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世界愛犬聯盟
World Dog Alliance

International Agreement to Prohibit the Eating of Dog and Cats



Presented By

WORLD DOG ALLIANCE (WDA)



Dear Minister Sandra Borch,

As a dog lover, I founded the World Dog Alliance (WDA) in 2014. The organisation aims to eradicate dog and cat meat consumption worldwide. The WDA is solely funded by my own fortune and we never ask for donations as I have pledged to spend 90% of my wealth on saving dogs and cats, and improving their welfare.

Dog and cat meat consumption is a barbaric culture which is still common in some Asian countries such as China, South Korea and Vietnam, nowadays. Dogs and cats are widely recognised as companion animals. Every country has the responsibility to call for a stop on such practice.

To accelerate the global legislative process, the WDA proposed the International Agreement to Prohibit the Eating of Dogs and Cats in 2019. Over 200 legislators in US, Japan, UK, Norway and Sweden have signed joint letters to their heads of government to show support for this cause.

I sincerely hope that the Norwegian government could take this into account when drafting the wholesome Animal Welfare Bill.

A handwritten signature in black ink is positioned above a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and appears to be 'Hiroshi Horiike'.

Hiroshi Horiike (Genlin)

Founder of World Dog Alliance

About the organisation

The World Dog Alliance (WDA) is an international animal welfare organization. It is founded by Hiroshi Horiike (better known as Genlin) and registered as charity in the United States, France, Japan and Hong Kong.

In 2013, Genlin visited Guizhou, China, and discovered that dog meat was one of the three renowned cuisines there. He was shocked to find out that human's best friends were being served at the dining tables. He then began his investigation on the dog meat industry, revealing the fact that over 30 million dogs were stolen, slaughtered and eaten in Asia every year.

In 2014, Genlin decided to quit his retirement and establish the WDA, dedicating his fortune, time and energy to advocate explicit legislation against dog and cat meat consumption.



Genlin and his dog, Knight

Milestones

WDA's Founding Ceremony



12 Dec 2014

Dog and Cat Meat Ban in Taiwan



11 Apr 2017

Dog and Cat Meat Ban in the US



12 Dec 2018

Dog and Cat Meat Ban in Shenzhen, China



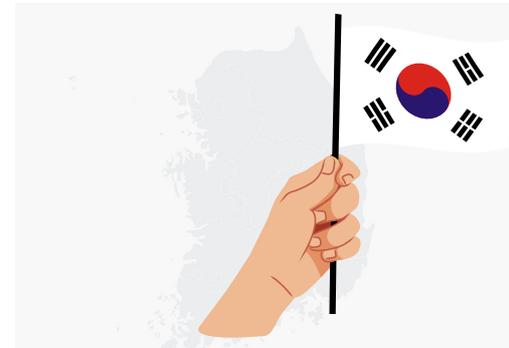
1 May 2020

Landscapes of Dog Meat Consumption



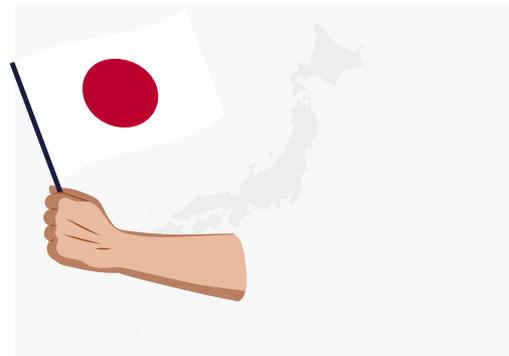
Dog meat is common in the Southern part of China. People believe dog meat is a health tonic. 70% of eaten dogs are stolen pets. The culture of dog meat consumption has led to a chain of crime, including pet thefts, dog-poisoning and smuggling.

Dog meat is a regulated industry in South Korea.
Dogs are classified as 'meat dogs' and 'pet dogs'.
'Meat dogs' have no differences with livestock in farms.
They are left in cages since they were born, and are fed with leftovers dog meat owners take from restaurants.



Vietnamese believe it is an honour to serve their guests dog meat. They would kill their own dogs for food. Dog meat stalls are everywhere on streets. Some people even believe that dog meat tastes even better if the dogs are beaten to death.

Over 100 dog meat restaurants are found in Japan.
Dog meat consumption is brought by Chinese and Vietnamese immigrants.
The number of dog meat imported to Japan is much lower than the amount dog meat consumed in Japan.
Dog meat may have been produced locally.



Dog smuggling is common in Thailand. Dogs are usually smuggled to Vietnam, where dog meat is a common cuisine. Dog meat cannot be sold with better prices than other meat, making smuggling a good business in Thailand. Smugglers tend to catch street dogs or even steal other dogs for their own businesses.



International Agreement to Prohibit the Eating of Dogs and Cats

Proposed by World Dog Alliance on 26 June 2019

Foreword

The dog and cat meat industry is an insidious plague that has a wide range of corrosive effects on societies. It is a major obstacle to the development of humanity and animal protection.

The dog and cat meat industry poses threats to the stability and security of societies; it also undermines universal ethical values, and jeopardizes sustainable development.

The International Agreement to Prohibit the Eating of Dogs and Cats is the first treaty negotiated under the auspices of the World Dog Alliance. The adoption of the International Agreement to Prohibit the Eating of Dogs and Cats will send a clear message that the international community is determined to prevent the eating of dogs and cats, and it will reaffirm the importance of the core value of harmony between humans and animals.

This Convention acknowledges the efforts of World Dog Alliance in tackling dog and cat meat consumption which have successfully pushed forward legislation against the relevant issue in Taiwan (2017), the United States of America (2018) and Shenzhen (2020).

This Convention introduces a comprehensive set of standards, measures and rules that all countries can apply in order to strengthen animal protection policies.

THE CONTRACTING PARTIES,

ACKNOWLEDGING that the welfare of dogs and cats is a common concern of humankind, and
RECOGNIZING that the widespread international concern over the many and varied abuses and theft of cats and dogs for their meat constitute cruelty, and

CONVINCED that international cooperation is essential to improving animal protection policies, and
RECOGNIZING that heretofore there existed no comprehensive international agreement which effectively confronted dog and cat meat consumption so as to eliminate or to mitigate the practice, and
REALIZING the need to establish effective and comprehensive international standards against cat and dog meat consumption, and

RECOGNIZING the importance of international cooperation in support of national efforts for the realization of the purpose and objectives of this Convention, through the undertaking of appropriate and effective measures in this regard, between and among States, and

ENSURING the protection of dogs and cats from the dog and cat meat industry. To this end,
Contracting Parties undertake:



International Agreement to Prohibit the Eating of Dogs and Cats

1. To adopt all appropriate legislative, administrative and other measures for the implementation of the rights recognized in this Convention;
2. To refrain from engaging in any act or practice that is inconsistent with this Convention and to ensure that public authorities and institutions act in conformity with this Convention.

The Contracting Parties have agreed upon the following provisions:

Article 1

Fundamental Principles

1. Dogs and cats are internationally recognized as the companions, friends, service animals, and family members of humans. They should not be regarded as animals for human consumption.
2. Dogs and cats have the inherent right to life. The Contracting Parties shall take all necessary measures to ensure its effective enjoyment by dogs and cats.
3. Humans have moral obligations to act responsibly toward dogs and cats.

Article 2

Definitions

As used in this Convention:

“Dog” means *Canis lupus familiaris*

“Cat” means *Felis catus*

“Contracting Parties” means any Parties which have deposited an instrument of ratification or have given notice of adherence to this Convention.

Article 3

Policies

Each Contracting Party shall, in accordance with the fundamental principles of its legal system, develop and implement or maintain effective, coordinated anti-dog and cat meat policies.

Each Contracting Party shall adopt such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as a criminal offence, when committed intentionally:

1. To consume dog and cat meat;
2. To slaughter a dog or cat for human consumption;
3. To breed, ship, transport, move, deliver, receive, possess, purchase, sell, or donate a dog or cat, or their remains for human consumption;
4. To capture or steal dogs and cats for human consumption;
5. To import, export and re-export dog and cat meat for human consumption.



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Each Contracting Party shall make the commission of an offence established in accordance with this Convention liable to sanctions that take into account the gravity of that offence.

Sanctions shall be carried out by persons or by vessels under each Contracting Party's jurisdiction.

Article 4

Domestic Implementation

1. Each Contracting Party shall adopt such domestic measures within one year of ratifying this Convention.
2. Contracting Parties, in accordance with their system of organization, shall designate one or more focal points within government for matters relating to the implementation of this Convention, and shall give due consideration to the establishment or designation of a coordination mechanism within government to facilitate related action in different sectors and at different levels.
3. Contracting Parties shall, in accordance with their legal and administrative systems, maintain, strengthen, designate or establish within the State Party, a framework, including one or more independent mechanisms, as appropriate, to promote, protect and monitor implementation of this Convention.

Article 5

International Cooperation

1. Contracting Parties should strengthen their cooperation by sharing information, good practices, experiences and lessons learned in relation to the prohibition of dog and cat meat.
2. Each Contracting Party may prohibit companion animal trade with any State which refuses to comply with the provisions of this Convention.

Article 6

Timeframe

Contracting Parties should establish a timeframe for realizing the prohibition of dog and cat meat. This Convention suggests the following:

1. Each Contracting Party should reduce the number of dogs and cats being slaughtered or consumed to 50% within two years of ratifying this Convention.
2. Each Contracting Party should implement a complete ban on dog and cat meat within three years of ratifying this Convention.



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Article 7

Standing Committee

1. The Contracting Parties agree to establish a Standing Committee, hereinafter referred to as the Committee, to be composed of one member from each Contracting Party. Each member shall be entitled to one vote on any decisions made by the Committee.
2. The Committee shall elect from its own members a Chairman and Vice-Chairman and shall determine its own Rules of Procedure. Decisions of the Committee shall be taken by a simple majority of those members voting. The Rules of Procedure may provide for decisions other than at meetings of the Committee.
3. The Committee shall be obligated to provide administrative and financial oversight of the operation of the Convention through the provision of a Secretariat to be appointed by the Committee.
4. The Committee may set up, from among its own members and other experts or advisers, such sub-committees as it considers desirable which may perform such functions as it may authorize.
5. The expenses of each member of the Committee shall be determined and paid by their own Government.
6. The Committee shall convene regular meetings at least once every two years and extraordinary meetings at any time on the written request of at least one-third of the Parties.
7. World Dog Alliance as the founder of the Convention will automatically become the independent advisor of the Convention upon the entry into force of the Convention. World Dog Alliance also shares the same voting right as other Contracting Parties.
8. The language of the Convention shall be English, French and Chinese.

Article 8

Non-governmental Members

1. The Committee may, either in collaboration with or through independent agencies of the Contracting Parties or other public or private agencies, establishments, or organizations, or independently:
 - a. Encourage, recommend, or if necessary, organize studies and investigations relating to dog and cat meat consumption; and
 - b. Collect and analyse statistical information concerning the current global situation of dog and cat meat consumption.
2. Non-governmental organizations are welcome to become members of the Committee upon the approval of World Dog Alliance and first signatory parties.
3. Non-governmental members may be represented at meetings of the Committee by observers, who shall have the right to participate but not to vote.



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Article 9

Recommendation

The Committee may make recommendations to any or all Contracting Parties on any matters which relate to dog and cat meat consumption and to the objectives and purposes of this Convention.

Article 10

Periodic Reports

1. Contracting Parties shall provide biennial reports to the Committee reporting its efforts to implement the obligations of this Convention. These reports shall be submitted upon entry into force of the Convention for the Contracting Party in question and thereafter six months prior to each regular Conference meeting. Additional reporting responsibility may arise under specific protocols.
2. Biennial reports shall be compiled by the Committee as appropriate and made available to all Contracting Parties and other interested individuals and organizations.

Article 11

Ratification, Acceptance, Approval, Depositary

1. The present Convention shall be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval. Instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Government of which shall be the Depositary Government.
2. The original of the present Convention, in the English, French and Chinese languages, each version being equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Depositary Government which shall transmit certified copies thereof to all States that have signed it or deposited instruments of accession to it.
3. The Depositary Government shall inform all signatory and acceding States and the Secretariat of signatures, deposit of instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval, or accession, entry into force of the present Protocol, amendments thereto, entry, and withdrawal of reservations and notifications of denunciation.
4. As soon as the present Convention enters into force, a certified copy thereof shall be transmitted by the Depositary Government to the Secretariat of the United Nations for registration and publication in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Article 12

Signature

1. The present Convention shall be available for signature by all States and the European Union.
2. The present Convention shall be open for signature at [] until 14 days thereafter.



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Article 13

Entry into Force

1. The present Convention shall enter into force ninety days after the date of deposit of the tenth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval, or accession with the Depositary Government.
2. For each State which ratifies, accepts, or approves the present Protocol or accedes thereto after the deposit of the tenth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval, or accession, the present Protocol shall enter into force ninety days after the deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval, or accession.

Article 14

Amendment

Any Contracting Party may propose an amendment to the present Convention and submit it to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Secretary-General shall communicate any proposed amendments to States Parties, with a request to be notified whether they favour a conference of States Parties for the purpose of considering and deciding upon the proposals.

Article 15

Denunciation

Any Contracting Party may denounce the present Convention by written notification to the Depositary Government at any time. The denunciation shall take effect twelve months after the Depositary Government has received the notification.

In witness whereof the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, being duly authorized to that effect, have signed the present Convention.

Number of Lawmakers Supporting International Agreement to Prohibit the Eating of Dogs and Cats

Norway



4

Sweden



4

the US



68

the UK



67

Japan



55

The United States:

7 Feb 2020: 30 US Congressmen wrote to then President Donald Trump



29 Oct 2021: 38 US Congressmen wrote to President Joe Biden



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Norway:

18 Jun 2021: Norwegians MPs wrote to then Prime Minister



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Norway



4

Sweden



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the US



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the UK



67

Japan



55

The United Kingdom:

2 Mar 20: 67 UK MPs wrote to Prime Minister Boris Johnson



Sweden:

28 Oct 2021: Swedish MPs wrote to then Prime Minister



Contact us for inquiries



 WORLDDOGALLIANCE.ORG
 INFO@WDALLIANCE.ORG
 +852 2519 6366