Europe Leads the Way to a Brighter Future for Animals(?)

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Born Free USA & Born Free Foundation
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BORN FREE

with GEOFFREY KEEN

Based on the international best seller by JOY ADAMSON • Written for the screen by GERALD L. C. COPLEY

Music Composed and Conducted by JOHN BARRY • Produced by SAM JAFFE and PAUL RADIN

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HOW THE BORN FREE FOUNDATION HELPS WILDLIFE AROUND THE WORLD...

Campaigning for better animal welfare

Protecting species in the wild
HOW THE BORN FREE FOUNDATION HELPS WILDLIFE AROUND THE WORLD CONTINUED...

Helping individual animals in distress

Campaigning for global protection
HOW THE BORN FREE FOUNDATION HELPS WILDLIFE AROUND THE WORLD CONTINUED...

Advocating good practice

Safeguarding local communities
WHERE BORN FREE WORKS AROUND THE WORLD

Campaigning for change – UK, Europe and worldwide

Rescuing animals in distress – Europe & Africa

Conservation of species – Africa, Asia and worldwide
So, Does the EU Lead the Way to a Brighter Future for Animals?
In formulating and implementing the Union’s agriculture, fisheries, transport, internal market, research and technology development and space policies, the Union and the Member States shall, since animals are sentient beings, pay full regard to the welfare requirements of animals, while respecting the legislative or administrative provisions and customs of the Member States relating in particular to religious rites, cultural traditions and regional heritage.

- Whilst not listed here, it is generally regarded that the welfare of animals protected under environmental law (i.e. zoos, trade) is included

- EU is obliged to uphold its responsibilities towards animal welfare
In theory, animal welfare is a responsibility for many Departments.

DG SANTE has a devoted Unit for animal welfare but only focuses on animals used in food production.

For the European Commission, “Animal welfare is a matter for subsidiarity and proportionality”
CONSULTATION WITH MEMBER STATE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES IDENTIFY A LACK OF CAPACITY

MEMBER STATE QUESTIONNAIRE

- Recognising that Member State competent authorities largely lack the necessary knowledge and access to training, Born Free Foundation decided to identify the knowledge gaps of authorities

- Results demonstrated that competent authorities recognise that they lack knowledge and need access to training

- Need for a centralised information point and leadership
There are believed to be > 3,500 zoos in the EU. Only 260 are members of the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria

The Born Free Foundation’s EU Zoo Inquiry evaluated the implementation of the EU Zoos Directive 1999/22

Findings indicted that the majority of zoos are substandard predominantly because competent authorities lack knowledge
DESPITE REQUIREMENTS, CAPTIVE FACILITIES CAN KEEP WHALES AND DOLPHINS

- 32 of the 33 captive facilities keeping cetaceans are licensed as zoos

- Cetaceans require a spacious and complex environment that smooth-side water tanks are unable to provide

- The Born Free’s EU Zoo Inquiry identified that dolphinaria do not meet the requirements of the EU Zoos Directive 1999/22
The Secretariat will provide Parties with guidance about the practical effects of the accession of the European Union in due course.
• Illegal trade in wildlife valued at 17 billion euros per annum
• EU plays a significant role as consumer and transit hub
• An EU Action Plan is required to address wildlife trafficking
• MEPs for Wildlife established in 2015, following discussions between MEPs and the Born Free Foundation
CONCLUSIONS

• Animal welfare is a moral responsibility of the EU

• Many EU laws include a requirement for animal welfare provision

• Only DG SANTE has a devoted team to improve welfare, but this is currently only focused on the welfare of animals in food production

• Provision of services should not be dependent upon the number of animals

• Relevant law is devolved to Member States to apply and enforce

• Investigations have revealed poor standards in animal welfare

• Member State competent authorities recognise that they lack knowledge and need training

• Need centralised training and enforcement capacity