

SOCIETY FOR ABANDONED ANIMALS (*Charitable Organization*)
保護遺棄動物協會 (慈善機構)

13th May, 2008

Ms. Alice LEUNG
Sr Council Secy (2) 1
3rd Floor,
Citibank Tower,
3 Garden Road,
Hong Kong.

LC Paper No. CB(2)1504/07-08(01)

Dear Ms. Alice Leung,

Re: Support for the Additional Conditions Attached to the Animal Trader Licence

(Issued under Section 5(3) of Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Animal Traders) Regulations, Cap.139)

On behalf of the Society for Abandoned Animals (SAA), we hereby express our strong support for the plan of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) to revise the licensing conditions applicable to dog and cat traders, which will be considered by the Legislative Council.

SAA was established on 4th June, 1997 by a group of animal rights' activist. The motto of SAA is "Love Animal, Respect Life, No Killing or Abandoning". It was officially registered as a local charitable organisation on 28th May, 1998. After many years of endeavour, SAA has now become the largest animal sanctuary in Hong Kong, caring for 180 dogs, 60 cats, one pig and three goats.

We understand that animal trading in Hong Kong has changed a lot over the years since the animal trader license legislation was enabled. In AFCS's proposal of the additional conditions attached to the animal trader licence, SAA particularly support the requirements that all dogs kept in the licensed premises must be from "Legally imported and covered by valid import permit/special permit issued by AFCD, together with a valid health certificate issued by the veterinary authority of the exporting country" (section f(i)). This will certainly help tighten control on the sources of dogs and prohibit any illegal trade from mainland China.

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We would also like to express our support of the additional conditions that regulate the implant of microchip device and the vaccination for all dogs and cats for sale must be performed by a registered veterinary surgeon in Hong Kong or in the country of original for imported animals (section c & d). This will doubtlessly ensure that the health and welfare of animal are protected, which are absolutely in line with SAA's motto.

Again, SAA applauds the proposal of the additional licensing conditions, enthusiastically support it, and stand ready to assist in any effort. Please contact me at 28380633 / el@saa.org.hk if we can be of any assistance.

Yours sincerely,



El Chan
Founder & CEO
Society for Abandoned Animals