

January 26, 2020

The Honorable Hermilando Mandanas Batangas Governor Via e-mail: governorhim@gmail.com

## **Re:** Urgent Request for Assistance to Evacuate Animal Victims on Taal Immediately

Dear Gov. Mandanas,

I'm writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) Asia, with more than 3.5 million members and supporters worldwide. We're relieved to hear that the alert level on Taal island has been lowered. We hereby appeal to your office for evacuation teams to be dispatched immediately to Taal island to help evacuate the remaining abandoned animals.

PETA Asia has been the only agency delivering food and fresh water to the island since the eruption, in addition to rescuing more than 200 animals and taking them off the island. However, many still remain, frightened and dying of thirst and hunger. It is of the utmost urgency that government teams be sent in with large boats to evacuate the remaining horses, dogs, cats, and other animals today.

PETA Asia has held regular clinics on Taal for two years and has tended to all the horses in the area, medicating and treating them for their ailments and providing the horse handlers with advice.

We stand ready to assist in the logistics of this rescue operation, having widespread and firsthand knowledge of the area and the horses.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 8817 5292.

We thank you for your attention to this matter and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Very truly yours,

Jason Baker

Senior Vice President of International Campaigns

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