Ethiopian Airlines criticized for transporting monkeys for laboratory experiment

Ethiopian Airlines, Africa's largest airline, has been the subject of a post by animal rights organization PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) accusing it of transporting hundreds of endangered monkeys to the United States for animal testing purposes. PETA also suggests that the airline has ties to an alleged illegal international monkey trafficking scheme, our partner media, <u>Aeroin</u>, reports.

According to PETA, Ethiopian Airlines "apparently" brought 250 long-tailed monkeys from Ethiopia to the United States. The endangered primates were then taken to animal testing laboratories.

Ethiopian Airlines has already informed PETA that, in accordance with company policy, it does not transport monkeys. However, PETA disputes this claim, alleging that monkeys are "packed into small wooden shipping crates and forced to stand in their own feces, urine, and blood during long-hour flights."

PETA also says that in 2023, Ethiopian Airlines was cited twice by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for its monkey transport operations. In January of that year, the airline was accused of bringing 584 monkeys to the United States without health certificates.

In July 2023, PETA reported that Ethiopian Airlines was cited for failing to provide proper feeding and hydration guidance to airport ground staff. During the transport process, PETA alleges that 336 monkeys were unloaded from a plane in Georgia and left in 85-degree heat for over an hour and a half.

Many of the monkeys come from Mauritius, although animal testing laboratories are finding it increasingly difficult to find airlines willing to transport the animals.

In 2022, Kenya Airways said it would no longer transport long-tailed monkeys from the Indian Ocean country after a shipment of the animals was involved in a traffic accident in Pennsylvania.

Last year, PETA criticized Scandinavian airline SAS for its alleged involvement in transporting dogs for animal testing from the United States to laboratories in Europe.

Several airlines, including British Airways, Aer Lingus, Qantas, EVA Air and Cathay Pacific, as well as cargo companies such as FedEx Express and Cargolux, already refuse to transport animals for laboratory testing.

The post <u>Ethiopian Airlines criticized for transporting monkeys for laboratory</u> <u>experiments</u> appeared first on <u>Aviacionline</u>.

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