

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL WELFARE STRATEGY

Media Release

9 August 2011

Targeting improved animal welfare

More than 140 participants have agreed to a new blueprint to deliver sustainable improvements in the welfare of all animals in Australia over the next three years.

A highly successful three-day workshop held recently in Sydney brought together primary producers, animal welfare groups, industry leaders, and representatives of Commonwealth and State and Territory governments, as well as delegates from Indonesia, Malaysia and The Philippines.

The workshop saw the launch of Phase II of the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy (AAWS) and the associated National Implementation Plan.

AAWS is a national plan to guide future improvements for the welfare of animals and provide national and international communities with an appreciation of animal welfare arrangements in Australia.

The new strategy and plan take a truly national approach, focussing attention on key animal welfare issues, providing a framework for investing in sustainable improvements and reporting on progress.

AAWS is supported by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), and brings together representatives of State and Territory governments, industry groups and animal welfare organisations.

Phase I of AAWS began in 2005 and has supported initiatives to improve animal welfare, including standards for the land transport of livestock, standards for the handling of non-production animals, and a model for assessing the humaneness of methods for controlling pest animals.

AAWS Advisory Committee Acting Chair Keith Adams said Phase II of the strategy would target four key goals: understanding and meeting the welfare needs of animals; providing national systems to deliver consistent animal welfare outcomes; assisting people to make ethical decisions regarding animal welfare; and engaging in international partnerships to improve animal welfare.

“Six working groups, covering companion, production, display, aquatic, research and wild animals, have each set out a plan to address these objectives through new on-the-ground animal welfare projects,” Mr Adams said.

“It was a mark of the commitment of all participants that there was unanimous support for the following:

- All groups present endorse the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy (AAWS) 2010-2014 and commit to its implementation
- We agree that all stakeholders are responsible for both raising awareness and delivering outcomes of the AAWS, within their sector and through the broader community
- We strongly agree that to meet the AAWS objectives sufficient resources must be committed by all stakeholders.”

Media Contact:

Suzanne Lewis
0404 116 905

APPENDIX

Organisations Represented at the AAWS National Workshop

Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	Petcare Industry and Advisory Services
Australian and New Zealand Council for the Care of Animals in Research and Teaching	Veterinary Nurses Council of Australia Inc
Australian National Canine Council	RSPCA Australia
Animal Management in Rural and Remote Indigenous Communities	RSPCA NSW
AAWS Advisory Committee	RSPCA Victoria
Australian Veterinary Association	Animals Australia
Cat Protection Society	Northern Territory Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services
Department of Primary Industries Victoria	Animal Welfare Science Centre, Victoria
Pet Industry Association of Australia	Animal Welfare League Australia
Australian Horse Industry Council	World Society for the Protection of Animals

International Animal Welfare
ACT Government
Cattle Council of Australia
CSIRO Livestock Industries
Australian Livestock Markets
Association
University of Queensland Centre for
Animal Welfare and Ethics
WoolProducers Australia
National Farmers Federation
Dairy Australia
Department of Agriculture Philippines
Australian Chicken Meat Federation
Compassion in World Farming
Australian Pork Limited
Animals' Angels
Australian Lot Feeders' Association
Directorate of Veterinary Public
Health
Australian Livestock & Property
Agents
Animal Health Australia
Sheepmeat Council of Australia
NSW Farmers Association
Biosecurity SA
Goat Industry Council of Australia
AgForce QLD
National Meat Industry Training
Advisory Council

Charles Sturt University
Meat and Livestock Australia
Tasmanian Animal Welfare Advisory
Committee
Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers
Association
Australian Dairy Farmers
Australian Egg Corporation Ltd
Kangaroo Industries Association of
Australia
AW English + Associates
Australian Pest Animal Strategy
Department for Environment and
Natural Resources, SA
Australian Department of
Sustainability, Environment, Water,
Population and Communities
Pestat Pty Ltd
OceanWatch Australia
DigsFish Services Pty Ltd
National Aquaculture Council
Australian Bluefin Tuna Industry
Assoc.
National Seafood Industry Council
Department of Fisheries WA
Victorian Recreational Fishers
Representative Organisation
Biosecurity QLD, DEEDI
NSW Animal Welfare Advisory
Council

National Health & Medical Research Council

NSW Young Lawyers Animal Law Committee

University of NSW

Murdoch University

The University of Adelaide

NSW Department of Primary Industries

New Zealand Ministry for Agriculture & Forestry

Australian and New Zealand Laboratory Animal Association

Delta Society Australia Ltd

Office of Research Integrity

University of Melbourne

Department of Primary Industries Tasmania

University of Sydney

Department of Local Government WA

Greyhound Racing Victoria

Working Kelpie Council of Australia

LiveCorp

Australian Barramundi Farmers Assoc Inc

Department of Veterinary Services, Malaysia

Australian Livestock and Rural Transporters Association

Panaquatic Health Solutions

Victorian Farmers Federation

Guide Dogs Victoria

Anthrozoology Research Group, Monash University

Australian Equine Welfare Association

Australian Equine and Livestock Events Centre

NSW Department of Education and Communities

Australian Professional Rodeo Association

Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation

Zoo and Aquarium Association

Circus Federation of Australia

Horse SA