

**SPEECH BY HON MINISTER JOSEPH MUNYAO
MINISTER FOR LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES
DEVELOPMENT
ON THE LAUNCH OF
ANIMAL WELFARE PARTNERSHIP OF KENYA
ON 29TH MARCH 2006 AT PANAFRIC HOTEL**

-FELLOW PARLIAMENTARIANS

-REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS DEALING
WITH ANIMAL WELFARE

-LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

WE ARE GATHERED HERE TODAY TO WITNESS THE LAUNCH OF A VERY IMPORTANT PARTNERSHIP, **ANIMAL WELFARE PARTNERSHIP OF KENYA**

LAST YEAR, WORLD LEADERS WERE URGED TO RECOGNIZE THAT ANIMALS ARE **"FEELING BEINGS CAPABLE OF SUFFERING AS MUCH AS APPRECIATING HUMANE TREATMENT BY MAN"** THE CALL WAS MADE AT THE TWO DAY CONFERENCE LABELED: ***"FROM DARWIN TO DAWKINS: THE SCIENCE AND IMPLICATIONS OF ANIMAL SENTIENCE"***. THE SITTING, WAS ATTENDED BY 600 DELEGATES WITH SPEAKERS FROM 50 NATIONS,

ANOTHER CONFERENCE ON THE SAME SUBJECT IN WHICH MY MINISTRY WAS ALSO REPRESENTED BY MY DIRECTOR OF VETERINARY SERVICES HERE, ENDED A FEW WEEKS AGO IN CHAD, WITH THE SAME MESSAGE.

LADYS AND GENTLEMEN,

**THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF ALL ANIMALS IS MEASURED BY
5 FREEDOMS WHICH MAKE UP **THE ANIMAL RIGHTS
"CHARTER":****

1. FREEDOM FROM HUNGER/ THIRST
2. FREEDOM FROM PAIN/ INJURY/ DISEASE
3. FREEDOM FROM DISCOMFORT
4. FREEDOM FROM FEAR/ DISTRESS
5. FREEDOM TO EXHIBIT NORMAL BEHAVIOR

THESE ARE COMPREHENSIVELY TAKEN CARE OF BY THE LAWS OF KENYA SPECIFICALLY **CAP 360, THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS**

LADYS AND GENTLEMENT,

GOING BY THE GLOBAL TRENDS MY MINISTRY IS IN THE PROCESS OF REVISING THIS ACT TO FOCUS ON WELFARE OF ANIMALS RATHER THAN PROTECTIONALISM.

THIS COUPLED BY THIS MOVE THAT WE HAVE TOGETHER INITIATED, OF ESTABLISHING AN ANIMAL WELFARE PARTINERSHIP, WILL TAKE US MANY MILES AHEAD IN REALISING OUR GOALS OF POVERTY REDUCTION, WEALTH AND EMPLOYMENT CREATION THROUGH OUR STRATEGY FOR REVITALISNG AGRICULTURE, **SRA**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,
IMPROVING THE WELFARE OF OUR ANIMALS IMPROVES THE
PRODUCTIVITY OF OUR ANIMAL INDUSTRY, CONSQUENTLY
IMPROVING THE LIVELIHOODS OF OUR PEOPLE WHO DEPEND
ON THEM FOR THE SAME.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

MY MINISTRY WISHES TO RECOGNIZE THE WORK DONE BY KENDAT, THE KENYA SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION AND CARE OF ANIMALS (KSPCA) AND OTHER ANIMAL WELFARE ORGANISATIONS THAT SENSITIZE KENYANS ON BEING HUMANE TO OUR ANIMALS.

FOCUS ON DONKEYS HAS SENSITIZED US ON HOW INSENSITIVE MAN CAN BE TO THE WELFARE OF ANIMALS.

MANY TRADITIONAL MYTHS AND CULTURAL MISCONCEPTIONS
BY DONKEY OWNERS AND USERS LEAD TO EXTREMES IN
INHUMANE USE OF THESE ANIMALS

WORK DONE BY ANIMAL WELFARE ORGANIZATIONS ON
DONKEYS HAS SHOWN THAT ANIMAL KEEPERS, WHEN
EMPOWERED BY KNOWLEDGE ON ANIMAL WELFARE, CAN
ENSURE THE WELFARE OF THEIR ANIMALS AND BE ACTIVE
CRUSADERS FOR THE SAME.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

WE NOW NEED TO ADVANCE THE LEARNING AND CONCERNS
FOR WELFARE FROM THE DONKEY AND OTHER WORK ANIMALS
TO ANIMALS THAT WE EXPLOIT FOR FOOD.

IN THIS, THE RANGE OF CONCERNS IS WIDE, FROM GENERAL
HEALTHCARE, THROUGH ENVIRONMENT AND COMFORT IN
HOUSING TO TRANSPORT AND HUMANE SLAUGHTER.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,
RESEARCH HAS SHOWN THAT ANIMALS LIKE CATTLE AND CHICKENS WHICH ARE TRANSPORTED AND SLAUGHTERED UNDER INHUMANE, FEARFUL AND PAINFUL CONDITIONS HAVE POOR QUALITY MEAT COMPARED TO THOSE THAT HAVE RECEIVED HUMANE TREATMENT PRIOR TO AND DURING SLAUGHTER.

WITH THE HEIGHTENED WORLD CONSCIOUSNESS ON WELFARE OF ANIMALS, THE WORLD MARKET FOR FOOD OF ANIMAL ORIGIN WILL SOON BE DEMANDING PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM ANIMALS RAISED AND HANDLED HUMANELY IN ALL POSSIBLE WAYS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,
RECENTLY MANY OF THESE ISSUES HAVE BEEN CHALLENGED
BY DROUGHT AND DISEASES.
ALSO,THE AFRICAN LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY HAS GROWN TO
INCLUDE NEW MEMBERS LIKE BEES, GIANT AFRICAN SNAILS,
SMALL MAMMALS LIKE GUINEA PIGS AND RABBITS, IN ADDITION
TO THE STANDARD POULTRY, PIGS, GOATS, SHEEP, CAMELS,
CATTLE, EQUINES AND WILDLIFE IN RESPONSE PARTLY TO THE
MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,
THIS CALLS FOR CONCERTED EFFORTS OF ALL PLAYERS IN THIS
FIELD OF ANIMAL WELFARE.

IN THE PAST, THE PLAYERS HAVE ACTED ALMOST
INDEPENDENTLY ALTHOUGH DOING THE SAME NOBLE JOB, OF
ENSURING THE WELFARE OF OUR ANIMALS; AND SOME TIMES IN
SUSPICION OF ONE ANOTHER.

THIS DOES NOT URGUR WELL FOR OUR ANIMALS AND THAT IS WHY WHAT WE ARE DOING TODAY, THE LAUNCHING OF A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE PLAYERS, IS A MOST WELCOME THING TO THE ANIMALS WE SO LOVE, IF THEY WERE TO SPEAK.

IT WILL ENSURE THAT WE ALL PULL TOGETHER IN THE SAME DIRECTION, FOR THE WELFARE OF THE ANIMALS AND CONSQUENTLY OUR WELL BEING.

FINALLY LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,
I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE ORGANISERS AND SPONSERS OF
THIS GET TOGETHER, KENDAT; AND ALL OF YOU FOR THE
VARIOUS ROLES YOU HAVE PLAYED IN MAKING THIS GET
TOGETHER A REALITY; AND THE PARTNERSHIP WE HAVE
FORMED TODAY FOR THE WELFARE OF OUR ANIMALS AND THE
LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY WHICH IS THE AMBIT OF MY MINISTRY.

THANKYOU ALL.