

SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

(In association with R.S.P.C.A. England) Patroness: LADY Y.P. McNEICE



10 January 2011

Forum Editor
Straits Times Press

Dear Sir,

I refer to Resorts World Sentosa's letter ("Resorts World Sentosa committed to wildlife conservation"; 10 January).

The shocking news that two dolphins from a pod of seven being housed at Langkawi Island Malaysia had died in October, only brings home the reminder that these animals should never have been removed from the wild in the first place.

It is an irony that whilst citing examples where it has supported conservation of wildlife, Resorts World Sentosa has been party to removing dolphins from the wild for the purpose of becoming an attraction at its Marine Life Park. How does this cruel act set an example in education and wildlife conservation?

Although Resorts World Sentosa will have to comply with international regulations and our veterinary authority's animal welfare requirements, it begs the question whether it was moral and ethical for the dolphins to have been removed from the wild. The act of catching and confining these animals in limited spaces and training them to become something they are not, cannot possibly contribute towards constructive education of the public on marine life and environmental issues.

Under the circumstances, the SPCA urges Resorts World Sentosa to rethink its decision to import dolphins for its Marine Life Park before more deaths occur in the process.

Yours sincerely,

Deirdre Moss (Ms)
Executive Director