

AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH (OIE)
AND
THE ASSOCIATION FOR ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION OF
LABORATORY ANIMAL CARE INTERNATIONAL (AAALAC INTERNATIONAL)

Considering that:

Chapter 7.8 of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the OIE elaborates the importance of high ethical principles evidenced by the application of harm-benefit analysis, the 3Rs and humane endpoints in research animal activities;

The OIE provisions in Chapter 7.8 emphasize the importance of the oversight of animal research activities by impartial Competent Authorities and the caring management and conduct of research animal activities by well trained and competent personnel;

The OIE provisions in Chapter 7.8 delineate the operational elements that promote optimal welfare and humane animal use in scientific inquiry and education;

AAALAC International has long embraced the foregoing provisions as essential hallmarks for success in its singular, longstanding and impactful accreditation program to advance research animal welfare on a worldwide scale;

The OIE and AAALAC International (hereinafter referred to as the parties) have agreed to collaborate on the following issues of common interest:

- Promoting the health and welfare of animals used in research, testing and education.
- Promoting global harmonization of the standards governing the care and use of animals in research, testing and education.
- Promoting implementation of the OIE standards relevant to animals used in research, testing and education (i.e., Chapter 7.8 of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code) and assessing the effectiveness of the implementation of the OIE standards in diverse national and research environments.
- Promoting and strengthening the training and competency of veterinarians and animal care personnel associated with institutions that use animals for research, testing and education.

The undersigned commit their respective organizations to the pursuit of these objectives through the following actions:

- 1) The parties will collaborate on education and outreach efforts (e.g., conferences, publications) that promote the health and welfare of animals used in research, testing and education.
- 2) The parties will collaborate on implementation of the OIE standards for the care and use of animals used in research, testing and education.
- 3) As appropriate, the parties will hold meetings and exchange views on issues of common interest.

- 4) As requested, the parties will propose experts to participate in AAALAC or OIE working groups or committees on subjects of mutual interest.
- 5) The parties will engage in reciprocal exchange of publications and other information sources on subjects of mutual interest.

Paris, 13 June 2014

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