

Joint COE EU TAIEX OIE WORKSHOP



“Development of Council of Europe Conventions for Protection of Animals - ethics, democratic processes, and monitoring”

*David G. PRITCHARD
Chairman T-AP Standing Committee*

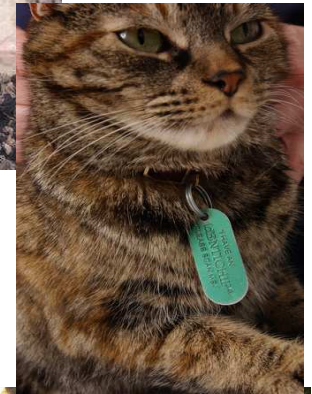
*23-24 November 2006 Strasbourg
Alsace France*

Photo Photo
ALSACE.com ALSACE.com

- What is Council of Europe ?
- Why does CoE have Conventions on animals?



- Ethical basis
- Transport
- Farmed animals
- Pets,



- How?

- Democratic processes
- Handling conflict- science and practice
- Monitoring

- Future?

- Updating
- New recommendations
- More Parties



COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

EUROPE D'EUROPE DES

40

46

WHAT IS THE COE?

Intergovernmental Organisation

46 Countries 5 Observers

AIMS

- Protect and Promote human rights
- Rule of law
- Pluralist Democracy

COUNC

WHY have Conventions on animal protection?

PE

EUROP

COE recognises

ES

-Animal welfare is as important

-Contributions animals make to human health and quality of life

46

1. respect for animals counts among the ideals and principles which are the common heritage of State members as one of the obligations upon which human dignity is based.

2. animal protection a topical subject on which governments have agreed to the necessity of concerted action



COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Ethical principle of all Conventions for animal use and protection

-”for his own well-being, man may, and sometimes must, make use of animals, but that he has a moral obligation to ensure, within reasonable limits, that the animal’s health and welfare is in each case not unnecessarily put at risk.”

-Each Convention has addressed particular areas of ethical concerns

Convention for... International Transport (ETS 65 1976)



WHY?

1961-” Humane treatment is one the hallmarks of Western Civilisation”

BUT ...even in ..Member States of CoE the necessary standards are not observed

Animated by the desire to safeguard ...animals in transport...from suffering

..Progress possible though adoption of common provisions for international Transport

Laid down essential principles for all species

Loading pigs by stock ramp



Revised Convention for... International Transport (ETS 165 2003)



30 Years experience of implementation

WHY? Update .. New science and practical experience

Preparation for journey

Loading to unloading

Detailed standards for road sea air and rail

Cattle sheep, goats, pigs, poultry horses

Vehicle design fitness to travel handling, veterinary controls



a

onment
Affairs

www.cocint.org/animalwelfare



•‘Have we the right to rob (animals) of all pleasure in life simply to make more money more quickly out of their carcasses?’

Ruth Harrison 1964 Animal Machines.
Vincent Stuart Ltd: London, UK

Astrid Lindgren

*It might be possible to guarantee that young animals ...
get a little summertime happiness,
at least a temporary relief from the floors of barns,
and crowded spaces where the poor animals
are stored until they die.*

*Let them see the sun just once;
get away from the murderous roar of the fans.
Let them get to breathe fresh air for once..”.*



BRAMBELL COMMITTEE 1965

“ more was needed to protect animal welfare more than just preventing wanton cruelty.”

Significantly they noted that animals were **sentient** stating

“Animals show unmistakable signs of suffering from pain, exhaustion, fright, frustration and can experience emotions... and pleasure



Convention for protection of farmed animal (ETS 87 1976)

- Principles
 - to avoid any unnecessary suffering or injury and
 - to secure conditions that shall be in conformity with physiological and ethological needs of the individual animals and
 - in accordance with established experience and scientific knowledge.
- Scope:
 - Applies to the keeping, care and housing of animals, in particular animals in automated modern housed intensive stock-farming systems
 - Animals kept for the production of food, wool, skin or fur or for other farming purposes.



Convention for protection of farmed animal (ETS 87 1976)

- Convention requires keepers of intensely kept farm animals to a 'duty of care' to their animals
- Bearing in mind that the environment and management have to meet animal needs rather than trying to adapt the animals by procedures such as mutilations

– Welfare criteria

- Feed & Water
- Freedom of movement
- Staffing
- Inspection
- Disease treatment
- Records
- Housing
- Environment
- Equipment
- Mutilations

PIG BEHAVIOUR



- **Enriched environments**
 - growing pigs spent one third daylight hours rooting (Stolba and Wood-Gush, 1981)
- **Non-enriched environments**
 - growing pigs spend one fifth
 - of active time nosing concrete
 - and metal (Beattie et al., 1995)
 - Spend longer periods
 - manipulating penmates (Fraser et al., 1991)





DPE

re

Protocol of amendments to Convention for protection of farmed animal (ETS 193 1992)



- CONCERNS
- Biotechnology was developing rapidly and had both positive and negative aspects for the welfare of animals
- Genetics and novel genetic combinations
- Selection for fast growth or yield
- Balance selection for production traits and welfare traits
- PRINCIPLES
- that for both artificial and natural breeding should not result in suffering or injury to the animals involved and
- a wide ranging obligation to ensure that animals kept for farming purposes could be kept without detrimental effects to their health or welfare

Protocol of amendment to Convention for protection of farmed animal (ETS 193 1992)



- Extended scope to intensively kept animals not dependent on automation
- Biotechnology
- Breeding procedures
- Genetic selection

- Welfare criteria
 - Feed & Water
 - Freedom of movement
Staffing
 - Inspection
 - Disease treatment
 - Records
 - Housing
 - Environment
 - Equipment
 - Mutilations
 - **Breeding procedures**

Convention for protection of PET animals (ETS 125 1987)



- ETHICS & CONCERNS
- Respect all living creatures
- Pet animals have a special relationship with man
- Pet animals in contribute to the quality of life and so valued
- Risks- overpopulation for hygiene, health, safety of man and other animals
- Wild animals as pets should not be encouraged
- Some types of keeping pets posed a risk to their health and welfare.
- Common standards of attitude and practice
- Responsible pet ownership

Convention for protection of PET animals (ETS 125 1987)



- PRINCIPLES
- Nobody shall cause a pet animal unnecessary pain, suffering or distress
- Nobody shall abandon a pet animal
- SCOPE
- covers all household pets for private enjoyment and companionship;
- animals intended or bred for such purpose as well as
- sanctuaries and stray animals

Convention for protection of PET animals (ETS 125 1987)



- . PROVISIONS
 - breeding,
 - boarding,
 - keeping,
 - age limits on acquisition, training,
 - trading,
 - commercial breeding and boarding,
 - animal sanctuaries, advertising, entertainment,
 - exhibitions, competitions and similar events,
 - surgical operations,
 - killing,
 - supplementary measures for stray animals



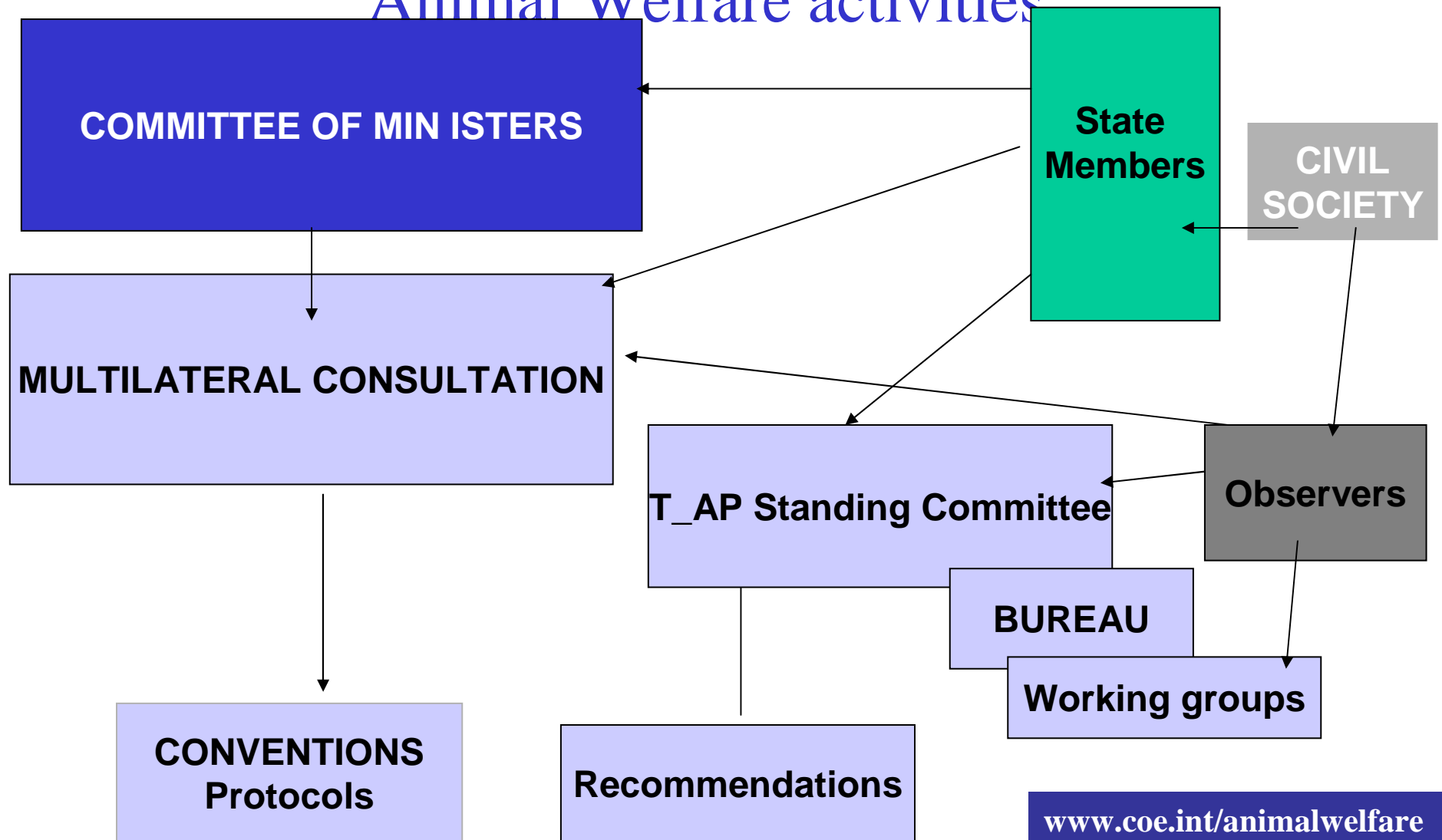
DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES

- The Convention- based committees
- representatives of contracting parties.
- political and technical value of the legal instruments is based on a close collaboration with non-governmental organisations representing the different sectors concerned
 - veterinarians,
 - animal behaviour specialists, scientists,
 - animal protection associations,
 - farmers, etc.
- Close collaboration with European Union.



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

DEMOCRATIC PROCESS in relation to **CoE** Animal Welfare activities



T-AP working Practices

- Unanimity
- Lengthy negotiations
- In depth review of science and practice
- On the spot visits
- Use of Animal welfare Councils and EFSA
- Transparency website



Handling conflict between science technical advice and practice

- Convention Committees have frequently recognised the conflict, sometimes real and sometimes perceived, between the use of animals by man for economic, social, cultural and religious reasons and practices which are not ideal for their protection.
- Recommendations firmly based on science and practical experience to determine animal needs.

Handling conflict between science technical advice and practice

- Recommendations define biological characteristics of the species : includes
- its origin and domestication,
- behaviours in nature including social behaviour and communication, and
- any special cognitive and physiological aspects including breeding
- summarises salient features of farming systems

T-AP- Definition of essential needs

- defines of essential needs to enable an individual to maintain its health and welfare
- by safeguarding its physiological and mental functions including performing satisfactorily species specific behaviour.



Resolving conflict between science practice, economics culture

- Explanatory report: international transport of slaughter animals
- Limit specific procedures e.g. slaughter without prestunning
- Specification of welfare outcomes in terms of levels of behaviour , disease or injury
- Key environmental parameters essential to welfare of an animal e.g. for fish general requirements we laid out in the recommendation and annexes for each group of fish lays down key environmental parameters such water quality .
- Absence of appropriate scientific information and practical experience to resolve an issue the recommendation indicates to parties areas requiring further research e.g Turkeys
- Agreee to future review

FUTURE



- Conventions - to revise in the light of new scientific knowledge, biotechnology, new systems of husbandry and extension to cover a wide variety of species.
- Emphasis on improved monitoring of implementation of the Conventions.
- Continued close cooperation with the European Union .

- Parties have continued to ratify the Conventions.
- Increasing awareness of welfare should result yet further Parties considering using the Conventions to provide a firm foundation for their legal measures to improve the welfare of animals

CoE Conventions



Pets



Farmed livestock



Transport



Laboratory
Animals



Slaughter

Thank You