

**MEMORANDUM ORDER** 

No. \_\_\_\_\_ Series of 2023

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. 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, based on the official report submitted by the Director General of the Animal and Plant Health Policy by Federal Public Service - Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment, Brussels to the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) on January 26, 2022, that there was an outbreak of H5N1 High Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Wervik, West-Vlaanderen affecting domestic birds as confirmed by the 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,** this Order is hereby issued to 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:
- 3. All shipments coming from Belgium that are IN TRANSIT/LOADED/ACCEPTED UNTO PORT before the official communication of this Order to the Belgian Authorities shall be allowed provided that the products were slaughtered/produced on or before January 10, 2023.
- 4. Shipments that have not complied with the conditions outlined in Item 3 shall be dealt with as per DA AO 9 s. 2010 Section VII.D.

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

Done this of tebruary 2023.

DOMINGO F. RANGANIBAN Senior Undersecretary

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