

10 April 2024

Kind Attention:

Mr Dewald Olivier
CEO: Red Meat Association
South Africa
dewaldo@rmis.co.za

Dear Mr Olivier,

As Editor of ***Animal Voice South Africa*** and COO of The Humane Education Trust, I must admit that I was saddened to hear you say on the radio this morning that the trade in live animals to slaughter in the Middle East is set to boom.

Please could you help me understand the economics of this trade which causes so much animal suffering. When we tracked the Bahijah livestock carrier from Australia to Israel recently, it was horrific, in my view, that these 16 000 animals had to travel across more than the circumference of the earth at the equator, to reach their slaughter destination.

Apart from the immensity of their suffering which is all too evident, surely the cost of the carrier ship together with the costs in animal feed, veterinary care, and staff, must far exceed the costs that would be incurred if the meat were to be transported frozen or chilled? Please could you let me know how these figures compare.

Moreover, the animals often face cultural slaughter that would not be allowed in South Africa. Surely we owe as humane a death as possible to our South African animals, at the very least?

With thanks for your consideration of this email,



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