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## 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to present Assaí's position and commitment regarding Animal Welfare, establishing clear and comprehensive guidelines for all links in the product chains, including employees and suppliers.

This Animal Welfare Policy sets out purposes, commitments, pillars of action, and guidelines that ensure compliance with the guidelines, as well as adherence to current legislation related to the egg, pork, broiler chicken, and fish supply chains, along with other relevant sectors.

## 2. SCOPE

This document covers the principles, commitments, and guidelines extended to all Assaí employees, its business units regardless of geographic location, suppliers of fresh and frozen animal-based products, or suppliers that conduct testing on animals during the development and manufacturing stages of products.

## 3. GUIDELINES

### 3.1. General Guidelines

**3.1.1.** Assaí values the opportunity to be a part of the daily lives of millions of Brazilians. For this reason, it actively pursues sustainable development at all stages of its product chain. This concern is not just a choice but a necessity tied to its business vision and corporate responsibility.

**3.1.2.** Animal welfare is recognized by the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) as an essential component of sustainable development, and the United Nations (UN) already considers this issue a critical policy concern within the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

**3.1.3.** One of the main challenges in implementing animal welfare programs is the regulatory gap, specific to each production chain, observed in Brazil. In this context, Assaí collaborates with civil society organizations and suppliers to establish production guidelines that promote the welfare of organisms and respect for living beings, enabling customers to access products produced ethically and responsibly.

**3.1.4.** Animal welfare in the production of animal proteins means not only a more ethical supply chain but also meeting the growing demands of customers and consumers for products sourced from more humane and sustainable production systems.

### **3.2. Specific Guidelines**

#### **3.2.1. Background**

**3.2.1.1.** The topic of animal welfare is being considered at a global level, across different spheres of production chains and has become a significant contributor to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Experts highlight a range of economic, social, environmental, and health opportunities that the enhancement of animal welfare actions can bring to a production system. Despite its importance, the topic is not explicitly mentioned in any of the UN SDGs. In March 2022, the UN officially recognized animal welfare as a political concern for the first time through the UNEP NEXUS Resolution, unanimously adopted by the 193 countries that make up the United Nations Environment Assembly.

**3.2.1.2.** The European Union (EU) is a global leader in this field, with some of the most comprehensive animal welfare standards in the world. The first EU rules on animal protection were established in the 1970s. According to the Eurobarometer, an official tool used by the European Parliament, European Commission, and other European institutions/agencies to monitor public opinion, published in May 2021, animal welfare is considered a relevant issue by 82% of citizens. The United States also has regulations aimed at banning the confinement of animals in certain conditions.

**3.2.1.3.** In Brazil, this issue has been discussed for decades, first addressed in Decree-Law No. 24.645 of July 1934, which establishes measures to protect animals. Currently, there is an increasing public awareness and concern for the topic, as highlighted by the Healthy and Sustainable Living survey (2023) survey conducted by Akatu Institute. Some other initiatives and regulations developed in Brazil that also address animal welfare include:

- Terrestrial Animal Health Code and OIE Animal Health Code: developed by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) to promote animal welfare worldwide, based on guidelines and standards that ensure ethical and humane treatment of animals;
- Normative Ruling No. 03, dated 01/17/2000: Establishes standards and procedures aimed at the stunning of animals and humane slaughter;
- Normative Ruling No. 56, dated 11/06/2008: Defines general procedures for Recommendations of Good Animal Welfare Practices for Production and Economically Important Animals – REBEM;
- STEPS Program (2012) - Humane Slaughter of Cattle, ensuring they are treated ethically and humanely during the slaughter process, reducing suffering and improving animal welfare.
- Decree No. 9.013 dated 03/29/2017: Regulates the industrial and sanitary inspection of animal products, establishing standards and procedures to ensure the quality and safety of these products.
- Normative Ruling No. 113, dated 12/16/2020: Establishes good management and animal welfare practices on commercial pig farms;
- Ordinance No. 365, dated 07/16/2021: This ordinance establishes procedures and requirements for Pre-slaughter Handling and Humane Slaughter.

**3.2.1.4.** In this context, Assaí recognizes the importance of this issue, not only because of its regulatory evolution but also because it understands the maturity of society on this topic.

### **3.2.2. Vision and Positioning**

**3.2.2.1.** By ensuring the welfare of animals and upholding the Animal Welfare Policy, we contribute to improving the health of everyone involved in the animal protein supply chain. Therefore, we strongly repudiate any actions or practices that result in animal mistreatment or suffering at any production stage.

**3.2.2.2.** As a strategy to engage both Assaí employees and its suppliers in meeting these goals and objectives, and to encourage each stakeholder to adopt a stance of continuous improvement, comprehensive guidelines have been established, tailored to each type of production chain.

### 3.2.3. Commitments to Animal Welfare

**3.2.3.1.** Assaí plays a significant role as a link between suppliers and end consumers in the product chain, particularly concerning elements related to animal protein production, safe food supply, traceability, and ensuring animal welfare. For this reason, we are committed to promoting the development of practices throughout the supply chain, aiming to build a more sustainable future.

**3.2.3.2.** Based on this context, we have dedicated efforts to promote the evolution and enhancement of our supply chain, while also striving to improve our customers' awareness of production processes involving animal welfare. We recognize our responsibility and opportunity to offer sustainable products, as well as to support consumers in understanding the reasons behind their choices.

**3.2.3.3.** In order to ensure the implementation of actions focused on guaranteeing animal production that respects the welfare of organisms, Assaí is guided by the guidelines incorporated into current standards and legislation, as well as the five freedoms of animals established by the Farm Animal Welfare Committee (FAWC) and the domains mentioned by *MELLOR et al.*, 2020.

The freedoms described below outline ideal conditions in production, which consist of:

- **Animals free from hunger and thirst:** Ensure an adequate diet, with access to drinking water, enabling good health and vitality for the animal;
- **Animals free from discomfort:** Provide a suitable living environment, including comfortable resting areas and shelter;
- **Animals free from pain, injury and/or disease:** Promote prevention, quick diagnosis, and effective treatment;
- **Animals free to express their normal behavior:** Provide adequate production space, appropriate facilities, and interactions with other animals of the same species;
- **Animals free from fear and distress:** Provide conditions and care that prevent psychological suffering.

**3.2.3.4.** Considering the aforementioned freedoms, Assaí is convinced that the Animal Welfare Policy must be grounded in the principles of operational sustainability, involving holistic health ideals. It must extend beyond organizational boundaries, ensuring the health of the Brazilian population and using effective traceability systems to guarantee respect for life at all stages of production. To achieve this, three main pillars have been defined to support the guidelines to be applied (See [Attachment 5.1](#)).

### **3.2.4. General Recommendations for Animal Product Chains**

**3.2.4.1.** The density of animals in productive areas must be respected, providing freedom of movement and adequate space so that individuals are not exposed to stress-inducing situations, thus avoiding unexpected behaviors, such as fighting, cannibalism, mutilations, and others.

**3.2.4.2.** Biosecurity protocols must be integrated into the health management for production areas.

**3.2.4.3.** When applicable, the air quality in the production system should be controlled and frequently assessed to ensure that concentrations of chemical components, such as ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), carbon monoxide (CO), and others, are within ideal levels for the animals.

**3.2.4.4.** Individuals must have access to a balanced diet and drinking water.

**3.2.4.5.** Surgical interventions should only be performed by qualified professionals, always considering the use of anesthesia and analgesia.

**3.2.4.6.** Animal handling must be conducted by trained professionals, aiming to minimize the risk of stress, pain, bruises, fractures, and other situations that go against the principles of animal welfare.

**3.2.4.7.** It is recommended to eliminate the use of antibiotics for prophylactic purposes in all forms of animal protein production.

**3.2.4.8.** Appropriate health management of animals in the production system should be implemented.

**3.2.4.9.** Traceability techniques must be considered to enable a comprehensive evaluation of the entire life cycle of the animal and the production areas it has been through.

**3.2.4.10.** The production area must include a ventilation system, adequate lighting, a heat source, and necessary shelter for each type of production and different life stages of the animals.

**3.2.4.11.** Environmental enrichment must be considered, providing individuals with entertainment, comfort, and the opportunity to express their instinctive behaviors.

**3.2.4.12.** Marking techniques or adaptations that are considered mutilations must be completely avoided.

**3.2.4.13.** Animal transportation must be carefully planned, considering factors such as container density, travel distance, duration, road quality, climate, and timing. It should be managed by trained personnel who can handle the animals properly and address any issues that may arise.

**3.2.4.14.** Producers must ensure a safe and predator-free production area.

**3.2.4.15.** Ideal methods of stunning for each species must be considered prior to animal slaughter.

### **3.2.5. Egg Production Chain**

**3.2.5.1.** Eggs are a significant source of nutrition and protein worldwide. In Brazil, eggs are a staple in many families' diets, contributing substantially to the country's food and nutritional security. According to the Brazilian Association of Animal Protein (ABPA), in 2022, the per capita consumption of eggs in Brazil was 241 eggs, representing a significant portion of the animal protein consumed in the country. While the majority of eggs produced in Brazil are for the domestic market, a small fraction is exported, supporting international demand for this protein source.

**3.2.5.2.** In Brazil, although there are no specific legal regulations for animal welfare in egg production, producers have been adopting more humane and environmentally friendly

practices. Additionally, there has been a movement toward enhancing transparency in the supply chain through labeling and the pursuit of animal welfare certifications.

**3.2.5.3.** In this context, Assaí is committed to providing free-range egg options, acknowledging the ethical and responsible importance of this production chain. Therefore, we are committed to offering free-range eggs in 100% of our stores by 2025. The categories considered for commercialization are:

- **Cage-free:** A system where eggs are produced by poultry that have the freedom to move around inside a barn, without confinement in cages;
- **Free-range:** In this type of production, eggs come from hens with access to outdoor areas, allowing them to exercise naturally and express their instinctive behaviors;
- **Organic (Free-range):** Organic eggs are produced according to specific organic farming guidelines. In this system, the laying hens are fed exclusively on organic supplements, free from pesticides, and are not treated with antibiotics. Additionally, these hens have access to outdoor environments where they can exhibit natural behaviors.

### **3.2.6. Animal Welfare Guidelines for the Chicken Egg Production Chain**

**3.2.6.1.** Antibiotics should be used only in cases of disease, avoiding unnecessary use;

**3.2.6.2.** Provide an environment that allows hens to express natural behaviors, such as stretching their wings, scratching, and perching, to prevent issues such as cannibalism and/or feather pecking caused by stress;

**3.2.6.3.** Ensure the air quality in production areas is monitored, maintaining optimal concentrations of ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), and carbon monoxide (CO) for the well-being of the hens;

**3.2.6.4.** Forced molting practices that involve food deprivation and compromise the welfare of hens should be avoided;

**3.2.6.5.** In cases where euthanasia is considered, it must be performed by a qualified and trained professional;

**3.2.6.6.** Handling practices such as grabbing hens by their wings, tails, feet, or necks should not be permitted;

**3.2.6.7.** Beak trimming practices should be avoided whenever possible. If deemed necessary, they should only be performed by qualified professionals who are trained in the techniques and care required to minimize negative impacts;

**3.2.6.8.** The use of artificial devices and accessories for the prevention of cannibalism is prohibited;

**3.2.6.9.** Suppliers are encouraged to provide transparency regarding the progress of animal welfare practices outlined in this policy.

### **3.2.7. Pig Production Chain**

**3.2.7.1.** Pig farming has become a significant economic activity in Brazil and has undergone substantial technological advancement in recent years, benefiting from modern and efficient practices at all stages of production. In addition to systemic development, reproductive techniques, and health management, more productive and adapted animals have been achieved through genetic improvement. All this movement and technological progress led to increased productivity, competitiveness, and better welfare conditions for the animals.

**3.2.7.2.** Despite the productive improvements mentioned above, many producers still use conventional methods in pig farming. In this type of production, animals are often kept confined in inadequate spaces that restrict their movement, causing stress and abnormal behaviors in pigs. Additionally, individual gestation crates for housing breeding sows are a method used in conventional farming. The use of crates has faced intense criticism due to their significant impact on animal welfare, and recently, there has been increasing pressure from the sector to adopt housing systems that provide adequate space for freedom of movement and the expression of normal behaviors.

**3.2.7.3.** The welfare of pigs is a crucial aspect of sustainable production, and this issue has gained significant attention in Brazil. The national regulatory framework includes standards for humane slaughter, such as Normative Ruling 3/2000 and Normative Ruling

56/2008, which establish recommendations for good welfare practices for production and economically important animals in production and transportation systems.

**3.2.7.4.** The publication of Normative Ruling No. 113, dated December 16, 2020, which establishes good management and animal welfare practices for commercial pig farming, consolidates the trends already adopted by various Brazilian companies concerning welfare in pig farming. This instruction addresses the issue across many stages of the production chain, providing information on necessary adjustments to facilities, the environment, animal handling methods, and the training of those involved in the chain. According to the Brazilian Association of Animal Protein (ABPA) (2021), this regulation represents another significant regulatory advancement for Brazil. Since 1952, the Regulation of Industrial and Sanitary Inspection of Animal Products has already included industry obligations regarding animal welfare for all species raised for industrial slaughter.

**3.2.7.5.** Pork, due to its versatility and nutritional value, is part of Assaí's product portfolio. For this reason, as a way to enhance transparency, quality, and commitment to animal welfare, Assaí is dedicated to systematically evolving to ensure that its commercial relationships and offered products comply with the animal welfare guidelines addressed in this document, thereby providing customers with products that have sustainable attributes.

### **3.2.8. Animal Welfare Guidelines for the Pig Production Chain**

#### **3.2.8.1. Suppliers must:**

- Implement collective housing systems for sows throughout the production system by 2030;
- Ban ear notching (ear mutilation) by 2030;
- Implement practices to avoid tail docking by 2030. Tail docking will only be tolerated when performed on the last third of the tail and with measures to minimize pain;
- Implement immunocastration or surgical castration with anesthesia and analgesia throughout the production system by 2030, ensuring pain relief and comfort during the procedure;

- Ban teeth clipping of piglets and consider dental reductions only in extremely necessary cases, based on professional advice, and with the use of anesthesia and analgesia, with a deadline for implementation by 2030;
- Adopt enrichment practices in animal housing environments by 2030, enabling individuals to be physically and mentally stimulated to express their natural behaviors. Some examples include toys, foraging substrates, etc.;
- Respect the average weaning age of piglets (24 days) by 2045, ensuring piglets have sufficient time for development and adaptation before being separated from their sows.

**3.2.8.2.** Assaí is committed to ensuring that 90% of the volume sold adheres to the aforementioned practices. For weaned piglets, 80% of the total volume of fresh or frozen pork sold will be considered.

### **3.2.9. Broiler Production Chain**

**3.2.9.1.** Chicken production is a crucial link in agro-industrial chains due to its accessibility as a protein source, which significantly contributes to food security. With low-fat content and high nutritional value, chicken meat has become a frequent choice among consumers. Additionally, its integrated production involves various sectors of the economy, promoting rural development and generating jobs. Its versatility and growing global demand further reinforce its relevance in diet and economy.

**3.2.9.2.** In recent years, the Brazilian poultry sector has witnessed significant advancements in broiler production techniques, enhancing both efficiency and product quality. This modernization has not only solidified the role of chicken meat as a key protein source in the Brazilian domestic market but also strengthened the trade balance in many countries. The robust and efficient production has enabled Brazil to emerge as one of the leading players in the global broiler market. Brazil's importance in this sector is evident when considering the country's substantial share in global exports.

**3.2.9.3.** To ensure a sustainable production chain, it is essential to adopt approaches that emphasize traceability, precision in production processes, and attention to the growing demands for animal welfare. In this context, Assaí acknowledges the need for a systemic approach that connects all links in the chain, from the industry to the end consumer. Such

integration will enable the company to maximize the competitive potential of the chain by considering productive, ethical, sustainable, and animal welfare aspects throughout the entire lifecycle of broiler production, from the hatchery to the processing plant.

### **3.2.10. Animal Welfare Guidelines for the Broiler Chain**

**3.2.10.1** Ensure an environment with efficient lighting and provide a continuous dark period of at least 6 hours per day.

**3.2.10.2** A low-noise environment is recommended for the animal production system to enhance animal welfare and prevent physical damage and mortality resulting from fright.

**3.2.10.3** When elevated flooring is used, producers should ensure it can support the weight of all individuals, providing security and preventing potential injuries from movement.

**3.2.10.4** It is encouraged that the grabbing, loading, transportation, and waiting stages before slaughter are conducted in a way that ensures the poultries do not experience fear, stress, injuries, or even risk of death.

**3.2.10.5** The pre-slaughter fasting period should be less than 12 hours, and the waiting environment in meat packing plants should be climate-controlled.

**3.2.10.6** Poultry with health issues, fractures, or injuries that compromise their welfare should not be transported.

### **3.2.11. Fish Production Chain (Aquaculture)**

**3.2.11.1** In Brazil, aquaculture is an activity that has gained significant prominence due to the vast potential for expanding this practice across the country's extensive water resources. Beyond fish, aquaculture includes the production of other diverse aquatic organisms. This includes the cultivation of crustaceans, mollusks, algae, and aquatic plants, which are used for human consumption as well as other purposes, such as in the pharmaceutical industry. The wide range of items that can be produced through aquaculture further supports the diversification of plant-based and animal-based proteins available in the market.

**3.2.11.2** Brazilian fish farming is highly recognized in international markets, achieving the status of the fourth-largest producer of tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) in the world. According to the Fisheries Institute (Ministry of Agriculture), tilapia accounted for about

64% of the fish produced in Brazilian fish farming in 2022, followed by tambaqui (*Colossoma macropomum*) with 31%, with the remaining 5% composed of other species. Additionally, there was a 28% increase in fish production in 2022 compared to the results obtained in 2021, achieving a revenue of US\$23.8 million during the period.

**3.2.11.3** As a regulatory measure, in Brazil, Ordinance No. 365, dated July 16, 2021, approves the Technical Regulation for Pre-Slaughter and Humane Slaughter Handling and the methods of stunning authorized by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Supply. However, the document only addresses techniques aimed at the production of amphibians and reptiles, and does not address information applicable to other aquatic production options.

**3.2.11.4** In fish farming (fish production), the risk of organisms suffering mistreatment due to inadequate handling or even the use of inappropriate production techniques is high. Situations such as overcrowding in tanks/cages, lack of water quality control, and inadequate feeding are some factors that can cause discomfort, damage to health, and other impacts on the animals. In general, these previously mentioned events go against the animal welfare principles recommended for fish farming and should be avoided as much as possible to achieve sustainable and ethical production. In this context, it is essential for fish farming to maintain a solid commitment to animal welfare, ensuring sustainable and ethical production practices that promote proper care of the animals throughout the entire production process.

### **3.2.12. Animal Welfare Guidelines for the Fish Production Chain**

- Standardized controls should be implemented in fish production areas for dissolved oxygen, pH, temperature, turbidity or transparency, salinity, and nitrate levels, once a day, with ammonia levels monitored three times a week, according to the needs of each cultivated species;
- Control of possible chemical contaminants in the production area is recommended;
- Attention is recommended regarding the time fish are exposed outside of the aquatic environment during handling or harvesting;

- Methods for slaughtering fish should follow the guidelines of the World Organization for Animal Health in its Aquatic Animal Health Code (2010), ensuring that animals are stunned before slaughter.

### **3.2.13. Chain Engagement (Internal and External)**

Assaí values transparent management, and to achieve this goal, it is essential to clearly communicate the company's guidelines to all links in the product chains. Our extensive reach requires a range of internal and external processes to engage and raise awareness among stakeholders.

#### **3.2.13.1. Internal Engagement**

Assaí is committed to engaging and regularly training all employees involved in the procurement of animal proteins on the procedures outlined in this policy and the evolution of these processes.

#### **3.2.13.2. External Engagement**

Advancing animal welfare practices requires active, coordinated efforts among all involved stakeholders, including the company itself, suppliers, civil society, producer representatives, competitors, governments, and customers.

To comply with this Policy, Assaí aims to:

- i. Strengthen multisectoral alignment in forums relevant to the supply chain, fostering the adoption of collaborative and synergistic practices in advancing animal welfare;
- ii. Evolve actions, commitments, and best practices within the supply chain, supporting and collaborating with different network initiatives;
- iii. Contribute to initiatives that promote transparency of metrics, practices, and scientific information related to the topic.

### **3.2.14. Supplier Duties and Responsibilities**

- All suppliers of fresh or frozen animal protein must adhere to this Animal Welfare Policy and comply with the guidelines established therein;
- Share progress data related to each of the guidelines defined here on a regular basis;
- Engage with the topic and provide training to their employees involved in the supply chain.

### **3.2.15. Handling non-compliant Suppliers**

**3.2.15.1** Assaí aims to develop and support its potential suppliers, regardless of their size, to help them meet the requirements of the Policy, ensuring positive progress in industry practices.

**3.2.15.2** If a supplier fails to demonstrate progress in adhering to the guidelines of this policy, educational, corrective, and/or punitive measures may be implemented, which could include partial or total suspension of the commercial relationship.

**3.2.15.3** Assaí will provide guidance to help suppliers comply and, if necessary, reintegrate into the supply chain.

### **3.2.16. Monitoring Process**

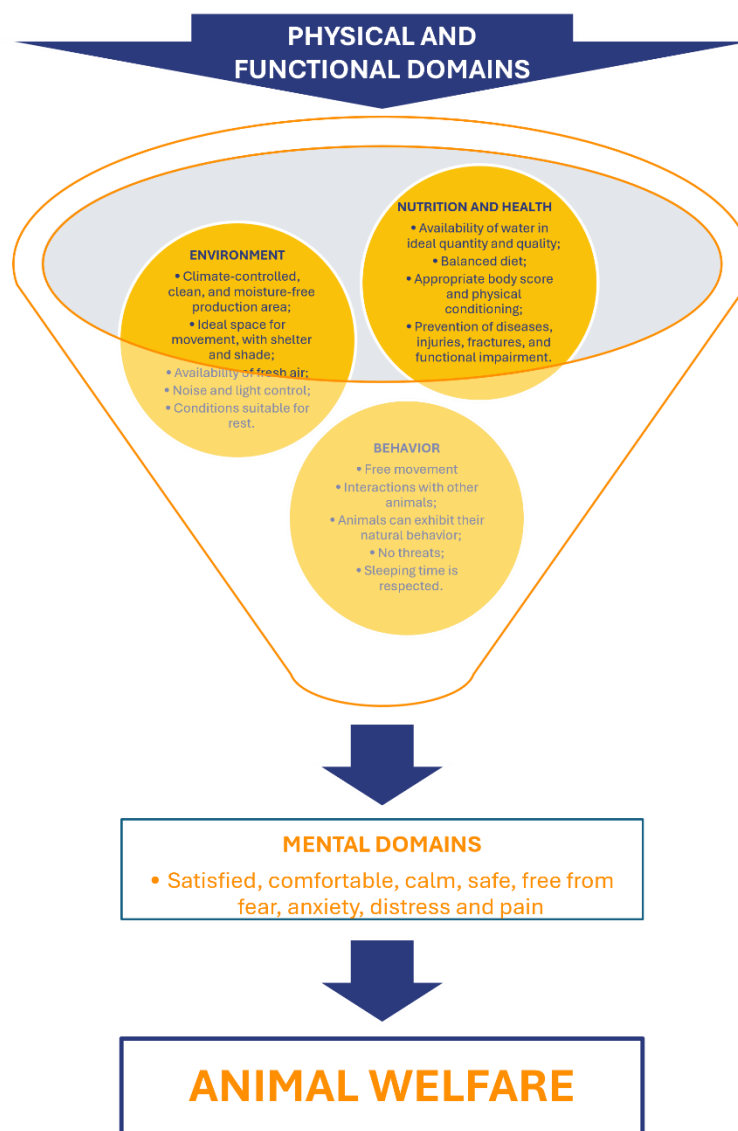
Assaí develops quantitative and qualitative *Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)* to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the commitments outlined in the Animal Welfare Policy. These KPIs aim to compare performance among suppliers, thereby recognizing those with the highest standards. The KPIs are:

- % of PLU produced in compliance with the guidelines established in this policy;
- % of suppliers who are signatories to Assaí's Animal Welfare Policy;
- % of suppliers in compliance with the guidelines established in this policy;
- % of progress made by suppliers toward each commitment.

## **4. PENALTIES**

Internal disciplinary measures for non-compliance.

## 5. ATTACHMENTS



5.1. Figure 1. Physical and functional domains that ensure animal welfare, according to Mellor *et al.*, 2020.

## 6. REFERENCES

6.1. MELLOR, D. J.; BEAUSOLEIL, N. J.; LITTLEWOOD, K. E.; MCLEAN, A. N.; MCGREEVY, P. D.; JONES, B.; WILKINGS, C. *The 2020 Five Domains Model: Including Human–Animal Interactions in Assessments of Animal Welfare*. *Animals* 2020, 10, 1870; doi:10.3390/ani10101870.

### 7. DEFINITIONS

**7.1 Humane Slaughter:** A method of slaughtering animals ensuring minimum welfare conditions and minimizing the animal's suffering during the slaughter process.

**7.2 Ammonia:** A toxic gas produced by the decomposition of organic matter that, at inappropriate concentrations, can affect the health of animals and workers.

**7.3 Analgesia:** The administration of medications to relieve pain.

**7.4 Anesthesia:** The induction of a reversible state of unconsciousness in the animal, ensuring no pain occurs during surgical procedures.

**7.5 Antimicrobial:** Medication used to prevent or treat bacterial infections.

**7.6 Aquaculture:** The practice of breeding and cultivating organisms in controlled aquatic environments, such as fish, crustaceans, etc.

**7.7 Regulatory framework:** A set of laws, regulations, and standards that govern a certain territorial area.

**7.8 Production area/production system:** The physical space where animal production takes place.

**7.9 Brazilian Animal Protein Association (ABPA):** An organization representing the interests of the animal protein production sector in Brazil.

**7.10 Pecking:** The act of pecking or pinching, observed in poultries.

**7.11 Biosecurity/sanitary control:** Rules and measures adopted to prevent the entry and spread of infectious agents in an animal production system.

**7.12 Product chain/production chain/supply chain:** A sequence of interconnected activities involved in production, from origin to final product.

**7.13 Natural behavior/instinctive behaviors:** Characteristic behaviors that a given species exhibits in its natural conditions of life, without any physical or genetic influences.

**7.14 Functional impairment:** When the function of an organ or system in the animal's body is affected, preventing its regular functioning.

**7.15 Physical conditioning:** The physical capability and endurance of animals.

**7.16 Cannibalism:** Behavior in which an animal feeds on other individuals of the same species.

**7.17 Scratching:** Common behavior in poultries involving the act of scratching the ground with their beak and/or feet in search of food.

**7.18 Per capita consumption:** The average consumption of a given product per member of a population over a specific period.

**7.19 Cultivation:** The practice of raising or breeding animals for commercial purposes.

**7.20 Beak trimming:** Removing part of a poultry's beak to prevent animals from pecking at each other.

**7.21 Teeth trimming:** A procedure where an animals' teeth are reduced, in order to avoid injuries or wounds caused by biting other individuals.

**7.22 Weaning:** The gradual process of removing a mammal from breastfeeding.

**7.23 Harvesting:** The removal of fish from a body of water, whether in natural environments or cultivation areas.

**7.24 Balanced diet:** A diet that contains all the necessary nutrients for an animal's development and health maintenance.

**7.25 Guidelines:** Instructions or guidelines that guide the necessary actions to comply with all defined rules.

**7.26 Perching:** The act of a bird climbing or landing on a physical barrier.

**7.27 Environmental enrichment:** The inclusion of elements that stimulate natural behaviors and promote animal welfare in production environments.

**7.28 Ethics:** A set of principles and standards that guide an individual's behavior regarding what is considered right or wrong.

**7.29 Eurobarometer:** An official tool used by the European Union to monitor public opinion.

**7.30 Euthanasia:** The practice of intentionally ending an animal's life in a quick and painless manner.

**7.31 Farm Animal Welfare Committee (FAWC):** A body that advises the British government on issues related to the welfare of farm animals.

**7.32 FAO:** A United Nations organization dedicated to fighting hunger and poverty by improving food security and agricultural development.

**7.33 Foraging:** The act of searching and exploring for food resources.

**7.34 Immunocastration:** A technological alternative that involves inhibiting testicular function in an animal by actively immunizing it against reproductive hormones.

**7.35 Surgical interventions:** Procedures performed by veterinarians that involve cutting or suturing tissues to treat injuries, diseases, or deformities.

**7.36 Stunning:** The induction of a state where the animal loses sensitivity to pain before slaughter.

**7.37 Piglets:** Young offspring of pigs.

**7.38 Handling:** Practices of handling and caring for animals in a farming or cultivation setting.

**7.39 Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply:** Government body responsible for policies related to agriculture, livestock and supply in Brazil.

**7.40 Ear notching:** Injury or marking on the ears of pigs used for animal identification.

**7.41 Forced molting:** Inducing changes in the poultries' plumage through manipulation of light and temperature.

**7.42 Mutilation:** Intentional removal or alteration of part of an animal's body in a production system, usually without medical purposes.

**7.43 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** Global goals established by the United Nations (UN) to promote sustainable development in many areas.

**7.44 United Nations (UN):** An international organization founded to promote cooperation between countries on issues, such as peace, security, human rights, economic and social development, and others.

**7.45 Dissolved oxygen:** The amount of oxygen present in the water.

**7.46 Raised floor:** An elevated structure, usually made of interlocking modular panels, that creates a space between the floor and the subfloor inside livestock facilities, providing a more comfortable and cleaner environment for the animals, as well as facilitating cleaning.

**7.47 Player:** An individual, company, or entity that participates in a particular activity or market.

**7.48 PLU:** Refers to the acronym for "*Price Look-Up*," a numerical identification code used for pricing products.

**7.49 Pre-slaughter:** The phase that precedes the slaughter of animals.

**7.50 Fresh products:** Foods in their natural structure that have not undergone processing or preservation methods, retaining all their nutritional properties and original flavor.

**7.51 Prophylaxis:** A set of preventive measures adopted to prevent or mitigate diseases.

**7.52 United Nations Environment Program (UNEP):** A program responsible for promoting environmental conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources.

**7.53 Traceability:** The act of tracking the origin and history of a product throughout the entire production and distribution chain.

**7.54 Nexus resolution:** An integrated approach that seeks to understand the connection between animal welfare, sustainable development, and the environment.

**7.55 Salinity:** The concentration of dissolved salts in an aquatic environment.

**7.56 Body score:** A system of subjective and semi-quantitative assessment of body condition, used to monitor an animal's health and nutritional status.

**7.57 Stakeholder:** A party or entity interested in or affected by the activities or decisions of a company or organization.

**7.58 Pig farming:** The practice of raising pigs for the production of meat and derivatives.

**7.59 Sustainability:** The principle of using natural resources without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

**7.60 Water transparency:** The ability of light to penetrate a water body.

**7.61 Turbidity:** The degree to which water resists the passage of light, influenced by the presence of suspended particles.

## 8. REVISIONS AND APPROVALS

Internal record of revisions.