

# A 3Rs Centre in Sweden



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# 3Rs



Replace

Reduce

Refine



To

- replace animals in research,
- reduce the number of animals used in research, and
- refine the use of animals in research.



## Government assignment 2015 - commence the making of a 3Rs Centre in Sweden



### How a 3Rs Centre should be organized in the Swedish Board of Agriculture (SBA)

- Mission, tasks
- Staff
- Cooperation with stakeholders as the Universities, research founding authorities/organisations, other governmental authorities, industry, other organisations (e.g. Animal Welfare organisations)

Tasks for 3Rs Centre in relation to the tasks of the National Committee and the SBA's administrative functions

# Background

## **Government assignment regarding alternative methods in research**

The implementation of the directive 2010/63/EU

A national committee for the protection of animals used for scientific purposes was established

A competence centre for issues regarding non animal alternatives to the use of animals for scientific or educational purpose should be placed at The Swedish Board of Agriculture was proposed

The centre should

- disseminate information on alternatives to animal testing and develop recommendations and guidelines for working with laboratory animals
- Provide advice and guidance to animal welfare bodies, the animal ethics committees and others

**Proposition 2013/14:41 Changes in the animal welfare act**



# Commence the making of a 3Rs Centre

## Report to the government from the SBA

- Placement in the Board of Agriculture
- Organisation of the 3Rs Centre and the National Committee
- The decision-making process
- Mission and tasks
- Staff
- Cooperation with stakeholders
- Funding

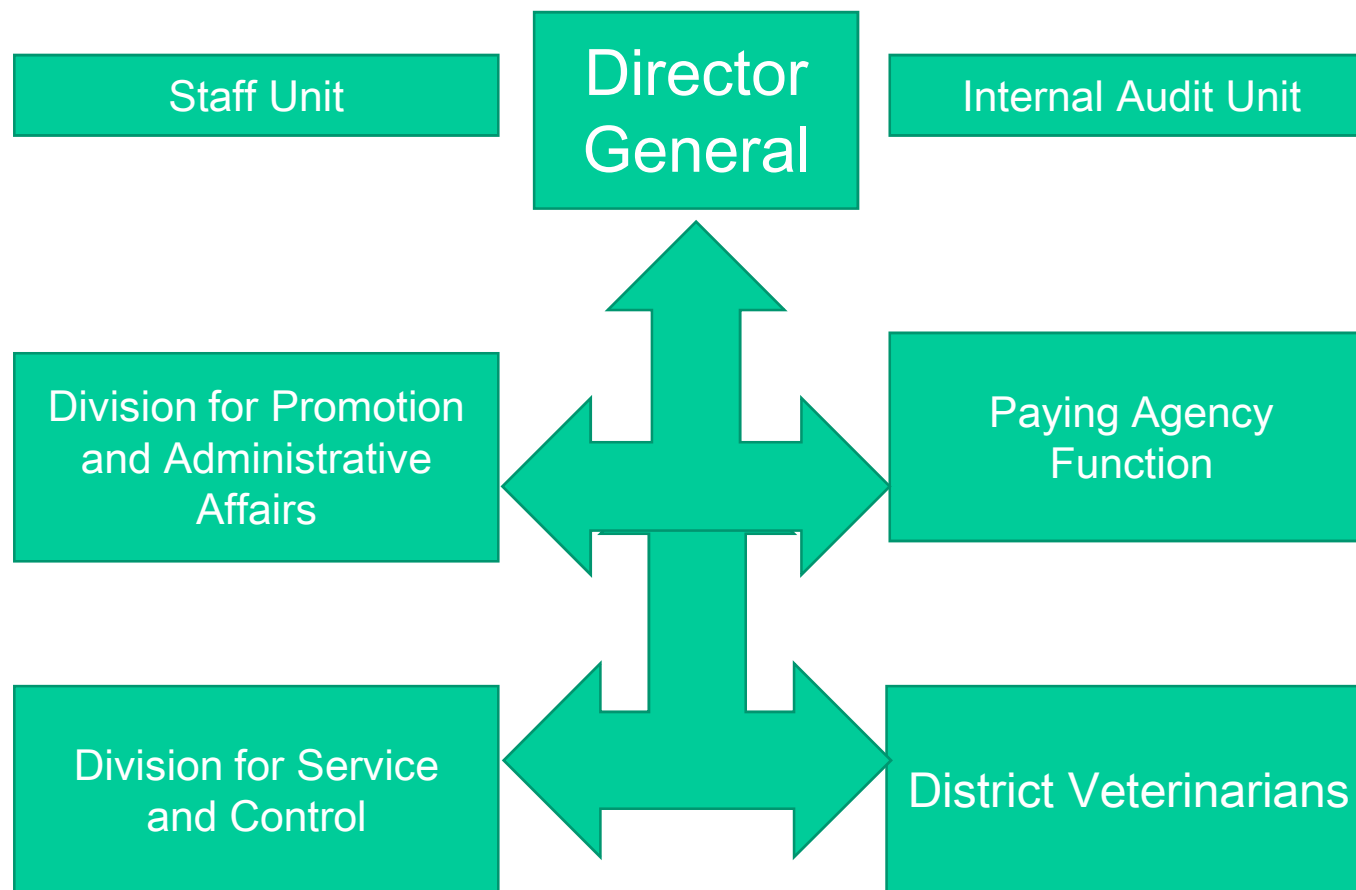


Uppdrag att inleda bildandet av ett kompetenscentrum för 3R-frågor



- Ett kompetenscentrum för 3R-frågor ska inrättas på Jordbruksverket för att främja och samordna arbetet med alternativa metoder till djurförsök.
- 3R-centret ska vara en kommunikationscentral för 3R-frågor och kunna ge råd och rekommendationer till de regionala djurförsöksutskottiska nämnderna, djurskyddsorgan, berörda myndigheter och forskare m.fl.
- 3R-centret ska vara verkställande organ till den Nationella kommittén för skydd av djur som används för vetenskapliga ändamål och ha en expertgrupp knuten till sig.

# Organization of the SBA



# Division for Promotion and Administrative Affairs



Department for  
Animal Welfare and  
Health

National  
Committee



Project  
3Rs  
Centre

DHFF

DHIG

DHCF

DHFS

Ethical  
committees

DHID

DHSS

Laboratory Animals and Pets Unit

# Organization today



YES  
 NO



Swedish Board of  
Agriculture



National committee  
for the protection of  
animals used for  
scientific purposes



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Sub-  
committee I

Sub-  
committee II



# New organization

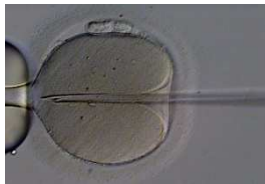


Swedish Board of  
Agriculture



National Committee  
=  
Steering group

**3Rs Centre**



Group of external experts

YES  
 NO

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# Staff in the 3Rs Centre SBA report

## Skills and competences

- Project Manager
- Secretary/Administrator
- Expert in alternative methods
- Researcher with a focus on non-animal models
- Veterinarian
- Communicator
- Documentarist



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## National committee – Steering group SBA report

### Related to interest

- The industry
- Authorities
- Universities
- Animal Welfare organisations
- Other stakeholders



### Expertise – competence – experience

- Researcher with 3R expertise
- Veterinary medicine
- Animal welfare
- Experience from work in authorities



## National committee – Steering group

### Chair/members

- Håkan Henriksson, chair (SBA)
- Elin Törnqvist (Swetox)
- Åsa Holmgren (Medivir)
- Katarina Cvek Hopkins (SLU\*)
- Staffan Persson (Djurens Rätt\*\*)
- Mats Sjöquist (SCAW\*\*\*, SLU)
- Åke Bergman (Swetox)
- Jan-Ingvar Jönsson (Vetenskapsrådet\*\*\*\*)
- Karin Gabrielson Morton (Forska utan djurförsök\*\*\*\*\*)



\* The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

\*\* Animal rights and animal welfare organisation in Sweden

\*\*\* Swedish Center for Animal Welfare

\*\*\*\* Swedish Research Council

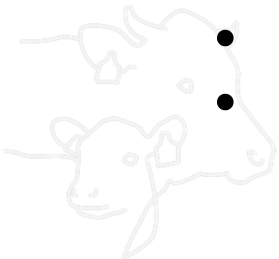
\*\*\*\*\* Swedish Fund for Research Without Animal Experiments



# To Do List for the 3Rs Centre SBA report



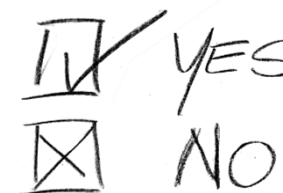
- To be the Executive Body to the National Committee for the protection of animals used for scientific purposes
- To give advice and support to the regional ethical committees about alternative methods, etc.
- To be a central for information on alternative methods
- To work with Best Practice in different aspects, national och international
- To cooperate with the Animal Welfare Bodies
- To support other authorities in creating of their 3Rs strategies
- To support the shared use of organs and tissues
- To take part in the funding procedures in 3Rs research
- To validate alternative methods
- And much more



# Cooperation with other stakeholders

## SBA report

- The ethical committees
- Lab. animal science community
- Animal Welfare bodies
- SCAW
- SWETOX
- Other authorities
- Different organizations (e.g. Animal Welfare organizations)
- and others



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# Funding of the 3Rs Centre

Regulatory letters for the Swedish Board of  
Agriculture:

15 millions Swedish kronor (1,35 m €) annually  
2017-2020



# To start the Swedish 3Rs Centre Project

- ✓ Create legal conditions for the reorganization and the formation of the new National Committee and 3Rs Centre
- ✓ Commence the reorganization of the Swedish National Committee
- ✓ Recruiting the National Committee/steering group
- ✓ The activities of the National Committee (and the 3Rs Centre) will constitute a separate branch in the SBA
  - Organise this separate branch at the side of SBA's other tasks as the central competent authority in animal welfare regarding lab.animals
  - Regulate the 3Rs -Centre in the instructions for the SBA in the same § that regulates the National Committee
  - Develop regulations for the National Committee and the 3Rs Centre in accordance with the authorization given by the Government to the Swedish Board of Agriculture



# To start the Swedish 3Rs Centre Project

- Recruiting the staff of the Swedish 3Rs Centre
- Create rules of procedure for the new National Committee and the 3Rs Centre
- Discuss different forms of work
- Networking and benchmarking
- Create a work plan
- Create a new web site
- Create a communication plan
- And many more things to do.....

## Our vision



Animal Welfare in Focus and Reduction of Animals in Research