



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

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 78
Series of 2021

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 *Belgium*

WHEREAS, Section 6 and 7 (2) and (4) of Executive Order no. 291 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 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, based on the official report submitted by the Chef du Service Politique sanitaire: Animaux et Végétaux, Directeurat-général Animaux, Végétaux et Alimentation, Service Public Fédéral Santé publique, sécurité de la chaîne alimentaire et environnement, Bruxelles, Belgium to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) on December 9, 2021, that there was an outbreak of H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Alveringem and Ravels, Vlaanderen, Belgium affecting domestic birds as confirmed by Sciensano (National 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, WILLIAM D. DAR, Secretary of the 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 Belgium;

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;

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3. All shipments IN TRANSIT/LOADED/ACCEPTED UNTO PORT before the official communication of this Order to the Belgian authorities shall be allowed provided the products were slaughtered/produced before **November 19, 2021**.
4. Shipments which have not complied with the conditions set forth in Item 3 to Item 4 shall be dealt with as per DA AO 9 S. 2010 Section VII.D;
5. Importation of meat products of poultry is subject to the conditions provided in Article 10.4.18, 10.4.19 and 10.4.24 of OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2021)

This **ORDER** shall take effect immediately.

Done this 20th day of December 2021.



WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D.

Secretary



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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