Linji Gwida għall-Utent

1. Liġi Sussidjarja S.L. 439.20 tistabbilixxi r-regoli dwar l-użu ta' annimali għal skopijiet xjentifiċi u edukattivi f'Malta. Din il-liġi tistabbilixxi dispożizzjonijiet għal ċerti miżuri, b'mod partikolari li l-annimali jistgħu jintużaw biss għal skopijiet xjentifiċi meta ma teżistix alternattiva mhux ta' annimali, li l-proġetti jeħtieġu awtorizzazzjoni mill-awtorità kompetenti u li kull stabbiliment irid jappunta: veterinarju designat; korp għall-kura tal-annimali u staff kompetenti fil-kura tal-annimali.

2. Din il-Liġi Sussidjarja hija prinċipalment immirata lejn l-użu ta' annimali għal skopijiet xjentifiċi jew edukattivi, jiġifieri f'laboratorji jew faċilitajiet ta' riċerka xjentifika. Dawn japplikaw fejn l-annimali jintużaw jew maħsuba biex jintużaw f'proċeduri, jew jiġu mrobbija speċifikament sabiex l-organi jew it-tessuti tagħhom jintużaw għal skop xjentifiku.

3. Il-Liġi Sussidjarja 439.20 tittrasponi d-Direttiva tal-Kummissjoni 2010/63/UE dwar il-protezzjoni tal-annimali użati għal skopijiet xjentifiċi.

4. L-emendi għal S.L. 439.20 qed jiġu proposti biex jiġi żgurat li l-Liġi Sussidjarja tiġi aġġornata bir-rekwiżiti tekniċi għad-Direttiva 2010/63/UE kif tinsab fid-Direttiva Delegata tal-Kummissjoni (UE) 2024/1262 tat-13 ta' Marzu 2024 li tbiddel id-Direttiva 2010/63/UE tal-Parlament Ewropew u tal-Kunsill rigward ir-rekwiżiti għall-istabbilimenti u għall-kura u l-akkomodazzjoni tal-annimali, u rigward il-metodi ta' qtil tal-annimali.

5. Dawn ir-regolamenti għandhom jadattaw l-Anness III tas-S.L. 439.20 flimkien mal-Anness III tad-Direttiva dwar ir-rekwiżiti ta' akkomodazzjoni u kura u l-Anness IV dwar il-metodi ta' qtil biex jinkludu standards għal speċi li bħalissa mhumiex koperti mill-Annessi, iżda taħt il-qasam tad-Direttiva.

6. Id-Direttorat responsabbli għat-Trattament Xieraq tal-Annimali huwa l-uffiċċju kompetenti responsabbli għar-regolamentazzjoni tal-protezzjoni tal-annimali li jaqgħu taħt dawn ir-regolamenti. Il-partijiet interessati u l-pubbliku ġenerali jistgħu jikkomunikaw mad-Direttorat fuq 22924135.

7. Id-Direttorat responsabbli għat-Trattament Xieraq tal-Annimali

Dettalji ta' Kuntatt:
Indirizz: Direttorat għat- Trattemnt Xieraq tal-Annimali, Qormi Road, Ħal Luqa LQA 9061
T: 22924135 | E: animalwelfare.mafa@gov.mt

***Disclaimer*: Dan id-dokument huwa informattiv biss u ma jissostitwixxix l-obbligi legali imposti mill-leġiżlazzjoni. Kull diskrepanza bejn din in-nota u n-Avviż Legali ppubblikata ma teżenta lil ħadd milli jikkonforma mal-liġi kif ippubblikata fil-Gazzetta tal-Gvern.**

No. 2041

MINISTRY FOR AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND ANIMAL RIGHTS

Explanatory Notes
(for the purposes of article 3(2)(c) of Chapter 512 of the Laws of Malta)

1. Introduction

Title of the Legal Notice	Protection of Animals Used for Scientific Purposes (Amendment No. 2) Regulations, 2025 hereinafter referred to as the "regulations"
Activity to be regulated	Animals being kept and used for scientific purposes
Responsible entity	Directorate for Animal Welfare

2. Summary and background

2.1 Aims & Objectives of the legislation

The objective of these regulations to lay down the minimum standards for the protection of animals used for scientific purposes in Malta.

The aim of these amendments is to amend Annexes III and IV to the Protection of Animals Used for Scientific Purposes Regulations (S.L. 439.20) (hereinafter referred to as the "principal regulations").

By way of the transposition of the Commission Delegated Directive (EU) 2024/1262 of 13 March 2024 amending Directive 2010/63/EU of the European Parliament and the Council as regards the requirements for establishments and for the care and accommodation of animals, and as regards the methods of killing animals, the amendments seek to update the principal regulations up to speed with the new provisions introduced by the said Directive.

2.2 Public Consultation

No public consultation was needed.

3. Overview of the structure of the instrument

The regulations are made up of three (3) regulations and consist of the following:

1. Citation.

2. Amends Annex III to the principal regulations.

3. Amends Annex IV to the principal regulations.

4. Commentary

Regulation 2: Amends Annex III, adding and amending various sections related to, among others, accepted noises for different animal types, enclosure sizes, and water quality and supplies.

Regulation 3: Amends Annex IV, among others substituting the requisite sections related to accepted manners of killing animals.

5. Concluding Sections

The publication of these regulations is required to further improve the way animals kept and used for scientific purposes by modernising the law in line with the most recent European Union legislation.

Contact Details:
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T: 22924135 | E: animalwelfare.mafa@gov.mt

N.B. These Explanatory Notes are not intended to be an exhaustive description of the instrument nor a substitute thereof or a legislative supplement to it. These Explanatory Notes do not purport to be an authoritative ruling on the interpretation of the legislation.

Annex
Transposition Notes

COMMISSION DELEGATED DIRECTIVE(EU) 2024/1262 of 13 March 2024 amending Directive 2010/63/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the requirements for establishments and for the care and accommodation of animals, and as regards the methods of killing animals	**Protection of Animals Used for Scientific Purposes (Amendment No.2) Regulations, 2025)**
Article 1	Regulation 1
ANNEX	Regulations 2, 3

26th December, 2025

User Guidelines

1. Subsidiary Legislation S.L. 439.20 establishes the rules on the use of animals for scientific and educational purposes in Malta. It lays down provisions for certain measures notably that animals may only be used for scientific purposes when no non-animal alternative exists, that projects require authorisation from the competent authority and that each establishment must appoint: a designated veterinarian; an animal-welfare body and competent animal-care staff.

2. This Subsidiary Legislation is mainly targeted to the use of animals for scientific or educational purpose i.e. in laboratories or scientific research facilities. They apply where animals are used or intended to be used in procedures, or bred specifically so that their organs or tissues may be used for scientific purpose

3. Subsidiary Legislation 439.20 also transposes Commission Directive 2010/63/EU on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes.

4. The amendments to S.L. 439.20 are being proposed to ensure that it is updated with the technical requirements to Directive 2010/63/EU as contained in Commission Delegated Directive (EU) 2024/1262 of 13 March 2024 amending Directive 2010/63/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the requirements for establishments and for the care and accommodation of animals, and as regards the methods of killing animals.

5. These regulations shall adapt Annex III of S.L. 439.20 with Annex III of the Directive on the accommodation and care requirements and Annex IV on the killing methods to include standards for species currently not covered by the Annexes but within the scope of the Directive.

6. The Directorate responsible for Animal Welfare is the competent office responsible for regulating the protection of animals falling within the scope of these regulations. Stakeholders and the general public may communicate with the Directorate on 22924135.

7. The Directorate responsible for Animal Welfare

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***Disclaimer*: This document is informative only and does not substitute the legal obligations imposed by the legislation. Any discrepancies between this note and the published Legal Notice do not exempt any person from complying with the law as published in the Government Gazette.**