



THE HON SIMON CREAM MP
Minister for Trade

Mr Stephen Lee / Ms Nichola Donovan
Chairman / Secretary
NSW Young Lawyers Animal Law Committee / Lawyers for Animals Inc
Kindness House
18/288 Brunswick Street
FITZROY VIC 3065

13 MAY 2009

Dear Mr Lee and Ms Donovan

Thank you for your letter dated 13 February 2009 regarding the import and export of fur products.

Your letter raises a number of relevant issues regarding the trade in fur and fur products. I have taken note of your proposal for an import and export ban in the context of Australia's international trade commitments.

I acknowledge your concerns about the trade in fur and fur products but stress that the Australian Government has a general commitment to addressing such issues in the least trade restrictive manner. Australia aims to work cooperatively with our trading partners to improve animal welfare in line with internationally agreed guidelines developed by the World Organisation for Animal Health. The animal welfare projects that Australia undertakes with our key trading partners exemplify how conditions for animals can be improved without the need for trade restrictive measures.

I am forwarding a copy of your letter and of my reply to my colleague Mr Burke, the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, for his information.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Simon Cream', written over a horizontal line.

SIMON CREAM



THE HON SIMON CREAM MP
Minister for Trade

13 MAY 2009

The Hon Tony Burke MP
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister 

I attach for your information a copy of a joint letter from the NSW Young Lawyers Animal Law Committee and Lawyers for Animals Inc, and of my reply, concerning a proposal to ban the import and export of fur and fur products produced in contravention of minimum animal welfare standards.

Yours sincerely



SIMON CREAM