

05 April 2024

Kind Attention:

**Ms Monique Éloit** Director-General: World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH)

and

**Secretary-General Mathias Cormann:** Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

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Copy to:

**Dr Mphane Molefe** Director: Veterinary Public Health, Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development

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We, the citizens of South Africa appeal to you to help bring an end to the long-distance trade in live animals to slaughter.

Basis upon which *The Humane Education Trust* makes this appeal:

- The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) recently aligned its standards with the Five Freedoms for Animals as encompassed in the World Organization for Animal Health's definition of animal welfare.  
See: <https://www.oecdwatch.org/the-updated-oecd-guidelines-and-animal-welfare-from-recognition-to-reality/>  
Without political will, standards remain a mere spouting of empty words.
- In December 2023, the United Nations General Assembly itself called for urgency to ensure that animal health and welfare can contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals, and to the One Health approach (Resolution A/RES/78/168). In addition, the United Nations Environment Programme's Faith for Earth Coalition, launched *Al Mizan: A Covenant for the Earth* at the UN Environment Assembly in February 2024. This important Islamic covenant for the earth, speaks of all created beings having rights, and of mercy to all beings.  
See: <https://animal-interfaith-alliance.com/2024/03/04/un-faith-for-earth-launches-al-mizan-a-covenant-for-earth>

Please see our website and petition for a halt to be brought to the live animal trade in long-distance transport to slaughter.

See here: <https://www.animalvoice.org/>

The suffering of the animals exploited by this trade is a violation of our collective human right to dignity, and a mockery of the *Five Freedoms* and *Five Domains for Animals*.

Kind regards,



LOUISE VAN DER MERWE

**Managing Trustee** | The Humane Education Trust

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