

Country report on national action plans for animal welfare

MONTENEGRO

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WOAH workshop on developing national action plans for animal welfare

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World Organisation
for Animal Health





Instructions

*The country has **10 minutes** to present its situation*

The purposes of those presentations are to:

- *gain a better understanding of the situation in your country regarding animal welfare*
- *facilitate preparatory discussion for national action plans for animal welfare*

The WOAH proposes to use this template to facilitate country reporting

Please provide short and concrete answers/information

(Please delete this slide when the preparation of your presentation is completed).



What are the main Animal Welfare issues you work on?

- General AW
- AW for all species in accordance with Law of AW (wild animals, pigs, bovine's, ungulate's, poultry, small ruminant's etc.)
- Transportation
- Slaughtering
- AW for ZOO's
- Shelter's and pet hotel's
- Animals for scientific purposes
- Exhibition



Resources – what resources (financial and human) are available to work on Animal Welfare?

- *HR is limited*
 - *Two independent advisor*
 - *14 veterinary inspektor's + authorised inspector's*
- *Financial support is under public budget*
 - *Financial part refer to regurlar official control's*
 - *Second one refer to the program of mandatory health measures*



Stakeholders – Which are involved (government agencies, NGOs, farmers, veterinary professionals) and their role?

- *Administration for Food Safety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Affairs in Montenegro as a part of Ministry of Agriculture, Water management and Forestry*
- *Farmers*
- *VA*
- *Authorised veterinarians*
- *NGOs – national/international*
- *Veterinary Chamber*



Regulatory framework – What are the legal acts/regulations that you have on Animal Welfare? Do you use WOAH standards and other guidelines and best practices in your work?

Legal Reference	National Legal Reference	Procedures/ guides/ manuals/ internal instructions	Description of main areas covered by procedures, guides, manuals...	Alignment with EU Law (Yes/ No/ Partially)	If no alignment, or only partial, indicate timescales for alignment	If aligned, has it been fully implemented? (Yes/ No). If yes, please indicate implementation date.	Main areas not aligned and /or implemented
Regulation (EC) 1/2005	The Rulebook on the detailed conditions to be met by the transporter and means of transport for the transport of animals (Official Gazette of Montenegro No. 49 /2018)	Check list available	Provisions from the rulebook	Partially	year 2026	No	Provisions related to the obligations of the MSs towards the EC
Directive 98/58/EC	Rulebook on conditions for establishments and equipment for keeping and breeding animals for production (Official Gazette of Montenegro No. 64/2017)	Check list available	Provisions from the rulebook	Partially	year 2026	No	Provisions related to the obligations of the MSs towards the EC
Directive 2007/43/EC	Rulebook on the detailed conditions that should be met by establishments and equipment for keeping and rearing broilers (Official Gazette of Montenegro No. 72 /2016)	Check list available	Provisions from the rulebook	Partially	year 2026	No	Provisions related to: training and guidance for persons dealing with chickens; labelling of poultry meat; guides to good management practice; monitoring and follow up at the slaughterhouses; obligations of the MSs towards the EC.
Directive 1999/74/EC	Rulebook on closer conditions that should be met by establishments and equipment for keeping and rearing laying hens (Official Gazette of Montenegro No. 27/2016, 75/19, 150 /22)	Check list available	Provisions from the rulebook	Partially	year 2026	No	Provisions related to: deadlines for use of an unreached cages (the deadline is by II Q2026); obligations of the MSs towards the EC.
Directive 2008/119/EC	Rulebook on conditions for establishments and equipment for keeping and rearing calves (Official Gazette of Montenegro No.11/2017)	Check list available	Provisions from the rulebook	Partially	year 2026	No	Provisions related to the obligations of the MSs towards the EC



Directive 2008/120/EC	Rulebook on conditions for establishments for keeping and breeding pigs (Official Gazette of Montenegro No.64/2017 and 38/2018)	Check list available	Provisions from the rulebook	Partially	year 2026	No	Provisions related to: training courses; obligations of the MSs towards the EC
Regulation (EC) 1099/2009	Rulebook on closer conditions for the protection of animals during slaughter (Official Gazette of Montenegro No.54/2015 and 21/2019)	Check list available	Provisions from the rulebook	Partially	year 2026	No	Provisions related to: standard operating procedures; level and certificate of competence; instructions for the use of restraining and stunning equipment and Use of restraining and stunning equipment; development and dissemination of guides to good practice; monitoring procedures at slaughterhouses; animal welfare officer; depopulation and emergency killing; scientific support; obligations of the MSs towards the EC.
Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/372 (Please reply N/A if your country is landlocked)	Not yet transposed				2026/IIIQ		



- Veterinary Law
- Animal Welfare Protection Law
 - Rulebook's
- *WOAH standards*
- *Best AP's*
- *GAP code*
- Administration for Food Safety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Affairs Montenegro:
 - Veterinary ambulance (Authorised veterinarian's);
 - Veterinary inspection
 - Independent Advisor's.



Implementation and enforcement – what are the main actions taken to implement and enforce your regulatory framework?

The national policy is stipulated in the Law on the Protection of Animal welfare (“Official Gazette of Montenegro”, no. 14/2008, 40/2011, 47/2015) (the Law), as well as in the Strategy for the Development of Agriculture and Rural Areas 2023-2028.

The Law regulates the rights, obligations and responsibilities of legal entities and natural persons to protect the welfare of animals during keeping and rearing animals for the production, at the time of killing, slaughtering and transporting, of unnecessary pain, suffering or injury, while performing surgery on animals and experiments, as other issues of importance for animal welfare. The Law is applicable to all vertebrates’ animals, except embryonic and fetal developmental stages of animals, the management of hunting grounds, except for the breeding and keeping of animals used to assist in hunting and to fishing.

Strategy for the Development of Agriculture and Rural Areas 2023-2028 identifies in one of the operational goals measures related to the improvement of animal welfare. Operational Goal no.4:” Improve the response of agriculture to societal demands for food and health, including high-quality and safe food produced in a sustainable manner, to reduce food waste, as well as to improve animal welfare and combat antimicrobial resistance”.



The Law and secondary legislation adopted in accordance with the Law, are partially harmonized with the regulatory AW EU framework. However, we are in the process of identifying gaps and discrepancies between the current Law and secondary legislation and the EU acquis on animal welfare, including the drafting an amendment of the Law, which will incorporate identified discrepancies, but also the provisions related to the official control regulation (Reg. 2017/625, incl. Delegated regulation 2023/842 and Implementing regulation 2021/1938).

The ground document for the legislation alignment is the second innovative Strategy of Montenegro for transposition and implementation of EU legislation for the chapter 12 – Food safety, veterinary, phytosanitary policy with the general action plan and special action plan for eradication of Classical Swine Fever – adopted in June 2023.

Controls of AW are mainly done through IPARD calls. Representatives of the Administration for food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary affairs - Veterinary Sector, Department for Animal Health and Welfare and Animal Identification and Registration, in accordance with the signed Memorandum of Cooperation between the Administration and the Directorate for Payments - Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (MAFWM), assessed the compliance of the applicant's project documentation/planned/completed investment requirements with national/EU legislation and with the criteria of the Code of Good

Agricultural Practice in the field of animal welfare, within IPARD II 2014-2020 Measure 1, Call 1 "Investments in physical capital of agricultural holdings", namely:

- Measure 1, Call 5, 2023/24: 169 requests*
- Measure 1, Call 4, 2022/23: 21 requests*
- Measure 1, Call 3, 2021/22: 45 requests*
- Measure 1, Call 2, 2020/21: 52 requests*

During the field control within Measure 1, attention is paid to education, i.e. raising the level of information of animal keepers, especially in the part of improving the existing conditions for the protection of animal welfare in facilities for housing animals for production.

It is important to mention that there is ongoing available financial support for the improvement of this sector through IPARD and World bank projects. Improvement of the sector entails significant investments in infrastructure. The transposition of legal acts leads to additional requirements in this area, and additional financial resources for entities such as: animal transporters, slaughterhouses (appropriate conditions for unloading and housing animals, equipment for restraints, stunning and slaughter).



Data – what data you collect and how?

- *Registers*
 - *approved establishments – identification and registration*
 - *transporters*
 - *shelters*
 - *zoos*
- *VIS database (I&R)*



Public awareness or educational programs – What programs are currently in place in your country?

- *Pet's*
 - *Implementation of DPM national program*
 - *Local DPM*



Barriers and challenges – What barriers and challenges do you face to implement Animal Welfare regulation (cultural, economical, political, ...) ?

- *HR limitation*
- *Financial resources*
- *Logistic support (car's, equipment)*
- *Stakeholder's awareness about AW standard's*
- *Cultural habit's*
- *EU accession*
- *M & E process*

Thank you



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