

**SABS**

**ANIMAL WELFARE  
MULTI-STAKEHOLDER  
WORKSHOP**

**“the humane treatment of animals is in all  
our interest”**



## **SOUTH AFRICAN BUREAU OF STANDARDS ANIMAL WELFARE MULTI-STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP**

**Venue:** “The Waterhole”, National Zoological Gardens, Pretoria

**Date:** 17 February 2015

**Time:** 08:30 – 14:00

**RSVP:** [Irma.loots@sabs.co.za](mailto:Irma.loots@sabs.co.za) by no later than 10 February 2015.

**Entrance and Parking:** Pass the main entrance, enter at the second entrance and follow SABS signage to “The Waterhole”. Attendance is free of charge.

### **Introduction**

According to the American Veterinary Medical Association “an animal is in a good state of welfare if it is healthy, comfortable, well-nourished, safe, able to express innate behaviour, and if it is not suffering from unpleasant states such as pain, fear, and distress”. Although there is no institution (government or NGO) that formally keeps statistics on animal cruelty or abuse in South Africa, a number of incidences have been identified, recorded and sometimes reported in the media (see annex 1). In addition, South Africa has recently made headlines regarding animal abuse with cases such as the giraffe that died from improper transportation resulting in its death and improper management of domestic and farm animals. Based on these, South Africa is clearly experiencing an unpleasant rate of animal cruelty thus necessitating standardisation intervention to prevent animal abuse and provide adequate guidelines for the proper handling of animals.

Some of the difficulties also affecting the industry are: a lack of understanding of buyer requirements regarding livestock product characteristics, industry price determination processes, alternative marketing channels and market access. The SABS has a suite of national standards that provide information that can assist the industry and in particular small scale farmers to become more competitive.

As part of our education campaign on standards, the SABS will engage stakeholders on the available standards that can assist in addressing various challenges that pertain to animal welfare. As a result we will be engaging relevant stakeholders on this subject matter. The purpose of the workshop is to raise awareness on various South African National Standards (SANS) addressing animal welfare.

### **Background**

The SABS Technical Committees have done extensive work regarding the development of standards pertaining to animal welfare. **SABS/TC 1094** is the committee responsible for standardization in the field of Livestock welfare. This includes terminology, correct handling and husbandry practices for livestock with an emphasis on ethical factors such as the humane treatment of livestock. These are all aimed at alleviating the numerous challenges that are faced by this industry such as

poor pre and post slaughter activities which in turn lead to diminished end product characteristics i.e. perishability, quality requirements and dedifferentiation. **SABS TC 1040**, Nature conservation is the responsible committee for the development of South African National Standards in the field of nature conservation.

The flagship standards developed by TC1094 are;

- **SANS 1469:2014 *Humane handling and facilities for the protection of livestock at shows, auction sales, vending sites and livestock pounds***. This standard covers requirements for the humane handling and housing of livestock at shows, auction sales, vending sites and livestock pounds.
- **SANS 1488:2014 *Humane transportation of livestock by road***. This standard covers requirements for handling of livestock immediately before, during and after the transportation of livestock by road.

The following standards are in progress and highly anticipated;

- **SANS 1478 *Pig welfare***. This standard covers the requirements for humane husbandry practices for the keeping of pigs.
- **SANS 1694 *The welfare of dairy cattle***. This standard provides guidance to the owners of dairy cattle and to persons who are responsible for dairy cattle. It will include requirements for the provision, design and maintenance of the facilities and equipment, the allocation of operational responsibilities, competence and supervision of employees

There are also a number of standards providing guidelines aimed at wildlife ranchers, wildlife translocation operators, auctioneers, conservation bodies, zoological gardens, animal welfare organizations, academics and legislative bodies:

- SANS 631:2009 Crocodiles in captivity
- SANS 994-1:2011 Ratite farming Part 1: Ostriches
- SANS 994-2:2012 Ratite farming Part 2: Emu
- SANS 1031:2014 Animal harnessing and hitching
- SANS 1884-1:2004 Holding pens for temporary housing of animals Part 1: Holding pens for wild herbivores at auctions and in quarantine facilities
- SANS 1884-2:2007 Holding pens for temporary housing of animals Part 2: Vehicles for the transportation of wild herbivores by road to holding pens and other facilities
- SANS 1884-3:2008 Holding pens for temporary housing of animals Part 3: Vehicles for transportation of wild carnivores by road to holding pens and other facilities
- SANS 10331:2000 Translocation of certain species of wild herbivore
- SANS 10379:2005 Zoo and aquarium practice
- SANS 10380:2003 Procedures for sampling vegetation according to scale
- SANS 10386:2008 The care and use of animals for scientific purposes
- SANS 10391:2012 The welfare of wild animals transported by sea
- SANS 60335-1:2011 Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety Part 1: General requirements
- SANS 60335-2-71:2007 Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety Part 2-71: Particular requirements for electrical heating appliances for breeding and rearing animals

- SANS 60335-2-71:2014 Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety Part 2-71: Particular requirements for electrical heating appliances for breeding and rearing animals
- SANS 60479-1:2006 Effects of current on human beings and livestock Part 1: General aspects
- SANS 60479-2:2007 Effects of current on human beings and livestock Part 2: Special aspects
- SANS 60479-3:1998 Effects of current on human beings and livestock Part 3: Effects of currents passing through the body of livestock
- SANS 60479-4:2006 Effects of current on human beings and livestock Part 4: Effects of lighting strokes on human beings and livestock
- ARP 60479-5:2008 Effects of current on human beings and livestock Part 5: Touch voltage threshold values for physiological effects

## The objectives of the workshop

The objectives of the workshop are to:

- Sensitise wildlife organisations, farmers' associations, relevant government departments and agencies and South Africans at large about these standards to encourage them to use the standards.
- Provide a platform for SABS to get feedback from relevant stakeholders on their needs and experiences in implementing these standards.
- Provide an opportunity for SA stakeholders who do not actively participate in standards development, to engage with SABS and standardization experts, and hopefully be encouraged to participate in standards development.
- Create awareness on existence and value of these standards

## About the workshop

The purpose of the workshop is to illustrate that standards are tools that can be used to address socio- economic challenges. The workshop will focus on standards pertaining to livestock farming, wildlife conservation and the care and use of animals. As standards are only useful when utilised, standards promotion and awareness initiatives are key in ensuring increased uptake of standardisation solutions.

There will also be presentations from standards experts, representatives from the wildlife sector and SABS representatives to raise awareness about SABS services.

Livestock is the largest agricultural sector in South Africa, with a population of approximately 13.8-million cattle and 28.8-million sheep. Most livestock farmers participate in the poultry and pig farming. Economic participation in this sector ranges widely from subsistence farmers to super farmers who produce most of the country's meat requirements. Livestock farming provides over half of the value of global agricultural output and one third in developing countries. Because it is a

labour-intensive industry it fulfils an important role in job creation and poverty alleviation.



## DRAFT PROGRAMME

Programme Director: Ms Thabisa Mbungwana, Senior Manager: Strategic Partnerships and International Relations, SABS

**08:30 – 09:00**                    **Arrival and registration**

### **Session 1 – “Nature conservation – ensuring a sustainable future”**

09:00 – 09:15                    **Welcoming remarks** “The value of standards in socio-economic development”

*Dr Sadhvir Bissoon, Standards Executive, SABS*

09:15 – 09:50                    **Policy framework** for animal welfare and existing support initiatives

*Dr Moshe Mathonsi, Director: Animal Welfare, DAFF*

09:50 – 10:30                    **Setting the scene** - state of animal welfare and the application of standards

i) Livestock welfare: Mr Andries Venter, *SPCA and*

ii) Welfare of wild animals: *Isabel Wenzel, SPCA*

10:30 – 10:50                    **Welfare of Wild animals**

*SANParks/Gauteng Conservation Department Representative (TBC)*

10:50 – 11:20                    **Discussion**

**11:20 – 11:45**                    **Tea break**

### **Session 2 – “Livestock farming infusing efficacy in the industry and reaping the benefits”**

11:45 – 12:00                    **Humane handling and facilities for the protection of livestock** (SANS 1469:2014)

*Mr Minaar, Animal Auctioneering Association*

12:00 – 12:15                    **Humane transportation of livestock by road** (SANS 1488:2014)

*Dr Dave Ford, Animal Transportation Group*

12:15 – 12:30                    **Humane husbandry for the keeping of pigs** (SANS 1478:20XX)

*Dr Evans, SA Pork*

12:30 – 12:45                    **Welfare of dairy cattle** (SANS 1694:20XX)

*Mr Jompie Burger, SA Dairy*

12:45 – 13:15                    **Animal standards currently under development**

*Prof Bath, University of Pretoria*

13:15 – 13:25                    **Discussion**

13:25 – 13:30                    Note of appreciation and closure

*SABS Representative*

**Lunch and Networking**