

### **OIE seminar for national Focal Points for animal welfare, Tokyo, 2011**

The World Organisation for Animal Health (the OIE) has a programme of capacity building for OIE Delegates and National OIE Focal Points. Focal Points are people designated by the Delegate to support compliance with national obligations and to support the Delegate in animal disease notification, wildlife, aquatic animals, veterinary products, animal production and food safety, animal welfare and communication.

Within this framework, a second Regional Seminar for OIE National Focal Points for Animal Welfare was held in Japan on 30 November–2 December 2011, for the Asian, Far East and Oceania region. It aimed to provide participants with information on the OIE, its international standards on animal welfare and the role of focal points, an update on the OIE's animal welfare work programme, and an appreciation of the links between animal welfare, society and trade. It was also to give an opportunity for animal welfare Focal Points to share experiences and establish networks within the region, particularly to support implementation of the Regional Animal Welfare Strategy (see <http://www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant->

[health/welfare/regional\\_animal\\_welfare\\_strategy\\_for\\_asia\\_the\\_far\\_east\\_and\\_oceania](http://www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/welfare/regional_animal_welfare_strategy_for_asia_the_far_east_and_oceania)).

Small working groups were tasked with considering strategies for implementing OIE standards consistent with the Regional Animal Welfare Strategy. Discussions addressed the following questions and were written up as reports (copies attached):

- How to improve knowledge and capabilities of Veterinary Services, including the role of OIE Collaborating Centres;
- How to improve awareness and knowledge of livestock carers and handlers; and
- How to facilitate the development/improvement of animal welfare legislation.

**OIE Seminar for National Focal Points for Animal Welfare (2011)**. For online access to the presentation slides, the programme and photos, see [http://www.oie-jp.org/representation/programmes/programme\\_i/2011/11\\_Anlmal%20Welfare%20FP%20Tokyo.html](http://www.oie-jp.org/representation/programmes/programme_i/2011/11_Anlmal%20Welfare%20FP%20Tokyo.html)

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