

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

MEMORANDUM ORDER No. <u>09</u> Series of 2022

SUBJECT: TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY (SPS) IMPORT CLEARANCE FOR DOMESTIC AND WILD PIGS AND THEIR PRODUCTS INCLUDING PORK MEAT, PIG SKIN, PORCINE PROCESSED ANIMAL PROTEINS AND SEMEN ORIGINATING FROM *Thailand*

WHEREAS, Section 6 and 7 (2) and (4) of Executive Order No. 292 provides the authority and responsibility for the exercise of the mandate of the Department and for the discharge of its powers and functions shall be vested in the Secretary, who shall have supervision and control of the Department, to establish the policies and standards for the operation of the Department pursuant to the approved programs of government and promulgate administrative issuances necessary for the efficient administration of the offices under the Secretary and the proper execution of the laws relative thereto;

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, several news media platforms have reported the occurrence of African Swine Fever (ASF) virus detected in a pet pig and surface swab of slaughterhouse in Nakhon Pathom, Thailand as confirmed by Kasetsart University and Department of Livestock and Development, respectively;

WHEREAS, Thailand is not an accredited country to export any swine related commodities to the Philippines but there is a need to prevent the entry of any ASF-susceptible products originating from Thailand that might enter the country through hand carried products from international vessels or any other possible routes;

WHEREAS, there is a need for regulatory controls through Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures to protect human and animal health;

NOW, THEFORE, I WILLIAM D. DAR, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, by the power vested in me by law, do hereby institute the following measures for the importation of domestic and wild pigs and their products from Thailand:

- 1. Banning the importation of live swine and their products, including pork meat, pig skin, porcine processed animal proteins and semen;
- 2. Stoppage and confiscation of all shipments of the above stated commodities into the country by all DA Veterinary Quarantine Officers/Inspectors at all major ports.

This **ORDER** shall take effect immediately.

Done this 31st day of January 2022.

WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D. Secretary

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