



State Veterinary Administration of the Czech Republic

Information Bulletin 4a/2008

**Animal Protection Programme,
Situation in 2007**





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Summary

The ANIMAL PROTECTION PROGRAMME bulletin of the State Veterinary Administration of the Czech Republic (SVA CR) comprises information on animal protection in the Czech Republic for 2007 and offers comparisons with the results achieved in the period since 1993. The results are presented in the form of charts, tables and maps.

In this period the supervision of animal protection and animal welfare was implemented in line with Act No 246/1992 Coll., on the protection of animals against cruelty, as amended (the Animal Welfare Act) and other national legislation harmonised with the European Community (EC) legislation, or the EC legislation was directly applied. The supreme animal protection authority in the Czech Republic is the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) which sets out the main tasks and is responsible for the management of public administration conduct in this field. The Central Commission for Animal Welfare (CCAW) is the professional body which in the cooperation with the representatives of competent state authorities and interest associations makes recommendations to the MoA as to the relevant measures and coordinates the fulfilment of tasks in the field of animal welfare. The supervision is performed by the SVA CR. In reality it is carried out by inspectors of 13 Regional Veterinary Administrations and the Municipal Veterinary Administration in Prague (RVA).

In the above referred to period of 15 years, a total of 163 053 inspections were conducted in the CR whose results were evaluated or, where necessary, sanctions were imposed. According to the data supplied by the Ministry of Justice of the CR, a total of 614 persons were prosecuted and 288 persons were convicted for cruelty to animals pursuant to Section 203 of the Penal Code. In recent years, the decrease in the number of such acts was reported, though their brutality increased. In 2007, a total of 21 persons were prosecuted, 16 persons were charged, 3 persons were tried summarily, 3 persons were proposed for punishment and 17 persons were convicted for cruelty to animals.

In line with legislation and the amended "Methodological Guidelines of the SVA CR No 2000/01/EPIZ of 25 April 2007", a total of 16 127 inspections were carried out by RVA inspectors in the framework of supervision in 2007. Of which in 1 100 cases corrective measures were imposed pursuant to Section 22 para 1 letter h) of the Animal Welfare Act, involving 772 794 animals. The number of proposals to initiate administrative procedures submitted to municipal authorities of municipalities with extended powers pursuant to the Animal Welfare Act grew from 258 in 2006 to 327 in 2007. In 69 cases the administrative procedure per se was initiated. Altogether 141 fines were imposed outside the administrative procedure and 327 proposals were submitted to municipal authorities of municipalities with extended powers.

Conditions of the transport (road, railway and air) of animals of all animal species were subject to 2 634 inspections involving over 6.8 million animals. Altogether in 14 cases various sanctions were imposed, of which the results of 4 inspections led to the administrative procedure. In additional 19 cases the competent authorities of the EU Member States were notified of deficiencies in the transport of animals. Corrective measures were imposed during 64 inspections and involved 12 113 animals.

During the supervision of farm animals related activities, corrective measures were imposed in case of 567 inspections and involved 770 193 animals. Various sanctions were imposed in 222 cases of non-compliance of the total number of 11 220 inspections, of which 45 cases were subject to administrative procedure. Apart from everyday welfare checks of consignments at slaughterhouses, additional 970 comprehensive inspections were carried out. In the course of these inspections 30 cases were addressed outside the administrative procedure, corrective measures were imposed during 77 inspections involving 23 168 animals. During 4 inspections of ritual slaughters no deficiencies were detected.

In the category of companion animals, a total of 4 379 inspections were conducted, of which 800 inspections concerned the dangerous animal species. Various sanctions were imposed in 301 cases of detected deficiencies, of which 21 cases were addressed in the administrative procedure. Corrective measures were imposed during 507 inspections involving 2 238 animals.

During the supervision of activities related to wild animals, a total of 381 inspections were conducted, of which in 25 cases corrective measures were imposed involving 363 animals. Various sanctions were imposed in 11 cases, with no sanctions imposed following the inspections of animal training and care of animals in circuses. In two cases the administrative procedure was initiated.

In the category of laboratory animals, a total of 147 inspections were conducted, corrective measures were imposed during 1 inspection, in 3 cases deficiencies were addressed in various ways, of which in 1 case by administrative procedure. In 2007, a total of 406 414 animals (77 253 laboratory mice, 39 699 laboratory rats, 4 770 rabbits, 3 361 guinea pigs, etc; approximately 138 000 birds were banded) were used for experiments in 2007.

In 2006, another amendment to the Animal Welfare Act was drafted which was subject to debate of lawmaking authorities throughout the year 2007; the completion of the legislative process is foreseen to take place in 2008. With a number of breeders and breeders associations the CCAW discussed and in most cases also approved the rules of animal protection in breeding, public performance and gathering. During the on-the-spot checks of public performance and gathering, compliance with conditions of the respective rules was identified.

In the framework of vocational training for RVA inspectors, a post-graduate course on the EC legislation was held. Another course took place at the University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences (UVPS), at which 29 inspectors acquired the qualification for the supervision of animal protection (pursuant to Section 26 of the Animal Welfare Act). At 6 training centres, a total of 23 courses were held for transporters and additional 560 persons were trained to meet the conditions of Regulation (EC) No 1/2005.

At the UVPS and the Czech University of Life Sciences (CULS) 3 courses took place intended for 110 university graduates to acquire qualification for control and management of experiments on animals (pursuant to Section 17 para 1 of the Animal Welfare Act). Moreover, vocational training for staff of municipal establishments and members of interest groups leading to the acquisition of qualification for capture of stray animals and care of them took place. At the UVPS the 14th International Conference "Protection of Animals and Welfare 2007" was held. Topics related to the environment of animals were traditionally also on the agenda of the "Topical Issues of Bioclimatology" conference. At the CULS additional specialised courses were organised focusing on animal protection. Of major importance was the seminar held at the CULS on the protection of animals in training and the use of assistance dogs and other animal species used for rehabilitation purposes. At the Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry in Brno a seminar was held on the welfare of horses. The MoA and breeders associations regularly add the information on welfare issues, legislation in particular, onto the agenda of seminars on other topics. Extensive and stormy discussions were held with poultry producers on setting out the welfare conditions in establishments of laying hens and chickens kept for meat production. The unclear technical conditions have resulted in multiple problems in the implementation and control of conditions as laid down in Regulation (EC) No 1/2005. In spite of all the efforts to acquire more information during the technical meetings held in the Brussels and during other contacts with the EC, a lot of problems remain unsolved.

Interest non-governmental animal welfare associations were heavily involved in the preparation of the new act and by reference to the initiative of the Compassion in World Farming (CIWF), Eurogroup for Animals and World Society for Protection of Animals (WSPA) they focused on the improvement of animal welfare conditions, particularly of laying hens and chickens kept for meat production.

From 18 to 22 June 2007 the DG (SANCO) 7232/2007 mission was carried out in the CR. The objective of this mission was to verify the compliance with EU legislation concerning animal welfare conditions applied to pig, calve or laying hen holdings. The inspections also checked the way in which these measures are integrated into the implementation of Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council (EC) No 882/2004. The mission did not detect any major shortcomings and its recommendations were immediately followed up, or deadlines for their implementation were set and checked.

This publication is also available on the following website:

<http://www.ukoz.mze.cz/> or <http://www.svscr.cz/>

E 1. INTRODUCTION

The presented Information Bulletin comprises overviews and data required by the European Communities (EC) and the Council of Europe (CoE) bodies. The publication offers information on relevant legislation and data supplied by the Ministry of Justice of the CR on the number of prosecuted, charged and convicted persons in relation to the cruelty to animals. It also includes a methodological procedure for activities conducted by supervisory/inspection bodies. The essential part is composed of tables, charts and comments comprising the evaluation of results of inspection activities carried out by the staff of SVA CR bodies, including the information provided by the Central Commission for Animal Welfare (CCAW), information supplied by the competent state authorities and the Academy of Sciences of the CR (AS CR) concerning the use of experimental animals. With respect to the information on coordination and conceptual activities of the Ministry of Agriculture of the CR (MoA) which is the supreme body ensuring animal welfare and protection of animals, it shall be noted that in 2006 an amendment to Act No 246/1992 Coll., on the protection of animals against cruelty, as amended (the Animal Welfare Act) was drafted. The main objective of the amendment was to ensure the harmonisation with Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005, on the protection of animals during transport and related operations and amending Directives 64/432/EEC and 93/119/EC and Regulation (EC) No 1255/97 (Council Regulation No 1/2005), and transposition of other EC legislation. A new legislation has been proposed in the field of protection of animals in rescue centres for handicapped wild animals. Since the debate on this amendment triggered an extensive comments procedure in 2007, it is expected that the bill will be again put on the agenda in 2008.

Representatives of the CR traditionally attended the meetings of European Commission (EC). In the forefront of attention currently is the Action Plan for the Protection and Welfare of Animals. Technical supporting materials were also developed for discussions on the EC Regulation on the protection of chickens kept for meat production. Measures were addressed on the prohibition of imports of cat and dog skins from third countries to the EU. Due to inadequate definitions laid down in Council Regulation No 1/2005, there are still certain specifications of technical parameters to be clarified, concerning particularly the navigation system, monitoring system in vehicles and welfare parameters of animal transport. Neither the so far held technical consultations with the representatives of the European Commission nor the written inquiries or discussions helped solve these issues. The representatives of the CR also participated in the meetings of the EC authorities concerning the recommendation of the World Organisation of Animal Health (OIE). Helpful was also the participation in the TAIEX seminar on the protection of animals at the time of slaughter and other methods of killing held in Zagreb.

Attention in the given field is also paid to research activities and vocational training. At the agricultural universities and the University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences in Brno (UVPS) final theses of grants and habilitation theses on animal welfare were defended. At the UVPS the 14th International Conference "Protection of Animals and Welfare 2007" was held. Topics related to the animal environment were traditionally also on the agenda of the "Topical Issues of Bioclimatology" conference. At the Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry in Brno a seminar was held on the welfare of horses. Of major importance was the seminar held at the CULS on the protection of animals in training and the use of animals for rehabilitation purposes. The MoA and breeders associations regularly add the information on welfare issues, legislation in particular, onto the agenda of seminars on other topics. Extensive and stormy discussions were held with poultry producers on setting out the deadline for the change of welfare conditions in establishments of laying hens. They also cooperated on the preparation of the EC directive on welfare conditions in the establishments of chickens kept for production of meat. In the framework of vocational training for RVA inspectors, a post-graduate course on the EC legislation was held. Another course took place at the University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences (UVPS), at which 29 inspectors acquired the qualification for the supervision of animal protection (pursuant to Section 26 of the Animal Welfare Act). At 6 training centres, a total of 23 courses were held for transporters and additional 560 persons were trained in line with the conditions of Regulation (EC) No 1/2005, and now a total of 2 000 persons have already been trained in the CR. At the UVPS and the Czech University of Life Sciences (CULS), 3 courses took place intended for 110 university graduates to acquire qualification for control and management of experiments on animals (pursuant to Section 17 para 1 of the Animal Welfare Act). Moreover, vocational training for staff of municipal establishments and members of interest groups leading to the acquisition of qualification for capture of stray animals and care of them took place. Interest non-governmental animal welfare associations and foundations were involved in the preparation of the new act and by reference to the initiative of the Compassion in World Farming (CIWF), Eurogroup for Animals and World Society for Protection of Animals (WSPA) they focused on the improvement of animal welfare conditions, particularly laying hens and chickens kept for meat production. The Foundation for the Protection of Animals evaluated the grant procedure for 2006 and announced 11 additional grants in animal welfare matters for 2007.

From 18 to 22 June 2007 the DG (SANCO) 7232/2007 mission was carried out in the CR. The objective of this mission was to verify the compliance with EU legislation concerning animal welfare conditions applied to pig, calve or laying hen establishments. The inspections also checked the way in which these measures are integrated into the implementation of Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council (EC) No 882/2004. The mission did not detect any major shortcomings and its recommendations were immediately followed up, or deadlines for their implementation were set and checked.

Since 1 January 2006 a welfare module of the SVA CR new client-server information system has been newly used for the collection of data from inspections and the provision of information on animal welfare which is currently being fine-tuned and modified. In the framework of cooperation between the SVA CR and the State Agricultural Intervention Fund (SAIF), the gathered data were also in 2007 used as an economic tool of animal protection.

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E 2. BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE CR LEGISLATION RELATED TO ANIMAL PROTECTION (status as of 7 January 2008)

The animal protection is currently laid down to a higher or lower level of detail in a number of legislation. This body of legislation is so extensive that it is useful to divide it into two categories. It is therefore possible and generally accepted in the field of animal protection, to divide it into the so called direct and indirect protection of animals against cruelty. Direct protection of animals against cruelty covers the protection of animals as stipulated by legislation defining, prohibiting and penalising activities considered to be the cruelty to animals. Indirect protection of animals against cruelty covers the protection of animals as stipulated by legislation laying down the handling of animals and protection of their welfare and health. That means the legislation the main aim of which is not the protection of animals against cruelty, which nevertheless through their provisions contribute to the protection of animals.

Direct protection of animals against cruelty is covered by the following legislation:

- Act No 246/1992 Coll., on the protection of animals against cruelty, as amended by Act No 162/1993 Coll., Act No 193/1994 Coll., Act No. 243/1997 Coll., finding of the Constitutional Court No 30/1998 Coll., Act No 77/2004 Coll. and Act No 413/2005 Coll. and Act No 77/2006 Coll.,
- Decree No 75/1996 Coll., specifying dangerous animal species,
- Decree No 192/2004 Coll., on the protection of animals in breeding, public performance and gathering,
- Decree No 193/2004 Coll., on the protection of animals during transport,
- Decree No 207/2004 Coll., on the protection, breeding and use of experimental animals,
- Decree No 208/2004 Coll., on minimum standards for the protection of farm animals, as amended by Decree No 425/2005 Coll.,
- Decree No 382/2004 Coll., on the protection of farm animals at the time of slaughter, killing or other ways of putting to death, as amended by Decree No 424/2005 Coll.,
- Decree No 346/2006 Coll., on laying down more detailed conditions on keeping and training of animals,

- Act No 140/1961 Coll., Penal Code, as amended.

As a EU Member State the Czech Republic is also obliged, in the framework of direct protection of animals, to comply with the following EU regulations:

- Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/97 of 25 June 1997 concerning Community criteria for staging points and amending the route plan referred to in the Supplement to Directive 91/628/EEC,
- Council Regulation (EC) No 1040/2003 of 11 June 2003 amending Regulation (EC) No 1255/97 as regards the use of staging points,
- Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 of 22 December 2004 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations and amending Directives 64/432/EEC and 93/119/EC and Regulation (EC) No 1255/97,
- Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council (EC) No 882/2004 of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules.

Indirect protection of animals is laid down in the following legislation:

Animal Health – veterinary Care:

- Act No 166/1999 Coll., on veterinary care and amending certain related laws (Veterinary Act), as amended by Act No 29/2000 Coll., Act No 154/2000 Coll., Act No 102/2001 Coll., Act No 76/2002 Coll., Act No 120/2002 Coll., Act No 320/2002 Coll., Act No 131/2003 Coll., Act No 316/2004 Coll. and Act No 444/2005 Coll., Act No 48/2006 Coll. and Act No 186/2006 Coll.,
- Decree No 291/2003 Coll., on prohibition of administering some substances to animals, the products of which are intended for human consumption, and on monitoring of the presence of unauthorised substances, residues and contaminants in live animals and animal products which could make the products of animal origin harmful to human health, as amended,
- Decree No 296/2003 Coll., on animal health and its protection, on movements and transport of animals and on authorisation and professional competence to perform certain professional veterinary activities, as amended,
- Decree No 372/2003 Coll., on veterinary checks in trading in animals, as amended,
- Decree No 377/2003 Coll., on veterinary checks on imports and transits of animals from third countries, as amended,
- Decree No 382/2003 Coll., on veterinary requirements on trade in animals and on veterinary conditions of their import from third countries, as amended,
- Decree No 202/2004 Coll., on measures for prevention and eradication of African swine fever,
- Decree No 356/2004 Coll., on monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents and amending Decree No 299/2003 Coll., on measures for prevention and eradication of epizooties and zoonoses,
- Decree No 389/2004 Coll., on measures for control of foot and mouth disease and its prevention and amending Decree No 299/2003 Coll., on measures for prevention and eradication of epizooties and zoonoses, as amended by Decree No 356/2004 Coll.,
- Decree No 610/2004 Coll., on identification and passports for dogs, cats and ferrets kept as companion animals during their non-commercial movements and amending Decree No 296/2003 Coll., on animal health and its protection, on movements and transport of animals and on authorisation and professional competence to perform certain professional veterinary activities,

- Act No 381/1991 Coll., on the Chamber of Veterinary Surgeons of the Czech Republic, as amended.

Animal Husbandry:

- Act No 154/2000 Coll., on breeding, stirpiculture and record keeping of farm animals and on amendments to some related laws (Breeding Act), as amended,
- Decree No 136/2004 Coll., laying down details concerning identification and registration of animals and registration of farms and persons defined by the Breeding Act, as amended,
- Decree No 448/2006 Coll., on implementing some provisions of the Breeding Act,
- Decree No 370/2006 Coll., on professional courses for the performance of some professional activities in the field of breeding and stirpiculture,
- Act No 242/2000 Coll., on organic farming and amendments to Act No. 368/1992 Coll., on administrative fees, as amended,
- Decree No 16/2006 Coll., implementing some provisions of Act on organic farming,
- Decree No 191/2002 Coll., on technical requirements for agricultural buildings,
- Government Order No 27/2002 Coll., laying down the methods of organisation of work and work procedures that the employer is obliged to ensure for work related to animal breeding.

Feedstuffs:

- Act No 91/1996 Coll., on feedstuffs, as amended,
- Decree No 451/2000 Coll., implementing the Act No. 91/1996 Coll., on feedstuffs, as amended by Act No. 244/2000 Coll., as amended,
- Decree No 147/2002 Coll., on the Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture and on amendments to some related laws (Act on the Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture), as amended.

Phytosanitary Care:

- Act No 326/2004 Coll., on phytosanitary care and amendments to some related laws, as amended,
- Decree No 327/2004 Coll., on the protection of bees, game and aquatic animals and other nontarget organisms in the use of plant protection products,
- Decree No 329/2004 Coll., on preparations and other plant protection products, as amended.

Protection of Nature and Landscape:

- Act No 114/1992 Coll., on nature and landscape protection, as amended,
- Decree No 395/1992 Coll., implementing certain provisions of Act No. 114/1992 Coll., on nature and landscape protection, as amended,
- Decree No 152/2006 Coll., on different procedure in the protection of birds and a derogation from basic conditions of protection of specially protected bird species for the purposes of their marking,
- Act No 115/2000 Coll., on compensation of damages caused by selected specially protected animals, as amended,

- Decree No 360/2000 Coll., on the calculations of amount of compensation of damages caused by selected specially protected animals to specified domestic animals, guard dogs, fish, bee colonies, apiaries, unharvested field crops and forest stand,
- Act No 100/2004 Coll., on the protection of wild animal and wild plant species by regulating trade in them and other measures for the protection of these species and amendments to some laws (Act on Trade in Endangered Species), as amended,
- Decree No 227/2004 Coll., implementing certain provisions of Act No. 100/2004 Coll., on the protection of wild animal and wild plant species by regulating trade in them and other measures for the protection of these species and amendments to some laws (Act on Trade in Endangered Species).

Protection of the Environment:

- Act No 282/1991 Coll., on the Czech Environmental Inspection and its functions in forest protection, as amended,
- Act No 17/1992 Coll., on the environment, as amended,
- Act No 100/2001 Coll., on the environmental impact assessment and amendments to some related law (Environmental Impact Assessment Act), as amended,
- Act No 78/2004 Coll., on the genetically modified organisms and genetic products handling,
- Decree No 209/2004 Coll., on detailed conditions of disposal of genetically modified organisms and products, as amended.

Game Keeping:

- Act No 449/2001 Coll., on game management, as amended,
- Decree No 244/2002 Coll., implementing some provisions of Act No 449/2001 Coll., on game management, as amended,
- Decree No 245/2002 Coll., on hunting periods for the individual game species and on detailed conditions governing hunting, as amended.
- Decree No 7/2003 Coll., on the assessment of conditions for pheasantries and on the procedure by which a certain part of the hunting district is designated as pheasantry.

Fisheries:

- Act No 99/2004 Coll., on fishpond management, enforcement of fishery law, Fish Warden, protection of marine fishery resources and amendments to some related laws (Act on Fishery), as amended,
- Decree No 197/2004 Coll., implementing the Act No. 99/2004 Coll., on fishpond management, enforcement of fishery law, Fish Warden, protection of fishery marine resources and amendments to some related laws (Act on Fishery), as amended.

Zoological Gardens:

- Act No 162/2003 Coll., laying down conditions for operating zoological gardens and amendments to some laws (Act on Zoological Gardens).

Business – Trade in Animals and their Training:

- Act No 455/1991 Coll., on business in trade, (Trade Act), as amended,
- Government Order No 469/2000 Coll., laying down the subject of business of individual trades, as amended,

- Government Order No 209/2001 Coll., laying down the list of trades the conduct of which the entrepreneur is obliged to ensure solely by natural persons meeting the professional competence stipulated by this Order.

Protection of Public Health:

- Act No 258/2000 Coll., on protection of public health and amendment to some related laws, as amended.

Pharmaceuticals and Chemical Substances:

- Act No 378/2007 Coll., on pharmaceuticals and on amendments to some related laws (Act on Pharmaceuticals), as amended,
- Decree No 472/2000 Coll., on the good clinical practice and more detailed conditions for clinical trials of pharmaceuticals, as amended,
- Decree No 288/2004 Coll., laying down details for the registration of medicinal products, its variations, renewals, classification of medicinal products for the issue, transfer of registration, issue of authorisation for concurrent import, submission and proposal of specific therapeutic programmes with the use of unregistered medicinal products for human use, for the method of notification and evaluation of adverse affects of medicinal product, including the particulars of periodically updated reports on safety, and for the manner and scope of the notification on the use of unregistered medicinal product (Registration Decree on Medicinal Products),
- Decree No 411/2004 Coll., laying down the good manufacturing practice, good distribution practice and more detailed conditions for the issue of manufacturing and distribution licences for medicinal products, including medicated feed and veterinary autogenic vaccines, variations to existing licences, as well as more detailed conditions for the issue of licences to control laboratories to conduct their activities (Decree on the Manufacture and Distribution of Medicinal Products),
- Act No 120/2002 Coll., on conditions for the placing on the market of biocide preparations and active substances and on amendments to some related laws, as amended,
- Act No 356/2003 Coll., on chemical substances and chemical preparations and on amendments to some laws, as amended,
- Decree No 443/2004 Coll., laying down basic methods for testing the toxicity of chemical substances and chemical preparations, as amended.

Other legislation:

- Act No 40/1964 Coll., Civil Code, as amended, (particularly Act No 359/2005 Coll.),
- Act No 200/1990 Coll., on infringements, as amended,
- Act No 361/2000 Coll., on road traffic and on amendments to some related laws (Act on Road Traffic), as amended,
- Act No 634/2004 Coll., on administrative fees, as amended.
- Act No 500/2004 Coll., Administrative Procedure Code, as amended,
- Decree No 512/2002 Coll., on special professional competence of officials of territorial self-governing units, as amended,
- Decree No 213/2004 Coll., laying down a list of theoretical and practical areas constituting the content of of the education and training required in the Czech Republic for the performance of regulated activities in the framework of competence of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Czech Republic is a contractual party to the following Council of Europe conventions and treaties:

- The Protocol concerning sanitary, phytosanitary and animal welfare measures in relation to trade to the Europe Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Czech Republic, of the other part, No 200/1998 Coll.,
- European Convention on the Protection of Pet Animals, No 19/2000 Coll. of International Treaties,
- European Convention for the Protection of Animals During International Transport, No 20/2000 Coll. of International Treaties,
- European Convention for the Protection of Animals Kept for Farming Purposes, No 21/2000 Coll. of International Treaties,
- European Convention for the Protection of Animals for Slaughter, No 114/2003 Coll. of International Treaties,
- European Convention for the Protection of Vertebrate Animals Used for Experimental and Other Scientific Purposes, No 116/2003 Coll. of International Treaties.
- The Protocol of amendment to the European Convention for the Protection of Vertebrate Animals Used for Experimental and Other Scientific Purposes, No 118/2006 Coll. of International Treaties.

The above mentioned conventions constitute the basis for animal protection regulations also in the European Communities and their general principles are an integral part of our legislation.

Changes in legislation governing the protection of animals against cruelty in 2007

In 2007 there were no major changes made in the Czech legislation in the field of protection of animals against cruelty. No new act or any other piece of legislation was adopted governing the direct protection of animals against cruelty. There were only several amendments made to legislation governing the indirect protection of animals against cruelty.

There was, however, a major change in the legislation of the European Union made in the field of animal transport. On 5 January 2007 Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 of 22 December 2004 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations and amending Directives 64/432/EEC and 93/119/EEC and Regulation (EC) No 1255/97 became effective. This Regulation applies to the transport of animals which takes places in connection with an economic activity.

In 2006 already the preparations were launched on the amendment to Act No 246/1992 Coll., on the protection of animals against cruelty, as amended, which continued also in 2007. It was a bill amending Act No 246/1992 Coll., on the protection of animals against cruelty, as amended, and Act No 634/2004 Coll., on administrative fees, as amended.

At the beginning of 2007 this bill was debated by the government. The government submitted the bill to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the CR on 11 April 2007. The government bill amending Act No 246/1992 Coll., on the protection of animals against cruelty, as amended, and Act No 634/2004 Coll., on administrative fees, as amended, was debated as the Chamber of Deputies Document No 184. The Chamber of Deputies approved the Bill on 7 December 2007. It was referred to the Senate on 20 December 2007 for debate. The Bill amending Act No 246/1992 Coll., on the protection of animals against cruelty, as amended, Act No 634/2004 Coll., on administrative fees, as amended, and Act No 114/1992 Coll., on nature and landscape protection, as amended, was debated as the Senate Document No 165. This Senate Document contains 188 points of amendment. That is a fairly extensive amendment.

The main objective of the proposed amendment is to ensure the transposition of Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 of 22 December 2004 on the protection of animals during transport and transposition of other European Communities legislation. The field of commercial transport of animals will thus be governed to a large extent only by this Regulation. The Czech body of law will include only those provisions which are essential to ensure the application of this Regulation as well as provisions related to non-commercial transport of animals.

The proposed amendment also comprises changes in the wording, especially the specification of the existing provisions of the Act and adds some new provisions thereto. New provisions are laid down in the field of protection of handicapped animals. The existing legislation is also the basis for newly formulated provisions concerning public performances, rules of animal protection in breeding, public performance and gathering. Further elaborated are also the provisions related to the competences of individual animal protection authorities with the aim to achieve most effective activities in the field of animal protection. The position of the Central Commission for Animal Welfare is also subject to change. In line with the concept of administrative sanctions of the Ministry of Interior, substantial changes were made also in the area of infringements and administrative delicts. The Chamber of Deputies added to the Bill also the amendment to Act No 114/1992 Coll., on nature and landscape protection, as amended, governing matters related to rescue centres.

It is assumed that the proposed amendment to Act on the protection of animals against cruelty will take effect in the first half of 2008. In connection with this amendment, also the preparation of amendment to the implementing legislation to this Act was commenced.

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E 3. ANIMAL PROTECTION PROGRAMME

Activities aimed at the protection of animals against cruelty and care of their welfare in terms of the methodology follow from both the standard international requirements for monitoring animal protection and the national legislation, namely the SVA CR Methodological Guidelines No 2000/01/EPIZ, issued by the SVA CR Director General (Chief Veterinary Officer) and last amended on 25 April 2007 (MG). These guidelines reflect changes brought about by amended EC legislation and partially also incorporate requirements of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules. Professional activities within the animal welfare and protection of animals against cruelty, especially the methodology governing the supervision and its performance in selected cases, regular evaluation of activities, putting forward measures and technical proposals are conducted by the Department of Animal Health and Welfare – Division of Animal Welfare within the SVA CR.

The performance of supervision over the observation of duties imposed upon breeders and other natural and legal persons pursuant to the Veterinary Act and the Animal Welfare Act is at the regional level the responsibility of 14 Regional Veterinary Administrations. The RVAs entrusted their 552 inspectors qualified pursuant to Section 26 of the Animal Welfare Act with the performance of the relevant supervisory activities. Within the RVA organisational structure, an inspector in charge of animal welfare was designated to ensure and coordinate activities of RVA inspectors in keeping with the following scheme.

The Chief Inspector of RVA for animal welfare is responsible for the management of technical aspects of animal welfare and for the supervision of animal protection at the level of RVA. He has a direct control over the technical activities of inspectors – RVA veterinary surgeons for animal welfare, assigns them specific tasks in line with the Methodological Guidelines. As laid down by the Methodological Guidelines, he cooperates with chief inspectors, or RVA inspectors, coordinates activities concerning animal welfare and regularly updates the RVA management or the SVA on his activities. He develops a plan of inspections conducted in the field of animal welfare. He keeps and archives the technical documents associated with safeguarding animal protection and welfare. He is responsible for record keeping and checking of data on inspections in the SVA Information System

database (SVA IS). If necessary and when technically feasible within the SVA IS (SVA IS data warehouse), he evaluates the results obtained in the relevant administrative areas.

Within the scope of RVA responsibilities, he manages, ensures and controls the supervision of animal welfare and, if appropriate, also performs the supervision himself directly at the breeder. In his activities he ensures:

- a) supervision of welfare of farm animals in compliance with the elaborated plan,
- b) performance of regular – annual comprehensive inspections of animal protection and welfare at the time of slaughter at slaughterhouses and safeguards regular operation checks on animals at the time of slaughter at slaughterhouses and during seasonal sale of live fish,
- c) supervision of animal welfare in companion (pet) animal establishments, including establishments of dangerous animal species, inspections in pet shops, protection of animals in horse riding and carriage driving activities, inspections of animal shelters including inspections of care of stray and abandoned animals performed by municipalities, population regulation etc.,
- d) supervision of welfare of wild animals, animals in zoological gardens, circuses and similar establishments,
- e) supervision of welfare of experimental animals,
- f) in case of deficiencies identified by other RVA professional staff or upon the notification of other persons, their immediate investigation and consideration,
- g) cooperation with animal protection authorities in the respective administrative area of the region and breeders, professional (Chamber of Veterinary Surgeons of the CR) and animal protection organisations,
- h) education and awareness enhancement activities in this field,
- i) for the RVA director following the checking and verification of data, the elaboration of the documents and proposals required by the MG for the RVA technical decisions including proposals for the imposition of corrective measures on breeders and other natural and legal persons and notifications submitted to municipal authorities of municipalities with extended powers for considerations of infringements and administrative delicts ensuing from the violation of duties imposed by the Animal Welfare Act.

In his activities he follows the methodology laid down in guidelines of the Division of Animal Welfare of the SVA CR.

RVA inspectors – veterinary surgeons in the field of animal welfare to the extent laid out, no less however than to the extent laid out by the Methodological Guidelines, perform the supervision of animal protection and welfare at their workplace (e.g. assembly centre, slaughterhouse) or within their area of responsibility (usually covering the territory of a district). They keep technical documents relevant for the ensurance of animal protection and welfare within their area of responsibility. They ensure record keeping, checks and archiving of “Animal Protection Programme” inspections in the SVA IS database. They evaluate the results of the “Animal Protection Programme” obtained in the respective area under their territorial responsibility. In keeping with the guidelines they provide written or other topical information on their activities to the RVA inspector for animal welfare, particularly in case of inspection findings of violation of animal protection legislation where they are involved in the preparation of supporting documents for further procedure.

In their professional and supervisory activities related to the protection of animals against cruelty and animal welfare within their area of responsibility they focus on:

- a) comprehensive and follow-up inspections of the protection and welfare of farm animals in breeding,
- b) inspections of protection and welfare of animals during their movements,
- c) inspection of protection and welfare of animals at public performances and gatherings,
- d) inspection of transport conditions, including “Register for road vehicle used for the transport of animals”, or “Journey Log” submitted prior to the transport of animals, during the inspection of the set control posts and after the end of the journey; pursuant to Council Regulation (EC) 1/2005 these documents shall be stamped by them in the prescribed manner,
- e) inspection of animal protection and welfare during veterinary activities,
- f) inspection of protection of companion (pet) animals, especially animals in shelters, pet shops, protection of animals in horse riding and carriage driving activities, and the like,
- g) inspection of dangerous animal species establishments prior to the issuance of certificate and during the period of its validity,
- h) inspection of protection of wild animals and animals in circuses and similar establishments,
- i) addressing the notifications and complaints related to animal protection and welfare,
- j) development of background materials in the field of animal welfare concerning the territory within their responsibility for the RVA Chief Inspector for animal welfare, to be used as a supporting

- information for the future decision making,
- k) cooperation with breeders and animal protection organisations,
 - l) education and awareness enhancement activities in this field,
 - m) are involved in the preparation of binding opinions pursuant to Section 56 of the Veterinary Act and in the issuance of binding opinions pursuant to Section 49 of the Veterinary Act for territorial procedure with respect to the veterinary care.

RVA inspectors – veterinary surgeons in the field of public health and veterinary hygiene ensure specific professional and supervisory activities in the framework of protection of animals against cruelty and animal welfare by:

- a) regular (“daily”) checks on animal protection and welfare during the transport of animals to slaughterhouses,
- b) regular (“daily”) checks on animal protection and welfare at the time of slaughter, including the checks on ritual slaughter,
- c) regular (at least once every quarter) evaluation of findings detected in the inspections of meat and organs,
- d) ritual slaughters – at every slaughter, no more than 10 times a year,
- e) random checks on the seasonal sale of live fish - 5 % at least,
- f) at least quarterly inspection focused on the records held by the operator on the arrivals and unloading of animal consignments, checks on the slaughtering devices and equipment used, etc.

The data are recorded in accordance with principles for work with SVA IS as defined in the users manual entitled Methodological support of the SVA CR Department for information and communication technologies – Explanation of control points in record keeping of welfare inspections (hereinafter referred to as the “DICT manual”).

The above mentioned division of the specific professional and supervisory activities in the framework of protection of animals against cruelty and animal welfare within the RVA does not exclude the substitutability of inspectors and the possibility to perform activities other than those defined specifically in the MG. It is recommended though to observe the principles of the referred to system with respect to links between supervisory activities in animal protection and the core technical activities, other vocational training and provision of organisational and technical information. It is also possible, where appropriate, for another RVA inspector to participate in the conduct of supervision, however provided he meets the qualification requirements (see Article 1 para 2 of this MG).

Inspection plan and frequency of inspections

When ensuring the scope of supervisory activities, respected is the diversity of activities in individual regions, e.g. different level and intensity of agricultural production and other technical specific features of the administrative region concerned (e.g. predominance of supervisory activities of companion animals in cities). The professional scope of inspections conducted reflects conditions specified in the legislation in force (e.g. Decree of the MoA No 208/2004 Coll., on minimum standards for the protection of farm animals, Decree of the MoA No 382/2004 Coll., on the protection of farm animals at the time of slaughter, killing or other ways of putting to death) and is defined e.g. according to animal species and performed activity in keeping with the principles of the DICT user’s manual.

Planning of the frequency of inspections and activities shall be derived from the following minimum standards:

a) Supervision of protection of farm animals:

- **housing and other accommodation for breeding** (in fisheries and the like) – annually at least 10 % of the total number of farms is inspected, inspections of 25 % of farms are recommended,
- **comprehensive inspections of farm animal husbandry** ensuing from aid schemes – annually, at farms selected pursuant to the MoA (State Agricultural Intervention Fund /SAIF/, etc) methodology, the protocol describes the inspected breeding technology and compliance with the minimum standards pursuant to the Framework Agreement between SAIF and SVA and Decree of

the MoA No 208/2004 Coll., on minimum standards for the protection of farm animals, detailed control findings are reported,

- **national transport of animals**
 - in animals for slaughter – random checks on loading, at least 5 % of consignments at loading, regular (daily) checks on unloading at slaughterhouses,
 - in cattle and horses for breeding at least 5 % of consignments,
 - in pigs, sheep, goats for breeding, farmed deer at least 3 % of consignments,
 - in poultry for breeding at least 5 % of consignments,
 - in rabbits for breeding, fur animals (and other small animals excluding poultry) at least 3 % of consignments,
 - in fish for breeding when amounting to more than 1000 pieces each fish, otherwise randomly,
 - in sport and race horses random checks are conducted,
 - inspections of loading, or „roadside checks“ in categories of cattle for fattening or slaughter, horses, pigs, sheep, goats and poultry for slaughter, at least 10 % of the total number within the respective RVA territory,
- **transport within the European Union – transport exceeding the distance of 65 km – 8 hours**
 - at assembly centres – all consignments of cattle, and also of horses, pigs, sheep and goats
 - on loading at individual farms - all consignments of cattle, calves in particular, and also of horses, pigs, sheep and goats,
- **transport within the European Union – long distance transport exceeding 8 hours (in keeping with the “Journey log“)**
 - at assembly centres – all consignments of cattle, calves in particular, and also of horses, pigs, sheep and goats,
 - at control posts - all consignments of cattle, calves in particular, and also of horses, pigs, sheep and goats,
 - in sport and race horses random checks at every international event,
- **transport into and from third countries**
 - at assembly centres all consignments of cattle, calves in particular, and also of horses, pigs, sheep and goats,
 - at breeding establishments consignments of cattle, calves in particular, and also of horses, pigs, sheep and goats,
 - at control posts all consignments of cattle, calves in particular, and also of horses, pigs, sheep and goats,
 - random checks on unloading, at least 10 % of all consignments,
 - in sport and race horses random checks and checks at every international event,
- **slaughterhouses – comprehensive inspection** - at least 1x per year, the protocol of inspection includes the description of inspected slaughtering technology pursuant to Decree No 382/2004 Coll., on the protection of farm animals at the time of slaughter, killing or other way to putting to death, and detailed findings of inspections,
- **ritual slaughter - comprehensive inspection** during the approval procedure of the slaughter - the protocol of inspection includes the description of inspected technology,
- **inspection of seasonal sale of live fish** - random inspection covering at least 5 %,
- **circuses and similar establishments** - always at the arrival to the RVA territory.

Special attention should be paid to breeding and improvement establishments, artificial insemination centres, semen collection centres, higher education institutions and vocational schools operational facilities, research institutes, racing fields and performance testing establishments and the like.

b) Supervision of protection of companion (pet) animal establishments:

- **companion animal establishments** – random checks,
- **dangerous animal species establishments** – at least 1x per year,
- **companion animal gatherings** – random checks (subject to inspections is the compliance with the Rules of animal protection in breeding, public performance and gathering),
- **breeding and transport of animals for companion animal establishments** – random checks,
- **pet shops** – at least 1x per year,
- **animal shelters etc.** – at least 1x per year,
- **areas for earthdogging** – at least 1x per year.

c) Supervision of protection of wild animals:

- **zoological gardens** – comprehensive inspection 1x per year,
- **rescue centres for handicapped animals** - 1x every 2 years,
- **game keeping establishments (deer parks, fox breeding establishments for earthdogging)** – 1x every 2 years,
- **catching of game** – random checks.

Special attention should be paid to events when higher numbers of animals are handled, catching of hares, etc.

d) Supervision of protection of experimental animals:

- **user establishments** – with fixed premises 1x per year,
- **experiments at alternative experimental premises** – during each experimental project,
- **breeding establishments** - 1x every 2 years,
- **supplying establishments** - 1x every 2 years.

Special attention should be paid to experiments at alternative facilities and premises, to experiments with wild animal species, including bird banding and the like.

d) Supervision of animal protection and welfare at the Border Inspection Post in Prague – Ruzyně:

- **inspection of welfare of protected animal species (IATA regulation)** – all consignments,
- **inspection of welfare of companion animals** – random checks.

Record keeping and archiving of documents in the field of animal welfare

The Chief RVA inspector for animal welfare and inspectors of this division pursuant to their territorial responsibility, except for documents in the PC database, keep the records of and archive the documents prescribed by the MG at their workplaces following the set requirements.

Competent workplaces – regional inspectorates, assembly centres, Veterinary Hygiene Centres – keep, enter into IS and archive the protocols, prescribed documents on “daily welfare checks” at slaughterhouses or assembly centres, or protocols on control findings detected in seasonal sale of live fish.

Supervision, data processing and evaluation of results

During inspections the competent **inspector – veterinary surgeon of the RVA** authorised to conduct supervision in the field of animal welfare always completes the **"Protocol on control findings – welfare"**, the data of which are further processed and entered into the "Client-Welfare" database in line with the principles of the DICT user's manual.

Inspectors authorised to conduct the supervision of assembly centres keep, enter into IS and archive the prescribed documents of the "daily" welfare checks carried out at assembly centres. The data are recorded pursuant to the principles as defined in the user's manual. In case of a gross or repeated violation of animal protection legislation, they produce the **"Protocol on control findings – welfare"** and immediately inform the chief RVA inspector for animal welfare.

Inspectors – veterinary surgeons in the field of veterinary hygiene – in the supervision of animal welfare keep, enter into IS and archive the prescribed documents of daily checks of animal welfare at slaughterhouses and enter the data on daily welfare checks of live animals in consignments conducted at slaughterhouses pursuant to the DICT manual. They also keep records of carried out regular checks focused on the records kept by the operator of arrivals and unloading of animal consignments, checks of used slaughtering devices and equipment, etc. In case of a gross or repeated violation of animal protection legislation, they produce the **"Protocol on control findings – welfare"** and immediately inform the chief RVA inspector for animal welfare who enters the data in the "Client – Welfare" database.

The SVA CR Information Centre (SVA CR IC) develops national overviews of activities in the field of protection of animals against cruelty and animal welfare:

- a) monthly, no later than on 15th day of the following month, and publishes them in the requested scope on the SVA website,
- b) annually,
- c) following the SVA CR requirements.

Professional inspection

Professional inspection of compliance with the MG by individual RVA inspectors with the defined territorial responsibility, by inspectors – veterinary surgeons in the field of veterinary hygiene – during supervision of animal welfare, by inspectors at assembly centres and inspectors at other prescribed workplaces, while the inspection of all the above referred to inspectors is by the RVA Chief inspector for animal welfare, or another RVA inspector designated by the RVA Director, at least once every six months. In case of any detected deficiencies, the follow-up check is conducted no later than 1 month after the first inspection.

Professional inspection of compliance with the MG by individual RVA is conducted by the head of the Division of animal welfare of the SVA CR, or an inspector designated by the SVA CR Department of Animal Health and Welfare director, at least once in every two years. In case of any detected deficiencies, the follow-up check of the RVA is conducted no later than 2 months after the first inspection.

Internal audit

Internal audit is carried out in line with the SVA guidelines on internal audit and control in SVA CR organisations pursuant to the "Guidelines on conducting an internal audit of the SVA CR official controls system" in compliance with the "Multiannual National Plan of Controls of the MoA of the CR – 2007 - 2009".

E 4. SUPERVISORY AND CONTROL ACTIVITIES

In the course of 15 years of monitored period a total of 163 053 inspections were carried out in the Czech Republic and their results have continuously been evaluated. Where deficiencies were detected, corrective measures with set deadlines were imposed. In case of any harm of animals, suffering or cruelty to animals, sanctions were imposed within the administrative procedure and the cases of suspected crimes were investigated by the relevant authorities. According to the data supplied by the Ministry of Justice of the CR a total of 614 persons were prosecuted and 288 persons were convicted for cruelty to animals pursuant to Section 203 of the Penal Code. In the recent years there was a downward trend in the number of these acts, while their brutality

increased. In 2007, altogether 21 persons were prosecuted, 16 persons were charged and 17 persons were convicted for cruelty to animals. A total of 3 persons were tried summarily. The referred to sanctions were imposed based on the specific control findings detected during supervisory activities.

In compliance with legislation and the amended Methodological Guideline of the SVA CR No 2000/01/EPIZ of 25 April 2007 the RVA inspectors within their supervisory activities carried out a total of 16 127 inspections in 2007. Of which in a total of 1 100 cases corrective measures were imposed in accordance with Section 22 para 1 letter h) of the Animal Welfare Act involving 772 974 animals. The number of proposals to initiate an administrative procedure in accordance with the Animal Welfare Act submitted to the municipal authorities of municipalities with extended powers increased from 258 in 2006 to 327 in 2007. The administrative procedure per se was initiated by veterinary administration bodies in 69 cases. Altogether 141 fines were imposed outside the administrative procedure.

The table Protection of animals in 2007 – summary of non-compliances detected during inspections pursuant to Act No 246/1992 Coll., Act No 166/1999 Coll. and Council Regulation No 1/2005/ES presents the violation of individual provisions of the relevant Act. The codes used in the respective table are identical with designations of sections, paragraphs and letters of the referred to Act or EC Regulation. When studying the presented table, it is necessary to bear in mind that it is impossible (e.g. because of parallel multiple violations of law at one animal husbandry establishment) to compare mere sums total from this table with the results stated in the tables "Results of inspections by animal categories" or "Results of inspections by type of handling animals" which were collected following a different methodology.

An overview of results achieved in 2007 is presented in the section below. The maps show the scope and territorial distribution of supervisory and inspection activities by region in the indicated districts and compare the situation in 1994 and 2007. The balance of the system of inspections/controls in farm animals establishments shall be proved by pie charts. They indicate that the largest share (90.7 %) in the total number of animals was represented by poultry. Nevertheless, this activity accounted only for 9.1% of conducted inspections because at the poultry farms in the CR fairly numerous flocks of birds are kept. On the other hand due to the size of establishments a relatively large share of inspections (53.4%) had to be carried out in cattle establishments which, however, accounted for only 1.4 % in terms of the number of inspected animals.

The charts presented in the supplements make it possible to follow the dynamics of development since the beginning of the monitored period. The charts show that the situation in the core inspection activities (breeding, transport of animals) has become fairly stable in the recent years. The balance in the number of conducted inspections as against the number of inspected animals in 2005 and 2006 is illustrated in graphics.

E 4.1. Supervision of farm animal husbandry

The extent of conducted supervisory activity shall be judged in light of the data on population of farm animals in the CR as given by the Czech Statistical Office as of 1 April 2007. The total population of cattle is 1 391 393 heads (in 2006 – 1 373 645 heads), of which 410 349 cows (2006 – 424 017 heads); the total pig population is 2 830 415 heads (2006 - 2 840 375 heads), of which 224 878 sows (2006 – 228 961 heads); the total sheep population is 168 910 heads, (2006 – 148 412 heads); the total goat population is 16 222 heads, (2006 – 14 402 heads); the total horse population is 24 009 heads (2006 – 22 883 heads); the total poultry population is 24 592 085 birds (2006 – 25 736 003 birds), of which 17 123 825 domestic fowl (2006 – 18 277 478 birds), 16 311 geese, (2006 – 17 343 birds), 410 335 ducks (2006 – 494 430 birds) and 566 290 turkeys (2006 – 455 967 birds).

During the supervision of farm animals related activities a total of 11 220 inspections were carried out involving 43 738 991 animals. Corrective measures were imposed in 2007 in case of 567 inspections involving 770 193 animals, altogether 222 cases were addressed in a number of ways by sanctions in the administrative procedure.

Cattle related activities. The cattle related activities were subject to 5 928 inspections involving altogether 598 453 animals. The stated data do not include the data of daily welfare checks in consignment of animals at slaughterhouses and the same will apply to the other animal species referred to below. Corrective measures were imposed during 229 inspections and involved 3 999 heads of cattle. Administrative procedure, including direct imposition of a fine, was initiated in 55 cases and in 43 cases a proposal was submitted to municipalities to initiate an administrative procedure. The number of proposals submitted to municipalities in 2007 increased by 29% as compared with 2006.

A total of 4 080 inspections focused on cattle breeding during which 4 817 farms were subject to inspections. Deficiencies were detected at 211 establishments. The following finding holds true not only for inspections of cattle establishments. Whenever a shortcoming was identified, it was hardly ever just one shortcoming. The

shortcomings detected included 66 cases of failure to provide conditions for freedom of movement of cattle, at 56 farms the premises were non-compliant and there were numerous deficiencies detected in the keeping of registers and records. Inappropriate feeding (nutritional deficiency, malnutrition syndrome, mouldy feed, etc) and watering (insufficient watering) with negative consequences for the nutritional status were detected at 30 establishments. Incompliance or inappropriate dehorning procedure was detected and qualified as an unauthorised intervention in 33 establishments.

Inspections carried out at 2 239 establishments assessed the minimum standards for calves breeding. Thus 25.8% (14.6 % in 2006) of the total number of calve establishments were inspected. Deficiencies were detected in 87 cases and represented 11.8 % of findings of the conducted inspections. According to data, deficiencies were most frequently (32) found during the inspections of premises and accommodation (32). In 26 establishments non-compliance with conditions governing the freedom of movement of animals was detected (e.g. calves were tethered or insufficient size of accommodation for older categories of calves). During additional 54 inspections the deficiencies detected concerned inadequate conditions due to technology disorders (e.g. animals kept in unfitting premises for which the certificate of approval has not been issued, ventilation defects, inappropriate microclimate) and failure to comply with the minimum standards. Relatively often (53) deficiencies were detected in keeping the stall documentation and registration of animals.

Pigs related activities. A total of 2 495 inspections involved 1 713 688 pigs. Deficiencies, for which corrective measures were imposed in accordance with Section 22 letter h) of the Animal Welfare Act, were detected during 165 inspections and involved 72 684 pigs. Administrative procedure, including direct imposition of fines, was initiated in 23 cases and proposals were submitted to municipalities in 27 cases. During inspections e.g. inappropriate husbandry conditions and shortcomings in the care of animals associated with the lack of understanding and non-compliance with the conditions laid down by the decree on minimum standards were detected. The shortcomings detected in the care of pigs and hygiene of the environment were similar to those prevailing in the previous years and concerned in particular inadequate watering, no permanent access of pigs to water and insufficient length of feeding troughs or their capacity. The deficiencies were also caused by substandard maintenance of premises (e.g. slatted floors trodden down or with holes) which led to considerable deterioration of animal hygiene conditions and damage to health of pigs due to inappropriate technology. Just like in case of cattle and calves, the inspections were evaluated in keeping with the requirements and methodology of Council Directive No 98/58/EC. During inspections pursuant to this methodology, a total of 27.5 % of registered farms with group rearing and 19.6 % of farms with individual pens were inspected. The evaluations have shown that in this animal species the largest number of defects in both the categories of breeding establishments was associated with the requirement to provide appropriate feeding and watering, namely in 11% in the category of group rearing, and 16% in case of farms with individual pens. It concerns especially the ensurance of the adequate share of crude fiber in feedingstuffs for the given category of sows. Similar level of deficiencies was detected in the provision of appropriate space to comply with the freedom of movement of pigs (overstocking of pens). Further shortcomings amounting to approximately 10% were represented by failure to provide material for manipulation for various pig categories. For the sake of comparisons, in 2006 the highest number of shortcomings identified in the inspected establishments related to the equipment of farms and the quality of used premises.

Sheep and goats related activities were inspected both at breeding establishments and at companion animals establishments. A total of 46 664 sheep and goats were involved in 677 inspections. Deficiencies at farms were detected during 74 inspections and involved 1 350 sheep and goats. A fine was imposed 14 times and following 11 inspections the administrative procedure was initiated. Moreover, in 24 cases a proposal was submitted to municipalities. Apart from nutritional deficiencies, these non-compliances consisted in e.g. no provisions against escape of animals, failure to ensure suitable breeding aids, etc. In case of companion animal establishments, the deficiencies consisted predominantly in breeding in unsuitable premises. During inspections of public performances and gatherings, no deficiencies were detected and the breeders observed the respective approved rules.

Horses related activities. A total of 1 061 inspections (1,082 inspections in 2006) which involved 28 679 horses. Of which 383 inspections involving 14 869 horses were conducted in relation to leisure time activities. Inappropriate care was detected during 60 inspections and involved 565 horses. Sanctions, including the imposition of fines and submission of proposals, were the case of 42 inspections. We may state that the number of corrective measures dropped by 50% compared to 2006. It was most likely brought about also by the fact that conditions for horses related activities had in a number of cases been set out in the "Rules for animal protection in public performance of horses", namely not only for the protection of horses used only for riding but also for other activities with horses, including work in forests, carriage driving activities, etc. During 414 inspections of animal gatherings and public performances it became obvious that majority of participants in these events were aware of and observed the rules. Administrative procedure was initiated only in case of 1 event and only a single proposal was submitted to a municipality. Just like in the previous period, however, fundamental deficiencies were detected in horse breeding establishments (inappropriate feeding, unfitting accommodation premises, insufficient ventilation, manure removal, etc) and care of horses (especially nutrition, hoofcare), namely in individual keeping of

companion animals. Particularly the foals and young horses in such establishments were not given appropriate care by attendants or inappropriate harnesses and riding equipment were used. During 80 doping controls conducted at horse races and other events with horses there was no positive finding detected (in 2006 there was 1 positive finding detected).

Poultry related activities. There were a total of 1 056 inspections carried out involving 39 802 177 birds in the gallinaceous fowl related activities. Corrective measures were imposed during 35 inspections of gallinaceous fowl establishments, the administrative procedure was held in 15 cases and seven proposals were submitted to municipalities. A total of 139 inspections were conducted in water fowl establishments, involving 250 641 birds. Corrective measures were imposed in one case only and one fine was imposed outside the administrative procedure. In the given year, the poultry breeding was however affected by a change in the disease status in spring with the outbreak of avian influenza in the CR. The intensity of inspections is also impacted by the preparation and implementation of Salmonellosis eradication programme. During the summer heats, 9 inspections detected difficulties with ensuring animal hygiene conditions (e.g. overheating of houses without adequate ventilation) or failure to comply with the conditions of care of animals (insufficient feeding and watering, failure to provide necessary aids and equipment).

In laying hens establishments the evaluation of results in keeping with the requirements and methodology of Council Directive No 98/58/EC was also made for the period of 2007, in the course of which the registered establishments were evaluated. A total of 61 establishments with unenriched cage systems were repeatedly inspected (the intensity of controls reached 118.3%). The same applies to selected establishments with deep litter system where inspections were repeatedly conducted. On the other hand only 3 establishments with free range conditions were subject to inspections since during the other inspections it was discovered that due to the number of kept laying hens the conditions laid down in the referred to legislation do not apply. Only sporadic deficiencies were detected in all types establishments with laying hens. A total of 370 inspections were conducted, during which 16 corrective measures were imposed, 7 administrative procedures were held and 3 proposals were submitted to municipalities.

When evaluating 2 geese breeding establishments, in 1 establishment deficiencies were detected in record keeping. Failure to observe the breeding procedures (claws shortening) was identified in ducks establishments. No inspections were done in ratites establishments.

Rabbits related activities. A total of 48 inspections were conducted in rabbit farms in which altogether 37 573 rabbits were kept for farming purposes. Corrective measures were imposed only once. A total of 368 inspections were conducted in companion animal establishments involving 40 798 rabbits. Shortcomings were detected during 7 inspections and concerned 139 rabbits (in 2006 during 7 inspections concerning 4 337 rabbits). Three proposals were submitted to municipalities with extended powers, one administrative procedure was held and two fines were imposed.

E 4.1.1. Supervision of the protection of farm animals at slaughter

In 2007, a total of 285 654 head of adult cattle (compared to 294 722 heads in 2006) and 10 130 calves (2006 – 9 590 heads); a total of 3 955 887 pigs (2006 – 3 884 275 heads), a total of 15 756 sheep and goats including lambs and kids (2006 – 15 236 heads); a total of 1 222 875 rabbits (2006 – 1 220 729); a total of 138 814 903 birds of gallinaceous fowl including turkeys (2005 – 146 022 562 birds); a total of 2 749 719 geese and ducks (2006 – 3 136 706 birds) and 1 879 ostriches (2006 – 1,766) were slaughtered in the Czech Republic and subject to a veterinary check. For the sake of completeness we shall state that the slaughter of horses in the CR occurs only rarely. In 2007, a total of 291 horses were slaughtered including foals (2006 – 349), of which 16.84 % were represented by emergency killing (most frequently due to an injury).

The stipulated regular inspection of welfare conditions in the consignments of animals for slaughter comprising the inspection of transport conditions, inspection of moving the animals or lairaging at slaughterhouses, inspection of stunning, bleeding and onset of technological processing are laid down and conducted in all the consignments of animals transported to slaughterhouses within the pre-slaughter control activities. For this purpose a new system of data collection in the SVA IS was introduced and verified in the second half of 2006 which is still being fine-tuned. In 2007, a total of 121 504 inspections were conducted involving 295 784 heads of cattle for slaughter. The identified deficiencies concerned the accompanying documents in 0.03% of cases, non-compliant transport conditions were detected in 1.69% of cases and in 0.07% of consignments injury to animals was detected. In addition to that a total of 108 422 welfare checks were conducted in the consignments of 3 955 887 pigs during which breach of the stipulated journey time as well as unsuitable means of transport were detected in 0.01%; damage to pigs was detected in 0.07%. Subject to inspections were 8 815 consignments of gallinaceous fowl for slaughter involving 8 814 903 birds; during the checks of documents, journey time and means of transports, similar values were present as in the previous categories, higher percentage (2.61%) was, however, recorded in the

number of injuries to the transported poultry. These were mostly the cases of death due to higher temperatures in the summer season. The summary of deaths during transport to slaughterhouses and at slaughterhouses in cattle, calves and pigs is given in supplement. It is assumed that in the upcoming period the established system will be used more consistently during follow-up checks of animal welfare and status of health of animals in breeding establishments.

It is of a major importance for the evaluation that the comprehensive inspection of welfare conditions at slaughterhouses was conducted and evaluated just like in the previous period. A total of 970 (2006 – 1 158) such inspections were carried out at regular slaughter. There were 4 such inspections conducted of ritual slaughters involving 670 animals, mostly poultry. Corrective measures pursuant to Section 22 letter h) of the Animal Welfare Act were imposed only to activities related to regular slaughter, namely during 77 (2006 - 99) inspections. Altogether 21 fines were imposed outside the administrative procedure. A proposal to initiate an administrative procedure was submitted as a result of 95 inspections.

With respect to the fact that in 2006 DG (SANCO) 8040/2006 inspection mission was carried out focusing inter alia on the verification of the existence and compliance with legislation in the field of animal protection and supervisory function of competent state authorities in the field of slaughter and euthanasia, the respective regional inspectors, inspectors ensuring the supervision at slaughterhouses and operators of slaughterhouses checked the "Recommendations of the Committee for the protection of farm animals concerning the protection of animals for slaughter" based on which particular measures were adopted.

The inspections of Christmas sale of live fish in stands concluded that the situation in this field was satisfactory. On the contrary, deficiencies were detected in the sale of live fish in the retail outlets.

E 4.1.2. Supervision of transport of animals

Conditions of (road, railway and air) animal transport were inspected already in line with Council Regulation No 1/2005. Since the unamended wording of the Animal Welfare Act was still effective, however, the registration of transporters in the national transport made prior to 2005 was still considered to be valid. With respect of long-term journeys the observance of conditions laid down in the above referred to Regulation was required.

A total of 2 634 inspections conducted apart from inspections of transport to slaughterhouses (see section C 4.1.1.) involved more than 6.8 million transported animals. The highest numbers were reported in case of inspections of poultry and freshwater fish. The findings of 14 inspections were addressed in a number of different ways in administrative procedures. In additional 19 cases the information on deficiencies were forwarded to the competent authorities in the EU Member States. Corrective measures were imposed in 64 inspections and involved 12 113 animals. In 4 cases the RVA inspectors participated in the investigation of traffic accidents of trucks transporting animals which resulted in the necessity to conduct immediate euthanasia of suffering animals and to transport other animals to slaughterhouses. As concerns the long-term journeys, 60% of deficiencies were detected in mandatory documents of transporters (registration, journey log etc). In additional 29% of cases non-compliance of vehicles equipment was found and in 10% the attendants did not meet the stipulated conditions. As referred to above, we shall however note that especially in case of inspections of transit transport and during the approval procedure problems were arising in control activities and application of provisions laid down in Council Regulation No 1/2005 caused by unclear technical conditions. Despite the efforts to obtain some information during the technical meetings held in the Brussels and during other contacts with the European Commission, some issues are still unsolved.

It shall be stated that pursuant to the EC methodology the "**Report on the protection of animals during transport in 2007**" was developed. While compiling these reports, certain difficulties were faced in the data acquisition since the data were collected from various systems which are not fully compatible as yet. The promised possibility of acquiring data from the TRACES system has not come true either. Certain difficulties also arose in monitoring the interrelations of data in the newly introduced SVA CR Information System.

At 6 training centres 23 courses for transporters were held and additional 560 persons were trained on line with the conditions set out in Council Regulation No 1/2005. More than 2 000 have already been trained in the CR.

E 4.1.3. Cooperation with the State Agricultural Intervention Fund (SAIF)

In 2007, the SVA CR collaborated with the SAIF in communicating the results of certain welfare inspections carried out by the RVA inspectors. Technically speaking, the data were transmitted by means of a special data bridge which transferred selected data from the SVA CR Information System and delivered them in an appropriate format to the data warehouse of the Integral Animal Register at the Ministry of Agriculture of the CR. Data were made available to the SAIF staff under the registration numbers of holdings.

Tables	Information about checks choice kind and category animals in 2007 - Calves, Pigs, Latiny hens according to Direction 98/58/EC	p. 55-56
Tables	Information about checks choice kind and category animals in 2007 - other animals according to Direction 98/58/EC	p. 57-58
Maps	Inspections of animal herds and flocks with no defects detected - 1994 - 2007	p. 59
Maps	Inspections of animal herds and flocks with law violation detected - 1994 - 2007	p. 60
Graphs	Herds and flocks of farm animals - Numbers of inspected animals in 2004 and 2007 - Numbers of inspections in 2004 and 2007	p. 61
Maps	Inspections of commercial and small slaughterhouses and slaughterlaps - 1994 - 2007	p. 62
Maps	Inspections of ritual slaughters - 1994 - 2007	p. 63
Graphs	Animal death loss at slaughterhouse (1993 - 2007) - Death loss during transportation to slaughterhouse - Death loss among animals stabled at slaughterhouse	p. 64
Maps	Inspections of national animal transport - 1994 - 2007	p. 65
Tables	Annual report on the protection of animals during transport in 2007	p. 66-67

E 4.2. Supervision of protection of companion (pet) animals

Activities with companion animals were in 2007 subject to 4 379 inspections (in 2006 it was 3 896 inspections) involving 1 282 437 animals, of which 800 inspections were conducted in dangerous animal species establishments. In 301 cases the findings were addressed in a number of different ways in administrative procedure. Corrective measures were imposed in 507 inspections involving 2 238 animals. In 65 cases fines were imposed outside an administrative procedure, in 21 cases administrative procedure was held and in 215 cases a proposal to initiate this procedure was submitted to the respective municipality. The control activities newly focused particularly on breeding conditions and also on compliance with the rules of protection of companion animals in public performance and gathering. Shortcomings in companion animal establishments qualified pursuant to individual sections of the Animal Welfare Act were detected in 585 cases, inadequate breeding conditions (keeping group animals individually, failure to ensure the care of younglings, non-compliant breeding environment, etc) were detected in 184 cases, apart from that there were 54 cases in which insufficient watering and feeding was detected or in which animals were not fed at all. In 108 cases no provisions against the escape of animals from the establishment were put in place. Moreover, in 40 cases pointless restriction of animal movement was found (insufficient or unsuitable space or tethering to a dog house, etc). A total of 185 inspections were conducted in animal shelters and rescue centres which involved 76 384 animals. At the same time there were cases of animal neglect in animal shelters. Improper registration of animals as well as the cases of failure to report a finding of a companion animal which may be viewed as the alienation of stray animals represented a repeated shortcoming. An outstanding issue continues to be the establishments which claim to be shelters but fail to comply with the stipulated conditions and in which animals suffer. Several cases which occurred in the so called "shelters for horses" were heavily covered by media. For the reasons above 12 corrective measures were imposed involving 197 animals. Administrative procedure was held in two cases and in 3 cases a proposal was submitted to the municipality. The detected violations of the Veterinary Act comprised 129 cases of failure to provide the vaccination against rabies and 7 cases of non-compliance with the principles of animal registration and identification. The

vocational training was provided through 5 courses which were attended also by first group of 24 persons working in shelters for animals in need. These courses were mostly attended by Municipal Police employees (118 persons).

With respect to inspections of public performances and gatherings, e.g. the results of 584 inspections of public performances and gatherings involving 43 429 dogs as well as the results of 27 inspections of similar events involving 4 399 cats suggest that the situation has improved, just like in case of horses as stated above since the participants of such events observed the "Rules of animal protection". However, this is not fully true when it comes to the sale of companion animals where certain improvements are expected following the implementation of the amended Animal Welfare Act.

Maps	Inspections of trade in companion animals - 1994 - 2007	p. 68
Maps	Inspections of veterinary activities - 1994 - 2007	p. 69
Maps	Inspections of animal shelters - 1994 - 2007	p. 70

E 4.3. Supervision of wild animals

During the supervision of wild animals related activities, a total number of 381 inspections were conducted involving 283 619 animals. In 25 cases corrective measures were imposed, concerning 363 animals. 11 cases were addressed in a number of different ways in the administrative procedure, of which none was related to training or care of animals in circuses. Regular inspections were carried out in 6 licensed zoological gardens by the Ministry of Environment commission responsible zoo licensing. In all the cases the commission concluded that the conditions as laid down in the legislation had been complied with. A total of 87 inspections were conducted during supervisory activities in these establishments. In the course of 2007 six corrective measures were imposed involving seven animals and only one proposal was submitted to the municipality. During 108 inspections carried out in circuses, 3 corrective measures were imposed involving 11 animals and no proposal was submitted leading to the administrative procedure. Despite certain difficulties to observe the deadlines for approval of the rules, the situation in circuses and similar establishments has improved. Additional inspections were conducted in cooperation with the Czech Environmental Inspectorate (CEI) in zoo corners and similar facilities. During these inspections 16 corrective measures were imposed and 10 cases were heard in the administrative procedure. The supervisory bodies got also engaged in the investigation of cases of game and fish poaching and game poisoning (carbofuran poisoning, etc) as well as fish poisoning. Inspections of care of foxes were also carried out during the testing of hunting dogs, in selected hunting districts or during the tests of terriers.

E 4.4. Supervision of breeding and use of experimental animals

The laboratory animal breeding establishments (see Supplement 1a) were subject to a total of 147 inspections, of which in one case corrective measures were imposed and three cases were addressed in the administrative procedure. A total of 115 inspections were conducted in 2007 in experiments on animals, involving 89 897 animals. A total of 406 414 animals were used for experiments in the CR in 2007 (of which 77 253 laboratory mice, 39 699 laboratory rats, 4 770 rabbits, 3 361 guinea pigs etc.; approximately 138 000 birds were banded).

The education using animals was subject to thirteen inspections. These inspections concerned 678 animals (in 2006 – 3 623 animals) and no deficiencies were detected. We should be aware of the fact that e.g. courses leading to the acquisition of the certificate of competence of drivers and attendants as well as the courses for capture of animals require hand-on experience with animal handling which shall be approved as an experiment on animals for the purpose of education.

With respect to granting accreditations for user establishments and issuance of certificates for breeding and supplying establishments, a meeting was organised for the selected RVA inspectors during which breeding, supplying and user establishments were visited. At a special meeting the selected RVA inspectors were introduced to the new EC legislation and methodology of comprehensive inspections, and supporting documents were developed for the referred to administrative procedures.

Maps	Inspections of experiments using animals - 1994 - 2007	p. 71
Maps	Inspections of education using animals - 1994 - 2007	p. 72
Table	Numbers and species of animals used in experiments (1994 – 2007)	p. 73
Table	Numbers and species of animals used in experiments by range of ministries and at institutions in 2007	p. 74
Table	Numbers of animals used in experiments for selected purposes in 2007	p. 75
Table	Numbers of animals used in experiments for selected purposes in protection of man, animals and environment against toxic substances or for other safety evaluations in 2007	p. 76
Table	Numbers of animals used in experiments involved with diseases and disorders in 2007	p. 77
Graphs	Numbers of animals used in experiments (1994 - 2007) - Mice; Rats; Guinea pigs; Rabbits; Dogs; Cats	p. 78
Graphs	Numbers of animals used in experiments (1994 - 2007) - Pigs; Cattle; Goats and sheep; Birds; Fish; Total animals	p. 79
Graphs	Share of different animal species used in experiments (2001 - 2007)	p. 80

E 5. ACTIVITY OF THE CENTRAL COMMISSION FOR ANIMAL WELFARE

The activity of the CCAW follows the provisions of Section 21 of the Animal Welfare Act. For the sake of clarity it is presented in a breakdown by committee.

Members of the CCAW met at eleven Plenary Sessions. The main points on the agenda of these sessions was the approval procedure for rules of animal protection in breeding, public performance and gathering and the approval procedure for granting accreditations for user establishments and issuance of certificates for breeding and supplying establishments of experimental animals, but also the discussions related to the current amendment to the Animal Welfare Act and its implementing decrees and preparation of new implementing decrees. The technical issues discussed also drew on the topics suggested by international bodies [predominantly by T-AP CoE, DG(SANCO) – European Commission], other topics on the agenda were linked to technical issues inherent in the activities of individual Committees.

All the CCAW Committees apart from the below mentioned activities on a continuous basis also dealt with topical issues, prepared background materials for decision making of the CCAW Plenary Sessions and addressed the respective correspondence. Many CCAW members as well as the Secretariat staff were authors of publications or gave lectures on the topic of animal protection designed both for professional and general public.

In the course of 2007, the following two members stopped working for the CCAW - JUDr. Prchalová [she left the Ministry of Environment (MoE) which she represented] and Mgr. Martinková (she was dismissed by the Foundation for the Protection of Animals which she represented). Neither of them was officially dismissed since the Minister of Agriculture suspended the appointments and dismissals of CCAW members until the date of effect of the new amendment to the Animal Welfare Act. For the same reason the nominated new members MUDr. Jírová (National Institute of Public Health, National Platform for Alternative Methods) and Mgr. Nedomová (MoE) have not been appointed as yet.

Chairman

Doc. MVDr. Richard Sovják, CSc. remained in the position of the CCAW Chairman.

E 5.1 Committee for the Protection of Farm Animals (CPFA)

In 2007 the composition of the Committee was the following:

MVDr. Jiří Dousek, Ph.D. (SVA CR, until the end of February)

Ing. Jiří Hojer (MoA)

Ing. Jaroslav Kratochvíl (Agrarian Chamber of the CR)

JUDr. Jana Prchalová (MoE, until the end of June)

plk. JUDr. Bohumil Radvan (Ministry of Interior)

MVDr. Ivo Strauss (SVA CR)

Ing. Romana Šonková – Chairlady of the committee (Pro-Bio Association of Ecological Farmers)

Ing. Karel Urban (Ministry of Transport)

The pivotal task for the CPFA members which was set in 2006 was the active involvement in the approval procedure of the 5th amendment to the Animal Welfare Act. The amendment raised a great deal of comments at all the levels of comments procedure. Therefore the discussions in the framework of approval procedure were challenging and were held throughout the year. It was only on 7 December when the proposed amendment was adopted by the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic. Some modifications were made to the wording of amendment which had been the result of the CPFA discussions, of which the most important in terms of direct impact on animal welfare is the deletion of the by us proposed prohibition of castration and tail docking in sheep by applying rubber rings to the tail and castration by crushing the spermatic cord as well as the prolongation of the maximum length of journey of a sick, exhausted or injured animal for slaughter at slaughterhouses from 65 km to 100 km. Both the amendments were accepted and approved by the Committee on Agriculture of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament based on the requirements submitted by practitioners. We consider the development of legislation in the field of protection of farm animals to be a long-term and a highly sensitive process in which compromises have to be made. Nevertheless, it is necessary to realise that the national legislation shall meet the obligations which the Czech Republic has undertaken by acceding to the international conventions and treaties of the Council of Europe and other international organisations as well as its accession to the European Union.

In connection to the amendment to the Animal Welfare Act, the CPFA also prepared the amendment of Decree No 208/2004 Coll., on minimum standards for the protection of farm animals and Decree No 193/2004 Coll., on the protection of animals during transport, namely with the view to integrate provisions facilitating direct application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005, on the protection of animals during transport and related operations and amending Directives 64/432/EEC and 93/119/EC and Regulation (EC) No 1255/97. Due to prevailing unclarities in interpretation of this Regulation and insufficient technical specifications related to navigation systems provided by the European Commission, this task was not fulfilled before the end of the year. Improvements are expected once the European Commission fills in the gaps in this Regulation.

On 12 June 2007 the EU Council adopted the Directive laying down minimum rules for the protection of chickens kept for meat production. Although the CPFA welcomes the existence of this Regulation, the original CPFA proposal was in favour of more stringent rules for breeding of chickens. Full harmonisation of the Czech legislation with this Directive will be required after 30 June 2010, therefore the CPFA proposed to include the preparations for another amendment to the Animal Welfare Act in the legislation plan for 2008.

Extensive and challenging were the activities within the cooperation with breeders on the preparation and approval of rules of animal protection in breeding, public performance and gathering. In some cases the CPFA members had to address difficult situations when some breeders in the CR want to use non-conventional procedures or aids in animal related activities or introduce non-conventional animal breeding methods. These efforts are not always in line with our legislation.

The CPFA took up to two brand new topics currently discussed in the European Union – animal welfare labelling for food products and alternatives to castration of piglets. The latter became the main topic on the agenda of the meeting organised by the CPFA for the representatives of the CCAW, MoA CR, SVA and the Czech and Moravian Union of Pig Breeders at which individual alternatives were assessed with regard to the current practices used in

pig breeding in the CR. The European Commission at the time being is in the process of collecting the necessary background information on these two topics.

On 8 - 9 May 2007 the 2nd session of the European Forum of Animal Welfare Councils (EuroFAWC) was held in the Brussels which was attended by the CCAW lawyer and the CPFA Chairlady. The CCAW has been a EuroFAWC member since its establishment in 2006. The purpose of the trip was to learn about the functioning of animal protection bodies in other, mostly European countries and also to get to know the problems currently faced by individual countries particularly in the field of farm animals husbandry. It was agreed on this session that the 3rd session in January 2008 will be held in Prague. The CPFA Chairlady in cooperation with the CCAW Secretariat and Foreign Relations Department of the MoA CR for the rest of the year dealt with matters associated with the organisation of this important international event.

Due to the restructuring of the Council of Europe T-AP no meetings were held and even the discussions of the T-AP recommendations for farmed fish, cattle and rabbits were interrupted.

E 5.2 Committee for the Protection of Companion (Pet) Animals (CPCA)

In 2007 the composition of the Committee was the following:

Mgr. Jana Martinková (Foundation for the Protection of Animals, till the end of April)

Zuzana Semelová (League for the Protection of Animals of the CR)

JUDr. Jana Spurná (CCAW)

MVDr. Jan Šimr – Chairman of the Committee (Chamber of veterinary Surgeons of the CR)

The Committee was contributed to drafting of the amendment to the Animal Welfare Act as concerns the protection of animals in companion animal establishments.

The Committee in synergy with the Committee for the Protection of Farm Animals and the Committee for the Protection of Wild Animals was involved in drawing up of the model rules of animal protection for various fields of breeding activities:

- model rules of animal protection in public performance or gathering of dogs for the evaluation of structure and appearance of dogs with the certificate of origin,
- model rules for training and public performance of service and assistance dogs.

The Committee provided consultancy services to municipal and local authorities in matters related to the issuance of generally binding decrees laying down breeding of dogs and other companion animals and in matters related to infringements committed by citizens in the field of cruelty to animals for members of infringement commissions of municipalities with extended powers.

The Committee prepared the CCAW opinion on killing of the so called superfluous puppies and kittens with the certificate of origin.

The Committee elaborated the CCAW opinion on the cases of an attack, injury or death of a dog caused by another dog or a man and on the cases of an attack, injury or a death of a man caused by a dog.

The Committee took part in the update of the CCAW website, in the section of Animal breeding, gathering and public performance in particular.

The Committee cooperated with the Czech Small Animal Veterinary Association in the implementation of the Modrý pes (Blue dog) projects (an instructional videorecording for children).

The Committee updated the CCAW opinion on potential suffering of animals due to high temperature and newly covered also the risk of low temperature.

The Committee considerably contributed to the comments on and approval of the rules of animal protection in breeding, public performance and gathering together with the community of breeders.

E 5.3 Committee for the Protection of Wild Animals (CPWA)

In 2007 the composition of the Committee was the following:

Věra Aladzasová-Příbylová (Union of Centres for Handicapped Animals)

Ing. František Havránek, CSc. (MoA)

Mgr. Pavel Hlavička, CSc. (Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports)

Zbyněk Laube (Czech Union of Animal Breeders)

MVDr. David Nejedlo (Union of Czech and Slovak Zoological Gardens)

Mgr. Marie Zelená – Chairlady of the Committee (MoE)

The Committee met at 3 meetings at the Liberec ZOO. Due to the extreme workload of its members, additional topics and issues were addressed at CCAW Plenary Sessions, or via the electronic mail and by phone.

The Committee collaborated in drafting the amendment to the Animal Welfare Act, especially in addressing the issues of wild animals. First and foremost it focused on the protection of handicapped animals in breeding and on keeping animals in rescue centres. The Chairlady of the Committee assisted in incorporating the rescue centres related matters in Act No 114/1992 Coll., on nature and landscape protection which is currently debated together with the amendment to the Animal Welfare Act.

The Committee drafted a new Decree on the protection of handicapped animals in breeding. Particularly the work on Annex No 1 to this Decree laying down the size and equipment of premises for handicapped animals was confronted with rather complicated and lengthy discussions with experts.

The Committee has drawn up a proposal of a new Decree defining animal species which require special care.

Preparation of the CCAW Recommendation – Conditions of breeding of wild bird species in captivity – work on this publication did not progress any further due to personal problems of Mrs Aladzasová.

Preparation of the publication on Disinfection, Disinfestation and Rodent Control, the associate professor Mr. Rödl promised to elaborate it, but unfortunately though he failed to complete it this year. Discussions are in progress.

Preparation of the CCAW Recommendation on handling animals in zoo-shops – works slowly commenced. Mrs Aladzasová together with the Chairlady of the Committee is working on the part concerning birds.

The Committee was involved in administrative procedures and prepared the rules of animal protection in public performance and gathering concerning wild animals for approval, and also made comments to the rules of animal protection concerning other animals. The Committee provided consultations in the development of rules of animal protection in public performance in circuses. In this respect the Committee communicated especially with the newly established Association of Czech Circuses.

The Committee assisted in addressing an emergency situation in the rescue centre in Prague which had been accused of cruelty to animals. The charges were dropped and the fine imposed by the City District Prague 5 was cancelled since the cruelty to animals was not proven. An appeal was lodged with the Czech Environmental Inspectorate against its decision to impose a fine, the case is still pending. This appeal however concerns only the administrative mistakes.

The Union of Centres for Handicapped Animals (Věra Aladzasová), in cooperation with the Municipality of the City of Prague and the CPWA Chairlady held a workshop on 16 October 2007 on "Wild animals related issues in the territory of Prague – how to reply to inquiries and requests of citizens" Part I – autumn, winter. The proceedings have not been published as yet since some of the speakers failed to deliver their papers in requested quality. They are expected to be published together with the papers delivered in Part II of the workshop held in 2008.

The Chairlady of the Committee went on 2 business trips abroad:

The 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) held in the Hague on 3 – 15 June 2007 – of major benefit inter alia was the visit to the AAP Primate Rescue Centre – Sanctuary for Exotic Animals in Almere. The rescue centre would be willing to accommodate the chimpanzee called Shirli who is currently in the Hodonín ZOO and is owned by Mr Ludvík Berousek. It is still being discussed.

The 9th International Companion Animal Welfare Conference held in Berlin on 31 October to 2 November 2007.

E 5.4 Committee for the Protection of Experimental Animals (CPEA)

In 2007 the composition of the Committee was the following:

RNDr. Michael Boubelík, CSc. (Academy of Sciences of the CR)

MUDr. Adriana Hammerová (Ministry of Health)

RNDr. Jaroslav Pažout (Ministry of Industry and Trade)

Ing. Iva Pipalová – Chairlady of the Committee (Society for Laboratory Animal Science)

MVDr. Stanislav Špelda (Ministry of Defence)

Attention was paid to awarding accreditations to user establishments and granting certificates to breeding and supplying establishments. In 2007, the designated accreditation commissions assessed 4 user establishments which applied for the first accreditation, 23 user establishments which applied for the renewal of accreditation and 5 breeding and supplying establishments which applied for the renewal of certificate.

Three CPEA members lectured at courses for higher education institutions staff pursuant to Section 17 of the Animal Welfare Act. In 2007, the Training Centre at the Institute of Life-long Education and Informatics (ILEI) UVPS in Brno organised two courses for higher education institutions staff and other three courses were held by the Training Centre of the Czech University of Life Sciences (CULS)/OPRAVIT, Prague. In addition, two courses for laboratory staff, technicians and attendants were held at the Training Centre of the CULS Prague and two more courses at the Training Centre of ILEI UVPS in Brno; another course was organised by the F-varia Brno company and one more course by the Society for Laboratory Animal Science (SLAS). Members of the CPEA acted as lecturers also in these courses.

The CPEA with the Society for Laboratory Animal Science were the co-organisers of the 10th Conference on Laboratory Animals held at Kamenice nad Lipou in October 2007.

All members of the CPEA are also members of the competent state authorities, three of them in the position of chairpersons (in ministerial commissions for the protection of animals).

The CPEA convened a meeting of the representatives of Grant agencies at which the conditions were negotiated for tenders in case where the applicant intends to use experimental animals in his work. The applicants shall submit the experimental project approved at all the relevant levels. The CPEA further cooperates with grant agencies and informs on potential changes in experimental projects.

Just like in previous years, the CPEA pays attention to the application of alternative methods. Information was continuously collected on the use and validation of the respective methods. At the 10th Conference on Laboratory Animals papers on this topic were presented. The conference was attended by the representatives of CZECOPA which is in charge of the validated alternative methods. The CCAW is a collective member of CZECOPA.

The CPEA members attended the FELASA Board and COST B24 meeting and an international conference held in Como (Italy), FELASA in the Netherlands and COST meeting held in Brighton (UK). Materials from the conferences have been made available to other CCAW members.

The CPEA members worked in the Council of Europe bodies and RNDr. Boubelík and Ing. Pipalová participated in the meeting of the EU Commission for the protection of vertebrate animals used for experimental and other scientific purposes held in the Brussels at which the Appendix „A“ and „B“ was elaborated based on the European Convention for the protection of vertebrate animals used for experimental and other scientific purposes.

The Committee contributed to the amendment to the Animal Welfare Act.

E 5.5 Secretariat

In 2007 the composition of the Secretariat was the following:

Ing. Kristýna Burešová, officer (starting with August)

Ing. Jiří Novák, IT expert

Eva Řezníčková, officer – secretary

JUDr. Jana Spurná, lawyer

The position of the CCAW Secretary remained vacant. The respective obligations were divided between the other staff of the Secretariat which led to their work overload.

Due to extensive work to be done in relation to administrative procedures during the approval of rules of animal protection and resulting work overload of the CCAW lawyer, a decision was adopted to hire a new employee for the Secretariat. The first two hired persons were soon dismissed. It was only the third person employed in the Secretariat who was a good choice and who after the training period managed to perform up to the standard. Thanks to that the lawyer can now concentrate fully on legal matters, particularly to the amendments to legislation in the field of animal protection.

Everyday agenda – dealt with by the Secretariat or in cooperation with the relevant Committees.

Preparation of regular CCAW Council meetings and Plenary Sessions - 11 Plenary Sessions and 11 Council meetings were held. Elaboration of background materials for these meetings, taking minutes thereof, fulfilment of tasks assigned to the Secretariat, reviewing of the fulfilment of tasks assigned to the respective Committees.

Information outputs (both public and private):

- record keeping of the number of animals used for experimental purposes in the CR in 2006,
- management of CCAW website, kept first and foremost in order to facilitate orientation and simplify the process of applicants in administrative procedure and to enhance public awareness on animal welfare matters,
- keeping and regular updates of the list of Czech non-governmental organisations and other entities operating in the field of animal protection (shelters, foundations, animal protection organisations, rescue centres),
- keeping the lists of graduates from courses pursuant to Section 17 and 26 of the Animal Welfare Act and pursuant to Article 17 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005, on the protection of animals during transport and related operations and amending Directives 64/432/EEC and 93/119/EC and Regulation (EC) No 1255/97,
- keeping the list of approved and not approved rules of animal protection in breeding, public performance and gathering; regular provision of the approved rules to the SVA CR for the purposes of inspections,
- keeping the directory of accredited user establishments and certified breeding and supplying establishments,
- keeping the directory of user establishments that have applied for accreditation to conduct experiments on animals, and breeding and supplying establishments that have applied for the issuance of certificate.

Preparation of the amendment to the Animal Welfare Act; participation in the relevant meetings held at the MoA, Office of the Government and particularly in the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the CR. Objective of the amendment – to eliminate defects in the current wording of the Act and to achieve the compliance with EU legislation, especially in matters concerning the transport of animals. The amendment was approved by the Chamber of Deputies and in December referred to the Senate.

In cooperation with the relevant Committees the preparation of new decrees to the amended Animal Welfare Act was commenced.

Preparation for the signature and ratification of the European Convention for the Protection of Animals during International Transport (Revised), CETS 193. The fulfilment of this task, however, comes up against the unwillingness of the relevant MoA departments to cooperate.

Conduct of administrative procedures on approval of the rules of animal protection in breeding, public performance and gathering pursuant to Decree No 192/2004 Coll. – in 2007 a total of 90 administrative procedures were closed upon a final judgement.

Conduct of administrative procedures on awarding accreditations and issuing certificates pursuant to the Animal Welfare Act and pursuant to Decree No 207/2004 Coll., on the protection, breeding and use of experimental animals, and cooperation with evaluators in this field – in 2007 a total of 33 administrative procedures were closed upon a final judgement.

Cooperation with the SVA CR on the compilation of "Animal Protection Programme 2006" Information Bulletin.

Provision of information and consultancy services for state administrative bodies, non-governmental organisations and citizens, including legal advice.

Ongoing synergy with the Ministry of Agriculture, the State Veterinary Administration, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Ministry of Transport and other state administration bodies and self-governing authorities.

Elaboration of expert opinions, standpoints and judgments, methodological guidelines and expertise concerning protection of animals against cruelty. Development of legal interpretations of the Animal Welfare Act.

Together with the CCAW Committees involvement in the comment procedures to bills, decrees and other legislation submitted by other entities which relate in any way whatsoever to animal protection.

Participation in the organisation of courses for staff in charge of supervision pursuant to Section 26 of the Animal Welfare Act.

Participation in the organisation of courses for animal transporters pursuant to Article 17 of Council Regulation (EC) 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations and amending Directives 64/432/EEC and 93/119/EC and Regulation (EC) No 1255/97. Activities associated with the issuance of animal

transporter authorisation and certificates of competence of drivers and attendants – a total of 560 authorisations and certificates were issued, namely in the form of IDs.

Provision of translations and materials necessary for CCAW activities.

In collaboration with the MoA Communication Department, supplying information to mass media (TV, radio broadcasting, press).

Cooperation in the organisation of traditional international conferences – together with the Faculty of Veterinary Hygiene and Ecology UVPS in Brno - "Protection of Animals and Welfare 2007" (Brno, September, 14th year), with the Czech Society of Bioclimatology - "Topical Issues of Bioclimatology of Animals 2007 (Brno, December, 22nd year).

Preparation of the EuroFAWC forum to be held at the MoF in Prague in January 2008.

Presentation of CCAW activities at agricultural exhibitions - Přerov 2007 and Země živilka in České Budějovice.

Consultancy and advisory activities in cooperation with the relevant CCAW Committees.

Other activities:

- in cooperation with the SVA CR, press monitoring and distributing of weekly overviews to the CCAW members,
- archiving technical documents,
- monitoring and purchase of technical literature.

E 6. CONCLUSIONS

Matters concerning animal protection and welfare recently assume a global dimension and the international organisations seek to regulate these matters worldwide. These efforts have an impact not only on the protection of animals per se but also on the overall economy. For this purpose the "Community Action Plan for the Protection and Welfare of Animals" was adopted and other pieces of legislation are still in the pipeline. These matters are also reflected in the evaluation and monitoring of results of the "ANIMAL PROTECTION PROGRAMME" which is annually compiled in the CR. This publication presents results of coordinated activities performed by the MoA, Ministry of Justice and other competent state authorities as well as results of supervisory activities conducted by the State Veterinary Administration inspectors. It entails a list of valid legislation and the organisational structure of supervisory activities. The final part gives summaries required by the EC, namely both with respect to the evaluation of conditions for farm animal related activities and pursuant to the set out methodology of evaluation of use of animals in experiments. The individual chapters include the evaluation of the activity using the SVA IS data in relation to individual groups of farm, companion, wild and experimental animals and in some cases the presented examples illustrate the specifics of individual animal species. For the sake of clarity, tables, charts and maps are included offering comparisons between the current situation and the situation at the beginning of the monitored period, i.e. in 1994. Especially the farm animal related activities are subject to regular DG (SANCO) inspection missions. The conclusions of the missions have always been positive which is obvious from the presented results. In spite of that the presented results show that it is necessary to focus predominantly on welfare conditions in cattle, pig, laying hens and chicken broilers establishments. In the upcoming period attention shall be also paid to the implementation of Council Regulation No 1/2005 as stated above. However, only the general technical conditions for the implementation of this Regulation are known which makes the life of transporters as well as supervisory bodies difficult. It would be incorrect to state that the protection of animals concentrates in the CR only on animal protection in the referred to areas. The results indicate that professional care devoted to the creation of conditions of animal protection and welfare in companion animal establishments, of wild animals and also to the protection of experimental animals gives rise to a great deal of problems which despite a certain measure of achievements still prevail and have to be taken into account.

The following measures are to be adopted based on the analysis of results:

- The MoA, CCAW, SVA CR and competent state authorities will in their activities build on the "Community Action Plan for the Protection and Welfare of Animals", more comments and analytical findings will be submitted to the competent authorities with regard to the drafting of legislation at the Community level.

- When amending the legislation, requirements to reflect the EU legislation shall be met; compliance with the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 882/2005 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law and animal health and animal welfare rules;
- Animal protection authorities, especially the MoA, CCAW and SVA CR shall together with the Ministry of Transport create conditions for the implementation of Council Regulation No 1/2005.
- More legislation will be harmonised with the EC legislation, the Directive No 2007/43/EC laying down minimum rules for the protection of chickens kept for meat production in particular.
- The MoA and competent authorities shall create conditions for the implementation and evaluation of cross-compliance (CC) based on the results of inspections conducted in animal welfare under the Animal Protection Programme, or bearing in mind the risks identified in other areas, or based on foreign experience. Starting with 2009 selected risks which are significant for animal welfare in breeding will be identified and reflected in the conduct of inspections; for 2008 activities involving inspections of individual cattle and pig categories are planned,
- SVA CR in keeping with the amended Veterinary Act and its implementing regulations shall ensure the compliance with the conditions of supervision of the protection of animals and animal welfare; inspections will be conducted in line with the new methodological guidelines and in accordance with *the* "Guideline for the conduct of internal audit of the SVA CR official controls systems" comprising efficient procedures for the verification of effectiveness of official controls and follow-up measures.
- SVA CR shall analyse and evaluate the "AP Programme" at the meetings of RVA Chief inspectors.
- SVA CR shall ensure the verification and fine-tuning of the welfare module for 2008 and the preparation of a new module of Client-welfare Information System with the focus on CC; the documented procedures shall contain information and instructions as defined in Article 8 para 1 Regulation (EC) No 882/2004, to accomplish the fulfilment of requirements laid down in Directives No 91/629/EEC, 91/630/EEC and 99/74/EC.
- SVA CR, RVA inspectors, CCAW members and staff shall cooperate in the given field with citizens, interest groups, animal breeders and state administration authorities in order to improve the protection of animals.
- Information and public awareness activities will be provided to both the citizens and breeders. Information on the protection of animals will be made available on the Internet.

CCAW: <http://www.ukoz.mze.cz/>

SVA CR: <http://www.svscr.cz/>

Results of inspections by animal categories in 2007

Czech Republic

Animal categories	No. of inspections	No. of animals inspected	corrective measures Sec. 22 (h)				
			No. of inspections	No. of animals inspected	administration procedure	out of procedure administration	administrative procedure and hearing of infractions
Farm animals	11 220	43 738 991	567	770 193	45	75	102
Companion animals	4 379	1 282 437	507	2 238	21	65	215
- companion animals - dangerous species	800	10 481	28	127	0	1	18
- other companion animals	3 579	1 271 956	479	2 111	21	64	197
Wild animals	381	283 619	25	363	2	0	9
- zoo animals	87	17 928	6	7	0	0	1
- circus animals	108	2 398	3	11	0	0	0
- other wild animals	186	263 293	16	345	2	0	8
Laboratory animals	147	137 859	1	0	1	1	1
TOTAL	16 127	45 442 906	1 100	772 794	69	141	327