

World Farmed Animal Day: 2nd October 2019

Some 60 000 sheep are loaded onto the Al Shuwaikh for a 3 week nightmare journey to slaughter



Tens of thousands of South African sheep are being sent on a journey of unspeakable suffering – a journey of three weeks across the Indian Ocean to Kuwait, for slaughter.

On Sunday, 15 September 2019, while the livestock carrier **Al Shuwaikh** was still making its way down the east coast of Africa heading for our port of East London, the documentary programme **Carte Blanche** showed footage of long distance transport to slaughter - thousands of sheep crammed into pens, knee deep in their own urine, unable to breathe properly, in excruciating suffering. Presenter **Derek Watts** said some footage was so extreme that it could not be shown, including ewes aborting their lambs because of stress and sheep drowning in their own waste.

During the programme, Marcelle Meredith, chief executive of the NSPCA, vowed to take the South African government to court if it gave the go-ahead to the live export trade in South African animals to the Middle East for slaughter. According to Carte Blanche, Australia has banned the transport of its sheep to the Middle East between June and

September after losing 2400 who died of heat stress. In view of this loss of business, the owners of the Al Shuwaikh livestock carrier turned to South Africa to fill the gap – signing up for the export of millions of South African sheep, goats and cattle over the next five years. Farmer Bruce Page is alleged to be the facilitator responsible for providing the animals. He allegedly told Carte Blanche that he sourced the animals from emerging farmers.

At 2pm on October 2, the Port Authority in East London confirmed to Animal Voice that the loading of the sheep was in progress and the departure of the Al Shuwaikh was expected overnight or the next day.

Let us give our support to the NSPCA by signing its petition to stop this appalling trade [signing the petition](#)

