

Country report on animal welfare during long distance transport by land and sea

Saudi Arabia

Speaker(s) name

Multi-regional Whole Journey Scenario workshop on long-distance transport by land and sea between Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa

8 - 10 November 2022, Cairo, Egypt



**World Organisation
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Overview of country livestock transport and trade

- **Main trading countries and routes (by sea and by land):**

1. Somalia-sudan-djuboti- Romania- by sea.
2. Jordan by land.

- **Number of exported/imported animals and trends (2021)**

1. Livestock (sheep, goats, cattle, camel) =4.000.000(2021).
2. Horses (1900)

- **Main border control posts / animal holding or quarantine facilities**

1. Jeddah Islamic port- by sea
2. Alhaditha land port-

- Main border quarantine facilities



Competent Authority(ies)

What is/are Competent Authority(ies) responsible for animal welfare during transport by land and sea?

Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture, Ministry of transportation

What is/are the other Authority(ies) involved cross-border transport of animals by land and sea?

Saudi port authority, Customs Authority

National animal welfare standards

What are a minimum animal welfare standards on animal transport established in your country, that include:

requirements for inspection of animals before, during and after their travel.

the definition of animal ‘fitness to travel’ certification and record keeping?

We have new Saudi regulations regulating the transportation of animals.

Do you have established standards for facilities, containers and vehicles for the transport of animals established in your country?

yes

National animal welfare standards

What are the standards for the competences of animal handlers, drivers and managers of facilities, business operators in relevant animal welfare issues established in your country?

All new standards are based on WOAH standards .

Implementation of the standards

How is the Competent Authority implementing standards on animal welfare during long distance and cross-border transport in your country?

Standards are verified through a cooperation between the MEWA and MOT. In the ports, they are verified by the Ministry's Inspectors, while internally there are some (limited) veterinary checkpoints

Monitoring and evaluation

How is the Competent Authority monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of standards on animal welfare during long distance and cross-border transport in your country?

It is not possible to accurately ascertain the effectiveness of the application of standards at the current stage due to some updates in the responsibilities and tasks of authorities and ministries, and the assessment may take more time.

Cross-border transport of animals

What are the procedures, including certification, applicable before and at departure, in transit and at arrival for cross-border transport of animals by land and by sea your country?

All animal importers must adhere to obtaining an import permit for animals, and to obtain it, they must comply with the animal welfare GCC law and the agriculture law, which stipulate the commitment to animal welfare during transportation in accordance with the criteria set forth in the Terrestrial Law, and the same applies to animal exporters. The inspectors verify the integrity of the documents and the authenticity of the consignments, and in the event of any violations, the violators will be punished.

What is the procedure to report back to the sending Competent Authority significant animal welfare problems which occurred during the journey?

There are multiple ways to report back during transportation within the Kingdom, such as the toll-free number 939 and the “بلغ” application.

Conclusions

Overall, do you consider that your country is in compliance with WOAHA standard regarding animal welfare during long distance and cross-border transport of animals by land?

Saudi Arabia is currently implementing some WOAHA standards for transporting and soon we will implement most of the standards after new regulations applying.

Please list the main gaps/weaknesses or challenges for the Competent Authority(ies) in your country to implement WOAHA standards and country legislation and requirements on animal transport.

Large numbers of importing live animals, restructuring of the ministries sectors and agriculture, privatization some veterinary services, workforce shortage ..etc

Thank you

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