



THE
AUSTRALIAN
FEDERATION
OF ISLAMIC
COUNCILS

Muslim Council of NSW Inc
Islamic Council of Victoria
Islamic Council of ACT
Islamic Council of Queensland
Islamic Council of
Northern Territory
Islamic Council of
Western Australia
Islamic Council of South Australia
Islamic Council of Tasmania
Islamic Council of
Christmas Islands

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National Islamic Organisation
Representing Australia's
Muslim communities

MEDIA RELEASE

24 February 2006.

Australian Muslims Are Against Animal Cruelty

The President of the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils, Dr Ameer Ali today called on the Australian media not to act irresponsibly in misinforming the Australian public about the real reasons for live exports.

Dr Ameer Ali said that Muslims are primarily concerned to ensure that the animal is slaughtered in accordance with the Islamic Shariah, and that can be done in Australia under the Australian Government supervised Muslim Slaughter Program (AGSMS) and we want the Australian public to know that we do not agree to animal cruelty.

He further said that Muslims in the Middle Eastern countries readily accept frozen and chilled lamb and mutton from Australia, once it is Halal certified under the program. Last year Australian lamb meat exports to the Middle East was up 36% to a record 14,052 Tonnes, and Australian mutton meat export to the Middle East was up 24% in same period to 36,051 Tonnes (ref. Farmonline News 1 Feb 2006). This represents the equivalent of more than 2 million sheep which were slaughtered in Australia for Middle Eastern Muslim customers.

Dr Ali said that the Australian Muslims does not support the cruel treatment of animals prior to slaughter, that has been documented in Egypt as the Qur'an dictates that animals should be treated with kindness.

For further information contact

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