

# International Organization for Animal Protection



**Organizzazione Internazionale per la Protezione degli Animali - Onlus**

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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Milan, 29th December 2022

To the kind attention of:

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Mr. Louis Ng

MP for Nee Soon GRC

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Dear Representatives of Government of Singapore,

## **Episode of animal cruelty perpetrated against a community cat in Singapore**

OIPA – International Organization for Animal Protection – is a non-governmental and no-profit organization based in Italy that operates worldwide in defence of animal rights, and protecting animals from cruelty, abuse and exploitation, as well as in the field of environmental protection. Our organization is member accredited at the United Nations Department of Global Communications (DGC), the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA) and the UN Environment Program (UNEP). We actively support the change towards a world cruelty free because animals are sentient beings and do not deserve to suffer.

We express our deep concern regarding a recent episode of animal cruelty happened in Singapore.

On 14 December 2022, a community cat was brutally thrown down from the 22nd floor of a building at Blk 186 Boon Lay Avenue by a young boy (between 10-15 years old). The footage released to the public has clearly evidenced an act of extreme cruelty. The boy lured the cat from the 1st floor and took the animal into the lift up to the 22nd floor. Thereafter, the perpetrator carried the cat and tossed it off the corridor ledge next to the lift. The animal faced a terrible death and did not survive.

There is no excuse for animal cruelty, no matter the age of the perpetrator. Animals deserve to be treated with respect and kindness, and those who abuse or cause them suffering and death must be held accountable for their actions.

OIPA demands justice for the cat named Panther and supports animal lovers in Singapore urging the Authorities involved, Animal & Veterinary Service (AVS) and Singapore Police Force (SPF), to investigate.

We call on the relevant Authorities to **enforce the Animal and Birds Act 1965** tightening laws on animal cruelty, and we hope that this act will be punished.

A person commits animal cruelty if:

- causes or allows any unnecessary physical or psychological pain or suffering to any animal by beating, kicking, torturing, ill-treating or terrifying the animal;
- makes a sick or unfit animal work; or
- is involved in any business or incident related to animal fighting (e.g. dogfighting or cockfighting).

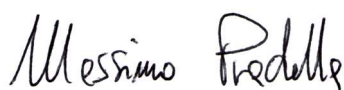
Any person found guilty of animal cruelty faces a fine of up to \$15,000, and/or imprisonment for up to 18 months. In the case of subsequent offences, the offender faces a fine of up to \$30,000 and/or imprisonment of up to 3 years.

Parents should teach their children respect and compassion towards all other living beings and not justify cruelty towards what they consider "just an animal". Many research findings have actually demonstrated the direct link existing between acts of Cruelty to Animals and violence toward humans. If a minor is already capable of such an act, he will be likely to cause pain and suffering to his human fellows in the future.

We trust that you will give this matter your urgent attention and we remain available to discuss with your team further.

Sincerely,

Massimo Pradella  
OIPA – Chairman



Valentina Bagnato  
OIPA – Head International Relations Office

