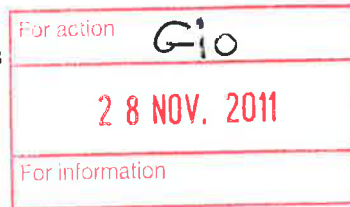


Naturewatch

CAMPAIGNING AGAINST ANIMAL CRUELTY

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Michel Platini, President
The Union of European Football Associations
Route de Geneve 46
Case Postale, CH-1260 Nyon 2
Switzerland



24th November 2011

Dear Mr Platini,

I am writing to acknowledge and to thank you for all your efforts with the Ukrainian government to persuade it to cease killing stray dogs ahead of Euro 2012.

I am aware that the increase in killing stray dogs coincided with the announcement of Euro 2012 being hosted in Ukraine and I wish to confirm that this increase in stray animal collection was not at the request of UEFA. I am grateful to UEFA for taking this matter up with top government officials over the past two years.

I also wish to thank you for using your influence to address the Ukraine authorities on this issue and for urging it to adopt a humane stray animal population control policy.

I am pleased to inform you that on 13 November in Kyiv, I had a meeting with the Minister of Environment, Mr Mykola Zlochevsky. He agreed to adopt amendments to the Ukrainian legislation regarding the treatment of stray animals, and acted upon a further Naturewatch request of an immediate moratorium on the killing of stray animals, to be implemented in each of the four cities hosting EURO 2012.

Mr Zlochevsky sent a note to each of the four Mayors announcing an immediate implementation of this agreement. He also promised that any instances of illegal cruelty to stray animals, if discovered, will be dealt with severely.

Further to this, the Ministry of Environment is actively negotiating to build modern shelters throughout Ukraine. Mr Zlochevsky informed me that, by June 2012, the first pilot project of building such a shelter would be completed in Kyiv. He is urging the city council of regional centres to provide land for shelters and the Ministry for its part, is ready to consider participation in their construction.

Mr Zlochevsky added: "The responsibility of local authorities for solving the problem of stray animals will become more rigid."

Mr Zlochevsky requested Naturewatch provide him with best practice policies on shelter construction and humane stray population programmes and we will be visiting Ukraine again very shortly with our proposal documents.

Naturewatch is informing other animal welfare groups to immediately cease lobbying UEFA on this matter.

This letter may be used as an open letter should you wish.

Yours sincerely

John Ruane
Director

