



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

FAO Expert Meeting

on

Capacity Building to Implement Good Animal Welfare Practices

Rome, Italy, 29 September to 3 October 2008

Call for Experts

Background

Animal welfare is an area of active scientific research and development, it is also an emotive issue that has ethical, production, economic, social, cultural and trade consequences for FAO members from both developed and developing countries. The **Animal Production and Health Division (AGA) of FAO** is to organize an Expert Meeting to review the current knowledge on animal welfare standards, practices and policies and to advise it on the requirements for capacity building especially in developing countries. Both the impact and benefits of promoting animal welfare in developing countries will be analysed. Options for how FAO can contribute to informing and supporting producers in developing countries to the benefits of promoting good animal welfare practices will be explored.

The first day – Monday 29th – will be open forum to provide an opportunity for genuinely interested parties to provide and present relevant material directly to the selected experts to assist them in their deliberations. The remaining four days of the meeting will be closed sessions but the report of the meeting will be published.

Objectives of the Expert Meeting

Within the broader goal of supporting livestock related livelihoods, sustainable livestock development and ensuring fair trade practices, the objectives of the meeting are to:

- review the current state of scientific knowledge related on animal welfare;
- update information on existing or proposed animal welfare standards and practices;
- analyze the implications of animal welfare policies and standards on international trade with a focus on developing countries;
- analyze the likely impact and implications of animal welfare policies on the development of livestock sections in developing and emerging economies;
- identify the potential benefits of promoting good animal welfare practices in developing countries;
- identify the capacity and institutional constraints that developing countries need to overcome to ensure they benefit and fairly treated by animal welfare policies; and
- advise FAO on its role and possible contribution to support its members to maximise the potential benefits and mitigate against any negative consequences of applying animal welfare standards and practices.

Call for Experts (Deadline for submission: 6 July 2008)

FAO is seeking suitable qualified experts to participate in this meeting with professional or practical experience in the following areas:

- Animal welfare policies and legislation;
- Scientific guidelines, standards and practices during production, transport and slaughter of farm animals;
- Animal welfare assessment;
- Animal welfare and international trade;
- Socio-economic impact of animal welfare; and
- Capacity building methodologies and tools.

The selected experts will be invited to participate in the meeting and to contribute with background material and papers. Experts are selected in their 'personal capacity' and will be asked to sign that they are not presenting any particular organization or group.

The expert meeting will be held in English and all meeting documentation and correspondence will be in English.

FAO will provide economy class air travel and a living allowance (at the prevailing UN rates) for the days spent in Rome. No daily honorariums are paid.

Interested applicants are kindly requested to submit their *curriculum vitae* including a description of their work experience and if applicable a list of peer-reviewed publications, particularly those related to the subject of the Expert Meeting.

Selection of experts

FAO has developed procedures for selecting and designating experts that assure transparency, excellence and independence of the opinion expressed. In selecting experts, FAO will consider, in addition to scientific and technical excellence, diversity of backgrounds and balanced representation from geographic regions, gender and the major stakeholders will be taken into account.

Selection process

All submitted applications shall be reviewed by a panel that will determine whether the applicants meet the following selection criteria:

- Relevance of academic qualifications and professional/practical experience in the required area (see under Call for Experts);
- Scientific publications in peer-reviewed journals in areas related to the subject of the Expert Meeting and/or practical experience in these topics;
- Leadership of, or invited participation, in national or international scientific committees pertinent to the topics;
- Working knowledge of the English language.

Please submit applications, data and relevant information (by email and / or hard copies), not later than 6 July 2008 to:

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