



The 2nd Asian Animal Welfare Award 2016 : FAVA-WAP collaborative activity



Dr. Peter Thornber, B.V.Sc., B.App.Sci., Dip T., MANZCVS

- *President, Commonwealth Veterinary Association*
- *President of the animal welfare specialist veterinarians (Welfare Chapter) of the Australia New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists*
- *Expert Member of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Animal Welfare Working Group*
- *Veterinary Director, Peter Thornber and Associates*
- *Veterinary Director, International Animal Welfare Consultants, Ltd., New Zealand*

- *Twenty three years experience in the Australian Government in the development of public policy in animal health and welfare and emergency management*
- *He drafted Australia's Animal Welfare Strategy and led its further development and implementation from 2003 to 2013*

- *Involved in the development of the regional animal welfare strategy for Asia, The Far East and Oceania and the establishment of the New Zealand Australia World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Collaborating Centre on Animal Welfare Science and Bioethics*
- *Received Australia Day Achievement Awards in 2014, 2007, 1998 for outstanding contribution to animal health and welfare*
- *Awarded the Gatton Distinguished Past student Award, December 2013*
- *Awarded the Australian Veterinary Association President's Award for outstanding professional contribution in 2013*
- *Awarded the University of Queensland Gatton Gold Medal, December 2014 for outstanding contribution and leadership in animal welfare*

Dr Peter Thornber is a University of Queensland veterinary graduate who also has qualifications in agriculture and teaching.

He has extensive animal health and welfare policy experience and has worked closely with international governments and organisations for many years. He retired from the Commonwealth Public Service in July 2014 after 23 years service.

He has first hand knowledge of the live export trade and led the development of the first version of the Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock in 2004. He was sent as an animal welfare expert to Egypt in 2006 and 2013 and to Indonesia in June 2011 to investigate allegations of cruelty against exported Australian cattle. He is an expert animal welfare member of the Meat and Livestock Australia/LiveCorp Standards Committee for the Livestock Global Assurance Program.

He is a specialist animal welfare member (by examination) of the Australia and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists and was elected President of the College's animal welfare specialists (Chapter) in July 2014.

Peter is also a member of the Australian Veterinary Association's special interest group on welfare and ethics and been the honorary Treasurer of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association since 2010. He is President Elect of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association and will assume this role from 1 January 2015 for a four year term.

Peter wrote Australia's Animal Welfare Strategy in 2003 <http://www.australiananimalwelfare.com.au/content/about-aaws> and was Director of the AAWS, leading its national implementation for 10 years. He coordinated activities and in-kind contribution across approximately 150 stakeholders <http://www.australiananimalwelfare.com.au/content/stakeholder-links>

His Program financially supported the development of national animal welfare standards such as the *Australian Animal Welfare Standards for the Land Transport of Livestock*.

The AAWS also funded the development of best practice animal welfare guidelines in the aquatic sector, zoos, dogs and cats, research and development work and the development of education and training materials. These are publicly available through the AAWS website at www.australiananimalwelfare.com.au

He was Secretary of the Australian Governments' Animal Welfare Committee and its predecessors and has a very good understanding of the national animal health and welfare system and the roles of governments and key stakeholders. Peter was chair of a national working group that developed the national reference document on Australia's animal welfare system and capacity

<http://www.australiananimalwelfare.com.au/content/2012-progress-report>

He helped to coordinate all the jurisdictions and their legal officers to develop a single 'model regulation' for the Australian Animal Welfare Standards for the Land Transport of Livestock. This was the first time that jurisdictions had actively worked together to achieve consistent animal welfare regulations.

The AAWS was taken offshore to assist the development of regional animal welfare strategies in the Middle East and Asia/Oceania

<http://www.australiananimalwelfare.com.au/content/international-context>. It was recognised as a global model by the 180 member countries of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE).

Peter Thornber was on the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation's (FAO) expert panel on building global animal welfare capacity. He also assisted the finalisation of high-level animal welfare cooperation agreements between the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and the European Union and with New Zealand.

Peter was also directly involved in the establishment of the OIE Collaborating Centre on Animal Welfare Science and Bioethics involving 3 animal welfare institutions in Australia and two in New Zealand. He co-chaired the Management Committee of this centre and brokered shared funding between the governments of Australia, New Zealand and Malaysia, The European Commission, World Animal Protection and University Putra, Malaysia for an animal welfare science capacity building project involving Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam and The Peoples' Republic of China.

Peter is an animal welfare expert member of the OIE Permanent Animal Welfare Working Group that develops international animal welfare standards.

As Veterinary Director of International Animal Welfare Consultants Ltd., New Zealand, he and the Scientific Director, Professor David Mellor, developed an animal welfare assessment system for the World Bank International Finance Corporation in 2015. They also assisted Rabobank in the development of an animal welfare policy statement. Peter is currently lead writer on a University of Queensland consultancy to develop good animal handling practices for poultry in the 20 countries of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Peter has been recognised for his attributes and work and has received several Australia Day achievement awards and the Australian Veterinary Association President's Award for outstanding contribution in 2013. He received the University of Queensland Distinguished Past Student Award in 2013 and the Gatton Gold Medal for his leadership and contribution to animal welfare in December 2014.