



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

**MEMORANDUM ORDER**

No. 21

Series of 2023

**SUBJECT: TEMPORARY BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF LIVE CATTLE, MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS, BOVINE PROCESSED ANIMAL PROTEINS AND SEMEN DERIVED FROM CATTLE ORIGINATING IN *Spain***

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**WHEREAS**, it shall be the utmost objective of the Government to protect its borders and territories from the entry, establishment and spread of animal diseases that may be introduced by the importation of disease-carrying, contaminated, and/or adulterated meat and/or meat products, which endanger the lives and safety/health of the consuming public and which could pose risk to human and animal health and life and potentially cause serious economic consequences;

**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 10 of Republic Act no. 10611, or the "Food Safety Act of 2013", provided that in specific circumstances when the available relevant information for use in risk assessment is insufficient to show that a certain type of food or food product does not pose a risk to consumer health, **precautionary measures shall be adopted;**

**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 the Chief Veterinary Officer of the Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación, Madrid, Spain to the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) on January 21, 2023, that there was an outbreak of Atypical Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (H-type) in Pontevedra, Galicia affecting domestic

cattle as confirmed by the Laboratorio Central de Veterinaria de Algete (National laboratory);

**WHEREAS**, the recent cases of BSE or commonly known as Mad Cow Disease in Spain as reported to the WOAHA may pose a risk to consumers due to BSE's assumed link with the variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD) in humans;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, this Order is hereby issued to institute the following emergency measures for the importation of live animals, meat and meat by-products derived from cattle from Spain:

1. Banning the importation of live animal, meat, meat products, meat by-products including bovine processed animal protein 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. All shipments coming from Spain that are IN TRANSIT/ LOADED/ACCEPTED UNTO PORT before the official communication of this Order to the Spanish Authorities shall be allowed **provided that the products were slaughtered/produced on or before December 21, 2022.**
4. Shipments with ship out date after the communication of this Order to the Spanish Authorities shall be dealt with as per DA Administrative Order 9 series of 2010, Section VII.D;
5. More rigorous and tight inspection on all arrivals of meat and meat by-products derived from cattle including live animals and bovine processed animal proteins by DA Veterinary Quarantine Officers assigned at ports of entry.

This **ORDER** shall take effect immediately and shall remain enforced unless revoked in writing. All orders inconsistent herewith are deemed revoked.

Done this 6th day of March 2023.

**DOMINGO F. PANGANIBAN**  
Senior Undersecretary



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