

**Code of Ethics and Welfare
of the Japanese Association of Zoos and Aquariums**

(Purpose)

Article 1. This Code of Ethics and Welfare is aimed at establishing requirements for all activities performed by the Members of the Japanese Association of Zoos and Aquariums, JAZA, to promote animal ethics and animal welfare at an adequate level.

(Responsibility)

Article 2. The Members of JAZA shall assume obligation and responsibility to sincerely execute and observe this Code.

(Collection and Transportation)

Article 3. In the collection and transportation of animals, the Members shall comply with the requirements provided in the following Items;

- (1) Animals to be collected should be originated from captive-bred individuals as much as possible, and any animal acquisitions in other ways should be not only legal but also completed out of sufficient consideration for conservation of the species.
- (2) Animals to be collected should be assigned in advance a clear role(s) in the exhibition plan and breeding program of the institution concerned.
- (3) The sex, age, pedigree and any other properties of animals should be suited to the objectives and met conditions of the collection.
- (4) The institute which receives animals should have a proper facility and staff to hold the animals.

The term of “animals” here means mammals, birds, and reptiles in principle (the same applies hereinafter). However, amphibians, fish, and invertebrates held for exhibition should be given the same consideration of ethics and welfare provided in this Code.

- (5) Animals should be transported with sufficient consideration and in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

(Husbandry and Research)

Article 4. In animal husbandry and research, the Members shall give sufficient consideration to species preservation and animal welfare and ensure that they comply with the following Items;

- (1) To equip facilities, equipment and instruments suit to the behavior and physiology of the animals
- (2) To collect and keep the information necessary for husbandry, exhibition and research of the animals
- (3) To care and manage the animals by personnel with the knowledge and techniques required for keeping the species in captivity

- (4) To ensure, through the provision of necessary conditions for animals, that they are allowed to have necessary exercise, rest and sleep to achieve appropriate husbandry and health management and they grow healthy and express their innate behavior.
- (5) To give full consideration to animal welfare when animals need to be trained
- (6) To promote species preservation through the exchange, transfer and breeding loan of animals
- (7) To contribute to secure the genetic diversity of animals through actively promoting the regional/international studbooks

(Veterinary Care and Treatment)

Article 5 In veterinary care and treatment of animals, the Members shall ensure that they comply with the following Items;

- (1) To establish systems where animals can have appropriate veterinary care and treatment as necessary
- (2) To neuter/spay animals only when population control is necessary, and to give full consideration of possible effects of such treatment in advance including subside ones
- (3) To hold and take care of animals throughout their lives; however, in case that conditions of an animal make euthanasia unavoidable in terms of animal welfare, such treatment should allow the animal to promptly die with no pain
- (4) To use marking methods with minimal pain to animals when such treatment is provided for individual identification
- (5) To give full consideration to animal ethics and welfare in all veterinary procedures

(Exhibition)

Article 6. Animals shall be exhibited based on the exhibition plan with educational consideration in the facilities meeting necessary conditions in terms of animal welfare, as provided in the following Items.

- (1) Exhibition facilities should have appropriate size and structure for the species and physiology of the animals exhibited and encourage them to express their innate habits and behaviors.
- (2) Exhibitions should properly show the innate habits/behaviors and morphology of the species and allow visitors to understand the roles of the species in ecosystem.
- (3) The Members should engage in educational activities to realize and promote the exhibition plans.

(Educational Activities)

Article 7. Educational activities by using animals should meet the requirements provided in the following Items and have contents contributing to the conservation of biodiversity and wildlife.

- (1) Animal demonstrations/shows should be focused on the natural behaviors of animals, and should not be harmful to animal health nor excessively anthropomorphize animals.
- (2) The manners of animal contacts should not be harmful to both humans and animals.

(3) Educational activities should contribute to the wide diffusion of accurate knowledge through collaboration with educational/research institutes.

(Wildlife Conservation)

Article 8. In the promotion of conservation activities, impacts to the species and environment should be minimized in wild populations, and promotion of animal welfare should always be considered for captive populations.

(Compliance with Applicable Laws and Regulations)

Article 9. In collection, transportation, husbandry, research and exhibition of animals, the Members shall recognize and understand applicable international and domestic laws and ensure compliance to them.

- (1) The Members shall keep themselves informed on and complied with “Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora” (Convention No.25, 1980) and applicable domestic laws in particular.
- (2) In husbandry and exhibition of animals, the Members shall ensure accurate recognition of and compliance with “Act on Welfare and Management of Animals” (Act No.105, 1973) and “Standards on the Care and Management of Exhibited Animals” (Notice No.33, 2004).
- (3) The Members shall ensure the collection of related information including but not limited to the trends/moves of animal-related organizations and the guidelines developed by such bodies, as well as the applicable laws.

(Ethics and Animal Welfare Committee)

Article 10. To achieve the goal of this Code, JAZA shall establish the Ethics and Animal Welfare committee. The details of the committee shall be separately provided as the Outline.

(Implementation Outline)

Article 11. Details shall be separately provided as the Implementation Outline, as well as in this Code.

(Revision or Abolition)

Article 12. The revision or abolition of this Code shall be decided by the Board of Directors of JAZA and be approved by the General Assembly of JAZA.

(Supplementary Provisions)

This Code shall come into force on February 29, 1988.

The First Partial Revision: May 25, 2006.

The Second Partial Revision: March 5, 2012.

The Third Partial Revision:

The first draft revision: approved by the Board of Directors on February, 2013

The second draft revision: approved by the Board of Directors on October 15, 2013

The Revision of the Code shall come into force after approved by the General Assembly in fiscal 2014.

The Fourth Partial Revision

The draft revision: approved by the Board of Directors on March 1, 2017

This Revision of the Code shall come into force after approved by the General Assembly in fiscal 2018.

Implementation Outline of the Code of Ethics and Welfare Of the Japanese Association of Zoos and Aquariums

(Purpose)

Article 1. This Outline shall provide requirements to take care of animals at “the adequate level of ethics and animal welfare,” based on the Code of Ethics and Welfare of the Japanese Association of Zoos and Aquariums, JAZA. “The adequate level of animal welfare” here shall mean the welfare level evaluated based on “the Five-Domain Model” described in the Animal Welfare Strategy of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums, that is, evaluated based on the points of nutrition, environment, physical health, behavior and mental state.

(Members)

Article 2. “The Members” shall mean the parties and individuals defined in the Articles 3 and 5 of the Articles of Incorporation.

(Consideration in the Collection and Transportation of Animals)

Article 3. The collection and transportation of animals provided in the Article 3 of the Code of Ethics and Welfare shall follow below.

- (1) Impacts on wild populations should be avoided when non-captive-born animals need to be collected. Any animals should not be obtained from the animal traders which fail to meet adequate standards.
- (2) In collection of animals, the Member concerned should discuss with the Biodiversity Committee.
- (3) In transportation of animals, the season when transportation occurs, behavioral characteristics of the animal(s) transported, provision of water and food during transportation and any other related points should be considered. A professional staff(s) should accompany the animal(s) as necessary.

(Conditions for Appropriate Husbandry)

Article 4. In the context of the Animal Husbandry provided in the Article 4 of the Code of Ethics and Welfare, husbandry practices shall follow below.

- (1) The Members shall comply with the Section 3-1-1 of the “Standards on the Husbandry and Housing of Exhibited Animals” by the Ministry of Environment, and shall properly meet the following conditions.
 1. To properly provide food and water to animals.
 2. To provide routine health care/management to animals, and to provide appropriate treatment(s) to dead animals by veterinarian.
 3. To allow newly-introduced animals to acclimate themselves and adjust to their new surroundings and environment.

4. To keep social species in groups
 5. To consider proper combinations of species, where multiple species are housed in the same facility.
 6. To avoid improper mother-infant separation for the species in which socialization is essential early in life.
 7. To properly isolate animals when necessary.
- (2) The Members should be monitored and evaluated whether or not they practice these conditions properly, by the special staff assigned for the purpose.

(Implementation of Environmental Enrichment)

Article 5. In the context of the Husbandry and Exhibition provided in the Article 4 and 5 of the Code of Ethics and Welfare, Animals should be provided opportunities to express the innate behaviors of the species by the implementation of food-based, structural, sensory, social and cognitive enrichment.

(Mother-Infant Separation)

Article 6. In the context of the Animal Husbandry provided in the Article 4 of the Code of Ethics and Welfare, mother-infant separation shall follow below.

- (1) Young animals should not be separated from their mothers before “maturation” and reared by humans to use them for animal shows/demonstrations. Both mothers and the young should not be stressed by such separation.
- (2) “Maturation” here shall mean physiological/physical growth as well as mental growth. “Before maturation” shall mean before the parent of the young animal starts engaging in the next breeding, or before the parent-young relationship becomes weaker.

(Animal Training)

Article 7. In the Animal Husbandry provided in the Article 4 of the Code of Ethics and Welfare, animal training is considered an effective method to improve the quality of animal management and as part of enrichment. Animal training should be conducted as it brings out natural behaviors of the animal.

(Research Methods)

Article 8. In the research activities provided in the Article 4 of the Code of Ethics and Welfare, research objectives should be reasonable and the welfare of the animals should be fully considered.

(Surgical Operations for Non-treatment Purposes)

Article 9. The veterinary treatments provided in the Article 5 of the Code of Ethics and Welfare shall follow below.

- (1) “Surgical operations for non-treatment purposes” here shall mean aesthetic surgeries, the

surgical solutions of problematic animal behaviors due to improper management and/or husbandry, and any other surgeries provided for non-treatment purposes. However, the treatments described in Item 2, Article 5 of the Code of Ethics and Welfare and the procedures with a significant impact on animal husbandry and management do not fall into this category.

- (2) Surgical procedures, except for the ones with a significant impact on animal husbandry and management, should not be applied to any animals for the purpose of giving them better appearance or changing their physical characteristics.

(Conditions for Appropriate Exhibition)

Article 10. The methods of exhibition provided in the Article 6 of the Code of Ethics and Welfare shall follow below.

The Members should comply with the Section 3-1-(2) of the Standards on the Husbandry and Housing of Exhibited Animals by the Ministry of Environment, and animals should be properly provided the following.

1. Adequate space for activities of daily living, and rich husbandry and housing environment to improve the surroundings of animals
2. Places for excretion, perching, bathing, and other specific places necessary for animals
3. Appropriate temperatures, ventilation, lighting, and other environmental parameters to avoid stress to animals
4. Structures to avoid sunlight, rain, wind and other severe weather conditions
5. Facility structures where good hygiene easily can be maintained and there is no risk to damage animals

(Prohibition of Excessive Anthropomorphism)

Article 11. Educational activities using animals provided in the Article 7 of the Code of Ethics and Welfare shall follow below.

- (1) “Excessive anthropomorphism” here assumes dressing animals and/or making them wear other items.
- (2) In the context of the purpose of the educational activities, animals should not be anthropomorphized in the manner which deviates from showing their natural behaviors in the wild.

(Supplementary Provisions)

1. This Outline shall be established on May 22, 2017 and come in force on the same day.