



LIVESTOCK WELFARE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Established 1978

Livestock Welfare Coordinating Committee
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POSITION STATEMENT

EXPORT OF LIVESTOCK BY SEA FOR SLAUGHTER

The practice of exporting farm livestock by sea from South Africa for the purpose of slaughter at an overseas destination is illogical and inherently prone to cause unnecessary and avoidable suffering in these animals. There is no rational or acceptable reason to transport livestock for long distances for long periods in poor, crowded conditions with many unavoidable hazards and risks, only to be slaughtered on arrival at the destination. The quality of the meat is likely to be affected. There are also no religious reasons why livestock cannot be slaughtered according to the required rites in South Africa at an export abattoir, and then the meat sent in refrigerated form overseas. This creates employment here and promotes food safety and security.

There is voluminous supportive evidence available to show that transporting livestock by sea is inherently dangerous to animal welfare and must therefore not be allowed. The international reputation of South Africa will be enhanced if we take a principled position against this inhumane and unacceptable practice. We therefore strongly recommend that further exports of live animals for the purpose of slaughter no longer be allowed and that a formal ban on this practice be instituted.

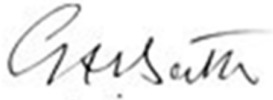
The LWCC is a voluntary non-government organisation funded entirely by various livestock industries and arrives at its conclusions by an inclusive process of gathering information, thorough debate and then formulation of a consensus position statement. The LWCC currently has the following membership:

Agency for Food Safety (AFS)
Department of Animal and Wildlife Science (DAWS)
Department of Land Reform and Agriculture (DLRA)
Gauteng Department: Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)
International Meat Quality Assurance Services (IMQAS)
Livestock Animal Welfare Association (LAWA)
Milk Producers' Organisation (MPO)
National Animal Health Forum (NAHF)
National Council of SPCAs (NSPCA)
National Emergent Red Meat Producers Organisation (NERPO)
National Wool Growers Association (NWGA)

Red Meat Abattoir Association (RMAA)
Red Meat Industry Forum (RMIF)
Red Meat Producers Organisation (RPO)
Ruminant Veterinary Association of South Africa (RuVASA)
SA Stud Book
South African Bureau of Standards (SABS)
South African Federation for Livestock Auctioneers (SAFLA)
South African Feedlot Association (SAFA)
South African Mohair Growers' Association (SAMGA)
South African Ostrich Business Chamber (SAOBC)
South African Police Service (SAPS)
South African Pork Producers' Organisation (SAPPO)
South African Veterinary Association (SAVA)
South African Veterinary Council (SAVC)
University of Pretoria, Faculty of Veterinary Science (UP - FVS)

Adopted: 2012

Revised: 2019

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gareth Bath', written in a cursive style.

Gareth Bath
CHAIR: LWCC