

OIE CONFERENCE. –

The role of veterinary para professionals in Africa.

Pretoria –south Africa

October 2015

***Delivery systems in animal welfare and
animal protection.***

Wachira Benson Kariuki

benson@paawa.org



Point of agreement.

- **We all agree that animals need to be protected.**
- **The nature and extent of protection and by who, is usually the point of differing.**
- **Science shows that animal can feel pain and suffer- they are sentient being.**

Need for protection

- **Laws and legal systems in the world governing human interaction are meant for order to alleviate pain and suffering.**
- **One writer said “in absence of law life would be short and brutal”.**
- **To alleviate pain and suffering in animals we must also have laws and legal systems that governs how animals are treated.**

Use of animals and its responsibility.

- **The use of animals carries with it an ethical responsibility to ensure the welfare of such animals (OIE).**
- **Thus animal protection systems must place responsibility on certain individuals with an emphasis that animal welfare is key in achieving sustainable development and livelihoods.**
- **This calls for a protection system that recognises various stakeholders who have diverse interest and differing points of view.**
- **Some based on economic or protection of their various position.**

The stakeholders.

- **These stakeholders includes animal owners, animal handlers, veterinary doctors, veterinary para professionals, animal producers, processors, transporters, animal welfare bodies, researchers, consumers and government agencies.**
- **The protection system must bring all stakeholders within its control and regulation to ensure animal welfare is taken care of.**

The focus of the system.

- **The protection system must focus on the animals.**
- **With an emphasis that animal welfare is a human responsibility.**
- **A responsibility that encompasses all aspects of animal wellbeing through well-defined standards of animal welfare.**

Prohibition and sanctions

- **The system must provide for acts of omission or commission that are prohibited in relationship to animals.**
- **Provide for sanctions against such acts. With a view to punish, deter or reform.**
- **The sanctions must be enforced through a well-known predictable system of enforcement.**

Enforcement.

- Enforcement refers...
- To range of procedures and actions employed by the state , its competent authority and its agencies to ensure that.
- Organizations or persons can be brought to compliance , returned to into compliance and or punished.
- Enforcement encompasses a set of actions like adopting laws and regulations monitoring outcomes including various actions and steps.

Enforcement

- **Regular exchange of information among agencies, consultation, experience sharing , coordination at national level and regional level.**
- **Capacity building and Training to enhance enforcement capabilities.**
- **Public awareness**
- **The protection system must provide an environment where all animals are provided with care and compassion both in policy and practise.**

Powers of authorized officers.

- **The protection system must provide what powers the authorized officer has and can exercise.**
- **Demand for documents required under the law.**
- **Search a person suspected of having committed a crime or a vehicle, vessel and seize and detain any animal in respect of which there is reason to believe that offence has been committed.**
- **Powers to enter a premises with or without warrant.**

Animals in disaster

- **The protection system must provide for animals in disaster and place responsibility on a particular agency.**
- **Animals can be in either man made disaster or natural one.**
- **Increasingly animals are being used as an object of war in conflicts.**
- **This must be provided for as an aggravated form of cruelty.**

Animals in disaster.

- **I think time has come and it is here for us to raise and maintain the profile of animals in disaster to a level where, there are specialized neutral "animaltarian" agencies to help animal in disaster and work hand in with the humanitarian agencies.**
- **In most cases people who are rescued and have left their animals behind are not happy.**
- **Loss of companion or livelihood.**

Protection through role in animal cruelty cases.

- **Animal cruelty cases are multi disciplinary effort.**
- **Law enforcement agencies conduct the investigations**
- **The prosecution department conducts prosecutions.**
- **Veterinary doctors conduct medical examination and forensics and should be aware that...**
- **Animal cruelty is a legal issue and not a medical determination.**
- **Can be called as an expert witness in veterinary medicine.**

Protection through role in animal cruelty cases.

- **The veterinary medical investigation and documents are both legal and medical.**
- **Focus on the Animal past information, identification, description, ownership, health status.**
- **Current status..... Is the animal injured, is it in pain, if dead, what is the cause of death. This is important in criminal cases.**
- **Determine the fault..... What human action or inaction may have caused the animal illness or death.**
- **What would be produced as exhibits in court.**

Protection system

- Must establish an national **legal framework** together with common **procedural mechanisms** for the strictest control of veterinary services and animal welfare protection.

Questions to us all.

- **Are veterinary para profession needed in the value chain of animal welfare.?**
- **if no why do we hold that view?**
- **Is it out of protecting our interest or is for the good of the animals.**
- **If yes, how can we integrate them into the system for ease of regulation and standards.**
- **Who will offer leadership towards this direction in our respective countries.**

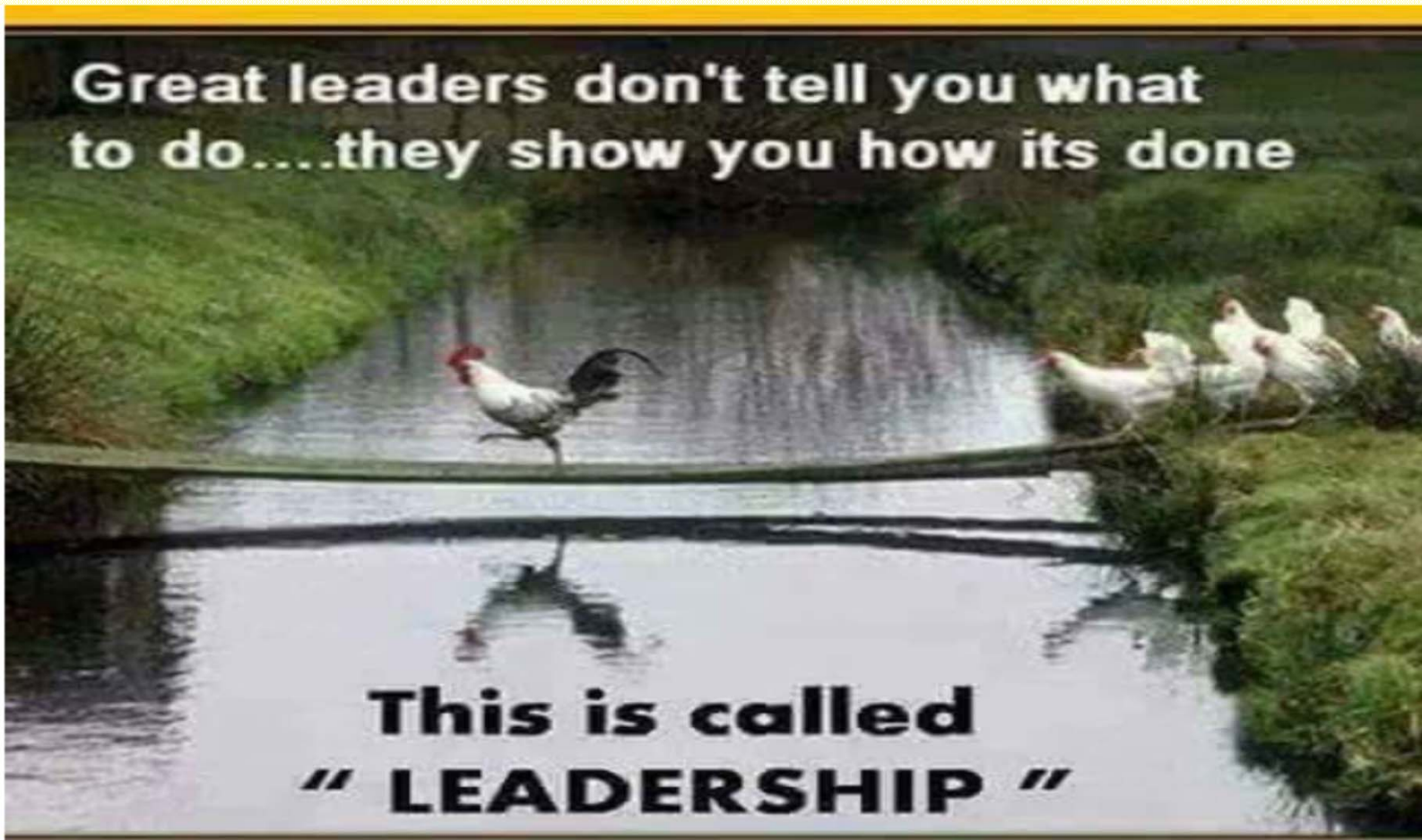
Leadership .

**LEADERSHIP IS WHEN
THE PERSON OF THE LEADER
STANDS OUT!**



THIS IS LEADERSHIP

Great leaders don't tell you what to do....they show you how its done



**This is called
" LEADERSHIP "**



Thank you.

