Partnerships and implementation: the International Coalition for Animal Welfare

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The International Coalition for Animal Welfare (ICFAW) represents animal protection non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from around the world at the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). Its work contributes to the OIE standard setting process, implementation of standards, and the development and support of Regional Animal Welfare Strategies and Platforms. The NGO community works every day, in the field, building partnerships to implement the OIE codes and bring about other animal welfare advancements. The member organizations of ICFAW have together hundreds of years of experience, work in over 150 countries worldwide, employ over 3,000 members of staff including over a hundred scientists and veterinarians and have over a million members and supporters. The coalition has extensive knowledge and experience working across cultures, sectors and issues and we are linked into, and indeed are leading, many global animal welfare efforts. ICFAW members work on all of the animal welfare areas for which the OIE produces guidance on including farmed animals, companion animals, animals used in research and education, working animals and wildlife, as well as disaster management and emergency preparedness. The coalition members work includes capacity building, training, educational programs, practical projects, “best practice” resources, legislation and enforcement support, awareness building, rescue, sheltering and direct care, and funding for advocacy and field projects. ICFAW members are deeply engaged in cooperative animal welfare projects with all levels of government in many regions of the world. ICFAW also values its wider partnerships with an array of animal welfare stakeholders including: international and regional organizations; development, environmental and consumer organizations; business and industry; scientific and research organizations; and other NGOs. ICFAW has an unequalled resource of competence and experience in animal welfare, and is eager to share with other stakeholders. Partnerships deepen member’s impact, and improve the welfare of animals and the people across the world who depend on them.

Key words: animal welfare – implementation – NGO – partnerships – projects.