle and horse standards and guidelines are currently in the drafting phase. The Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Exhibit Animals (Zoos) have been drafted and a Regulatory Impact Analysis is in the process of being developed.

Developments under the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy

AAWS Phase 2

Phase 2 of the Strategy has an increased emphasis on business planning, targeting funding for priority activities and collaborative contributions, and includes a 4th goal around engagement in international partnerships to improve animal welfare.

The 5th Australian Animal Welfare Strategy (AAWS) National Workshop, held in Sydney in August 2011, was a valuable opportunity for AAWS stakeholders to engage in the launch and delivery of Phase 2 of the AAWS and the revised National Implementation Plan.

Australian Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AUSAWAC)

The AAWS is overseen by a newly appointed, skills-based Advisory Committee chaired by Dr Gardner Murray and comprised of a mixture of stakeholder representatives and experts in various fields of animal welfare.

The inaugural meeting of the AUSAWAC was held on 13-14 October 2011 in Sydney and met again on 14-15 February 2012 in Melbourne. It will report annually on its progress and achievements against the National Implementation Plan.

OIE Collaborating Centre on Animal Welfare Science and Bioethical Analysis

The Third Meeting of the OIE Collaborating Centre on Animal Welfare Science and Bioethical Analysis was held on 26-27 October 2011 in Wellington, NZ.

The Center pledged its continued support for the RAWs and has submitted a twinning application to the OIE with the aim of supporting implementation of the OIE Regional Animal Welfare Strategy for Asia, The Far East and Oceania through 2 work programs focussing on assisting implementation of OIE standards on transport and slaughter.

Participation in International Conferences

The European Commission held an international conference to launch the new EU strategy 2012-2015 in Brussels on 29 February - 1 March, entitled 'Empowering consumers and creating market opportunities for animal welfare'.

The First FAO Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Animal Welfare was held in Brussels on 1-2 March 2012, entitled 'Who's who in animal welfare'. Mr Jim Paradise attended and presented on behalf of Australia in the session on 'Sharing successful practices and experiences: the voice of the governmental institutions'. His presentation focussed on arrangements for legislative responsibility for animal welfare in Australia, DAFF's policies and programs, and past, present and future examples of animal welfare activities and initiatives including the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy and live export reforms.

Country Update - New Zealand

Dr David Bayvel on behalf of Dr Kate Littin, Animal Welfare Standards Branch, New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Wellington)

Government & Ministerial portfolio changes

- MAF has become the Ministry for Primary Industries, in line with the new portfolio of the Minister, Hon David Carter, who has responsibility for

animal welfare. The Ministry's new vision is "Growing and protecting New Zealand", with a focus on maximising export opportunities, improving primary sector productivity, increasing sustainable resource use and protecting from biological risk.

National Animal Welfare Strategy

- The development of a national strategy, initiated by the Minister, is continuing through 2012 in parallel with the review of the Animal Welfare Act 1999. A draft strategy will be available for public consultation in 2012.

Update on "Safeguarding our Animals, Safeguarding our Reputation" Programme

- MAF is working alongside representatives of farming, transport, and processing industries and the veterinary profession on the major focus for 2012 – fitness for transport and compliance with the Animal Welfare (Transport within New Zealand) Code of Welfare, including relating to bobby calves (unweaned calves for slaughter) and recumbent cattle.
- The "Veterinarians Animal Welfare Toolkit", launched in August 2011, has been very well received with a similar initiative likely to be developed in Australia. A toolkit for farmers is now being collated.

Emergency management

- The National Animal Welfare Emergency Management group (NAWEM) has revised its terms of reference. This will change the way it performs in an emergency response and its remit now includes advocating for animal welfare emergency management education and providing advice to educators and educational institutions.
- MAF has been invited to draft a chapter of an FAO handbook on animal welfare emergency management. It is collaborating with DAFF, WSPA and others, with an anticipated publication date of March 2013.

Welfare Pulse magazine

- The March 2012 issue is available at <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/regs/animal-welfare/pubs/welfare-pulse>. Future issues will be online-only and published more frequently throughout the year. Contributions are welcomed.

Legislative update / key developments

Live animal exports

- The Customs Export Prohibition (Livestock for Slaughter) Order prohibiting the export of cattle, deer, goats, and sheep for slaughter without an exemption from MAF's Director-General, has been extended until December 2013.
- The standards regulating cattle welfare during transport by sea or air freight have been reviewed. Drafts of the new guidance material and the process for issuing Animal Welfare Export Certificates for cattle are currently out for targeted consultation until May 2012.

- The technical guidance material and processes for the application, assessment, and issue of animal welfare export certificates (AWECs) for horses are under review.

Review of the Animal Welfare Act 1999

- Analysis has begun on the key issues to be addressed in the Act review, including the regulatory framework and instruments contained in the Act and specific technical amendments.

Codes of welfare

- Codes of welfare for farmed goats, meat chickens, layer hens, and alpacas and camelids are due to be issued in 2012. The code of welfare for rodeos is under review. An amendment to the code of welfare for dairy cattle, relating to long term housing, is also under development.

International update

- The strategy on Animal Welfare and International Trade signed off by the Ministers of Agriculture, Trade and Food Safety in late 2007 continues to provide the policy underpinning for this area.
- New Zealand is involved in the EU project on zoonoses and companion animals, "CALLISTO" (Companion Animals Multisectorial Interprofessional and Interdisciplinary Strategic Think Tank on Zoonoses). David Bayvel is part of the Policy Actions Group focusing on how technical knowledge about pathogens and diseases can be translated into effective policy actions.
- Massey University is preparing to host the OIE Collaborating Centre for Animal Welfare Science and Bioethical Analysis Training Programme on Animal Welfare, to run from 22 – 31 July, to be covered in a separate update from the Collaborating Centre.
- The EU conducted a joint FVO/SANCO fact-finding mission to New Zealand to gather information on animal welfare standards in approved EU slaughter plants in March-April 2011. A formal decision on equivalence is anticipated by May 2012.

NGO Update - WSPA

Dr Ian Dacre, WSPA Asia Pacific (Bangkok)

Legislative Developments

WSPA continues to engage with New Zealand government officials on the development of a New Zealand Animal Welfare Strategy and the review of the Animal Welfare Act 1999.

Government Initiatives

1. Vietnam

In June 2011, Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) of Vietnam and the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) was signed and

agreed on the framework of cooperation for the period of 2011 to 2015. WSPA's work in Vietnam is focused on the national roll-out of 'Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards' (LEGS) training to Department of Livestock Production (DLP) staff under MARD. The first LEGS training in Vietnam under the cooperation is planned to take place in Hanoi in April 2012.

Moreover, WSPA-supported translation of the LEGS documents into Vietnamese is due at the end of February 2012 and will be reviewed and finalized within the end of 2012.

2. Thailand

WSPA has held a stakeholder meeting on 13 February 2012 gathering various sectors working with animals and in disaster management in Thailand. The objective of the meeting is to form a working group aimed to improve disaster interventions for animals and better animal welfare in the country. The organizations aimed to be in the working group include Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), Department of Livestock Development (DLD), Thai Red Cross, a representative from all 6 accredited veterinary schools in Thailand, Thai Veterinary Council, Thai Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA), and Veterinary Practitioner Association of Thailand (VPAT). The feedback of the meeting was well received. The next step is for the stakeholders to fill in their roles in the Incident Command System (ICS) adjusted by WSPA and then the working group will be discussing towards setting up a committee and work plan.

WSPA held a session on "Disaster Management for Animals" at the 37th International Conference on Veterinary Science in Bangkok, Thailand to share knowledge in animal management in disasters. WSPA also took this occasion to receive comments for the Incident Command System proposed by WSPA.

Training

1. During 29 January 2012-3 February 2012, World Society for the Protection of animals (WSPA) has hosted Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS): Training of Trainers in Manila, Philippines. Participants including WSPA staff were invited from 5 different countries in the region- India, Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand and Philippines. The training was to equip participants to be able to conduct a 3-day LEGS training in their own countries aimed to build capacity to support the saving of lives and livelihoods among livestock owning communities affected by disasters.
2. Development of the 'Concept in Animal Welfare' (CAW).

The 'Concepts in Animal Welfare' (CAW) syllabus comprises of thirty four teaching modules covering a wide range of animal welfare topics, produced in 2003 and revised in 2008, as a result of collaboration between WSPA and the School of Clinical Veterinary Science at the University of Bristol in England. CAW syllabus has now been translated into Korean language and will be distributed to all Korean vet schools, followed by a training workshop this autumn (2012).

To obtain a copy of the CAW syllabus or for more information on the Advance Concepts in Animal Welfare (ACAW) program, please contact Dr Natasha Lee (NatashaLee@wspa-asia.org).

3. WSPA is supporting the OIE Collaborating Centre for AWSBA Training Programme on Animal Welfare which is to be held at Massey University 22-31 July 2012. Titled "Understanding animal welfare: foundations, practice and regulation", WSPA will be assisting with the course content, presentation and delivery.
4. Representatives from 11 countries will receive training on animal welfare held by WSPA during 20th-22nd of March 2012 in Manila, Philippines.

Other

1. WSPA launched its global 'Collars Not Cruelty' campaign, to promote the control of rabies through mass vaccination of dogs without culling, on World Rabies Day (28 September) 2011. The five-year programme will include working with governments and other stakeholders in the Asia Pacific region, to promote and implement this scientifically proven and economically viable, humane alternative for rabies control. The programme couples sound animal welfare principles with a holistic approach to ensure a humane and sustainable outcome, consistent with the OIE's Regional Animal Welfare Strategy. Further updates about specific initiatives planned will be provided in a future issue of the Update.
2. WSPA held an Asia-Pacific Regional Overview Meeting early on February 23rd, 2012 to share and discuss about the organization's animal welfare work in the region which covers 38 countries.
3. WSPA has developed First Concepts in Animal Welfare (FCAW) Programme which aims to integrate animal welfare education into the curricula for primary and secondary schools and ensure that teachers in target countries (Thailand, Vietnam and India) are teaching animal welfare effectively. The FCAW programme was endorsed by the Education for Sustainable Development Unit of UNESCO Asia Pacific

Regional Bureau in 2009 and the Ecological Earth Sciences Unit of the UNESCO India office in December 2011.

FCAW has started in Thailand since 2007 and in 2011 WSPA has launched a one year long animal welfare educator course with Bangkok Metropolitan Authorities and Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) which covers 84 and 9 primary schools in Bangkok and Delhi, respectively.

In 2011 WSPA also developed two teacher activity books, which include 50 lesson plans, fact sheets and work sheets covering WSPA Animal Welfare suggested syllabus.

Country Update - Republic of Korea

Dr Jung Ji Won, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Republic of Korea

Presentation and country update provided to the meeting

Country Update - Bhutan

Dr Kinley Dorji, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests (Thimphu)

Presentation and country update provided to the meeting

**REGIONAL ANIMAL WELFARE STRATEGY
COORDINATION GROUP MEETING
PARTICIPANTS LIST**

- **CHAIR:** Dr Gardner Murray,
- Dr David Bayvel, Chair of the OIE Animal Welfare Working Group, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, New Zealand
- Dr Ian Dacre WSPA Asia – attended Day 2 only
- Dr Jung Ji Won, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Republic of Korea
- Dr Pennapa Matayompong, Department of Livestock Development, Thailand
- Dr Weihua Li, Ministry of Agriculture, China
- Dr Kinley Dorji, Kingdom of Bhutan
- Dr Ira Firgorita, Directorate General Livestock Services, Indonesia
- Dr Mohd Zaid Che Zalina, Department of Veterinary Services, Malaysia
- Dr Ronello Abila, OIE Sub-Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific
- Mr Jim Paradise Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
- Dr Tomoko Ishibashi, OIE Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific

Apologies

- Dr Andrea Gavinelli, Health and Consumers Directorate General, European Commission (Observer)
- Dr Boonpeng Santiwattanatham, Charoen Pokphand Food Public Co. Ltd

BREAK OUT SESSIONS – COMBINED GROUP COMMENTS

Break out session 1: Review of revised and combined RAWs and RAWs Implementation Plan

Chairs: David Bayvel / Jim Paradice

Rapporteurs: Tomoko Ishibashi / Ian Dacre

Initial advice includes the followings:

- Minor review to the text to reflect changes since strategy first drafted in 2007-2008
- On page 4: annual review with major review every 4 years
- On page 5, page 13 and page 25: need to confirm the existence of implementing entity (agency) in each Member involving the focal point
- On page 9: last paragraph to include a reference to trade policy dimension
- On page 11: Specific reference to “mission”? (Purpose=mission?)
- On P15: Senior Officials Meetings, e.g. ASEAN
- On p15: Resource required (i.e. support) Need consistency of language referring Member governments throughout the document
- On page 19: the meaning of “twinning” should be differentiated from OIE funded twinning arrangement
- P26: to keep RAWs as a standing agenda item for Regional Commission meetings (including Regional Conference). Raise at the Regional Commission meeting in May
- On page 28 and after: Need clarification of who is accountable to complete the “achievement” columns
- Need to review, categorize and then prioritize 131+ action items included in the draft action plan
- Clearly identify accountability in each Status column (e.g. HQ vs. RC/secretariat vs. RC/Regional Commission)

Break out session 2: Action Plan development and working relationships with Animal Welfare Focal Points

Chairs: David Bayvel / Jim Paradice

Rapporteurs: Tomoko Ishibashi / Ian Dacre

Secretariat Support

- Appreciate high level support in spite of changes of key staff positions
- Where possible, circulate agenda and back ground documents 4 weeks in advance, and meeting reports within 2 weeks after the meeting
- Circulate 1) ToR of secretariat, 2) ToR of CG, and 3) responsibility of CG members to all regional members

Communication : General

- Ensure all CG members comfortable with “Sharepoint”(quick demonstration today)
- Occasional and selective use of teleconference/video conference where appropriate (among CG members)

Communication : Newsletter

- Clarify the frequency (support quarterly)
- Seek support from Delegates for regular contribution / distribution
- Extend distribution list / use OIE website (HQ? and Regional)

Membership

- Agree AWWG chair to replace David
- Agree industry representatives one from intensive sector and another from extensive sector
- Agree the observers (EC, ASEAN, SAARC, SPC, OIE CC, FAVA)
- Expanded NGO involvement coordinated by WSPA (e.g. regional coalition for animal welfare)

Interaction with Focal Points

- Send NL to FPs and seek regular contribution for NL from FPs (upon agreement of Delegates)
- Encourage Delegates to maintain the continuity of FPs where possible
- Follow up non-attendance FPs by certain members (OIE’s responsibility)
- Important to seek HQ support to organize a mini FP meeting back to back with KL Conference (check the participation of FPs and select 6-8 among them) to review synthesis of key recommendations at Tokyo FP seminar

Terms of Reference review

- Agree with the proposal to review in May 2013 in association with the review of on-going secretariat support options

Relationship with OIE HQ, RC and RRs

- Ensure reasonable time for RC to review any docs they need to endorse
- Ensure full support from RC for RAWS activities including standard agenda item for two yearly Regional Conference
- Investigate option to alternate CG meeting between Bangkok and Tokyo (need closer relationship between RR/SRR with RAWS Secretariat)

Attachment 3

Regional Animal Welfare Strategy Coordination Group		
Meeting 3		
Bangkok 3-4 April 2012		
Day 1		
Tuesday 3 April 2012		
Time	Subject	Speaker
8.30	Registration of participants	
8.45	Opening Ceremony Welcome - Introduction and Purpose	Dr Gardner Murray
9.00	World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Animal Welfare direction - Key OIE and related developments since last meeting	Dr David Bayvel
9.15	OIE AFEO welfare developments in 2011-12 - Focal point meeting and recommendations and progress	Dr Tomoko Ishibashi
9.30	Recommendations and progress since Tokyo Meeting - The RAWs and RAWs Implementation Plan – compilation into a single document and development of an Action Plan (lead in to break out session 1)	Mr Jim Paradice
9.45	Secretariat Report: Arrangements and Communications.	Mr Jim Paradice
10.00	Country / Industry / NGO Presentations - Country Updates and animal welfare initiatives from participants	Meeting Participants
10.25	Group Photo	
10.30	<i>Morning Break</i>	
11.00	Country / Industry / NGO Presentations - Country Updates and animal welfare initiatives from participants	Meeting Participants
12.30	<i>Lunch</i>	
14.00	Review of Regional Animal Welfare Priorities	Discussion
14.30	Break out session 1 (2 Groups) Review of revised and combined RAWs and RAWs Implementation Plan including: - Format/style - Accompanying Action Plan	Discussion

15.30	<i>Afternoon Break</i>	
16.00	Reporting back on break out Session (2 Groups) (Presentation / Discussion / Q&A)	Discussion
16.45	Summary of day 1	Dr Gardner Murray
17.00	Meeting Close	
OFFICIAL DINNER 6.45pm Pre-dinner drinks 7.15pm – Restaurant		

Day 2 Wednesday 4 April 2012		
Time	Subject	Speaker
8.30	Welcome to day 2	
8.35	OIE 3 rd Global Conference on Animal Welfare	Dr Gardner Murray
9.00	Break out session 2 (2 groups) - Action plan development - Working relationships with Animal Welfare Focal Points	Discussion
10.30	<i>Morning Break</i>	
11.00	Reporting back on break out session (2 Groups) (Presentation / Discussion / Q&A)	Discussion
11.45	Meeting Summary and Recommendations	Dr Gardner Murray
12.30	Meeting Close	
12.30	<i>Lunch</i>	