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# OIE Chapter 7.12. on the Welfare of Working Equids

Awareness day on the welfare of working equids  
September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
Tashkent, Uzbekistan

# OIE animal welfare standards

# OIE ANIMAL WELFARE INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

- Historical role of the OIE in protecting animal health  
=> animal health standard setting
- Animal health is a key component of animal welfare,
- OIE mandate was broadened in 2002 to include animal welfare and take the lead internationally on animal welfare.



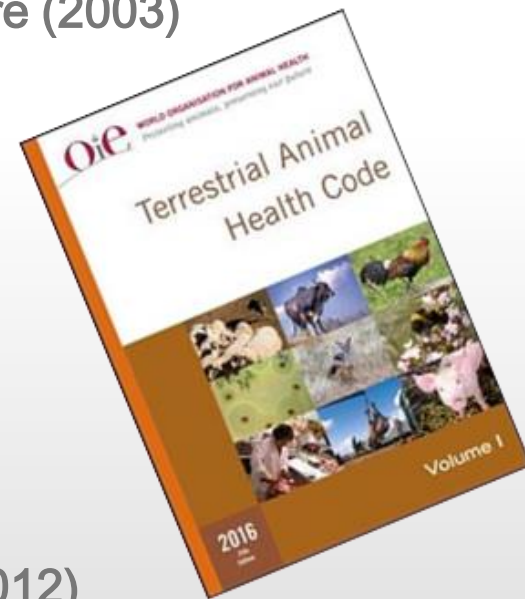
Started international standard setting for animal welfare

# OIE STANDARDS ON ANIMAL WELFARE

## Terrestrial Animal Health Code: Section 7

[\(http://www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-code/access-online/\)](http://www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-code/access-online/)

- Introduction to the recommendations for animal welfare (2003)
- Transport of animals by land (2005)
- Transport of animals by sea (2005)
- Transport of animals by air (2005)
- Slaughter of animals (2005)
- Killing of animals for disease control purposes (2005)
- Control of stray dog populations (2009)
- Use of animals in research and education (2010)
- Animal welfare and beef cattle production systems (2012)
- Animal welfare and broiler chicken production systems (2013)
- Animal welfare and dairy cattle production systems (2015)
- **Welfare of working equids (2016)**

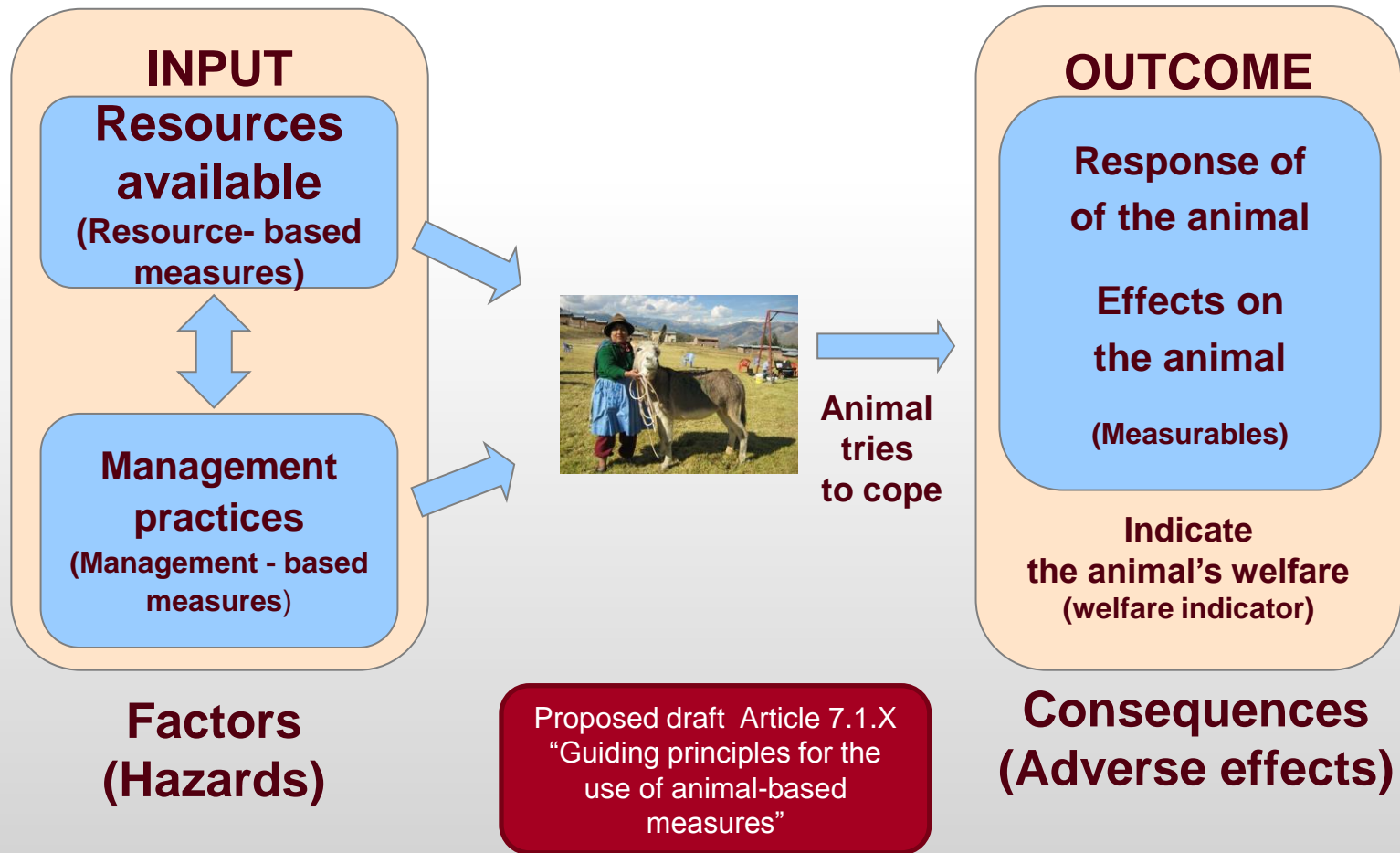


# CHALLENGES FOR STANDARD DEVELOPMENT

- Complexity of Animal Welfare with not only scientific, but also ethical, cultural, religious, economic and political dimensions.
  - **Essential to have a scientific base**, but for adoption, many factors must be considered.
- Need to address AW on a global basis.
  - OIE standards need to be **relevant to all Members**;
  - **Livestock production systems are extremely diverse**, even within the same country,



# CONCEPT SHIFT OF OIE ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS



# Why working animals.....equids

# BACKGROUND (1)

- The relationship between humans and working animals is an important part of the history of mankind.
- Working animals are kept as a source of valuable products, services, financial security and capital.
- A wide range of animal species is used in a very wide range of activities.
- Approximately 1 billion people, including many of the world's poorest, depend directly on animals for their livelihoods.
- The recognition of the 'renewable' nature of animal-derived energy may in future provide an impetus for promoting the use of working animals, and their welfare.



# BACKGROUND (2)

- The OIE should convene an expert group.
- To develop a standard to be included in the Terrestrial Code
- The welfare of animals used in **transport and traction** in poor communities, including in rural and urban settings, should be addressed as a matter of high priority due to the contribution that these animals can make to livelihoods and in light of the urgent need to improve the welfare of these animals.

# BACKGROUND (3)

- The OIE should identify actions to promote the welfare of working animals and, with this objective, to secure **engagement not only of Veterinary Services** but also of government agencies responsible for social and economic development, and of donor organisations”.
- The OIE should promote research that could demonstrate the economic contribution of working animals and the cost/benefit of programs to improve animal health and welfare. In collaboration with a donor organisation, perhaps the OIE could commission a small research project in this area”.

## DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE FUTURE ROLE OF THE OIE WITH RESPECT TO THE WELFARE OF WORKING ANIMALS

[http://www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/esp/Animal\\_Welfare/docs/pdf/Otros/Working\\_equids/A\\_Working\\_equids.pdf](http://www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/esp/Animal_Welfare/docs/pdf/Otros/Working_equids/A_Working_equids.pdf)

# OIE AD HOC GROUPS

- Convened to develop texts on specific topics, as the basis for OIE standards
- Membership: Academia, government and private sector
- More than a hundred experts have participated developing OIE animal welfare standards.

**Welfare of working equids  
*ad hoc* Group**



# Introduction to *Chapter* 7.12.

# ARTICLE 7.12.2.

## SCOPE

- This chapter applies to **horses, donkeys and mules** that are destined, used for or retired from traction, transport and generation of income. Equids used in sports or competitions, leisure activities, research or kept solely for the production of meat or biopharmaceuticals, are excluded.



# ARTICLE 7.12.3. RESPONSIBILITIES

Should have personnel with the requisite knowledge and skill to perform their duties.

- Veterinary Authority
- Other government agencies
- Local government authorities
- Private veterinarians
- Non-governmental organisations
- Working equid owners and users

# ARTICLE 7.12.4. CRITERIA

- 1.Behaviour
- 2.Morbidity and mortality
- 3.Body condition and physical appearance
- 4.Handling responses
- 5.Complications due to management practices
- 6.Lameness
- 7.Fitness to work

# 7.12.5

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Articles 7.12.6 to 7.12.13:

- Feeding and provision of water
- Shelter
- Management of disease and injuries
- Handling and management practice
- Behaviour
- End of working life
- Appropriate workloads
- Farriery and harnessing





# OIE Global Animal Welfare Strategy



## Vision

**A world where the welfare of animals is respected, promoted and advanced, in ways that complement the pursuit of animal health, human well-being, socio-economic development and environmental sustainability.**



# INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS ON ANIMAL WELFARE

## ADOPTED STANDARDS FOR TERRESTRIAL ANIMALS

### TRANSPORT

By sea  
By land  
By air



### SLAUGHTER

Animals slaughtered for human consumption

Animals killed for disease control purposes



### STRAY DOG POPULATION CONTROL



### WORKING EQUIDS

### USE OF ANIMALS IN RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

### PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

Beef cattle  
Broiler chickens  
Dairy cattle



### GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND SCIENTIFIC BASIS

### GUIDELINES

### DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND RISK REDUCTION

In relation to animal health and welfare and veterinary public health

## ADOPTED STANDARDS FOR FARMED FISH

### TRANSPORT

By sea  
By land  
By air



### SLAUGHTER

Farmed fish slaughtered for human consumption

Farmed fish killed for disease control purposes

### INTRODUCTION TO RECOMMENDATIONS



### WORK IN PROGRESS



### SLAUGHTER

Farmed reptiles



### PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

Swine  
Laying hens



Спасибо за внимание.

Gracias por su  
atención

Thank you for your  
attention.

Merci beaucoup pour votre  
attention.



**WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH**  
*Protecting animals, preserving our future*