

International Organization for Animal Protection



Organizzazione Internazionale per la Protezione degli Animali - ETS

NGO associated with the UN Department of Global Communications (DGC)

UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Accredited at UN Environment Assembly (UNEA)

Accredited in the Register of Representatives of Interest of the European Commission

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Urgent Request for Clarification and Intervention Concerning the Reported Relocation of Free-Roaming Dogs in Mansoura, Dakahlia Governorate

To the attention of:

Governorate of Dakahlia

Directorate of Veterinary Medicine – Dakahlia

General Organization for Veterinary Services (GOVS)

Dear Sir/Madam,

OIPA ETS is writing to express its serious concern regarding recent reports and visual documentation concerning the alleged relocation of free-roaming dogs from urban areas of **Mansoura, Dakahlia Governorate**, to an open and undeveloped area along the Gamasa–Qalabsho Road.

OIPA – International Organization for Animal Protection is an international non-governmental organization dedicated to animal protection and the promotion of animal welfare worldwide. The organization is associated with the United Nations Department of Global Communications (DGC), holds consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), is accredited to the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), and is registered in the Transparency Register of the European Union.

The case is generating growing concern beyond the local context, as information, photographs and videos concerning the situation are being brought to the attention of animal-welfare advocates and networks at international level. Given the seriousness of the allegations and the apparent ongoing nature of the situation, OIPA considers it essential that the circumstances be clarified promptly and transparently by the competent authorities.

Between **17 and 19 August 2026**, photographs, videos, public reports and locally sourced documentation were collected concerning dogs reportedly transported from urban areas and released in this location.

The material reviewed by OIPA depicts dogs in open and sparsely sheltered terrain, including sandy and rubble-covered areas, with apparently limited access to adequate shade and shelter. Some of the material also depicts or reports dogs found dead following the reported relocation.

At this stage, OIPA does not intend to attribute responsibility to any particular authority, institution or contractor before the circumstances have been officially clarified. Similarly, the available photographic and video material alone cannot establish the precise medical cause of death of the animals concerned.

However, the **seriousness of the documentation received**, together with the possibility that further animals may currently remain in these areas, requires urgent clarification and, where necessary, immediate intervention.

OIPA therefore respectfully requests the competent authorities to clarify:

1. Whether operations to capture and relocate free-roaming dogs from Mansoura to the Gamasa–Qalabsho area have recently been authorized or carried out.
2. Which authority, institution, municipality, contractor or other entity ordered, supervised and implemented such operations.

3. The number of dogs captured, transported and released, the dates on which the operations took place and the precise locations to which the animals were taken.
4. Whether veterinary professionals were involved before or during the operations and whether the animals were examined, identified, vaccinated and/or sterilized prior to relocation.
5. What measures were put in place to guarantee continuous access to drinking water, food, adequate shade and shelter, veterinary assistance and post-relocation monitoring.
6. Whether the competent authorities are aware of animals subsequently found dead or in distress in the affected area and whether any veterinary examinations or post-mortem investigations have been conducted to determine the causes of death.
7. On what legal, veterinary and administrative basis the relocation of the animals was carried out.

OIPA is particularly concerned about the compatibility of **any relocation to an open, undeveloped area without adequate welfare provisions with Egypt's publicly announced approach to the scientific and humane management of free-roaming dog populations**, including vaccination, sterilization, rabies prevention and organized population management.

This is particularly relevant in Dakahlia Governorate, where initiatives aimed at the vaccination and sterilization of free-roaming dogs have recently been publicly announced.

Should the reported relocation practices be confirmed, OIPA respectfully urges the competent authorities to:

- **immediately suspend any further transfer or release of dogs into areas where continuous access to water, food, shade, shelter, veterinary supervision and monitoring cannot be guaranteed;**
- conduct an **urgent inspection of the identified Gamasa–Qalabsho area** and other locations where animals may have been released;
- provide immediate assistance, including water, food, shade and veterinary care, to any dogs still present and in need;
- ensure that animals found in dangerous or unsuitable conditions are transferred to appropriate and properly managed locations;
- investigate any reported deaths and establish, wherever possible, their circumstances and causes;
- ensure that future dog-population management measures are based on humane, science-based methods, including vaccination, sterilization, veterinary monitoring and responsible population management.

OIPA recognizes the complex public-health, animal-welfare and community considerations involved in managing free-roaming dog populations. For precisely this reason, measures adopted in response to these challenges must protect both communities and animals and remain consistent with veterinary science, rabies-control objectives and animal-welfare principles.

The growing international attention surrounding this case makes a prompt and transparent institutional response particularly important. OIPA will continue to closely follow developments and, where appropriate, bring the matter to the attention of relevant international institutions and competent bodies.

We would therefore be grateful to receive an official response clarifying the circumstances described above and informing OIPA any measures already taken or planned by the competent authorities.

OIPA remains available for constructive dialogue and cooperation in support of humane, sustainable and science-based solutions for the management of free-roaming dogs.

Given the potential ongoing risk to the animals concerned, we respectfully ask that this matter be treated as **urgent**.

Thank you in advance for your attention and prompt response.

Yours sincerely,

Massimo Pradella
President OIPA ETS

Massimo Pradella

