

EU Platform on Animal Welfare

Fourth meeting –
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- II. Priority of Austrian Presidency

I. Specifics of Animal Welfare rules in Austria

Since 1.1.2005

- The Federal Government is responsible for legislation on animal welfare
- Implementation of legislation falls to the Provinces

(authority in terms of the Federal Act shall be the district administration authority)

I. Specifics of Animal Welfare rules in Austria

Since 11.7.2013

- Animal Welfare has constitutional status

I. Specifics of Animal Welfare rules in Austria

Federal Act on the Protection of Animals

- § 2 Support of animal protection

§ 2 Support of animal protection

The federal, provincial and municipal authorities are obligated to

- Create and deepen understanding for animals protection on the part of the public and in particular on the part of youth
- Promote animal-friendly keeping systems, scientific animal protection research, matters of animal protection



Development

- The Austrian animal welfare association was founded in May 2006 based on § 2 of the Federal Act on the Protection of Animals
- Group of dedicated individuals and organisations: Federal Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs, Health and Consumer Protection, Zoo Vienna, Animal Welfare Associations, Animal Welfare Council, Scientists of the University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna and media representatives.



Achievements

Education of children and young people since 2007:

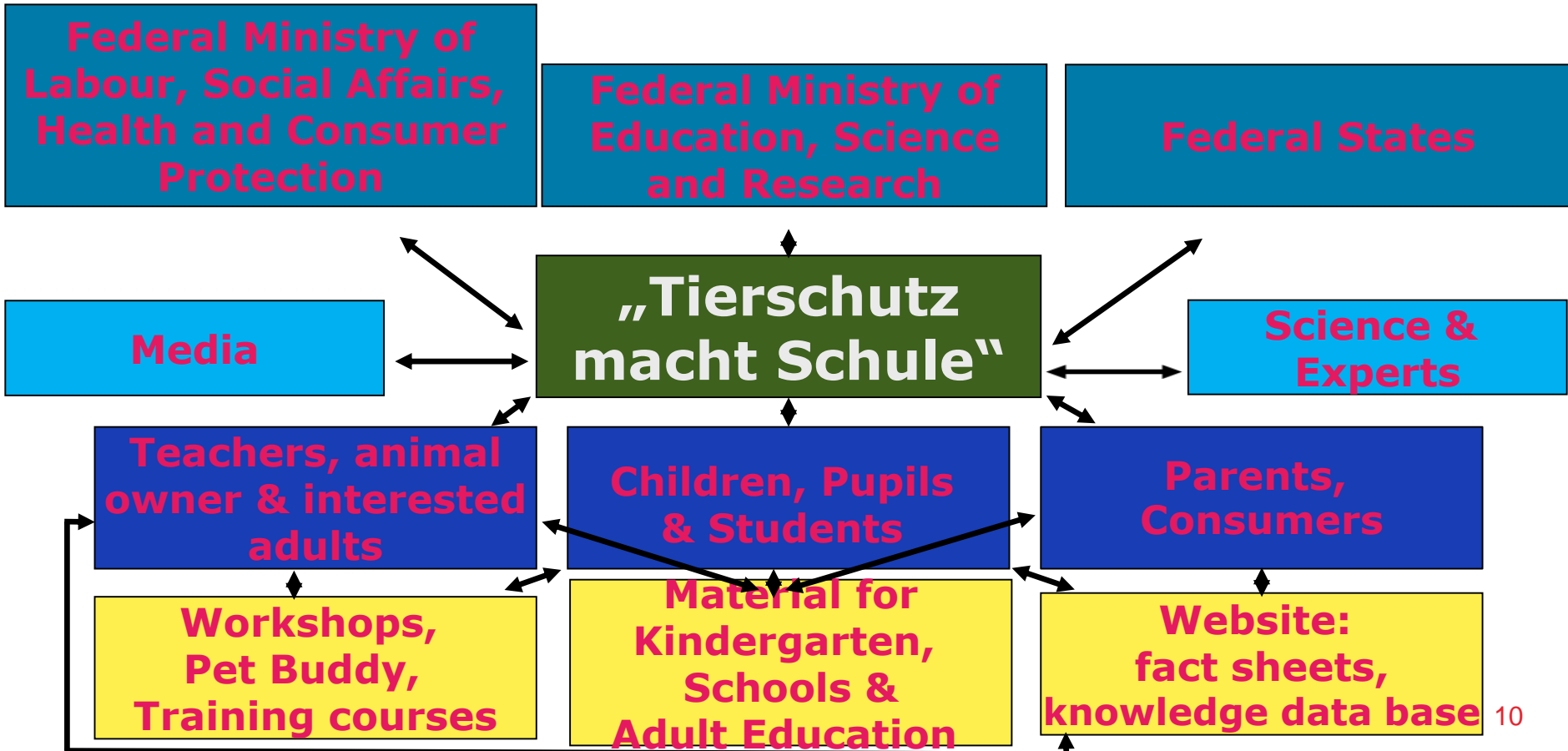
- Over 780.000 copies of teaching materials distributed
- Over 3.300 schools and educational institutions throughout Austria have ordered the products
- More than 7.000 students have taken part in hands-on Pet Buddy workshops and expert-led animal welfare classes



Adult education

- More than 63.000 adults have profited from brochures

How it works ...



Material

Education of children and young people since 2007:

- Series of “WELL-KA-HU-KA-MEER-PLOPP” (Kindergarten & Primary Level)
- Series of “Tierprofi” (Secondary Level 1 & 2)
- Further Brochures for Pupils



Education of children and young people since 2007:

- Worksheets, Lapbooks, Educational Film, Songs,
- Brochures for Adults



Why Animal Welfare Education

- Link Animal-Loving and Knowledge
- Enhance Social Skills (e. g. Empathy, Helpfulness, Responsibility)
- Strengthen Self-Confidence, Sense of Community
- Raise Awareness in Future Animal Owner and Consumers



II. Priority of Austrian Presidency

- The enforcement of EU Animal Welfare rules
- The implementation of the Animal Welfare requirements should be ensured through the whole journey!
 - especially during long transport to non-EU countries
 - especially in the hot season.
- Promoting the activities of the OIE AW Platform for Europe on long distance transport and the development and implementation of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) international standards

Transport of live animals to non-EU countries

Common problem of transports especially to south-eastern countries in the hot season

Inadequate route planning:

Delays at BG-TR border

Problem: high temperatures!

Missing of adequate equipment against heat at BG-TR border (no shade precautions, only a single water connection,...)

Common weakness: no/ incorrect retrospective checks

Possible approaches for a solution to this problem

- Restriction in exports to south-eastern Europe during hot season
- Proper realistic planning of the journey, using retrospective inspections to check the compliance concerning journey time and resting periods

Questions to the Member States

- **A1.** Have there been any restrictions on exports of live animals to non-EU countries during the summer 2018 in your country?
- **A2.** If yes, what measures have been taken?
If no, which measures are planned in the future?
- **A3.** If there are already restrictions during summer, have you recorded any losses?

Questions to the Member States:

- **B1)** Are there any national regulations for carrying out retrospective inspections in your country?
- **B2)** If yes, how many log books are inspected per year?
- **B3)** How high is the recall of the log books?

Introduced measures by Austrian Government (2018)

- To prevent animal suffering during transport the Austrian government issued a decree that orders Austrian local veterinary authorities to consider the current heat situation at the border crossing between Bulgaria and the Turkey. Order to stop stamping of journey logs destined to Turkey according article 14 of Council Regulation (EC) No.1/2005 if temperature in Svilengrad is 30°C or more. The order got in force from 14th of August 2018.
- This decree ensures that consignments of animal transports do not take place under these conditions.

Possible solution for the future (AUSTRIA)

- 1) Existing decree "Plausibility check of the logbooks for exports to south-eastern Europe" remains in force
- 2) During July and August the planning of animal transport to south-eastern Europe should be considered to be implausible
- 3) 20% reduction of the loading density in the remaining months if a temperature of over 26 degrees Celsius is to be expected during transport.

Thank you for your
attention!