

27 March 2017

**To whom it may concern**

Dear Sir/Madam

**RE: NON-COMPLIANT CONTAINERS FOR PIGEONS AND DOVES**

The National Council of SPCAs have been actively involved in improving on animal welfare standards of animals transported by air by enforcing the Animals Protection Act No 71 of 1962 and also through promoting the IATA Live Animal Regulations at all cargo companies flying animal cargo. We do this work across South Africa and work with other enforcement bodies such as the SAPS, SARS Customs, Nature Conservation, DAFF, IPATA and IATA.

We have been finding a constant amount of non-compliant containers holding pigeons in cargo companies when performing inspections. In most case, these containers are self-made by persons who do not know the requirements in terms of the IATA Live Animal Regulations. In other cases, containers are not self-made and people therefore believe that they are compliant, yet they are not.

We have communicated with IATA to get official clarification with regards to containers most commonly found at South African cargo companies and their acceptability in terms of the IATA Live Animal Regulations. Please note that the following are containers that are **not** compliant with the IATA LAR and may not be accepted. Reasons vary.



Above: Not compliant.



Above: Not compliant.



Above: Not compliant.



Above: Not compliant.



Above: Holes through which a birds head or wing can go are not acceptable.



Above: Not compliant.

Kindly refer to the appropriate section in the IATA LAR for container requirements for Pigeon and Doves to see the correct requirements.

We firmly advise that when people have their containers rejected, the cargo company provide them with the IATA LAR requirements for Pigeons and Doves in order for them build their containers to the proper specifications going forward to prevent further complications.

We look forward to your co-operation.

Kind regards

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NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SPCAs