

### ANIMAL WELFARE

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A first meeting between Commission officials and representatives of EUROGROUP for Animal Welfare took place in Brussels on 2nd July 1984.

The purpose of the meeting was to initiate an on going dialogue between the Commission services and EUROGROUP for Animal Welfare, which represents national societies for the protection of animals within the Member States of the Community in advising the Commission on all questions relating to animal welfare. The decision to establish such a dialogue was taken at a meeting on 17th May between Mr. Poul Dalsager, member of the Commission responsible for Agriculture, and Mr. E.F. Seymour-Rouse, Director of Eurogroup (1).

Among the questions discussed were the transport of horses, the possibility of establishing codes of practice for farm animal welfare, humane slaughtering methods, animal experimentation, and the ban on imports of seal products.

The Commission welcomes the dialogue with EUROGROUP as a source of advice and assistance on how best to meet public concern about these issues. In addition to further meetings, the Commission has indicated its willingness to involve EUROGROUP experts in the work of the Veterinary Committee.

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(1) See MEMO no 55/84