



Australian Government

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

A horizontal collage of various agricultural and marine products, including oranges, wheat, corn, and fish, set against a green background.

# Supporting OIE animal welfare standards: Australia's Approach

*1 December 2011*

Jim Paradise – RAWs Secretariat/Australia  
OIE National Focal Points Seminar for Animal Welfare

# Presentation Summary

1. Live Export

2. Land Transport Standards

3. Australian Slaughter Standards



# Live Exports

1. Drivers for change
2. International action
3. Actions to date
4. Domestic action



# Live Exports

## Drivers for change:

- Poor animal welfare outcomes in some supply chains
- Australian community expectations for the humane treatment of animals
- Industry sustainability
- Needs of importing countries



# Live Exports

## Actions to date:

- Announcement of lifting of suspension of trade with Indonesia 6 July 2011
- Regulatory framework implemented live feeder and slaughter cattle exports to Indonesia
- Over 100,000 cattle exported to Indonesia to 21 October 2011



# Live Exports

Recommendations for change have been made in following reports:

- Farmer Review
- IGWG on live cattle exports
- IGWG on live sheep and goat exports
- Report on restraint boxes by the Australian Chief Veterinary Officer



# Live Exports

## Objectives of the new framework:

- Support a strong and commercially viable livestock export trade
- Safeguard animal welfare outcomes
- Provide importing countries with confidence that Australia is a reliable trading partner



# Live Exports



## Australian exporters will need to show:

- Internationally agreed animal welfare requirements are met
- Control of animals through the supply chain
- Tracking/accountability of animals
- Independent auditing and reporting

# Live Exports

In developing the framework engagement has occurred with:

- Industry
- State and territory governments
- Importing country governments
- Animal welfare groups



# Live Exports

## Implementation:



TRANCHE	IMPLEMENTATION DATE	PERCENTAGE OF TRADE
Existing	Post-arrival regulatory arrangements already in place.	75 per cent
Tranche 1	By 29 February 2012	
Tranche 2	By 31 August 2012	99 per cent
Tranche 3	By 31 December 2012	100 per cent

# Live Exports

## Government Assistance:

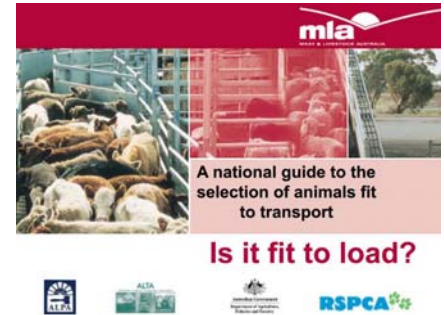
- The Australian Government Approved Supply Chains Program - \$5m over 2 years
- Australian aid to improve animal welfare outcomes in (ODA) eligible countries - \$10m over 4 years



# Live Exports

## Domestic Action

- Review the Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock (ASEL) by 28/2/2013
- State and Territory Govts to legislate enforceable welfare standards
- Implement unique individual animal identification domestically as soon as practicable
- Encourage industry to implement a through-chain quality management system



# Live Exports

## Domestic Actions cont:

- Enhance system of Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) accredited veterinarians
- Review shipping standards and carriage of livestock
- Review post-arrival conditions for export of breeder livestock



# Land Transport Standards

1. Introduction
2. Ministerial Council endorsement
3. Comparison with the OIE Standards

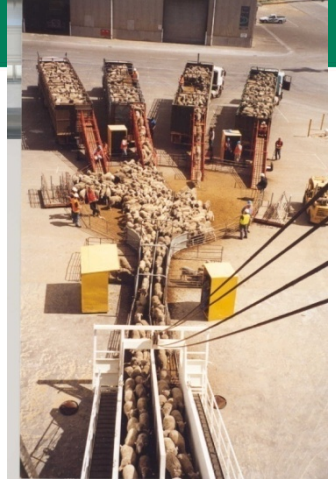


# Land Transport Standards

Existing model codes reviewed and revised

– new standards and guidelines

- Covers road, rail & by a vehicle aboard a ship
- Covers major livestock industries
  - alpacas, buffalo, camels, cattle, deer, emu, goats, horses, ostrich, pigs, poultry & sheep
- applies to ALL persons responsible for livestock transported
- Stockman, owner, agent to receiver



# Land Transport Standards

## Time line:

- LTS Development -2007 and 2008
  - Extensive consultation
  - Small writing group which was managed by AHA
  - Seven reference group meetings
- Incl. 90 days public consultation
- Regulation Impact Analysis March – May 2008
- Post RIA revision of document



# Land Transport Standards

## Ministerial Council endorsement

- PIMC endorsement – May 2009
- Standards legislated by states and territories
- Implementation ongoing – expected to be finalised 2011
- Mechanism for nationally consistent legislation and outcomes
- Extension, compliance & enforcement important next steps
- QA – ALTA's TruckCare model





# Comparison with OIE Standards

There is no significant differences between the Australian standards and the relevant OIE standards, except for the following:

- SA1.2 documentation to accompany livestock;
- SA2.1 competency requirements;
- SA4.1 livestock to be assessed as fit for intended journey;
- SA5.8 use of electric prodders on animals under 3 months old; and
- SA6.7 (humane destruction of newborns by blunt trauma to head).

# Australian Slaughter Standards

- Slaughter in Australia is consistent with international welfare standards
- International standards are set by the OIE in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code chapter 7.5
- Australia supports and promotes the OIE's approach



**Thank you**

