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**Vedr.: Skriftlig høring - kapitler til OIE's Terrestrial Animal Health code**

Som svar på henvendelse af 10. april 2017 skal DOSO komme med følgende høringssvar:

'World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) Global Animal Welfare Strategy'

**DOSO** approve the OIE's vision for animal welfare and suggest, that species-specific behaviour is considered as basis for development of animal welfare standards.

Chapter 7.1.

'Introduction to the recommendation for animal welfare'

Article 7.1.1.

**Definition-General considerations**

**DOSO** find, that the text: 'able to express behaviours that are important for its well-being' is too open for interpretations. 'Freedom to express natural patterns of behaviour' is more precise as 'natural behaviour' can be defined for all species. ('Introduction to the recommendations for animal welfare', 7.1.2.2)

Article 7.1.X.

**Guiding principles for the use of animal-based measures to assess animal welfare**

**DOSO** find it scientifically proven, that the animals' ability to express natural behaviour is as important as the five freedoms for animal welfare and should therefore be included as a requirement in this article.



Draft chapter 7.X.

'Animal welfare and pig production systems'

A separate article stating, that animals should be provided with an environment that support normal behavior, should be included as a requirement in this chapter.

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**DOSO** finds it scientifically proved, that the animals' ability to express natural behaviour is of crucial importance to animal welfare and ought therefore to be included in the definition of animal welfare for pigs in the pig production systems.

Article 7.X.20.

Weaning

**DOSO** finds the Ad hoc group's decision not to **accept the new text as Code recommendations** highly regrettable as early weaning result in discomfort and pain on the part of the piglets. In addition, the quantity of antimicrobial agents administered are higher (by a factor 20) when piglets are weaned after 3-4 weeks than weaned after 7 weeks to stop diarrhoea caused by immature immune systems and gastrointestinal canal. ('Introduction to the recommendations for animal welfare', 7.1.4.4. and 7.1.4.7)

By accepting warnings against early weaning as a point in its Code recommendations the OIE could play a positive role in the global attempt to reduce risks to human health and safety from the alarming levels (WHO) of antimicrobial resistance.

Med venlig hilsen

**DOSO**

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Formand

Bente Tolley  
Konsulent, Anima