

Dear Dr Hassan,

Beirut Public Slaughterhouse in Karantina is not fit for purpose. It must be closed down until it can be fully renovated and its staff properly trained.

I have just seen the results of an investigation recently carried out by Compassion in World Farming at Beirut Public Slaughterhouse in Karantina. The suffering that was witnessed is extremely distressing and I am writing to you to urge you to take immediate action to stop this suffering.

Compassion's investigation found serious breaches of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) recommendations on the welfare of animals at slaughter. The slaughterhouse is simply not fit for purpose and this is made far worse by the extremely violent and aggressive handling of the animals that are slaughtered there.

As Lebanon is a member of the OIE I am shocked and saddened to see that the Lebanese government is allowing a slaughterhouse to operate to such poor standards. The resulting suffering of many animals is unacceptable.

I urge you to take immediate and effective action to close Beirut Public Slaughterhouse until such a time that it has been renovated and its staff trained to meet, at the very least, the recommendations set down by the OIE.

Yours sincerely,

[Your name]