



African Union 


AFRICAN UNION
INTERAFRICAN BUREAU
FOR ANIMAL RESOURCES

Navigating the Opportunities in the Nexus between Animal Welfare and Sustainable Animal Production in Africa

The Relevance of the Animal Welfare Strategy for Africa

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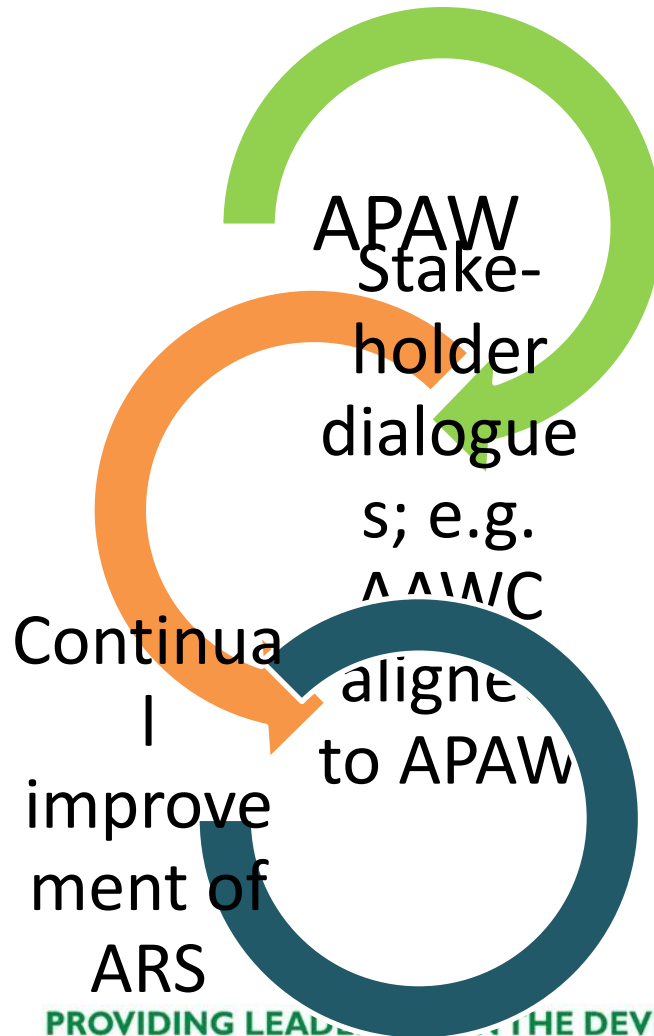
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Agenda

- Introduction
- The Importance of Animal Welfare in Africa
- Progress Towards Mainstreaming Animal Welfare
- Animal Welfare Strategy for Africa (AWSA)
- Key Takeaways from Past Conferences
- UNEA Resolution 5/1: The Nexus Between Animal Welfare and Sustainable Production
- Navigating Opportunities
- Conclusion

Introduction



- AWSA & APAW Launched in 2017
- AU-IBAR Secretariat
- AWSA: Roadmap
- APAW – Convention for coordination

- Africa relies on NBS to agric [access & cost of modern technology]: AW crucial in Africa's context

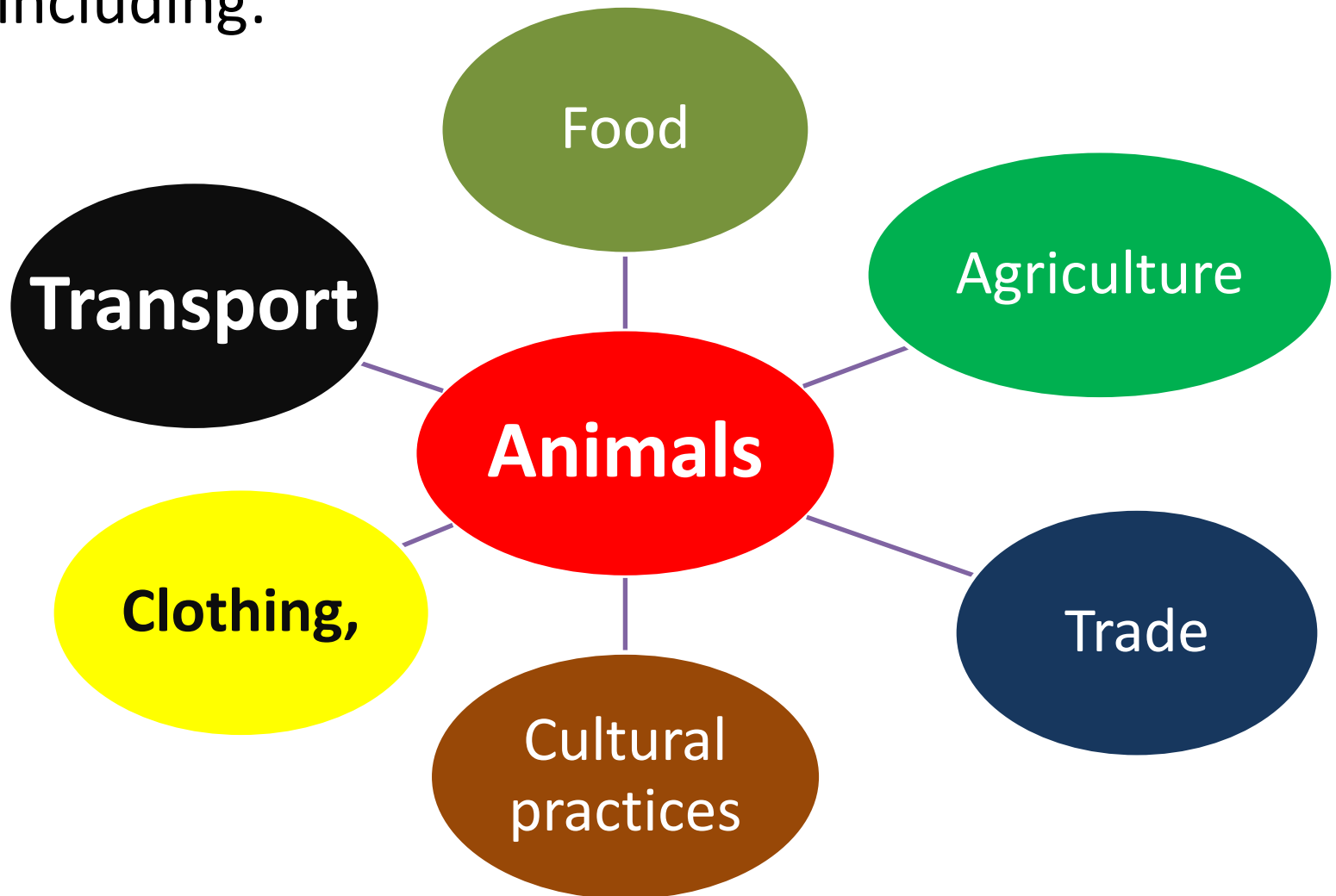


The Importance of AW in Africa

Africa's deep-rooted reliance on animals for livelihood underscores the intertwined relationship between animals and human well-being

- **Food security:** Millions of Africans are food & nutrition insecure; Animal Sourced Foods are a crucial resource. also provide manure and labor
- **Economic Dependence:** Millions of Africans depend on animals for their livelihoods
- **Socio-cultural functions:** Important cultural rites like marriage and celebration of socialization events are still strongly anchored on the exchange of animals or sharing their products like meat

Historical Significance: For centuries, animals have played an integral role in African societies, including:

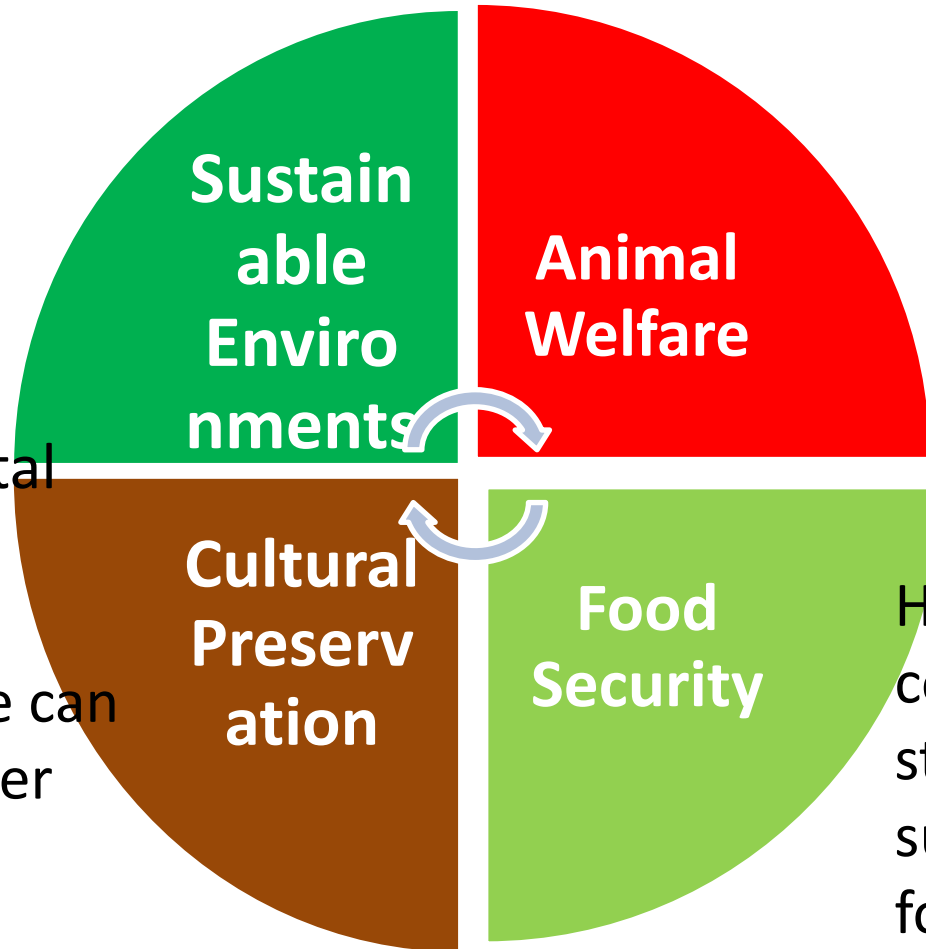


The Need for AW Considerations - addressed by AWSA

As Africa progresses, it is crucial to integrate AW considerations into development efforts to ensure sustainability

Promoting sustainable animal production practices mitigates environmental degradation

With food, we can engage in other socio-cultural issues, trade, politics, etc.



Animals derive their wellbeing from the environment

Healthy animals contribute to a stable food supply, reducing food insecurity



Towards Mainstreaming AW: AU-IBAR's Commitment to AW through AWSA



Goal: To transform the ARS through adoption of GAWP for the Human Welfare sustainable livelihoods, poverty reduction and economic growth

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Towards Mainstreaming AW: AU-IBAR's Commitment to AW

- AU-IBAR's dedication to mainstreaming AW in Africa has been exemplified through the AWSA
- AWSA was initiated to address the critical need for enhanced AW in Africa
- Launched in 2017, it has guided AW initiatives across the continent
- A cornerstone of AWSA is the acknowledgment of animals as sentient beings
- This recognition underlines the moral and ethical responsibility towards their well-being

SO1: Promote Awareness and Understanding of AW

SO2: Advocate for the Integration of AW in Policies and Legislation

SO2: Promote Good AW Practices



AWSA's Role in Strengthening Effective Action

- **Promoting Awareness:** AWSA strives to raise awareness about the importance of AW across Africa & through education and outreach, it fosters a deeper understanding of the ethical & practical aspects of AW
- **Advocacy and Mainstreaming:** AWSA actively advocates for the inclusion of AW considerations in policies and legislation & it supports governments and stakeholders in mainstreaming AW in SD agendas
- **Fostering Good Practices:** AWSA encourages the adoption of good AW practices at all levels of animal production which contributes to improved livelihoods and sustainable animal production

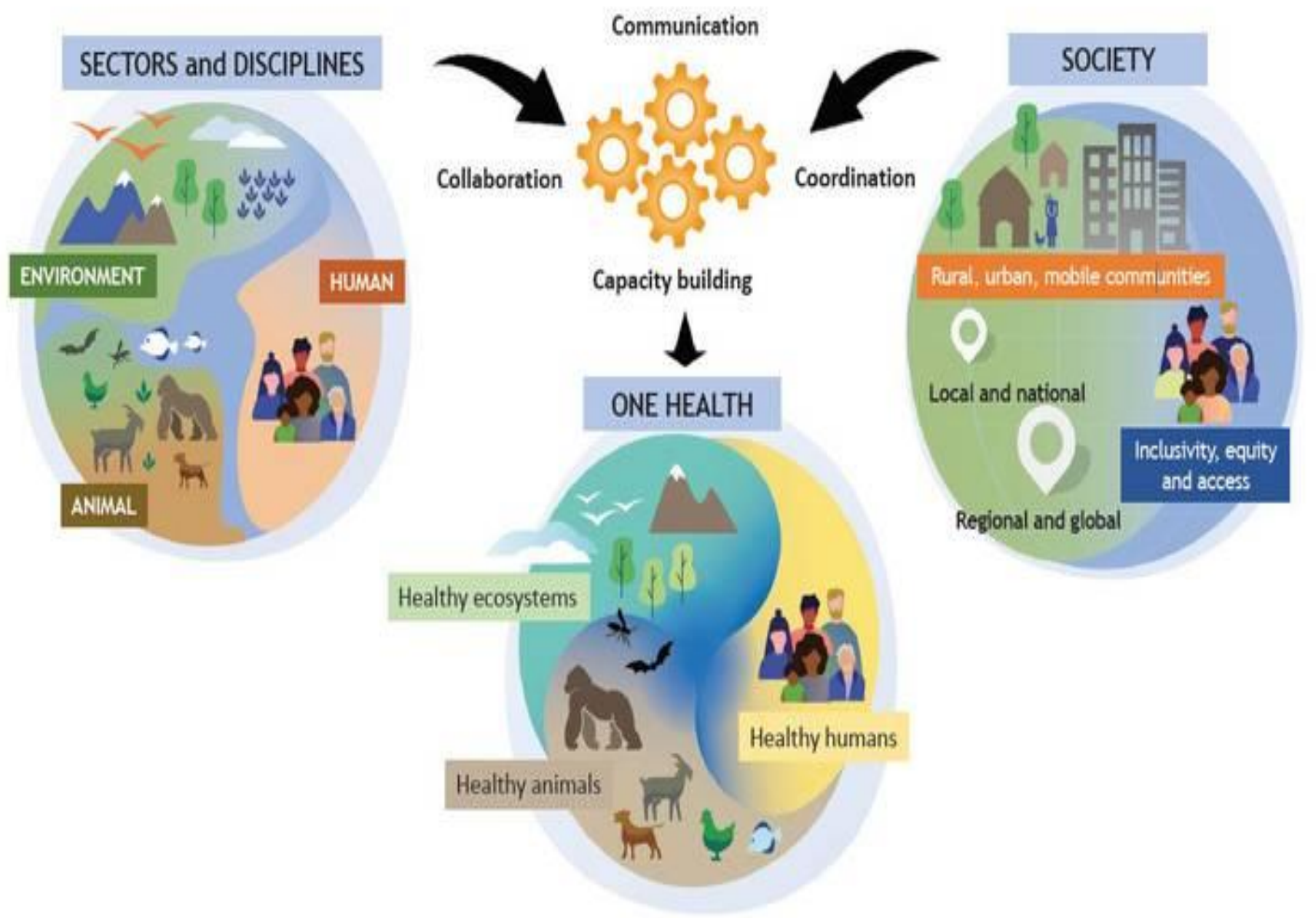


Achieving Sustainable Development through AW

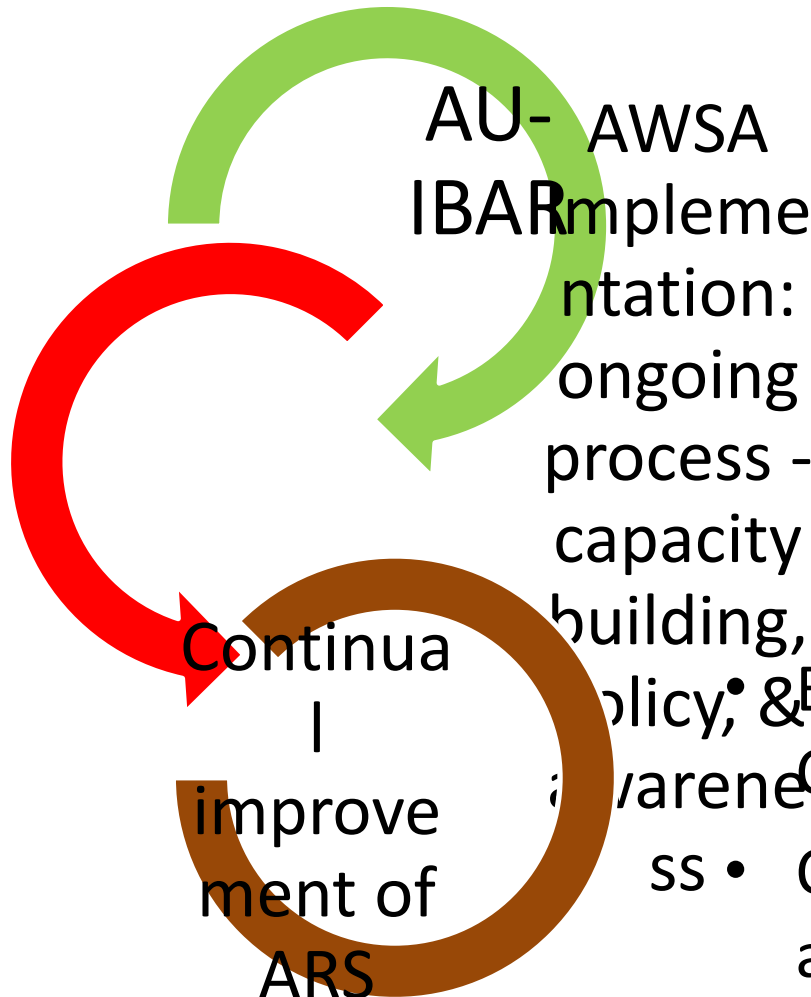
- The Urgency of Animal Welfare:
 - AW is not just an ethical concern; it is pivotal to achieving SDGs
 - Ensuring animals' well-being is directly linked to food security, livelihoods, and environmental sustainability
- SDGs and AW:
 - AWSA aligns with various SDGs, including Zero Hunger, Good Health and Well-being, and Life on Land - Upholding AW contributes significantly to these global development targets



One Health -> One Welfare



The Path Forward: Advancing AW in Africa



- Continued commitment to promote AW in Africa
- Collaborations with AU-MS, NGOs, and other

Key Takeaways from Past Conferences

AAWC has consistently highlighted critical themes; including: AW as a pathway to SD, ethics, & science-based practices

- Continuous Dialogue:
 - Foster ongoing dialogue among experts, policymakers, and stakeholders
 - Contributes to informed decisions & policy advancements



Collaboration, Policy, & Global Advocacy

- Collaboration with Governments and Stakeholders:
 - Collaboration is crucial for the successful implementation of animal welfare policies
 - Engaging governments and stakeholders ensures a unified approach
- Elevating Animal Welfare Globally:
 - AAWC conferences emphasize the need to elevate animal welfare issues to the global stage
 - By addressing these issues collectively, we contribute to the well-being of animals worldwide

UNEA Resolution 5/1: The Nexus between AW & SD

- UNEA Resolution 5/1, passed in 2021, marks a significant global milestone
- Significantly, the resolution acknowledges the intrinsic link between AW and the environment
- It highlights the importance of humane treatment of animals in achieving broader sustainability goals
- It represents a consensus among nations that AW is integral to environmental & developmental agendas
- Led by AU-IBAR, it opens doors for Africa to play a role in the nexus between AW and SD, contributing to a more harmonious relationship between people, animals, and the environment



UNEA 5/1: Successful Initiatives

- Recent research indicates a strong, positive, mutually reinforcing correlation between achieving the SDGs and improving animal welfare
- One example of successful initiatives is the One Health concept which aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people, animals, and ecosystems
- To mainstream this concept into government policies, business practices, and academic studies, we need to start thinking of ways to positively correlate humans', animals', and the environment's needs



UNEA 5/1 - Technology & Research

- Modern technologies e.g. precision agriculture may reduce environmental impact while improving AW
- Research and education are also critical components in identifying opportunities for sustainable animal production; e.g. research into:
 - alternative protein sources such as insects or plant-based proteins can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions while providing adequate nutrition for animals
 - gaps to address in order to accommodate Africa's socio-cultural dynamics as we embrace the transformative changes in the global food culture necessitated by Climate change & other issues

Navigating opportunities in UNEA Res 5/1

- Overall, there are many potential opportunities presented by the nexus between Animal Welfare, the environment, and sustainable animal production
- By emphasizing the role of modern technologies, research, and education we can identify successful initiatives that can help us achieve our environmental goals while ensuring AW



Opportunities for Africa in UNEA Res 5/1

- It offers Africa a unique opportunity to leverage its rich biodiversity for sustainable development; through protecting this natural heritage
- Promotes the mainstreaming of AW considerations into African nations' policies and practices, aligning with the global commitment
- By prioritizing AW, Africa can enhance the sustainability of its agriculture, conservation efforts, and food security
- It provides an opportunity for Africa to collaborate with international partners and organizations to access resources and expertise in promoting AW for a sustainable future



Conclusion: Forging a Sustainable Future – Call to Action

- UNEA Resolution 5/1 recognizes the global significance of AW in sustainability: to achieve our SDGs, we must prioritize Animal Welfare
- Collaboration with governments, organizations, and stakeholders is essential to ensure the integration of animal welfare into **Policies, Consciousness and Practices**
- The APAW [AU-IBAR as the Secretariat] is an important resource for the AU-MS and Stakeholders to leverage on for **Consensus Building** towards **Common Positions** for Africa to tap into the opportunities to develop a sustainable Animal Resources Sector



Thank you

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