

Senate Rural Affairs and Transport References Committee

**INQUIRY INTO ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS IN AUSTRALIA'S LIVE
EXPORT MARKETS**

**Index of Documents Tabled at Canberra Hearing
Tuesday, 20 September 2011**

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Tabled by Sen. Thistlethwaite 20/9/11
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MEAT & LIVESTOCK AUSTRALIA

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Date: Friday, 6 May 2011

Director of PT. Sukses Ganda Lestari
Menara Thamrin 3rd Floor, Jl. MH. Thamrin Kav 3 Jakarta

Dear Sir,

I would like to introduce myself, my name is Cameron McDonald and I am the Animal Welfare Manager for Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA)

MLA has recently opened a representative office in Jakarta, of which I am part of and I will be based here for the next 3 years.

MLA provides technical training in many aspects of the cattle industry in Indonesia, such as nutrition, breeding, animal handling and of course animal welfare training both at the feedlot and at the point of slaughter. We also assist with infrastructure such as the installation of restraining boxes and stunning equipment.

The Indonesian industry is under great threat from animal welfare groups in Australia who wish to stop live cattle being exported to Indonesia and other countries around the world.

Currently there is a film crew in Indonesia preparing a story focusing on animal welfare which will be shown on national TV in Australia later in May. This will put great pressure on the Australian Government to stop the trade.

To try and protect the market we have established an animal welfare taskforce which is an industry based group where a nominated person from each feedlot is assigned as the animal welfare officer. They would monitor the activities in each abattoir supplied by that feedlot, and work with MLA and other members of the group to work out how to resolve any issues at each abattoir.

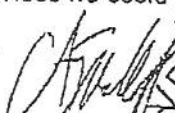
MLA would put those people nominated by the feedlot through an animal welfare and animal handling training course.

The Australian Government in the near future may either shut the trade or put a ban on where cattle are able to be supplied to. Feedlots in Indonesia who are not part of this group and who supply cattle to abattoirs which do not meet certain animal welfare criteria, may in the future not be able to receive cattle from Australia.

The Animal Welfare Taskforce consists now of around 22 people which are predominately from APFINDO members, I would urge you to consider nominating a representative to join the task force so we can all work together to protect this very important trade.

Please don't hesitate to contact me, if you would like to arrange a meeting to discuss the task force or any other services we could provide you or your customers.

Regards


Cameron McDonald
Meat & Livestock Australia
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