To

Chief Secretary of all States/UTs
State Animal Welfare Board of all States/UTs

Sir/Madam,

Sub: Criteria to be adhered by AWOs implementing ABC/AR Programme.
(for street dogs)- Reg.

I write to you on behalf of the Animal Welfare Board of India which is a statutory body established in terms of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act. In the context of animal birth control of street dogs, only such animal welfare organizations as are recognized by the Board can participate in the animal birth control programmes being conducted by local authorities. This will be apparent from the definition of 'animal welfare organisation' as contained in the Animal Birth Control (Dogs) Rules, which reads as under:

"Animal Welfare Organisation" means and includes the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and any other welfare organization for animals which is registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 (21 of 1860) or any other corresponding law for the time being in force and which is recognized by the Animal Welfare Board of India;

Now, the Board has revised the minimum criteria required for recognition of AWOs doing ABC/AR programme in order to avoid any cruelty to animals during the course of implementation of ABC/AR programme.

You are therefore urged to ensure that only such animal welfare organizations as are specifically recognized by the Animal Welfare Board of India in writing are allowed to participate in the animal birth control programme within your territorial limits. You may also note that the criteria to be adhered by all animal birth control Implementing Agencies have been uploaded on the website of the Board, and can be seen here (in the latter part of this document); [http://www.awbi.org/awbi-pdf/criteria_abc_training.pdf](http://www.awbi.org/awbi-pdf/criteria_abc_training.pdf). Kindly ensure that only such organisations as are compliant with these criteria and recognized by the Board participate in animal birth control programme of street dogs.

Your understanding and acceptance of the contents of this communication may please be conveyed to us vide your response, We await the same.

Yours faithfully,

(M.Ravikumar, IFS)
Secretary