

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR No. _____ Series of 2025

:

SUBJECT

HARMONIZATION OF TERMINOLOGIES ON THE ISSUANCE OF LICENSE TO IMPORT AND EXPORT OF LIVE ANIMALS, ANIMAL PRODUCTS, AND BY-PRODUCTS

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11032 or the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018 directed national government agencies to initiate the review of existing policies and operations and commence with the re-engineering of systems and procedures;

WHEREAS, the Department Circular (DC) No. 06, Series of 2023, "Harmonization of Terms and Streamlining of Requirements and Procedures for Authorization and Recognition under the Regulatory Jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture", Article III, Section 4.h., provides that **License** refers to the permission embodies in a document granted by a DA regulatory agency to a person with application to operate an establishment or engage in a business operation or any activity in the agriculture and fishery sector after proving technical capability to (1) comply with the sanitary and/or phytosanitary requirements set by the DA regulatory agency having jurisdiction, (2) conform to specific quality standards and technical regulations, or (3) comply with certain laws, rules, and regulations, including measures relating to conservation or sustainable use of exhaustible natural resources. Licensed persons are authorized to proceed with business plans or designated activities subject to a license, clearance, or product registration;

WHEREAS, on the same Circular, Section 5.a.i., the term license shall be used for the authorization of a person to engage in a business operation or any activity in the Philippines as producer, **importer**, **exporter**, trader or dealer, bulk handler or blender, formulator, manufacturer, final product maker, indentor, packer or repacker, retailer, wholesaler, distributor, transhipper, processor, fabricator, assembler, agricultural chemicals handler, and other business entities. It covers permission to operate agricultural and fishery establishments, such as nurseries; farms operating in a scale as defined by the regulatory agency; breeding farms; hatchery facilities; milking facilities; animal facilities; and facilities for treatment, slaughter, cutting, dressing, drying/redrying, refining, manufacturing, fabrication, processing, packaging, packing, transport, collection, assembling, storage, grading/baling, and distribution, laboratories, and other business facilities;

WHEREAS, Department of Agriculture (DA)-Administrative Circular (AC) No. 06, Series of 2022, "Revised Rules and Regulations Governing the Importation of Agricultural and Fish and Fisher/Aquatic Products; Animal Feeds, Feed Ingredients and Feed Additives;



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Masaganang Agrikultura, Maunlad na Ekonomiya

and Fertilizers, Pesticides, and other Agricultural Chemical products into the Philippines", Article III, Section 1., stipulates that only registered and licensed Agri-Fishery Products Importer with valid License to Operate (LTO) and/or License to Import (LTI) shall be allowed to import;

WHEREAS, DA-Memorandum Circular (MC) No. 03, Series of 2018, "Guidelines on the Export of Live Animals, Animal Products and By-Products from the Philippines", Section 3.2., requires that the exporting Farm/Animal Facility/Establishment must be an accredited exporter by the DA-BAI;

NOW, THEREFORE, in compliance with the provisions prescribed above, this Circular is issued to provide guidance on the harmonization of terminologies for the application and issuance of *Licenses to Import and Export of live animals, animal products and by-products*:

Accreditation of commercial importers/exporters of live animals, animal products and by-products shall now be termed as **Licensing of Importers and Exporters**, and therefore the document to be issued to applicants is **License to Import (LTI)** or **License to Export (LTE)**.

All orders, rules, regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this order, are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

This **CIRCULAR** shall take effect immediately upon posting at the Bureau's website and shall remain in effect unless revised or revoked.

Done this <u>5th</u> day of <u>March</u> 2025.

DIOSAMIA M. SEVILLA, MSc

Office-in-charge, Director



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