



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

July 2, 2019

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 18
Series of 2019

SUBJECT: TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF SYSTEMACCREDITATION FOR ALL GERMAN FOREIGN MEAT ESTABLISHMENTS (FMEs) TO EXPORT MEAT INTO THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, pursuant to Republic Act 10611 or "Food Safety Act of 2013", the Department of Agriculture (DA) shall be responsible for the development and enforcement of food safety standards and regulations for foods in the primary production and post-harvest stages of the food supply chain. It shall monitor and ensure that the relevant requirements of the law are complied with by farmers, fisherfolks and food business operators;

WHEREAS, the DA, in coordination with other government agencies shall monitor compliance to existing importation protocols for plant, animal and fishery origin and shall formulate and implement measures to address incidents of co-mingling and/or intermingling of such commodities;

WHEREAS, based on the recent joint investigation conducted by the Bureau of Animal Industry and National Meat Inspection Service it was determined that there indeed was co-mingling of pork flat bones from Poland which is an African Swine Fever (ASF) affected country with the legitimate importation from Germany;

WHEREAS, relative to this incident, there has been lapses in the inspection system of Germany to ensure export of safe food for the Philippine market;

WHEREAS, there is a need to prevent the entry of ASF virus to protect the health of the local swine population;

WHEREAS, this temporary suspension is for the protection of Philippine consumers pursuant to Food Safety Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EMMANUEL F. PIÑOL, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby institute the following emergency measures for the importation of meat from Germany:

1. Temporary suspension of system accreditation of all German FMEs to export meat into the Philippines pending the results of the thorough investigation to be conducted by DA;
2. Shipments of meat in transit upon the issuance of this Order will be allowed to enter the country subject to 100% physical inspection; and
3. Immediate suspension of the processing, evaluation of the application and issuance of Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary (SPS) import clearance for meat from Germany starting on July 1, 2019.

This ORDER shall take effect immediately.

EMMANUEL F. PIÑOL
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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