

OIE ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS IN THE LEGISLATION-

EXPERIENCE OF CHINA

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OIE adopted its global guidelines for animal welfare in 2005. In order to keep animal and human health, some Chinese authorities have focused on animal welfare standards legislation, animal welfare, animal health, and veterinary public health. Some achievements, specially on animal welfare in farm animals and stray dogs, have been acquired.

In early 2008, animal welfare working group of Ministry of Agriculture of China was established. The book in Chinese: *Good Operating Guidelines for Farm Animal Welfare*, was published in 2011. The two OIE books: *Domestic Animal Behaviour and Welfare* (4th edition) and *Livestock Handling and Transport* (3th edition), have been translated into Chinese. To collect more information about animal welfare in China, the working group made an investigation on cattle and dairy farm in 2012. Some research programs on farm animal welfare, e.g. “Livestock environment stress response in production and transportation and control technology research”, were supported by Special Fund of Agricultural Ministry. Some achievements have been acquired.

For stray dog, the law about how to control population and how to improve the animal welfare has been issued in the big cities, such as Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou and so on. The non-governmental animal protection organizations in China are becoming popular. They not only save stray dogs and cats, but also try to control their population through the surgical operation.

All OIE animal welfare standards, including six livestock standards, experimental animal standard, stray dog standard and aquatic animal standards have been translated into Chinese and will be published soon. The people who are enthusiastic in animal welfare have been proposing to legislate to improve animal welfare at national level.

Keywords: animal welfare – farm animal – stray dog – China.