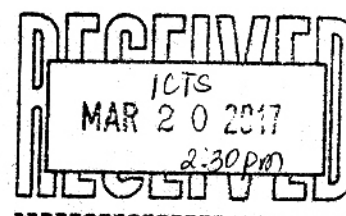




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Elliptical Road, Diliman
Quezon City 1100, Philippines



14 February 2017

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 15

Series of 2017

SUBJECT: TEMPORARY BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF DOMESTIC AND WILD BIRDS AND THEIR PRODUCTS INCLUDING POULTRY MEAT, DAY OLD CHICKS, EGGS AND SEMEN ORIGINATING FROM England

WHEREAS, Section 1770 of Act No. 2711 (Revised Administrative Code of 1917) which was adopted by incorporation together with Sections 1761-1769, in Section 5 of Act 3639 (Charter of BAI) empowers the Department Head to issue a general order preventing the entry of animals, animal effects, parts or products from any country with dangerous communicable animal disease;

WHEREAS, based on the official report submitted by Dr Nigel Gibbens, Chief Veterinary Officer, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, London, United Kingdom to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) on February 2, 2017, that there were seven (7) outbreaks of H5N8 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) virus in three (3) Provinces from December 11, 2016 to January 29, 2017 affecting turkeys, pheasants, game birds, chickens and ducks as confirmed by Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA), Weybridge (OIE Reference Laboratory);

WHEREAS, there is a need to prevent the entry of HPAI virus to protect the health of the local poultry population;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EMMANUEL F. PIÑOL, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby institute the following emergency measures for the importation of domestic and wild birds and their products from England:

1. Banning the importation of domestic and wild birds and their products, including poultry meat, day old chicks, eggs, and semen;
2. Immediate suspension of the processing, evaluation of the application and issuance of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) import clearance to the above-stated commodities;
3. Stoppage and confiscation of all shipments of the above stated commodities (with the exception on heat treated products) into the country by all DA Veterinary Quarantine Officers/Inspectors at all major ports.
4. Frozen poultry meat with slaughter/process date of 21 days prior to the HPAI outbreaks are allowed to enter the country subject to veterinary quarantine rules and regulations.¹
5. Importation of meat products of poultry is subject to the conditions provided in article 10.4.19, 10.4.20 and 10.4.26 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code, 2016.²

This ORDER shall take effect immediately.

EMMANUEL F. PIÑOL
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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¹ Applicable to shipments with valid SPS import clearances

² Heat treated products are acceptable following chapter 10.4 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2016) recommending, provided that in addition to the Veterinary Health Certificate, the Competent Authority will include in the certification the following:

1. Temperature and the duration of heating or pasteurization of products; and
2. There is no commingling of raw materials with any other materials of animal origin.