

# Foundation Baku Animal Rescue Society



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## Policy Plan 2019 - 2024

The foundation Baku Animal Rescue Society (BARS) was established on the 18th of March, 2019 in Amsterdam. The main goal of the foundation is to relocate rescued dogs and cats from Azerbaijan to the Netherlands and find them loving families.

The foundation BARS has a dog shelter in Baku, Azerbaijan which currently hosts more than 120 rescued dogs. Rescued cats are being fostered by our volunteers at home. Actively rescuing stray neglected animals of Azerbaijan from 2012, we are now determined to engage animal lovers from the Netherlands in our noble mission.

Our vision is of a caring world where all animals are respected and treated with compassion. Our purpose is to end cruelty and promote kindness to animals and to alleviate their suffering.

### **The objects of the Foundation are to:**

- a. set up projects, organise charity and fundraising events, launch campaigns and find sponsors and volunteers to promote the welfare and health of animals;
- b. improve the living conditions of neglected and abused animals and to protect these animals;
- c. find housing and arrange for adoption of animals from Azerbaijan to the Netherlands and other countries in Europe;
- d. provide information in order to create awareness for the necessity of protecting animals and promoting their welfare and health, among other things by informing institutions, organisations and initiatives as well as (potential) supporters of the Foundation, about its activities and their underlying necessity;

e. perform everything that is directly or indirectly related to the foregoing or that may be conducive thereto, all in the broadest sense of the word.

Net proceeds from fundraising accrue to the Foundation for the benefit of (further) promotion of the welfare and health of animals.

The Foundation does not pursue profit with its public benefit activities.

## **The Board.**

The board consists of the following persons:

- Leyla Akhundova (Chairman)
- Aydin Azizov (Secretary)
- Nata Babaju (Treasurer)

The Board consists of at least three Board members. Board members acting jointly are authorised to represent the Foundation.

The Board may appoint officers with general or limited power to represent the Foundation, in order to represent the Foundation within the scope of that power.

The Board members' remuneration shall be limited to a reimbursements of expenses.

Meetings of the Board are held whenever a Board member convenes a meeting, but not less than once a year.

All management decisions are taken with an absolute majority of the votes cast (insofar as the articles of association do not prescribe a larger majority).

## **Income and expenses.**

The incomes of the Foundation shall consist of contributions from sponsors and participants in actions and events, subsidies, donations, inheritances, legacies and all other income obtained.

Inheritances shall only be accepted by the Foundation with the benefit of inventory.

The expenses of the Foundation shall inter alia consist of costs relating to services and activities to be provided by third parties for the benefit of the Foundation.

The foundation allocates the income received in accordance with the objective to the following projects:

- a. Supporting BARS shelter in Azerbaijan by helping with payment of dog/cat food and utility bills.
- b. Restoration of the shelter and making the living conditions (kennels) better for rescued animals.
- c. Veterinary costs including vaccination, chipping, deworming.
- d. 'Spay and neuter' project.
- e. Transportation of dogs/cats by plane from Azerbaijan to the Netherlands for rehoming purposes, including compulsory insurance and the rabies test in the laboratory of Wageningen Bioveterinary Research Center in Lelystad.
- f. Organisation of charity events to raise awareness and attracting new volunteers.

## **Financial year and annual accounts.**

The financial year of the Foundation shall be the calendar year.

The Board shall keep records pertaining to the financial position and the activities of the Foundation, in conformity with the requirements ensuing from the activities of the Foundation. The Board shall keep these records, as well as the books, documents and other data carriers belonging thereto, in such a way that the Foundation's rights and obligations can be ascertained there from at all times.

Prior to the end of each financial year, the Board establishes the budget and an annual plan - including a plan for fundraising for the following year - in which plan the objects, programs, activities and intended results are clearly described.

## **General Principles.**

Our policies outline our views on the ways animals are treated, and these views are the basis from which we take action.

### 1. Responsible ownership

We believe that those who keep animals must have the facilities, time, financial means, knowledge and skills necessary to ensure a good standard of welfare and a long-term commitment to their animals. We are opposed to the owning of an animal for purposes such as increasing one's social status or for fashion or trends.

## 2. Population control and breeding

We strongly recommend that neutering cats, dogs and other domestic animals as early as possible under veterinary advice is an important part of responsible ownership. Using modern anaesthetic techniques, surgical neutering is a safe and effective way to prevent unwanted breeding of dogs and cats.

We regard as irresponsible and are opposed to the breeding of puppies or kittens, and other animals in both private and commercial undertakings while there are so many of them living in the shelters and suffering on the streets in need of home.

## 3. Euthanasia

We are opposed to euthanasia of healthy animals. Euthanasia is only possible when animal suffers from incurable health problems or critical injuries incompatible with life.

## 4. Mutilations

We are opposed to the mutilation of animals for cosmetic purposes. The following procedures do not benefit the animal in any way and in many cases can be detrimental to the animal's health and welfare:

- tail docking of dogs
- de-barking of dogs
- ear-cropping of dogs
- de-clawing of cats.

The same principle also applies to various surgical mutilations of other species.