



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Elliptical Road, Diliman
1101 Quezon City Philippines

26 January 2015

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 04
Series of 2015

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 HAIFA, Israel.

WHEREAS, based on the official report submitted by Dr Nadav Galon, Director, Veterinary Services and Animal Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Israel to the Office Internationale Des Epizooties (OIE) on January 18, 2015 that there was an outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) virus in AVI'EL, Hadera, Haifa, Israel which started on January 14, 2015;

WHEREAS, the outbreak, pertaining to a specified zone in the area of Haifa, Israel, was caused by H5N1 HPAI virus affecting turkey fattening farms as confirmed by Kimron, Veterinary Institute, Avian Diseases Laboratory (National laboratory) thru real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR);

WHEREAS, the OIE Animal Health Information Department: H5 and H7 High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza viruses are among the notifiable OIE Listed terrestrial animal diseases, infections and infestations in force in 2014;

WHEREAS, there is a need to prevent the entry of HPAI virus to protect the health of the public and the local poultry population;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PROCESO J. ALCALA, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby institute the following emergency measures:

1. Banning the importation of domestic and wild birds, including poultry meat, day old chicks, eggs, and semen from *HAIFA, Israel*;¹
2. Immediate suspension of the processing, evaluation of the application and issuance of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) import clearance to the above-stated commodities from *HAIFA, Israel*;
3. Stoppage and confiscation of all shipments of the above stated commodities (with the exception on heat treated products and poultry meat with slaughter/production date before October 31, 2014) into the country originating from *HAIFA, Israel* by all DA Veterinary Quarantine Officers/Inspectors at all major ports.
4. Importation of meat products of poultry is subject to the conditions provided in article 10.4.19, 10.4.20 and 10.4.26 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code, 2014.²

This **ORDER** shall take effect immediately.

PROCESO J. ALCALA
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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¹ Heat-treated products are acceptable following chapter 10.4 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2014) recommending provided that in addition to the Veterinary Health Certificate, the Competent Authority will include in the certification the following:

1. Temperature and the duration of heating or pasteurization of products; and
2. There is no commingling of raw materials with any other materials of animal origin.

