



EU Platform on Animal Welfare

*Regional training seminar for OIE National Focal Points on Animal Welfare
The Hague, The Netherlands, 18-20 June 2019*

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Key differences

OIE Platform

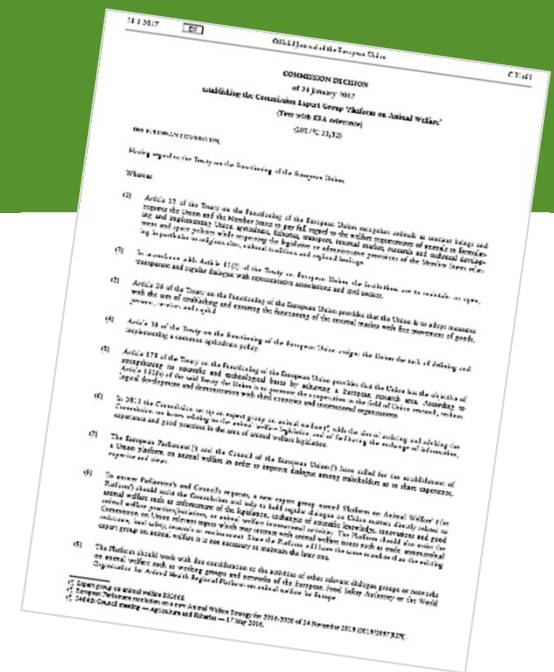
- ✓ *to improve animal welfare in Europe (53 countries);*
- ✓ *to empower Veterinary Services to take action (in compliance with OIE standards).*

EU Platform

- ✓ ***To promote enhanced dialogue and to assist the European Commission on:***
 - ✓ *better application of EU rules on animal welfare;*
 - ✓ *development and use of voluntary commitments;*
 - ✓ *the promotion of EU animal welfare standards.*



Background



- **Commission Decision of 2017** establishing the Commission Expert Group 'EU Platform on Animal Welfare'
- Call for application with 160 applications

Composition

- ***75 members***
 - 35 from public entities
 - 20 from business and professional organisations
 - 10 from civil society
 - 10 scientific independent experts (*9 at present*)
 - 1 observer - Switzerland



Meetings

- **Chaired by the Director General** of DG SANTE;
- **2 plenary meetings** per year;
- **5 meetings** until now;
- **IT Digital tool**



Sub-groups

Two sub-groups managed by the EC

- animal transport (Regulation 1/2005)



- welfare of pigs (Directive 2008/120/EC)



Sub-group on transport

- **Assists the Platform** in areas related to the protection of animals during transport
- **Promotes and complements other EC activities**
 - National Contact Points (NCPs)
 - Project on Animal Transport Guides



Subgroup on the welfare of pigs

Main goal: to reduce the risk of tail-biting

- **Consider existing activities** (*i.e. EU Reference Centre for animal welfare of pigs and projects on pig welfare*)
- **Review the use of indicators and assessment criteria**
- **Promote the exchange of information, experience and good practices and facilitate cooperation**

Voluntary initiatives

- **Five initiatives identified and handled by Members:**
 - Responsible ownership and care of **equidae**
 - Health and welfare of **pets** (dogs) in trade
 - Welfare of **fish**
 - Welfare of **pullets** (laying hens)
 - **Piglets** castration



The way forward

In 2019:

- 7 October: 6th Platform meeting;
- 4th meeting of the subgroup on transport;
- 3rd meeting of the subgroup on pig welfare.

Extension of the Platform mandate until June 2021

More information

- **Web Streaming;**
- **Videos of meetings;**
- Presentations;
- Sub-groups;
- Voluntary initiatives;



https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/welfare/eu-platform-animal-welfare/meetings_en



European
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