



**World Society for the Protection of Animals**

14<sup>th</sup> February 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Jumeriah Star Animal Care (K9 Friends Dubai)

Dear Sirs

The World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) is an international federation of animal welfare societies with its headquarters in London UK, and with 13 other offices worldwide. WSPA is the largest federation of animal welfare groups in the world and is represented by most of the major animal welfare organisations around the world. WSPA works through nearly 500 Member Societies in 128 different countries and has consultative status with the United Nations and the Council of Europe and works in conjunction with the World Health Organisation with its humane stray animal control programmes.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to one of WSPA's Member Societies – Jumeriah Star Animal Care (K9 Friends – Dubai). K9 Friends was one of the first Member Societies in the Middle Eastern region and is performing an invaluable service in an area where animal welfare is still embryonic and developing. K9 Friends worked tirelessly with WSPA several years ago to persuade the government of Dubai to abandon inhumane methods of stray dog control, which often involved shooting, or the use of poison. Currently K9 Friends is still working closely with the Municipal authorities in Dubai to help rehome unwanted animals and to provide humane educational advice to the authorities and general public.

It is with great sadness that we have recently learned that K9 Friends have been instructed to vacate the premises which they currently occupy, caring for up to 80 dogs. The premises have been managed and maintained at very high standards and are a credit to the group of volunteers which have given up their own time to provide care for the unwanted dogs in Dubai.

I have no hesitation in providing a reference for the reliability and honesty of K9 Friends. I would also strongly encourage any organisation, commercial enterprise, or private individual who might be considering the provision of land and/or property to lease or donate to this organisation for this valued and important service.

If you should require any further information, do please contact me at the address below, or by e-mail: [trevorwheeler@wspa.org.uk](mailto:trevorwheeler@wspa.org.uk) or telephone: +44-207-587-5000

Yours sincerely

*Trevor P Wheeler*

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