

Dr Chui Sai On

Chief Executive of Macau

Macau Government Headquarters

Avenida da Praia Grande

Sede do Governo da RAEM

Macau SAR

China

gce@raem.gov.mo

28 February 2014

Dear Dr Chui Sai On

We are writing on behalf of the Asia for Animals Coalition, representing international organisations with extensive knowledge of animal welfare and protection issues. We express our deep concern for the welfare of greyhounds at the Macau Canidrome.

The racing of greyhounds in Macau for entertainment involves a great deal of animal suffering. As you are aware, greyhounds are shipped over thousands of miles from Australia but most of them have very short racing lives. Each year hundreds of dogs continue to be transported and raced in poor conditions which often lead to injuries. Members of our Coalition have witnessed dogs with injuries being forced to race, and media reports suggest 380 dogs are destroyed each year because they are either injured or become otherwise uncompetitive.[[1]](#footnote-1)

Race meetings have very low attendance and income from this business has dropped sharply in recent years. Compared to other gambling and entertainment enterprises in Macau the Canidrome makes a negligible contribution to the economy.

In most countries where dogs are raced there are retirement and adoption schemes for greyhounds. We understand that given Macau’s size there is little or no capacity for unwanted dogs to be found new homes. The Anima – Society for the Protection of Animals (Macau) has offered to adopt greyhounds yet this offer has not been accepted by the track owners.

We respectfully urge you to consider the implications for Macau of allowing this unsustainable trade to continue. Awareness of this suffering has spread around the world, and is damaging Macau’s reputation as a prosperous, modern city. This issue was discussed at an international animal protection conference in Singapore in Jan 2014 and over 350 delegates supported and end to greyhound racing in Macau.

The track is located in a high density area, the barking and crying from the kennels is causing a local disturbance, and the local community need additional housing, parking and green spaces. We understand that the Canidrome concession is due to expire in 2015, and we hope the Government will take this opportunity over the coming two years to end greyhound racing, to work with animal protection organisations to find suitable homes for greyhounds currently within the industry, and to make good use of the land for the benefit of the local community.

Sent on behalf of the following organisations:

* Anima Macau
* Animal Guardians
* Animal People
* Animals Asia Foundation
* ACRES
* Blue Cross of India
* Earth Island Institute
* Humane Society International
* International Animal Rescue
* International Fund for Animal Welfare
* Grey2K USA Worldwide
* Philippine Animal Welfare Society
* Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
* Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Hong Kong
* World Society for the Protection of Animals

Please respond to David Neale, Animal Welfare Director, Animals Asia Foundation, 10/F, Kai Tak Commercial Building 317-319 Des Voeux Road, Central, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong

dneale@animalsasia.org

Copied to:

Mr. Francis Tam Pak Yuen

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Supported by;

1. Changsha Small Animal Protection Association 长沙市小动物保护协会
2. Nanning Stray Cat BBS 南宁流浪猫论坛
3. Xi’an Grenadine Companion Animal Rescue Center 西安红石榴伴侣动物救助中心
4. Beijing Sunflower Friends of Animal Team 北京向日葵动物之友团队
5. China Journalists Salon for Animal Protection 中国动物保护记者沙龙
6. Kunming Stray Dog Rescue Union 昆明流浪狗救助联盟
7. Fuzhou Pet Web 福州宠物网
8. Guangzhou Pet Home Transfer Station for Stray Dog 广州私宠之家流浪狗中转站
9. Loving All Pet BBS 宠爱天下论坛
10. Chengdu Love Home Small Animal Protection Center 成都爱之家小动物保护中心
11. Capital Caring Animal Association 首都爱护动物协会
12. Nanjing Ping An A Fu Stray Dog Sanctuary 南京平安阿福流浪动物救助
13. Gansu Green Volunteer Home 甘肃绿色志愿者之家
14. Guangzhou Xi Xi Forest Cat 熙熙森林广州猫
15. Shijiazhuang Yi Mi Love Stray Cat Rescue Team 石家庄一米爱流浪猫救助团队
16. Xiamen Pet Web 厦门宠物网
17. Wuhan Stray Pet Rescue Station 武汉流浪宠物救助站
18. Zhuzhou Small Animal Loving Association 株洲小动物爱心协会
19. Xiamen Committee for Education on Caring Animal 厦门爱护动物教育专业委员会
20. Beautiful New World Stray Animal Rescue Group 美丽新世界流浪动物救助团队
21. Fuzhou Love Yuan Stray Animal Rescue Center 福州爱心缘流浪动物救助中心
22. ARB Friend of Animal ARB动物之友
23. Nanchang Small Animal Protection Association 南昌小动物保护协会
24. Dalian Love Living Creature Animal Rescue Center 大连爱及生灵动物救助协会
25. Xuzhou Small Animal Aid Center 徐州小动物救助中心
26. Caring Animal Service Center, Baiyun District of Guangzhou City 广州市白云区关爱动物服务中心
27. Barking and Mewing Orphan Asylum 汪汪喵呜孤儿院
28. Shenzhen City Dog Protection Association 深圳市犬类保护协会
29. Shanghai JAR Stray Animal Rescue 上海JAR（佳娅）流浪动物救助
30. Wuxi City Small Animal Protection Association 无锡市小动物保护协会
31. Best Friends - The Road with You Company- Pet Caring Club Best Friends 一路有你宠爱俱乐部
32. Yulin Caring Animal Volunteer Center 玉林爱护动物志愿者中心
33. Ya’an City Small Animal Adoption Center 雅安市小动物收养中心
34. Harbin Small Animal Protection Union 哈尔滨小动物保护联盟
35. China Love Dog Volunteer Association 中国爱犬志愿者协会
36. Stray Animal Sanctuary of Zhengzhou Pet Association 郑州宠协流浪动物救助站
37. Stray Dog Love Home, Taiyuan City of Shanxi Province 山西省太原市流浪狗狗爱心家园
38. Fuzhou Small Animal Protection Center 福州小动物保护中心
39. Tianjin Stray Animal Rescue Group 天津流浪动物救助团队
40. Tianjin Hope Cat Rescue Team 天津希望猫救助行动组
41. Sichuan Qiming Small Animal Protection Center 四川启明小动物保护中心
42. Chongqing City Small Animal Protection Association 重庆市小动物保护协会
43. Shenzhen Cat 深圳猫
44. Lucky Rural Cat 幸运土猫
45. Chengde Cat Forest 承德猫咪森林
46. Guangyuan City Charity Animal Protection Center 广元市博爱动物保护中心
47. Xi’an Xijing Dog Sanctuary 西安西京犬业救助中心
48. Henan Preparation Team for China Small Animal Protection 中国小动物保护协会河南筹备
49. Hefei City Dog Association and Small Animal Caring Center 合肥市犬业协会小动物关怀中心
50. Tianjin Common Home 天津共同家园
51. Wenzhou Stray Dog Aid Base 温州流浪狗救助基地
52. Overseas Chinese Caring Animal Union海外侨胞关爱动物联盟
53. Chongqing Small Animal Loving Home Sanctuary 重庆小动物爱心之家救助群
54. We Are One Family Association of Chongqing Normal University 重庆师范大学天下一家协会
55. Chongqing Small Animal Loving Web 重庆小动物爱心网
56. Chongqing Happy Cat 重庆快乐猫咪
57. Chongqing Rural Cat 重庆土猫
58. Guizhou Animal Protection Association 贵州动物保护协会
59. Shoushan Guangdong Volunteer Center 首善广东志愿者中心
60. Jinan Cattery 济南猫窝
61. Chengde Animal Protection Association 承德动物保护协会
62. Zhangzhou Small Animal Scientifically Rescue Center 漳州小动物科学养护救助中心
63. 110 Animal Web 动物110网
64. Hohhot Angel Guardian 呼和浩特天使守护
65. Ta Foundation 它基金
1. The dogs who run for their lives. Irish Daily Mail, 7 May 2011 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)