

FAX TRANSMISSION

DATE: January 19, 1995

TO: Mr. [REDACTED] WSPA (Fax: 617-522-7077)
FROM: Ms. R. [REDACTED], JAVA (Fax: 81-3-3827-5162)

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JAVA has submitted the following urgent request to the Cabinet Secretariat's Animal Protection Office as well as to the Diet's Special Committee on Countermeasures Against Disasters.

We would be very grateful if you would do the same.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the victims of the recent earthquake in Hyogo Prefecture and urgently request that steps be taken immediately to ensure the safety of animals affected by the disaster.

Specifically, we ask that you:

1. Establish a government office to coordinate financial and material aid (including food, cages and medicine) as well as personnel from Japan and other countries; and
2. Use this office to:
 - a. Erect separate facilities for homeless animals when building temporary housing for people left homeless by the quake;
 - b. If this is not possible, then at least set aside an area near temporary housing for humans where homeless pet owners may keep and care for their animals.
 - c. Make it a special measure in times of disaster to impound stray animals for a fixed period and search for their owners. (The usual 3-day period called for by the Rabid Dog Act should be extended for an appropriate length of time.)
 - d. Work with private volunteers and animal protection groups to find foster owners for animals that remain unclaimed at the end of this fixed period.
 - e. Provide food and water daily to zoos, livestock enclosures and other places where animals are kept in large numbers.

We offer our utmost cooperation in implementing these measures.
