New Convention on Animal Protection

David Favre
Professor, Michigan State University

29th Annual Animal Law Conference
Transforming Our Relationship With Animals
Convention Introduction

• ACKNOWLEDGING that inappropriate contact with and treatment of animals by humans is a risk factor for the emergence and transmission of zoonotic viruses and other pathogens such as COVID-19, which can be mitigated through coordinated international action integrating human health, animal health, and the protection of the environment through the One Health concept,

• DECLARING that animals, as sentient beings, have inherent dignity, worth, and welfare interests that must be conceived of broadly and whose well-being must be protected,
Article 3 - Animals as Reservoirs of Host of Viruses and Other Pathogens

The Contracting Parties shall take all necessary steps to identify species susceptible to being reservoirs or hosts of viruses and other pathogens that may spill over to humankind, and regulate interaction amongst those species, humans, and other animals.
Article 4 – Restricted Species

1. Contracting Parties shall:
   
   a. Prohibit the capture of wildlife, and the keeping, sale, purchase, farming…,

   b. Regulate or prohibit any live animal market

   c. Adopt conservation, mitigation, or adaptation plans.
Article 8 - Captive Wildlife Care

ARTICLE 8
Captive Wildlife Care

The Contracting Parties shall take all necessary steps to ensure that captive wildlife are provided an appropriate species-specific environment and the necessary care for their well-being, mitigate risks of spillover of zoonotic viruses and other pathogens, and prevent cruelty to or unnecessary suffering of captive wildlife, including by evaluating whether a species’ well-being can be provided for in captivity.
1. The keeper of a companion animal shall provide the care and attention required by the species and breed of the animal, and in particular shall:
   a. provide the animal suitable and sufficient food and water;
   b. provide the animal with adequate shelter from adverse environmental conditions;
   c. provide the animal with adequate opportunities for exercise;
   d. provide the animal with the appropriate socialization and mental stimulation; and
   e. take all reasonable measures to prevent escape.
Title 10 - Companion Animals

1. The keeper of a companion animal shall not:
   
   (a) subject the animal to cruel acts or conditions;
   
   (b) restrain an animal so as to preclude it from obtaining adequate food, water and shelter;
   
   (c) train an animal in a way which is detrimental to its health or cause unnecessary pain or suffering; and
   
   (d) use an animal by forcing it to exceed its natural capacities or strengths.
Other categories

- Wildlife Management and Habitat
- Transportation of Animals
- Commercial Animals
- Animals Used in Scientific Research and Testing
- Animals Used in Entertainment
Thanks

conventiononanimalprotection.org