

By-law No. 2 : Control of Rabies and other Zoonoses.

Preamble : The purpose of this By-law is to protect the human population against such diseases transmissible from animals to man, which are of major importance for public health and which cannot be controlled sufficiently by the measures provided for under By-law No. 4, 5 and 6, in particular :— Rabies and Echinococcosis transmitted to man from dogs, Cysticercosis and tapeworm infestation transmitted through the meat of pigs and cattle to man and from man again to pigs and cattle, and Salmonellosis, frequently transmitted to man through cross-contamination during food preparation, originating from infected raw meat.

1. Dogs in urban areas and villages shall be registered and licensed by the DAHO/DVO, the registered and licensed dog shall be conveniently identified by a necklace or other conspicuous sign.
2. The owner of the registered dog shall be responsible :
 - a) to provide care, feed and shelter to the dog.
 - b) to have the dog vaccinated against Rabies periodically, as instructed by the DAHO/DVO.
 - c) to confine the dog, and to report to the nearest Veterinary institute, if the dog's behaviour and health status give reason to suspect Rabies.
 - d) to prevent, as far as possible, that the dog gets access to material infested with Echinococcus or Coenurus cerebralis cysts, and to provide worm treatments, effective against tape-worms, periodically and in accordance with instructions given by the DAHO/DVO.
3. The DAHO/DVO or his representative shall give the relevant instructions to the owner at the moment of registration, and shall apply the Rabies vaccination and vermicide treatment referred to in the preceding paragraph. The periodicity of rabies vaccination shall be 1 year if killed vaccine is used, 3 years if Fleury strain vaccine is used.

4. All non-registered and non-licensed dogs shall be considered as stray dogs and shall be destroyed by the responsible municipal authority, either by shooting, or by capturing, confining and subsequent eutanasia.
5. A person wishing to adopt a stray dog may do so, under the following conditions:
 - a) The dog is in apparent good health and shows normal behaviour.
 - b) There has been no case of rabies in the city or village during the preceeding 3 months.
 - c) The dog is presented to the DAHO/DVO without delay, for registration, licensing, vaccination and worm treatment, and the owner assumes the responsibilities as stated under paragraph 2.
6. If a case of rabies or suspected rabies occurs in a city or village any person having knowledge of such fact shall be obliged to inform the municipal authority and the DAHO/DVO shall cooperate to have the following measures implemented :
 - a) Any person which has been bitten by a rabid dog, cat or wild animal shall be reported to the public health authority to receive prophylactic treatment.
 - b) Any dog or cat which has been bitten by a rabid animal shall be destroyed immediately.
 - c) Any farm animal which has been bitten by a rabid animal shall be slaughtered before disease symptoms develop, preferably within 48 hours after exposure. The meat may be utilized for human consumption, except for the immediate surrounding of the bite wound, which shall be condemned at meat inspection. If disease symptoms have developed the animal shall be condemned at ante-mortem inspection, destroyed without bleeding and disposed of in a way to prevent its utilization for human or animal feeding.
 - d) During a period of 3 months following the outbreak, all dogs shall be confined to the houses or gardens of their owners, or kept on lash. All dogs moving free in the affected village shall be destroyed by the municipal authority. If no further cases of rabies occur during the 3 months period, the municipal authority shall announce to the public that the above mentioned restrictive measures are no longer required indicating the effective date.
7. The DAHO/DVO, the public health authorities and the municipal authorities shall cooperate in the planning and implementation of

education programmes for zoonoses control, with particular emphasis on cysticercosis, Echinococcosis, liver fluke and salmonellosis. In extension courses for villagers, practical instructions shall be given about the safe disposal of Echinococcus and Coenurus cerebralis cysts at home slaughter, and tape-worms treatment of humans as well as safe disposal of human faeces in order to prevent cysticercosis in livestock, particularly pigs. Housewives shall be given practical advice on how to prevent salmonella cross-contamination in the kitchen.

8. **Penalties** : The penalty for violation of the above By-law shall be a fine of Nu. 50/-. In case of repeated violation the fine will be doubled.
9. **Fees** : A fee of Nu. 1/- shall be charged for the registration of a utility dog and Nu. 10/- for a pet dog. No additional fee will be charged for Rabies vaccination and tapeworm treatment.