Biological and medical research aims to continuously increase scientific knowledge, improve human and veterinary medical therapies as well as better protect humans, animals and the environment.

Research, basic and applied alike, needs models to progress and evolve. It requires an integrated approach of synergic experimental methods based on data processing (in silico), biochemistry, cell and tissue culture (in vitro) and the use of living animals (in vivo), as well as clinical data. In silico and in vitro models are widely used, but are unable, based on current knowledge, to fully replace animal models. In order to carry out top quality research, the use of animal-based models remains therefore necessary.

The use of animals for the development and production of drugs for both humans and animals, also needs to meet safety and efficacy regulatory requirements. In the veterinary field, the studies are carried out on the animals for which the products are intended.

In accordance with the legal provisions of the Rural Code and the Civil Code, and by virtue of their convictions, the signatories of this Charter recognize that animals are living beings endowed with sensitivity. The use of animals in scientific and medical research is framed by specific regulations which protect them, ensure their well-being and enforce compliance of ethical rules.

Every citizen has the right to comprehensive, clear and accurate information regarding the reasons and conditions for the use of animals for scientific or regulatory purposes, but also the regulatory framework that guides this use, as well as the scientific and medical progress that result from it.

To this end, the signatories of this charter, research establishments, laboratories developing drugs for humans or animals, their partners and their representatives, make four commitments: