

SENT: Mon 1/08/2011 3:24 PM

Please accept my submission regarding the Live Animal Export Trade.

All the evidence shown overwhelmingly supports banning live animal exports once and for all.

Australia cannot guarantee the welfare of animals once they leave our shores. Not only do they suffer brutal cruelty at the hands of those people slaughtering them in Indonesia and the Middle East, many millions have died while in transit to these destinations due to the poor conditions in which they are kept during their transport.

Australia has been fully aware for many many years of the cruelty inflicted upon animals by the Middle East and Indonesia, and the deaths during transport, and yet we have done nothing to prevent Australian animals from suffering. Our governments should be ashamed of themselves for allowing this to happen.

It is now time to phase out Live Animal Exports over three years as has been suggested, however in the interim while the industry is phased out, no animal should leave these shores unless it is guaranteed that it will be slaughtered at an abattoir that uses stunning prior to slaughter. If we cannot ensure this the ban on Live Exports should be immediate.

It is not reasonable to give the industry three years to adjust when the Australian Government, LiveCorp, and Meat and Livestock Australia have been well aware of these cruelty issues for such a long time, however I realise it would be difficult to implement a permanent ban as of now. So with this consideration I fully support the phasing out of Live Animal Exports over 3 years while ensuring animals exported in that time are stunned prior to slaughter.

The vision of that poor black beast shaking with terror while witnessing the slaughter of its own kind knowing it's turn was next, will never leave my mind. I will therefore continue to fight to stop Live Animal Exports from Australia for as long as it takes.

Cherie Collins