

DOG POPULATION MANAGEMENT AND RABIES CONTROL POLICY



HUMANE FOUNDATION FOR PEOPLE AND ANIMALS

“Roving dogs do not show compassion and civilization in society; they betray instead the lethargy and ignorance of its members”

Mahatma Gandhi

Foreword

Acclaimed danseuse and animal lover, Rukmini Devi Arundale, introduced the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act in 1960, making India one of the first countries, globally, to provide rights to domestic animals so that they may be protected by law against cruelty and suffering caused by ill treatment, neglect and abandonment.

To control stray dog populations and eradicate rabies, India adopted the Animal Birth Control Programme (“ABC Programme”) in 1994. However, despite ABC Programme implementation for over two decades, India’s stray dog population has multiplied to a staggering estimate of 60 million and India continues to report about 40% of the world’s human rabies deaths according to the World Health Organization (WHO). As in other rabies endemic countries, the WHO identifies the largest reservoir of rabies in India as the dog population.

Over the last two decades the stray dog problem has remained polarised over the ‘kill or no-kill’ issue and there has been a sharp rise in human-dog conflict. The existing policy has not been able to check the source of stray dogs, the spread of rabies, and dog attacks on people, livestock and wildlife. Also, retaliatory attacks on dogs are being increasingly reported, suggesting that the problem has reached dangerously unmanageable proportions.

Due to the lack of an effective policy and the enforcement of responsible dog ownership in India, the majority of pet dogs are free-roaming with no fertility control. For the most part, these dogs are the main source of the stray dog problem. Unowned, feral or semi-feral populations are known to have very poor pup survival rates as well as a low average lifespan. Unfortunately, this is the segment of dogs that the current ABC Programme focuses on. Indeed, any intervention, including lethal population control, will not have any impact, without the source being fixed simultaneously.

Furthermore, even though rabies is endemic in India, there is no targeted effort at the correct segment of the dog population, and instead time, energy, money and efforts are misdirected and wasted on neutering dogs that cannot be caught for sustained re-immunisation. Both human and dog populations can only benefit if the right method is applied to the right segment of the dog population.

This proposed new policy puts the safety of the general public first, while at the same time ensuring that the welfare of dogs (as well as other animals), is also addressed. Animal welfare interventions in dog population management and rabies control measures should focus on unclaimed dogs caught by civic authorities. In order to prevent the suffering of these unwanted dogs due to homelessness and/or their elimination, animal welfare organizations should provide shelter for them, because they cannot be released back to the streets.

Acknowledgement

In this document, the authors have adapted/reproduced text, with permission, from certain publications, which are referenced in page footnotes using these terms:

- “European Convention” refers to ‘European Convention for Protection of Pet Animals, 1987 by the Council of Europe: © Council of Europe’;
- “ICAMC Guidance” refers to ‘ICAM (2007) Humane dog population management guidance, (www.icam-coalition.org) by the International Companion Animal Management Coalition (comprising The Alliance for Rabies Control, Humane Society International, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals International, World Small Animal Veterinary Association and The World Society for the Protection of Animals)’;
- “OIE Code” refers to ‘Extract of the English version of the online OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (<http://www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-code/access-online/>) by the World Organisation of Animal Health’;
- “WHO Guidelines” refers to ‘Guidelines of Dog Population Management, 1990 by the World Health Organisation and the World Society for the Protection of Animals [URL <http://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/61417> accessed on March 28, 2018]’.

Additionally, the authors have adapted/reproduced texts from certain legislations/rules, which are referenced in page footnotes using these terms:

- “Dangerous Dogs Act (UK)” refers to ‘Dangerous Dogs Act, 1991, the United Kingdom’s enactment 1991 Chapter 65 dated July 25, 1991’;
- “Environmental Protection Act (UK)” refers ‘Environmental Protection Act, 1990, the United Kingdom’s enactment 1990 Chapter 43 dated November 1, 1990’; and
- “The ABC Rules” refers to ‘The Animal Birth Control (Dogs) Rules, 2001, the Government of India, Ministry of Culture’s notification number G.S.R.816(E) dated November 2, 2001’.

Apart from the above-mentioned sources, the proposals contained in this document are the outcome of extensive study, research and experience of the authors.

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Authors

T. A. Ramkumar, Director & Co-Founder, Humane Foundation for People and Animals.

Meghna Uniyal, Director & Co-Founder, Humane Foundation for People and Animals.

Dr. Abi Tamim Vanak, PhD, Fellow (Associate Prof) Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE).

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Email: humane.fpa@gmail.com

Executive Summary

Globally, the problems associated with free roaming dogs are a major public health issue, costing governments millions of dollars in dog attacks and post bite treatments, accidents and rabies. The health risks for human beings result primarily from the existence of a large number of free roaming dogs, which can act as carriers of dangerous infectious diseases, including rabies and cannot be accessed accurately and annually for re-immunisation campaigns.

The concept of dog ownership in most of the developing world may not be identical to dog ownership in developed countries. However, for true dog welfare, the interests of dogs are best served under human companionship; and as stewards and benefactors of this relationship, humans are responsible for their welfare and well-being. At the same time, it should be recognised that dogs are wolf-like carnivores, and can be dangerous animals, especially if they lead feral or semi-feral lives in public spaces or in rural and wilderness areas.

Civic laws across India require local authorities to (a) keep the streets free of straying animals, (b) check the spread of diseases and (c) prevent public nuisance. Therefore, this policy helps authorities exercise their duties in protecting the public from rabies and dog attacks, thereby reducing government expenditure on a public health issue and preventing public nuisance. At the same time, it also promotes the welfare of animals by promoting responsible ownership of dogs and alleviating the suffering of homeless dogs.

The policy is intended and designed to help in the planning and execution of programmes that are effective in reducing the problems caused by excessive dog populations and are, at the same time, beneficial to dogs. It therefore does the following:

- Recognises the fact that dog and rabies control is the responsibility of the State
- Uses both preventive and active measures to manage and control dog populations
- Directs infrastructural and economic resources towards pets, that are a source of straying dog populations, thereby closing the tap rather than mopping up the floor

As such, the policy offers holistic, scientific and humane legislation for dog population control, including other related issues with straying dogs:

- their conflicts with people, livestock and wildlife
- management interventions by the civic authorities
- specific measures to control rabies and dog attacks
- the responsibilities of all stakeholders involved

This policy has drawn upon the best global practices and legislations on dog population management and rabies control, by adapting them to the Indian requirements, and is in conformity with existing legislations passed by the Indian parliament and state legislatures in relation to public health, disease control, public nuisances and animal welfare.

Contents

Statement of Objects and Reasons	6
Aims of Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy.....	6
Principles of dog population management.....	6
Human behaviour	7
Steps involved in dog population management	8
Access to resources.....	8
Registration and identification.....	9
Vaccination	10
Neutering.....	12
Euthanasia	15
Rabies control	16
Aggression in dogs and dog attacks.....	16
Animal welfare organisations.....	17
Civic authorities	17
Government.....	17
Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy	18
Definitions.....	18
Monitoring Committee	19
Responsibilities of the Monitoring Committee.....	20
Responsibilities of Local Authority	21
Responsibilities of the Board.....	22
Registration and identification.....	24
Capturing dogs	24
Surgical operations.....	26
Vaccination	27
Neutering.....	27
Dangerous dogs	28
Euthanasia	29
Trading, boarding and sale	30
Dog pounds.....	31

Obligations of owners	32
Feeding of dogs in public places.....	34
Notice of rabies.....	34
Enquiry.....	34
Infected area.....	35
Control of dogs.....	35
Detention or destruction.....	36
Detention and isolation.....	36
Seizure, detention and disposal of dogs not under control	37
Offences.....	38
Enforcement	38
Protocol for Dog Population Management	41

Statement of Objects and Reasons

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

1.	Aims of Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) to recognise that dog population management and rabies control is State responsibility and it must formulate and implement a policy for the same;(b) to recognise that dogs are domestic, companion animals, that have a right to live in an environment where they are taken care of by an owner, and supervised in a manner that caters to the needs of this species, including being provided food, water and shelter;(c) to encourage responsible ownership of dogs;¹(d) to balance supply and demand so that the number of dogs produced will match the number wanted by the owners or potential owners;²(e) to implement both preventive and active measures to reduce straying dog populations, over-production of dogs and control the spread of diseases from dogs to dogs and dogs to humans;(f) to reduce access to resources that encourage dogs to roam;³(g) to reduce the risks presented by the current roaming dog population to the community, like dog attacks and rabies, accidents and to avoid poor welfare of the current roaming and unowned dog population;⁴(h) to assist in the creation and maintenance of a rabies immune or rabies free dog population;(i) to reduce the risk of zoonotic diseases other than rabies;(j) to manage other risks to human health (e.g. parasites);(k) to prevent harm to the environment and other animals (livestock and wildlife).
2.	Principles of dog population management <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Dog population management and rabies control is a public health issue and is the responsibility of the state.(b) The promotion of responsible dog ownership can significantly reduce the numbers of roaming, unowned dogs and the incidence of zoonotic diseases.⁵(c) Planning and executing a scientific and humane legislation, helps reduce government expenditure on managing the conflict – capturing, transporting or maintaining ownerless dogs, maintenance of dog pounds and expenditure on rabies, post bite vaccination and accidents caused due to free roaming dogs.

¹ Adapted from ICAMC Guidance, pages 8 to 11

² Adapted from ICAMC Guidance, pages 8 to 11

³ Adapted from ICAMC Guidance, pages 8 to 11

⁴ Adapted from ICAMC Guidance, pages 8 to 11

⁵ Reproduced from OIE Code, Article 7.7.1

Statement of Objects and Reasons

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

	<p>(d) Owners have a duty to provide sufficient and appropriate care for their dogs and their offspring.</p> <p>(e) Because dog ecology is linked with human activities, control of dog populations has to be accompanied by changes in human behaviour, to be effective.¹</p>
3.	<p>Human behaviour²</p> <p>Human attitudes and behaviour</p> <p>Human behaviour is one of the most powerful forces behind dog population dynamics. The encouraging of responsible and the subsequent rewarding human-dog interactions, will lead to, both, an improvement in dog welfare and a reduction in many of the sources of roaming dogs. The pet dog population is a significant source of roaming dogs and may suffer from many preventable welfare problems, and human behaviour towards dogs is the driving force behind these problems.</p> <p>Issues to be considered when exploring human attitudes and behaviour:</p> <p>(a) Local beliefs and attitudes may affect human behaviour towards dogs. It may be possible to address these beliefs to change behavioural outcomes. For example, the erroneous belief that mating and reproducing is important or necessary for the well-being of a dog, can be addressed through education and examples of neutered dogs, thus encouraging owners to seek neutering for their dogs.</p> <p>(b) Keep messages about human behaviour consistent. The interventions should encourage responsible and rewarding human-dog interactions. For example, demonstrating respectful and careful handling of dogs will help to encourage empathetic and respectful attitudes in the local population.</p> <p>(c) Interventions to change human behaviour should be tailored carefully to the target audience as different methodologies will be required for different ages and cultures. It is important to understand the most effective ways of communicating to each target audience.</p> <p>(d) Because human behaviour is such a key factor for success, it is important that owners are not only aware of interventions but fully understand and engage in all relevant aspects.</p> <p>Education</p> <p>In the long term, education is one of the most important elements of a comprehensive approach to dog population management, as human behaviour is an extremely influential factor in dog population dynamics. In general, education needs to encourage greater responsibility among dog owners for population management and the care and welfare of individual dogs. Therefore,</p>

¹ Reproduced from OIE Code, Article 7.7.1

² Reproduced from ICAMC Guidance, pages 8 and 12

Statement of Objects and Reasons

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

	<p>owners have to be educated, and key issues will need to be highlighted at different stages of the programme, for example: bite prevention; selection and care of dogs; realistic expectations of dog ownership; advertising the importance of, and access to, preventative treatments; and knowledge of normal and abnormal canine behaviour.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Steps involved in dog population management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Collection of information and data to describe the existing problem accurately. (b) Analysis of the information to determine the most important factors influencing the problem and which measures and resources would be most effective in resolving it. (c) The responsibility for the planning and execution should be with the local authorities and should involve all concerned stake holders including animal welfare organisations, private veterinarians and the general public as well. (d) Preparation of an action plan to achieve the objectives. (e) Deployment of resources to complete the action.
<p>5.</p>	<p>Access to resources¹</p> <p>Dogs that have no owner or are offered no care by their owner are primarily reliant on resources accessed when roaming, for their survival. Altering the access to resources on public property (through measures such as improved garbage collection and disposal) will have an impact on the roaming dog population by discouraging opportunistic roaming.</p> <p>In some situations, the main food source will be food provided directly by humans through deliberate feeding rather than refuse (indirect resource provisioning). The motivation for feeding is mostly the belief that it is a way of showing “compassion” towards dogs. In actuality, stray dog feeding does not take care of any other needs of the dogs, causes dogs to then look to other people for food and therefore, can increase attacks on people. This misplaced/assumed compassion is actually public nuisance. It must be discouraged and made an offence. Education will also play an important role in influencing this behaviour.</p> <p>Preventing access to resources in specific areas can alter the spread of the free roaming dog population. For example, all public parks can be made dog free by removing access to resources, such as using dog proof bins and preventing people from feeding dogs in these areas. In some countries regulations exist that restrict areas where dogs can be exercised or can roam freely.</p>

¹ Adapted from ICAMC Guidance, pages 9 and 10

Statement of Objects and Reasons

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

	<p>Controlling access to resources¹</p> <p>Dogs are motivated to roam in public places where there is access to resources such as food. In order to restrict roaming, especially in public places, access to these resources needs to be restricted. This should be done carefully and in conjunction with measures to reduce the roaming dog population, in order to avoid dogs starving when food sources are removed and they consequently move to different areas to find new food sources. This can be achieved in a number of ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) the regular removal of garbage from homes and public bins(b) the fencing-in of garbage collection and disposal sites(c) the control of offal and carcass disposal(d) the use of dog-proof bins, such as those with heavy lids, or positioning them out of a dog's reach(e) education or enforcement measures, including penalties, to stop people from littering and feeding dogs accidentally, and to stop people purposely feeding dogs in public places.
6.	<p>Registration and identification²</p> <p>The only way of clearly connecting an owner with his or her dog is to use registration and identification together. This encourages a sense of responsibility in the owner as the dog becomes identifiable as his/her own. Registration/identification is also an important tool for reuniting lost dogs with owners and can be a strong foundation for enforcement of legislation (including abandonment legislation and mandatory regular rabies vaccinations).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) There are several methods of dog identification available, and these can be used either separately or in combination. They differ in three important ways: permanence; visibility; and whether a dog has to be anaesthetised when they are applied. Microchips, tattoos and collars/tags are the three most common methods; the most suitable will depend partly on local conditions and partly on the reasons identification is being used.(b) If permanent identification of a large population is required, the microchip currently offers the best option since the number of permutations of digits in the code is sufficient to identify all dogs, while human errors (transposing numbers and incorrect reading of the numbers) are less likely as a digital scanner is used to read the chip. Microchipping also has the advantage of being a global system, so dogs moving from one area or country to another can continue to be identified. Before instituting a microchip system, it is advisable to check that the chips and readers used conform to ISO standards.

¹ Reproduced from ICAMC Guidance, page 16

² Reproduced from ICAMC Guidance, page 13

Statement of Objects and Reasons

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

	<p>(c) It is important that registration and identification information is stored on a central database (or that separate databases are linked in some way), which is accessible to all relevant people (e.g. the veterinary profession, police, dog wardens and municipal pounds). The support of the central and state governments will be helpful to ensure that a single unified system is used.</p> <p>(d) Mandatory registration and identification helps the practical problems faced by dog pound or kennels as well. When a dog brought to a dog pound or kennel is identified, it can be returned to its owner without delay (avoiding welfare compromise for the dog and reducing stress to the owner). If not identified, it is by definition ‘unowned’ so the dog pound or kennel can implement its policies (whether rehoming or euthanasia) without the delay of waiting for an owner to come forward. Both scenarios will free up valuable kennel space, which will potentially increase capacity.</p> <p>(e) Registration fees can be charged (a ‘one off’ fee or payment each year) in order to provide funds for other areas of the management programme. Although care needs to be taken to balance potential income against enforcement, if fees are too high owners may try to avoid registration. Differential fee scales can be used as an incentive for neutering, encouraging owners to keep only a small number of dogs and discouraging breeding of dogs.</p> <p>(f) Licensing may be used when certain criteria have to be fulfilled prior to dog ownership, for example when people wish to breed dogs or own regulated dog breeds (‘dangerous’ dogs). It could also be used to encourage responsible ownership by mandating that people complete a ‘certificate in dog ownership’ before they are granted a license to own a dog.</p> <p>(g) The main focus here is to make it easy for people to responsibly own dogs, while at the same time making it difficult and expensive for people to breed dogs.</p>
7.	<p>Vaccination</p> <p>Zoonotic diseases¹</p> <p>Zoonotic diseases are often the primary cause for concern with regard to roaming dog populations, particularly for local authorities and the government who are responsible for public health. Because rabies is a fatal disease, with dogs being the most common vector for transmission to humans, and so rabies control is often a major motive for dog population management.</p> <p>Issues to be considered when exploring this factor:²</p> <p>(a) The importance of zoonotic control should not be played down to relevant stakeholders, such as public health officials. It is important to explore ways</p>

¹ Reproduced from ICAMC Guidance, page 10

² Adapted from ICAMC Guidance, pages 10 and 11

Statement of Objects and Reasons

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

by which effective zoonotic control can be achieved while remaining neutral, or even positive, towards dog welfare.

- (b) The risk of zoonotic disease transmission to those involved in any population management intervention must be considered. For example, dogs that succumb to rabies can excrete the virus in their saliva for up to two weeks before symptoms appear. All personnel working in close proximity to dogs should be provided with adequate training and equipment and given appropriate prophylactic (preventative) medication.

Vaccination and parasite control¹

Preventative veterinary treatments can be provided to protect the health and welfare of dogs and to reduce the problem of zoonotic diseases. Rabies vaccinations are usually the priority issue, but several other diseases can also be vaccinated against, alongside internal and external parasite control through appropriate medication. These treatments should be provided in conjunction with education about responsible ownership, neutering or contraception and registration and/or identification. The need for vaccination and parasitic control is often well understood by dog owners, and so offering access to these services may be the easiest way to entice owners into conversations or agreements about the other components of dog population management.

Issues to be considered when using this component:

- (a) Regular vaccination (especially if covering diseases in addition to rabies) and parasite control is likely to improve the health status of individual dogs. Females that were not previously reproductively successful may become healthy enough to breed. This means that the issue of increased reproduction from pet dogs needs to be simultaneously considered and mitigated as required.
- (b) As with neutering and contraception, preventative treatments can be used to encourage owners to see the value of general veterinary treatment and other population management tools (such as registration and identification), which are required for the long-term welfare of dogs, so it is worth exploring how to involve the local veterinary infrastructure in providing preventative treatments. The provision of preventative treatments for free should be done with caution and according to the local economic situation, as there is a risk of devaluing general veterinary services if treatments are provided without charges or understanding of the extent of subsidies. Therefore, the linkage of subsidy to the neutering of dogs may be a productive solution.
- (c) Preventative treatments will need to be provided regularly if they are to be effective, hence the ease of access to treatments should be considered.
- (d) Treatments can be provided via 'camps' (temporary, high-volume treatment sites), which can be very effective in drawing owners' attention

¹ Reproduced from ICAMC Guidance, page 16

Statement of Objects and Reasons

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

	<p>to the importance of preventative treatments and other population management tools. However, the risk of aggressive interactions and disease transmission between the large number of dogs that will attend needs to be mitigated by including measures like organising access and exits carefully, using a sterilised needle for each dog, and quarantining sick dogs. Such camps will require adequate advertising beforehand. There is also a limit to the distance that the general public will travel for such a service, so thought must be given to the number of camps that would be necessary for the desired coverage, and the associated logistics.</p> <p>(e) Encouraging regular preventative treatments allows for the diagnosis and treatment of any existing conditions.</p>
8.	<p>Neutering</p> <p>Reproductive capacity of the dog population</p> <p>Dogs have a high reproductive potential. High dog populations pose serious health risks for humans and the environment begins to suffer considerably. The upper limit at which population growth levels off is called the carrying capacity of the environment. This depends on the availability, distribution and quality of the resources (food, shelter and water).¹</p> <p>In order to reduce the size of an unwanted roaming dog population in a humane way, it is necessary to prevent the ‘surplus’ population from being born. This surplus may come from unowned dog, pet dogs or deliberately bred dogs and all three categories need to be taken into account when controlling supply and demand.²</p> <p>Population control interventions that focus on reducing the number of dogs which are, not only struggling to survive, but also do not breed successfully, will not be effective. These dogs are vectors of diseases and cannot be accessed accurately annually for re-immunisation campaigns, and so, need to be controlled for prevention of spread of rabies and other dangerous diseases. For the long-term reduction in dog populations, controlling the reproduction of pet dogs and controlling the environment of free roaming dogs is most essential.</p> <p>Reducing reproduction³</p> <p>Neutering can reduce the capacity for reproduction, but it is important to select the target population of dogs carefully.</p> <p>a. Dogs that are reproducing most successfully</p> <p>To reduce the reproduction rate of the population most effectively, it is important to assess which dogs are actually producing puppies and successfully supporting them to adulthood.</p>

¹ Reproduced from OIE Code, Article 7.7.2

² Reproduced from ICAMC Guidance, page 9

³ Reproduced from ICAMC Guidance, page 9

Statement of Objects and Reasons

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Studies of specific populations of dogs that were not receiving care directly from humans (e.g. were living off the resources provided by garbage tips only) have shown that the population size was maintained through continued immigration rather than successful breeding within the group. From this, it can be assumed that in most cases, only those dogs that receive some level of care directly from humans, will be able to reproduce successfully.

From a dog welfare perspective, the suffering of puppies born to females of poor welfare status (should they manage to carry a litter to term) should be considered. In general, the mortality of puppies in unowned roaming dog populations is high.

b. Dogs whose offspring are most likely to become roaming dogs

There are specific populations of dogs whose offspring are most likely to be allowed to roam or be abandoned. This may relate to a lack of awareness and acceptance of responsible ownership, which can be a result of education, public and institutional attitudes and socio economics.

c. Female dogs

It may be sensible to focus the main effort of the intervention on female dogs, as females are usually the limiting factor in reproductive capacity. It requires just a few entire (un-neutered) males to impregnate receptive females, so the neutering of even a sizable proportion of the male population may not lead to a reduction in the overall reproductive capacity of the population. Each neutering of a female, however, will individually contribute to a reduction in the overall reproductive capacity.

d. Male dogs

However, the sexual behaviour of entire male dogs may become problematic, especially when females that have not been neutered are in oestrus. Adult males may not change their behaviour as significantly following castration as young males who have not yet developed their sexual behaviour. Hence young males may be considered the next priority group for neutering, followed by adult males.

Note: *Both male and female dogs can act as vectors for rabies, so if only females are being selected for neutering in a rabies-endemic area, males should at least be vaccinated.*

Neutering and contraception¹

The control of reproduction through permanent neutering or temporary contraception can be achieved through three main methods:

- (a) **Surgical:** The removal of reproductive organs under general anaesthetic ensures permanent neutering and can significantly reduce sexual behaviour (especially if performed early in a dog's development). Surgical techniques

¹ Reproduced from ICAMC Guidance, page 14

Statement of Objects and Reasons

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

must be carried out correctly. A good standard of asepsis (the practice of reducing or eliminating the risk of bacterial contamination) and pain management must be maintained throughout. This can only be assessed by adequate post-operative monitoring during the whole recovery period. Surgery may be costly initially but is a lifelong solution and hence may be more cost efficient over time. It requires trained veterinary doctors, infrastructure and equipment.

(b) Chemical neutering and contraception: These methods are still quite limited by the cost, the fact that they may need to be repeated and by the welfare problems associated with certain chemicals. Most chemicals require trained veterinary doctors for clinical examination of individuals to assess their reproductive status prior to the application and administration of injections at regular intervals without interruption, which is not possible for most dog management programmes.

(c) Physical contraception through the isolation of females in oestrus from entire (un-neutered) males: Owners can be educated to recognise the signs of a female dog coming into oestrus and can plan to ensure the female is isolated from entire males during this period. Attention must be paid to the welfare of both the female and males when planning how to isolate the female. Sexual behaviour can become problematic as males will try to gain access to females, however, isolation requires minimal cost to achieve and does not require a trained veterinary surgeon.

When using tools for neutering and contraception it is important to consider their sustainability – dog population management is a permanent challenge so it is vital that sustainability is considered throughout the design of the intervention.

High-volume, subsidised neutering and the role of private veterinarians

To reduce dog populations, it is important to access and neuter at least 70% of the total dog population. An effective way of achieving this is to offer free or low-cost services for pet dogs. However, with no explanation of the full costs, this may give dog owners an unrealistic expectation of the true cost of veterinary care. For governments though, it is far cheaper and more practical to neuter a pet for free, than to run after its offspring on the streets. Additional incentives in the form of lower registration fees should also be offered.

Subsidised neutering is also a way of incentivising fecundity control in owned dogs. A successful way of allowing pet dog owners to access these government schemes also means that they have to be decentralised. A local veterinary infrastructure is a requirement for the general health and welfare of pet dogs. A successful dog control program will use this to decentralise services and promote the benefits of neutering through local, well-regulated veterinarians. This will also support a growing 'market' for dog neutering services in the local community. Most importantly, veterinarians can advocate benefits of neutering, even though it seemingly reduces their 'clients'. It has been found, though, that

Statement of Objects and Reasons

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

	<p>owners who availed government sponsored neutering for their pets were more likely to go back to private veterinarians for other veterinary services. This in turn increased clientele of private veterinarians and encouraged them to participate in dog control programs.</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Euthanasia¹</p> <p>The word ‘euthanasia’ comes from Greek words – “eu” meaning “good” + “thanatos” meaning “death”. When running holding facilities and rehoming centres or networks, euthanasia will be required for dogs that are suffering from an incurable illness, injury or behavioural problem that prevents them being rehomed, or are not coping well enough with the facilities to maintain a reasonable level of welfare. Ultimately, a successful population management programme should create a situation where these are the only occasions when euthanasia is required and all healthy dogs can be found a good home. In reality, however, most countries will not be able to achieve this situation immediately but will need to work towards it, accepting that some healthy dogs will be euthanised as not enough homes exist that can provide an appropriate level of welfare.</p> <p>Euthanasia deals with only the symptoms and not the causes of population problems. It will not lead to population management and must not be relied upon as a sole response. Whenever euthanasia is used, it must employ humane methods that ensure the dog moves into unconsciousness and then death without suffering.</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Trading, breeding, boarding and sale</p> <p>Reducing commercial supply</p> <p>Reducing supply i.e. dog breeding. A comprehensive strategy should also consider sources of dogs, such as breeding from both commercial breeding farms as well as non-commercial breeding from pet dogs.²</p> <p>More dogs enter in to the dog population, both owned and unowned, via owners who breed their pet dogs to give the off spring to friends or relatives, and who believe that their pet dog should be mated “at least once” and don’t want to “deny” their dog the “pleasure of mating”.</p> <p>Commercial breeding facilities may produce poorly socialised and unhealthy puppies, which make poor pets. Outlets, such as pet shops or markets, may also keep dogs in poor conditions and sell them without proper advice about care or responsibilities. The ‘low quality’ of these dogs and the lack of understanding or realistic expectations of dog ownership will leave these dogs at high risk of abandonment. A combination of legislation and enforcement via inspections by trained enforcement agencies can be used to improve the conditions of these commercial facilities and hence the welfare of the dogs involved. Outlets should</p>

¹ Reproduced from ICAMC Guidance, page 16

² Reproduced from ICAMC Guidance, page 9

Statement of Objects and Reasons

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

	<p>also be required to provide proper advice about care and the responsibilities of dog ownership. Education can be used to ensure potential owners know the options available to them when acquiring a new pet, including rehoming centres. They should also know how to raise a well-socialised and healthy puppy.¹</p>
11.	<p>Rabies control</p> <p>Of the more than 100 zoonotic diseases that are transmitted from dog to humans, the most important part played by dogs is in the maintenance and transmission of tapeworm larvae and rabies. Shortage of modern vaccines for humans as well as the increasing costs of post-exposure treatment make the elimination of the disease from its canine reservoirs more important than ever.</p> <p>Rabies control does not mean post bite vaccination to every person who is bitten by a dog, although that does prevent rabies fatalities in humans. It requires the prevention of transmission of the rabies virus from dogs to dogs and dogs to humans. This needs accurate and annual re-vaccination of at least 70% of the total dog population. This is also why annual rabies re-immunisation programmes are targeted towards pet dogs.</p> <p>Developed countries have conducted successful campaigns to control rabies in dogs and by these means have eliminated the disease in canine and human populations.² Developing countries now need to do their part.</p>
12.	<p>Aggression in dogs and dog attacks</p> <p>Aggression in dogs and dog attacks, by pets and unowned dogs, is a serious issue that causes trauma to victims, and can even result in death for people and other animals. It affects dog owners and people who don't own dogs, alike. Rabies, sexual aggression and litter defence are only very minor cause of dog attacks. The two major causes of dog attacks and aggression are territoriality and fear. One of the primary objectives of a dog control programme must be to address and contain dog aggression and dog attacks.</p> <p>Preventing aggression and dog attacks</p> <p>Effective and successful dog control programmes around the world involve all dogs. Behavioural problems leading to aggression and attacks by pet dogs are a complex issue (involving nature of dog, breed, upbringing, socialising, etc.) and must be dealt with through extensive awareness and education of dog owners. Owners must also be held responsible for dog bites and attacks by their pets. Dog attacks and biting by free roaming, unowned dog populations are primarily caused by the natural propensity of dogs to chase people and vehicles, attack others who they see as entering their territory and aggression by scared, ill and injured dogs. These incidents must be contained by ensuring that there are no unsupervised, free roaming dogs in public places.</p>

¹ Reproduced from ICAMC Guidance, page 9

² Adapted from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 55

Statement of Objects and Reasons

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

13.	Animal welfare organisations <p>The primary role of animal welfare organizations is to further the welfare of dogs by promoting responsible ownership and working towards building a positive attitude of people towards dogs. This is done by working with civic authorities to ensure that there are no straying dogs on the streets, homeless dogs are provided care in shelters and/or rehomed and the public is educated about the problems associated with free roaming dogs that affect both people and dogs.</p> <p>They also play an important role in rehoming/sheltering dogs, thereby reducing animals on the streets. However, lack of pet retention is also a major cause of surplus, unwanted dog populations that end up on the streets again. Potential owners need to be made aware of the fact that dogs can live up to 15 years, require money, time and effort and have medical and behavioural issues during their lifetime. Therefore, adoption should not be seen as a panacea to the problem of surplus dogs and should not be encouraged blindly.</p> <p>Recognised animal welfare organisations should set up dog pounds including kennels for permanently rehoming/sheltering those dogs which are not claimed or adopted, if they are not to be euthanised.</p> <p>Dog pounds/shelters should be licenced and subject to verification by the civic authorities from time to time, to ensure the welfare of the dogs.</p> <p>Such dog pounds should have trained staff and should pre-establish various procedures including criteria for identifying suitable owners who will adopt dogs.</p>
14.	Civic authorities <p>At the city/town level (in urban areas) or block level (in rural areas) the civic authorities should have the overall responsibility for implementation of this policy. Localised committees of citizens and elected representatives should participate in the creation of awareness amongst the public in general and dog owners in particular. Citizens should have access to the records and be able to get their complaints addressed in a timely manner.</p>
15.	Government <p>The Central Ministry of Health and the State Ministry of Health should be the highest level of decision making at the national/state level respectively.</p> <p>A Board constituted under the law for prevention of cruelty to animals shall be responsible for prescribing various methods and procedures involved in the dog population management and rabies control in accordance with this policy and ensuring animal welfare organisations are spending tax payer's money efficiently and in accordance with the law.</p> <p>The Board should be accountable to the Central Ministry of Health at the national level and to the respective ministry of health in each of the states.</p>

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
1.	<p>Definitions</p> <p>In this policy, unless the context otherwise requires, -</p> <p>(a) “animal” means any species of mammal naturally susceptible to rabies, except man;¹</p> <p>(b) “Animal Welfare Organisation” means any centre established and maintained as dog pounds including kennels by any organisation set up for the welfare of animals and which centre is recognised by the Board;</p> <p>(c) “Board” means the body established by the government for monitoring the implementation of the law for prevention of cruelty to animals;</p> <p>(d) “designated officer” means the officer designated by the Local Authority for the purposes of rabies control;</p> <p>(e) “dog” means an animal belonging to the sub-species ‘Canis lupus familiaris’ of the order of mammals Carnivora;²</p> <p>(f) “exposed to rabies” means a person who, or an animal which is, bitten, scratched or licked by, or having other direct physical contact with, a rabid dog or a dog suspected of being affected with rabies;³</p> <p>(g) “infected area” means an area which is declared to be an infected area for purposes connected with the control and elimination of rabies under this policy;⁴</p> <p>(h) “Local Authority” means an Urban Local Authority or a Rural Local Authority;</p> <p>(i) “Monitoring Committee” means a committee appointed for the specified area under this policy;</p> <p>(j) “muzzled” in relation to a dog means it being securely fitted with a muzzle sufficient to prevent it from biting any person or animal;</p> <p>(k) “owner” means every person who is registered under this policy as the sole or part owner of any dog, whether or not such person breeds the dog, with or without the intent to maintain or produce specific characteristics of dogs and / or does so with the purpose of either selling, gifting or keeping any such off spring from the said practice; and a person who is in possession or custody of a dog and the occupier of the premises on which any dog is found shall be deemed to be the owner of such dog until the contrary is proved;⁵</p>

¹ Reproduced from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 56, Article 2

² Adapted from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 56, Article 2

³ Reproduced from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 56, Article 2

⁴ Reproduced from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 56, Article 2

⁵ Adapted from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 56, Article 2

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<p>(l) “pet dog” means any dog registered under this policy and kept or intended to be kept by any person in his / her household, for private enjoyment or companionship;¹</p> <p>(m) “public place” means any street, road or other place (whether or not enclosed) to which the public have or are permitted to have access, whether for payment or otherwise, and includes the common parts of a building containing two or more separate dwellings;²</p> <p>(n) “roaming dog” means any dog, whether a pet dog or an unowned dog, which is outside the bounds of direct control or supervision of its owner or keeper and / or is not currently restricted by a physical barrier;³</p> <p>(o) “Rural Local Authority” means the Block Development Officer, under the administrative control of the District Collector;</p> <p>(p) “trader” means any person engaged in or who intends to engage in the trading or boarding of dogs;</p> <p>(q) “Urban Local Authority” means the Municipal Corporation, Municipality, Notified Area Council, Cantonment Board and the like entrusted with the administration of the specified urban areas under its jurisdiction;</p> <p>(r) “unowned dog” means any dog other than a pet dog;</p> <p>(s) “vaccination” means the administration of an approved anti-rabies, anti-parvo and anti-distemper, vaccine to a dog;⁴</p> <p>(t) “veterinary officer” means the veterinary officer appointed by the Local Authority to receive information about animals and carcasses affected or suspected of being affected with specified diseases for the area in which the animal or carcass is;⁵</p> <p>(u) “veterinary doctor” means a person who holds a degree from a recognised veterinary college and is registered with the Indian Veterinary Council.</p>
2.	<p>Monitoring Committee</p> <p>(a) Every Urban Local Authority shall constitute a Monitoring Committee for the area falling within the jurisdiction of each municipal ward comprised in such urban area. This Monitoring Committee shall comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the corporator or elected representative of the municipal ward; (ii) the ward officer of the municipal ward; (iii) a veterinary officer nominated by the Urban Local Authority;

¹ Adapted from European Convention, Article 1 (1)

² Reproduced from Dangerous Dogs Act (UK), Section 10 (2)

³ Adapted from European Convention, Article 1 (5)

⁴ Reproduced from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 56, Article 2

⁵ Reproduced from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 56, Article 2

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (iv) in cases where the area falling within the jurisdiction of such municipal ward includes any area within a radius of 10 km from any wildlife territory, an officer of the State Forest Department; and (v) three citizens normally residing in the jurisdiction of the municipal ward, nominated by the administrative head of the Urban Local Authority, preferably including one who shall be a scientist from a recognised institute or university. <p>(b) Every Rural Local Authority shall constitute a Monitoring Committee for the area falling within the jurisdiction of every Village Panchayat. This Monitoring Committee shall comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the Sarpanch of the Village Panchayat; (ii) the Village Administrative Officer responsible for the villages under the jurisdiction of that Village Panchayat; (iii) a veterinary officer nominated by the District Health Officer; (iv) in cases where the area falling within the jurisdiction of such Village Panchayat includes any area within a radius of 10 km from any wildlife territory, an officer of the State Forest Department; and (v) three citizens normally residing in the jurisdiction of the Village Panchayat, nominated by the administrative head of the Rural Local Authority, preferably including one who shall be a scientist from a recognised institute or university.
3.	<p>Responsibilities of the Monitoring Committee¹</p> <p>The Monitoring Committee constituted under clause 2 shall be responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) monitoring and reviewing the catching, transportation, sheltering, vaccination and neutering of roaming dogs; (b) create public awareness and solicit co-operation; (c) guide owners of dogs about dog population management, from time to time; (d) ascertain the population of dogs on a periodic basis at intervals of not more than one year using scientifically robust techniques; (e) reduce the unplanned breeding of dogs by promoting the neutering of the dogs;² (f) encourage a finder of any roaming dog to report it to the Local Authority;³ (g) bringing to the attention of the Local Authority any violation of this policy by any person;

¹ Adapted from The ABC Rules, Rule 5

² Reproduced from European Convention, Article 12 (b) (ii)

³ Reproduced from European Convention, Article 12 (b) (iii)

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (h) bringing to the attention of the Local Authority any short coming in the implementation of this policy; (i) recommending to the Local Authority the declaration of any area as an 'infected' area.¹
4.	<p>Responsibilities of Local Authority</p> <p>Every Local Authority shall be responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the registration of a dog to an owner or prospective owner, on receipt of such an application and verification thereof, in accordance with clause 6; (b) planning and carrying out annual vaccination programmes, in accordance with clause 9; (c) offering neutering of pet dogs through local veterinary doctors, in accordance with clause 10; (d) the registration and licencing of traders or boarders of dogs, in accordance with clause 13; (e) the registration and licencing of dog pounds including kennels maintained by an Animal Welfare Organisation, in accordance with clause 14; (f) preventing any person from feeding any dog(s), whether or not owned by them, in public places and penalising any person found doing so, in accordance with clause 16; (g) capturing roaming dogs, in accordance with clause 7; (h) providing requisite number of dog vans with ramps for the capture and transportation of roaming dogs and each such van to be provided with a driver and two trained dog catchers, one of whom may also be the driver; (i) establishing and maintaining sufficient number of dog pounds including kennels; (j) holding for a period of 10 days any dog that remains unclaimed under clause 7(o), in dog pounds established under sub-clause (i) above, and offering such unclaimed dogs for adoption by the general public or for rehoming/sheltering to Animal Welfare Organisations, ensuring that such dogs are vaccinated and surgically neutered, in accordance with clause 9 and clause 10 respectively, before their adoption or rehoming/sheltering; (k) euthanizing, in accordance with clause 12, after the period of 10 days specified in sub-clause (j) above, any unclaimed dogs which are not adopted by any person or which are not rehomed/sheltered by an Animal Welfare Organisation. The carcasses of such euthanised dogs shall be disposed off, in accordance with clause 12; (l) installing incinerators for disposal of dog carcasses;

¹ Reproduced from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 57, Article 5

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<p>(m) maintaining a record of the owner's name and address of pet dogs and name and address of the Animal Welfare Organisations to whom dogs are handed over for rehoming/sheltering and providing a unique identification number for each such dog;</p> <p>(n) the permanent identification of pet dogs or dogs handed over to Animal Welfare Organisations for rehoming/sheltering, by appropriate means, such as microchipping, which cause little or no enduring pain, suffering or distress;¹</p> <p>(o) paying to the affected person, the costs of curing any injuries or infection resulting from an event of an unowned dog biting or attacking any person or animal, the costs of rectifying any damages resulting from such bites or attacks and a compensation computed at the rate of Rs. 1,000/- (rupees one thousand only) per day for each day or part thereof during which the affected person is unable to engage in their usual occupation;</p> <p>(p) maintaining records of the nature, impact and costs of incidents caused by dogs, including dog bites, attacks, accidents, rabies and deaths with adequate traceability of the affected person/s, the concerned dog/s and the location/s;</p> <p>(q) levying the prescribed penalties on any person for violation of this policy;</p> <p>(r) arranging funds for the Monitoring Committees towards the discharge of its functions under clause 3.</p>
5.	<p>Responsibilities of the Board</p> <p>The Board is responsible for:</p> <p>(a) assessing the effectiveness of this policy in the achievement of the objectives specified in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of this policy;</p> <p>(b) establishing and laying out of success indicators to assess the efficacy of this policy;</p> <p>(c) prescribing guidelines for determining licence/registration fees, if any, to be charged from owners, based on the costs of catching and detaining roaming dogs and re-uniting them with their owners;</p> <p>(d) prescribing guidelines for determining the licence fees, if any, to be charged from pet dog owners, traders and boarders;</p> <p>(e) prescribing methods for estimation or census of dog population;</p> <p>(f) prescribing the format in which the records of pet dogs and unowned dogs shall be maintained;</p> <p>(g) storing of registration and identification information on a central database (or separate databases that are linked in some way), which is accessible to</p>

¹ Adapted from European Convention, Article 12 (b) (i)

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<p>all relevant people (e.g. the veterinary profession, police, municipal dog pounds);¹</p> <p>(h) prescribing methods of permanent identification of pet dogs and unowned dogs;</p> <p>(i) determining the type and breed of dangerous dogs to be included in the scope of clause 11;</p> <p>(j) prescribing methods for the capture and transport of roaming dogs, so as to cause minimum physical and mental suffering appropriate to the dog;</p> <p>(k) prescribing additional methods for testing for rabies, including from carcasses;</p> <p>(l) verifying that dog pounds including kennels meet the required specifications;</p> <p>(m) prescribing the format for maintaining of records by Animal Welfare Organisations and municipal dog pounds including the number of dogs captured or received, claimed by owners, rehomed, sheltered, adopted, euthanised as well as particulars of dogs vaccinated or neutered;</p> <p>(n) prescribing the vaccinations and re-immunisations thereof for rabies, various zoonotic diseases as well as parasite control as well as the format in which the certificate of vaccination shall be issued by the veterinary officer/veterinary doctor.</p> <p>(o) prescribing guidelines for the humane euthanasia of dogs which are not taken up for adoption or rehoming/sheltering by any person within 10 days, so as not to cause avoidable pain, suffering or distress to the dogs;</p> <p>(p) prescribing additional vaccinations, additional methods of neutering and additional methods for euthanasia of dogs;</p> <p>(q) prescribing the basis of fees to be paid to veterinary doctor for neutering, vaccinating, or euthanasia of dogs or basis for determining subsidised rates for neutering or vaccinating dogs;</p> <p>(r) maintaining statistics of dog population and trends, in a manner that such statistics is available separately for each municipal ward, each village panchayat, each Local Authority, each District, each State/Union Territory as well as for the nation as a whole, and such statistics shall be available, at all reasonable times, for reference by the public free of charge, on the website as well as on request at the offices of the Board;</p> <p>(s) maintaining statistics of the nature, impact and costs of incidents caused by dogs, including dog bites, attacks, accidents, rabies and deaths;</p> <p>(t) funding the Local Authority towards the discharge of its functions under this policy;</p>

¹ Adapted from ICAMC Guidance, page 13

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (u) identifying and recommending to the Central or a State Government, additional ways and means of reducing the number of roaming dogs; (v) quantification and analysis of the problem and causes, obtaining public opinion, conducting pilot projects, and proposing to the Central Government the most effective approaches for use in the short term and long term in the matter relating to dog population management and rabies control.¹
6.	<p>Registration and identification²</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) All dogs over the age of three months shall be registered within one month of reaching this age, or of possession, and thereafter annually, and the owner of any dog shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) present the dog on its attaining the age of three months at such time and place as determined by the Local Authority, for registration and annually for re-registration or at any time if required under clause 20(b); (ii) produce a certificate, if demanded by the Local Authority, that the dog had been vaccinated in accordance with clause 9; and (iii) pay an annual registration fee of Rs.10/- (rupees ten only) in respect of a neutered dog or a dog which is less than six months of age and Rs. 50,000/- (rupees fifty thousand only) in respect of any other dog. (b) The Local Authority shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) provide the owner with a certificate of registration for the dog; and (ii) microchip the dog or affix to it a distinguishing collar tag as proof of registration. (c) Any owner not presenting their dog or dogs for registration or re-registration shall be guilty of an offence under this policy and shall be liable to a penalty of an amount of Rs. 1,000 (rupees one thousand only) and an additional penalty of Rs. 100/- (rupees one hundred only) for each continuing day of default.
7.	<p>Capturing dogs³</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Capturing of dogs shall be based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Specific complaints received and properly recorded (by the respective Local Authority or any dog cells set up by such Local Authority for receiving such complaints) about dog nuisance, dog bites and information about rabid dogs – such complaints shall be attended to

¹ Adapted from OIE Code, Article 7.7.5

² Reproduced from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 59, Article 9

³ Adapted [except sub-clauses 7(b), 7(l), 7(m), 7(n) and 7(o)] from The ABC Rules, Rule 7

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<p style="text-align: center;">on priority, irrespective of the area from which the complaint comes; and</p> <p>(ii) Generally, on such dates and time to be specified by the Local Authority.</p> <p>(b) The person responsible for the administration and maintenance of any property housing any government office, hospital, court, school, institution, establishment, parks, railway stations, bus stands, airports, ports or any other public place which is secured by a perimeter wall or fence, shall ensure that any roaming dogs found in the precincts of such property are immediately reported to the Local Authorities for capture.</p> <p>(c) The dog capturing squad shall consist of the driver of the dog van and two or more trained dog catchers (one of whom may also be the driver).</p> <p>(d) Each member of the dog capturing squad shall carry a valid identity card issued by the respective Local Authority.</p> <p>(e) On receipt of specific complaint or for capturing dogs in normal course the dog squad will visit the concerned area, capture the dog(s) identified by the complaint in case of complaint-oriented capturing and roaming dogs in case of general capturing. All the dogs caught will be tagged for identification purposes.</p> <p>(f) A record of dogs captured shall be maintained, mentioning therein the name of the area/locality, date and time of capture, and details about dogs captured such as number of male dogs, number of female dogs, number of puppies, nature of pickup (complaint oriented or general capturing), nature of complaint, etc. and such record shall be available, at all reasonable times, for inspection by the public free of charge.</p> <p>(g) The dogs shall be captured by using humane methods such as lassoing or soft-loop animal catchers or any other methods as may be prescribed by the Board.</p> <p>(h) The captured dogs shall be brought to the dog pounds or kennels managed by the Local Authority.</p> <p>(i) Dog pounds must have sufficient space for proper housing and free movement of dogs. The place should have proper ventilation and natural lighting and must be kept clean. Adults and puppies must be housed separately and amongst the adults the males and females also should be housed separately. Adequate arrangement for drinking water and food shall be made for the dogs while in captivity.</p> <p>(j) On reaching the dog pounds all the dogs shall be examined by a veterinary doctor. Healthy and sick dogs shall be segregated.</p> <p>(k) Dogs found to be incurably ill, grievously injured and/or are overly aggressive or biting, as ascertained by a veterinary doctor, shall be euthanised in accordance with clause 12.</p>

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<p>(l) Female dogs found to be pregnant shall undergo abortion (irrespective of stage of pregnancy) and thereafter neutered.</p> <p>(m) Where any dog captured under this section wears a collar having inscribed thereon or attached thereto the name and address of the owner or any person, or if the owner of the dog is otherwise known or informed to the Local Authority, the Local Authority shall serve on the person whose address is given on the collar, or on the owner, a notice in writing stating that the dog has been captured and where it is being kept and stating that the dog will be liable to be disposed off if it is not claimed within 10 days after the service of the notice or if the amounts for which the claimant is liable under sub-clause (n) below are not paid.¹</p> <p>(n) A person claiming to be the owner of a dog captured under this clause shall be entitled to have the dog returned to such claimant only on production of proof of ownership by way of its registration under clause 6, or any other proof that is acceptable to the Local Authority and upon such conditions as the Local Authority may specify while accepting such other proof, and on payment of all the expenses incurred by reason of its detention and such further amount as is for the time being prescribed.²</p> <p>(o) Where any dog captured under this clause has been detained for 10 days after the capture or, where a notice has been served under sub-clause (m) above, after such service, and the owner has not claimed the dog and paid the amounts due under sub-clause (n) above the Local Authority may deal with the dog as an unclaimed dog in accordance with clause 4(j) and clause 4(k).³</p>
8.	<p>Surgical operations⁴</p> <p>(a) Except as provided in this clause, surgical operations for the purpose of modifying the appearance of a dog or for other non-curative purposes, in particular the docking of tails, the cropping of ears, devocalisation, declawing and defanging is prohibited.</p> <p>(b) Exceptions to this prohibition shall be permissible only if a veterinary doctor considers non-curative procedures necessary for veterinary medical reasons or for the benefit of a particular dog or to prevent reproduction.</p> <p>(c) Any operation in which the dog will or is likely to experience pain shall be carried out under anaesthesia only by or under the supervision of a veterinary doctor.</p>

¹ Reproduced from Environmental Protection Act (UK), Section 149 (4)

² Reproduced from Environmental Protection Act (UK), Section 149 (5)

³ Reproduced from Environmental Protection Act (UK), Section 149 (6)

⁴ Reproduced from European Convention, Article 10

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
9.	<p>Vaccination¹</p> <p>(a) All dogs over the age of three months shall be vaccinated against rabies, parvo and distemper and that such vaccination shall be repeated annually. In the case of an infected area, the designated officer may require re-vaccination at shorter intervals between vaccinations.</p> <p>(b) The vaccinations shall be carried out at such places and at such times as the Local Authority may require, in coordination with local veterinary doctors.</p> <p>(c) The Local Authority shall provide vaccinations free of cost for any dog which is neutered. For all other dogs, the Local Authority shall collect fees for the vaccination, based on the costs of the vaccine, the cost of vaccinating and the related administrative costs.</p> <p>(d) The veterinary officer appointed for the purpose shall make such arrangements as are necessary to inform dog owners of the dates for vaccination and the location of the vaccination centres.</p> <p>(e) All owners shall present their dogs for vaccination at such times and places as required by the veterinary officer.</p> <p>(f) At the time of vaccination of each dog, the veterinary officer shall provide the owner with a certificate of vaccination in the prescribed format and shall affix a mark (microchipping, collar-tag, plastic collar or paint mark) to the dog as proof of vaccination. The veterinary officer must file a copy of the vaccination certificate in a manner so as to be easy to locate in case of any medical enquiry.</p> <p>(g) The owner of any dog not having a valid vaccination certificate, who fails to present their dog or dogs for vaccination shall be guilty of an offence under this policy and shall be liable to a penalty of Rs. 1,000/- (rupees one thousand only).</p>
10.	<p>Neutering</p> <p>(a) The Local Authority and Animal Welfare Organisations shall offer neutering services for dogs, subsidised as specified in sub-clause (g) below.</p> <p>(b) The Local Authority and Animal Welfare Organisations shall ensure that dogs are neutered before being offered for adoption or rehoming/sheltering under clause 4(j).</p> <p>(c) Both male and female dogs shall be neutered.</p> <p>(d) In the case of male dogs, castration or vasectomy/epididymectomy shall be the methods employed for neutering.</p> <p>(e) In the case of female dogs, Ovario-hysterectomy or Tubal ligation shall be the methods employed for neutering.</p>

¹ Adapted from European Convention, Article 10

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<p>(f) If neutering must be delayed for any reasons, then non-surgical sterilisation by administering progestational steroids may be employed. However, the Local Authority shall ensure that such dogs are surgically neutered before the effect of the non-surgical sterilisation wears off.</p> <p>(g) The Local Authority shall recover a sum of Rs. 100/- (rupees one hundred only) per dog from its owners or prospective owners for the neutering services and the Local Authority shall bear any costs in excess of this sum, and claim the same from the Board.</p>
11.	<p>Dangerous dogs¹</p> <p>(a) This clause applies to any dog of the type/s designated for the purposes of this clause by an order of the Board, being a type bred for fighting or to have the characteristics of a type bred for fighting or being of a type that presents serious danger to the public.</p> <p>(b) No person shall breed, or breed from, a dog to which this clause applies, sell or exchange such a dog or offer, advertise or expose such a dog for sale or exchange, make or offer to make a gift of such a dog or advertise or expose such a dog as a gift.</p> <p>(c) No person who is the owner or the person for the time being in charge of a dog to which this clause applies, allow such dog to be in a public place without being muzzled and kept on a leash, or abandon such dog or allow it to stray.</p> <p>(d) After the date from which any type of dog is designated by the Board in accordance with sub-clause (a) above, no person shall have any dog to which this clause applies, in his possession or custody except in pursuance of the power of seizure conferred by this clause or in accordance with an order for its euthanasia made under this clause; and the Board may by order make a scheme for the payment to the owners of such dogs who arrange for them to be euthanised within 30 days after the aforesaid date, of sums specified in or determined under the scheme in respect of those dogs and the cost of their euthanasia.</p> <p>(e) The Board may by order provide that the prohibition in sub-clause (d) above shall not apply in such cases and subject to compliance with such conditions as are specified in the order and any such provision may take the form of a scheme of exemption containing such arrangements (including provision for the payment of charges or fees) as it thinks appropriate. Such scheme under sub-clauses (d) or (e) may in particular include provision requiring a court to consider whether a person is a fit and proper person to be in charge of such a dog.</p> <p>(f) Any person who contravenes this clause, is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months</p>

¹ Adapted from Dangerous Dogs Act (UK)

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<p>or a fine not exceeding Rs. 10,000/- (rupees ten thousand only) or both, except that a person who publishes an advertisement in contravention of sub-clause (b) above shall not on being convicted be liable to imprisonment if the person shows that the advertisement was published to the order of someone else and did not himself/herself devise it; and shall not be convicted if, in addition, the person shows that he/she did not know and had no reasonable cause to suspect that it related to a dog to which this clause applies.</p> <p>(g) An order under sub-clause (a) above adding dogs of any type to those to which this clause applies may provide that sub-clauses (d), (e) and (f) above shall apply in relation to those dogs with the substitution for the day appointed under sub-clause (d) above, by a later day specified in the order.</p> <p>(h) If a dog of the type to which this clause applies is found, the Local Authority may order it to be seized and after giving notice thereof to its owner (if known), order its destruction, or specify the measures to be taken for keeping the dog under proper control, whether by muzzling, keeping on a leash, excluding it from specified places or otherwise; and if it appears to the Local Authority that the dog is a male and would be less dangerous if neutered, may require it to be neutered. However, nothing in this sub-clause shall require the Local Authority to order the destruction of a dog if it is satisfied that the dog would not constitute a danger to public safety after considering the temperament of the dog, its past behaviour, and whether the owner of the dog, or the person for the time being in charge of it, is a fit and proper person to be in charge of the dog, and may consider any other relevant circumstances.</p> <p>(i) A dog shall not be euthanised pursuant to an order under sub-clause (h) above until 30 days to enable an appeal against the order; and if notice of appeal is given within that period, until the appeal is determined or withdrawn, unless the offender or the owner of the dog gives notice to the Local Authority that made the order, that there is to be no appeal.</p> <p>(j) Where the Local Authority makes an order under sub-clause (h) above, it may appoint a person to undertake the destruction of the dog and require any person having custody of it to deliver it up for that purpose; and order the offender to pay such sum as the Local Authority may determine to be the reasonable expenses of euthanising the dog and of keeping it pending its euthanasia.</p>
12.	<p>Euthanasia</p> <p>(a) A person under whose care a dog gives birth to new-borns, has to decide on the number of such new-borns to be kept, raised and found homes. If there is a surplus of new-born dogs, such person shall inform the Local Authority to assist in the removal and humane disposal of the surplus dogs.</p>

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<p>(b) Only a veterinary officer or another competent person shall euthanise a dog except in an emergency, to terminate a dog's suffering when veterinary or other competent assistance cannot be quickly obtained.¹</p> <p>(c) Any euthanasia shall be done with the minimum of physical and mental suffering appropriate to the circumstances.²</p> <p>(d) Except in an emergency, the method chosen to euthanise a dog shall either cause immediate loss of consciousness and death or begin with the induction of deep general anaesthesia to be followed by a step which will ultimately and certainly cause death.³</p> <p>(e) The recommended method of euthanasia is the use of barbiturates (pentobarbitone or pentobarbital sodium) solution injected intravenously at the correct dosage in the prescribed manner.</p> <p>(f) The following methods of killing are prohibited:⁴</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Drowning and other methods of suffocation, if they do not produce the effects required in sub-clause (d) above; (ii) The use of any poisonous substance or drug, the dose and application of which cannot be controlled so as to give the effects mentioned in sub-clause (d) above; and (iii) Electrocuting, unless preceded by immediate induction of loss of consciousness. <p>(g) The person responsible for the euthanasia shall make sure that the dog is dead before the carcass is disposed off.⁵</p>
13.	<p>Trading, boarding and sale⁶</p> <p>(a) A trader shall seek a licence from the Local Authority by paying the prescribed fee and submitting a declaration stipulating the species of dogs involved or to be involved, the identity, knowledge and abilities of the person who is or will be responsible for dealing with such dogs and a description of the premises and equipment used or to be used.</p> <p>(b) The Local Authority shall determine whether or not the conditions in sub-clause (a) above are being complied with and if these are not adequately met, it may recommend measures for such compliance within a specified time frame or it shall prohibit the commencement or continuation of the activity. If the Local Authority determines that the conditions in sub-clause (a) above are being complied with, it shall grant a licence to such person.</p>

¹ Reproduced from European Convention, Article 11 (1)

² Reproduced from European Convention, Article 11 (1)

³ Reproduced from European Convention, Article 11 (1)

⁴ Reproduced from European Convention, Article 11 (2)

⁵ Reproduced from European Convention, Article 11 (1)

⁶ Adapted from European Convention, Article 8

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<p>(c) No dog shall be sold or gifted to any person under the age of eighteen without the express consent of the parent or guardian of such person.</p> <p>(d) The trader shall maintain record of the number of off spring born/died from each individual female dog as well as record of the person buying a dog or to whom a dog has been gifted and ensure its registration under this policy in the name of the person to whom the dog is sold or has been gifted.</p> <p>(e) The trader shall present the records required to be maintained under this clause, to the Local Authority.</p> <p>(f) Any dog or its off spring maintained by a trader shall be deemed to be owned by such trader, who shall comply with the requirements of this policy, including annual registration of such dogs, as the owner of each such dog until such dog is registered in the name of any other person in accordance with this policy.</p>
14.	<p>Dog pounds</p> <p>(a) On receipt of an application from any Animal Welfare Organisation, the Local Authority may provide a licence to such Animal Welfare Organisation for setting up dog pounds including kennels for rehoming/sheltering any of the captured dogs which are not to be euthanised, on such terms and conditions including annual registration, as the Local Authority may specify.</p> <p>(b) Before transferring any dog to such pounds or kennels, the Local Authority shall verify that such pounds or kennels have the requisite capacity for housing such dogs including any dogs already being housed in such pounds or kennels.</p> <p>(c) The Animal Welfare Organisation shall be deemed to be the owner of such dogs and comply with the requirements of this policy including annual registration of such dogs until such dog is registered in the name of any other person in accordance with this policy.</p> <p>(d) While establishing dog pounds including kennels, the following shall be taken into account:¹</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) access to drainage, water and electricity; (ii) environmental factors such as noise and pollution; (iii) size, design and occupancy capacity; (iv) disease control including isolation and quarantine facilities; (v) location in areas approved by Local Authority, not being a residential or commercial area. <p>(e) The management of dog pounds including kennels should address:²</p>

¹ Adapted from OIE Code, Article 7.7.6 (5)

² Adapted from OIE Code, Article 7.7.6 (5)

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) adequacy of fresh water and nutritious food; (ii) regular hygiene and cleaning; (iii) determining a potential owner's ability to maintain the dog; (iv) routine inspection of the dogs; (v) monitoring of health and provision of required veterinary treatments; (vi) neutering of dogs before adoption; (vii) procedures for adoption including criteria for accepting potential owners; (viii) procedures for neutering and euthanasia; (ix) training of staff in safe and appropriate handling of dogs; (x) record keeping and reporting including record of the number of off spring born/died from each individual female dog as well as record of the person adopting a dog or to whom a dog has been gifted and ensure its registration under this policy in the name of such person.
15.	<p>Obligations of owners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) An owner shall be responsible for the health and welfare of his/her pet dog and for any off spring it may produce, for the duration of its life or until it is gifted or sold to another person who becomes its owner.¹ (b) An owner shall not sell or gift his/her pet dog or any off spring it may produce, to any person under the age of eighteen without the express consent of the parent or guardian of such person.² (c) An owner shall maintain record of the number of off spring born/died from each individual female dog, or a dog gifted or sold to any person and ensure its registration under this policy either in his/her own name or in the name of any person to whom the dog is sold or has been gifted. (d) An owner shall be responsible to provide accommodation, care and attention which take account the ethological needs of the dog in accordance with its species and breed, in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) provide the resources (i.e. suitable and sufficient food and water, health care and social interaction) necessary for it to maintain an acceptable level of health and well-being in its environment; (ii) provide it with adequate opportunities for exercise; and (iii) take all reasonable steps to prevent its escape.³ (e) An owner or keeper has a duty to minimise the potential risk their pet dog may pose to the public or other animals and is responsible for ensuring that

¹ Adapted from European Convention, Article 4

² Adapted from European Convention, Article 8

³ Reproduced from European Convention, Article 4 (2)

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<p>his/her pet dog does not damage public or others' private property. The owner or keeper shall take steps to minimise any disturbance caused by the dog and shall be responsible to clean up if the dog defecates in public or others' private property.</p> <p>(f) The owner of every dog shall ensure that the dog is confined within walled or fully fenced compounds inside the owner's premises or tethered to the premises if the owner's premises does not include a fully fenced compound.</p> <p>(g) Whenever the dog is outside the owner's premises, it must be held on a leash not over two meters in length, attached to a collar. The collar shall have the name and address of the owner inscribed on it (or on a plate or badge attached to the collar). If the terms of the registration or licence so requires, the dog shall be muzzled during such period that it is outside the owner's premises. The requirement of holding the dog on a leash shall be deemed to be waived, if an owner of a pet dog intends to use the dog as a guard or herding dog for cattle or sheep or such other animals and he/she has intimated the Local Authority in writing of such intention. Such waiver will be valid only for the duration when the dog is used for such purposes, and the Local Authority may impose such other reasonable conditions in consultation with the Monitoring Committee.</p> <p>(h) The owner shall be responsible to ensure that the dog does not cause disturbance by excessive barking, does not chase vehicles, or does not molest, attack or interfere with people or other living beings.</p> <p>(i) In the event of a pet dog biting or attacking any person or animal, the owner shall be responsible to pay the affected person, the costs of curing any injuries or infection resulting from such bites or attacks, the costs of rectifying any damages resulting from such bites or attacks, and a compensation computed at the rate of Rs. 1,000/- (rupees one thousand only) per day for each day or part thereof during which such affected person is unable to engage in their usual occupation.</p> <p>(j) An owner shall ensure that nobody causes unnecessary pain, suffering or distress to his/her pet dog.</p> <p>(k) If, for any reason whatsoever, an owner is unable to keep his/her pet dog or it's offspring, it shall be incumbent on any such owner to hand over such dog(s) to the Local Authority.</p> <p>(l) Any owner who abandons his/her pet dog, shall be subject to penalties including ban on future ownership of any dog.</p> <p>(m) The owner of every dog shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) obtain a registration certificate issued by the Local Authority to keep the dog and have the same renewed annually; (ii) report the death of the dog, with proof of death, to the Local Authority;

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (iii) vaccinate annually and retain the original certificate of vaccination of the dog and produce the same for verification by the Local Authority as and when required; (iv) affix metal engraved tags to the dog's collar and subcutaneously implant a microchip transponder bearing an identity code as proof of vaccination; (v) within twenty-four hours of such dog attacking or biting any person or animal, report such fact to the Local Authority.
16.	<p>Feeding of dogs in public places</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) No person shall feed any dog in any public places. (b) Any person contravening the sub-clause (a) above shall be subject to a penalty of Rs. 500/- (rupees five hundred only) for a first offence and Rs. 1,000/- (rupees one thousand only) for a subsequent offence.
17.	<p>Notice of rabies¹</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) A person who knows or suspects that a dog (whether in captivity or not) is affected with rabies, or was at the time of its death so affected, shall with all practicable speed give notice of that fact to the designated officer, a health care worker or to a police constable. (b) Without prejudice to sub-clause (a) above, a person who knows or suspects that a dog in his or her possession or under his or her charge is, or was at the time of its death, affected with rabies shall, as far as practicable, keep that dog or, as the case may be, the carcass of that dog separate from any other animal or person. (c) Where notice under sub-clause (a) above is given, the recipient of the information shall immediately transmit the information received by the most expeditious means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) in the case of the designated officer, to the veterinary officer; and (ii) in the case of a health worker or a police constable, to the veterinary officer and to the designated officer.
18.	<p>Enquiry²</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Where a veterinary officer has grounds for suspecting that rabies exists in a dog, whether by reason of information received under clause 17 or by reason of clinical signs of rabies in a dog that has been detained under clause 21, or where a dog has bitten a person and been detained under clause 22, such officer may cause the dog to be euthanised and its carcass examined for the existence of rabies.

¹ Reproduced from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 56, Article 3

² Reproduced from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 57, Article 4

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	(b) No compensation shall be paid to any person in respect of the killing of any dog under the provisions of this clause.
19.	<p>Infected area¹</p> <p>(a) Where the Local Authority believes or suspects that rabies exists in an area, such authority may, with prior written approval from the health department of the state, declare that area, together with any adjoining area into which such authority considers there may be a possibility of rabies spreading, to be an infected area for the purposes connected with the control and eradication of that disease, and the provisions of clauses 20 to 25 shall apply in relation to every infected area so declared.</p>
20.	<p>Control of dogs²</p> <p>(a) No person shall take any dog out of a rabies-infected area or bring any dog into a rabies-infected area except in accordance with a written licence issued by the designated officer.</p> <p>(b) The designated officer may require all owners in such a rabies-infected area to re-register their dogs.</p> <p>(c) The owner or person in charge of any dog within a rabies-infected area shall cause such a dog to be kept under effective control, either by confining it within an enclosed area from which it is impossible for the dog to escape, or by tying it up securely, or by muzzling the dog and leading it by a chain or leash of strong cord or leather properly secured to a collar or harness worn by the dog.</p> <p>Provided that the designated officer, being satisfied that any class of dog, whether by reason of prophylactic treatment otherwise, is not at risk of contracting rabies, may exempt such a class of dog from the requirements of this sub-clause, subject to such conditions as may be deemed fit by the designated officer.</p> <p>(d) Any dog found within a rabies-infected area which is not under effective control in accordance with the provisions of sub-clause (c) above, may be killed by or under the authority of the designated officer and any person so authorised may enter, with prior permission of the owner or occupier of, any land, building or premises, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this sub-clause.</p> <p>Provided such person:</p> <p>(i) shall not enter into any dwelling house for such purpose except during the hours of daylight; and</p> <p>(ii) shall produce and show a written authority to the owner, occupier or person for the time being in charge of such land, building or premises.</p>

¹ Reproduced from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 57, Article 5

² Reproduced from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 57, Article 6

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<p>(e) Any person contravening the provisions of sub-clause (a) above shall be liable to a fine of Rs. 10,000/- (rupees ten thousand only) or to imprisonment for a term up to two years.</p> <p>(f) Any person failing without reasonable cause to comply with the provisions of sub-clause (c) above shall be liable to a fine of Rs. 5,000/- (rupees five thousand only).</p>
21.	<p>Detention or destruction¹</p> <p>(a) A veterinary officer shall cause any dog bearing proof of valid vaccination (microchipping, collar with vaccination tag as specified by the Local Authority) which has been exposed to a known rabid dog or a dog of suspected or unknown rabies status, to be re-vaccinated and to be detained under house, muzzle and leash confinement for 90 days under veterinary surveillance. The dog must be presented at least twice a month to the local veterinary health or law enforcement authorities nearest to the place of residence of the owner.</p> <p>(b) A veterinary officer shall cause any unvaccinated dog which has been exposed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) to a known rabid dog to be euthanised forthwith under the powers conferred by clause 18, or (ii) to a dog of suspected or unknown rabies status to be either euthanised if the owner agrees, or to be detained as provided in sub-clause (a) above and to be subject to the provisions of clause 9.
22.	<p>Detention and isolation²</p> <p>(a) The owner of a dog, irrespective of the vaccination status of the dog, which has bitten any person, and the person who has been bitten, shall within twenty-four hours of the occurrence, report the fact to the designated officer, a health care worker or to a police constable. A health care worker or a police constable receiving such information shall immediately transmit it to the Local Authority.</p> <p>(b) The local authority may forthwith take possession of the dog and remove it to a dog quarantine station or other detention premises.</p> <p>(c) If the dog is showing clinical signs of rabies, or if the owner voluntarily surrenders it for destruction, a veterinary officer may cause the dog to be euthanised forthwith, under the powers conferred by clause 18 and its carcass examined for the existence of rabies using the direct fluorescent antibody test or such other test as may be prescribed by the Board.</p>

¹ Reproduced from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 58, Article 7

² Reproduced from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 59, Article 8

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<p>(d) If the dog appears healthy or the owner does not voluntarily surrender it for destruction, it shall be isolated for a period of ten days from the date of commencement of such detention.</p> <p>(e) Upon expiration of the period of ten days' isolation as aforesaid, the owner of such a dog, if the veterinary officer is satisfied that it is free from rabies, shall remove it from the detention premises, after vaccinating it.</p> <p>(f) If an owner fails to remove from the detention premises any dog within three days from the date of the expiration of the period of detention of such a dog, it may, without prejudice to the rights of the local authority under sub-clause (g) (iii) below, be euthanised.</p> <p>(g) The owner of any dog which is detained in detention premises:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(i) shall pay to the local authority, in advance, for the period of ten days' isolation, a fee at the rate of Rs. 100/- (rupees one hundred only) per day for the feeding, accommodation and attendance on the dog.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Provided that:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(ii) if the dog dies during the period of detention, the fee shall be charged only in respect of the number of days for which the dog was actually detained and the excess amount paid shall be refunded to the owner.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(iii) If an owner fails to remove any dog from the detention premises in accordance with sub-clause (d) above, such owner shall pay to the local authority a fee at the rate of Rs. 2,000/- (rupees two thousand only) per day in respect of the additional period during which the dog remains in the detention premises.</p> <p>(h) No compensation shall be payable for any dog which contracts any injury or sickness or which dies while under detention in accordance with the provisions of this clause.</p>
23.	<p>Seizure, detention and disposal of dogs not under control¹</p> <p>(a) A veterinary officer, the designated officer or a police constable, may, after due notification has been given to members of the public in the area, seize and detain or kill any loose dog in the area and the following shall apply.</p> <p>(b) The Local Authority shall take all reasonable steps to draw the attention of members of the public in their area to the address or location of any place at which dogs seized under sub-clause (a) above are to be detained, and any dog seized under sub-clause (a) above shall be removed to such a place, and detained thereat for a period of 7 days, unless claimed by or on behalf of its owner within that period.</p> <p>(c) An owner claiming his/her pet dog from a place of detention under the provisions of sub-clause (a) and sub-clause (b) above, shall be liable to the</p>

¹ Reproduced from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 60, Article 11

Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Policy

Clause	Description
	<p>appropriate penalties and fines if it is established that such owner has committed offences under clauses 6(c), 9(g), 20(e) and 20(f).</p> <p>(d) Where a dog seized under this clause is not claimed by or on behalf of its owner within the period specified in sub-clause (b) above, the Local Authority may euthanise the dog and dispose its carcass.</p> <p>(e) Where circumstances prevent a dog which is liable to be seized under this clause from being so seized, it shall be lawful for a veterinary officer, the designated officer or the police constable to kill the dog without so seizing it.</p> <p>(f) The Local Authority will provide guidance on the methods to be used (shooting, or capture and destruction by other methods) in different environments (area of habitation, market place, rubbish dump, open country side, forest land etc.).</p> <p>(g) A veterinary officer, the designated officer, or the police constable may enter, with the prior permission of the owner or occupier of any land, for the purpose of seizing or killing a dog which is liable to be seized under this clause.</p> <p>(h) The Local Authority will be responsible for the collection and safe disposal of the carcasses of any dogs killed or euthanised under this policy.</p>
24.	<p>Offences¹</p> <p>(a) Any person who contravenes any provision of this policy or any provision of this policy as applied in an infected area order, or any provision of a licence granted or notice served under any such provision, or who fails to comply with any such provision, or who causes or permits any such contravention or non-compliance, commits an offence against the order.</p>
25.	<p>Enforcement²</p> <p>(a) The provisions of the clauses 17 to 24, except where otherwise expressly provided, shall be executed and enforced by the Local Authority.</p>

¹ Reproduced from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 61, Article 12

² Reproduced from WHO Guidelines, Chapter 4, Annex 4.2, page 61, Article 13

