



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

13 July 2001

HON. LEONARDO Q. MONTEMAYOR
Secretary
Department of Agriculture
Elliptical Circle, Diliman
Quezon City

Thru: **HON. CESAR M. DRILON, JR.**
Undersecretary for Fisheries and Livestock

Subject: RECOMMENDATION TO LIFT THE TEMPORARY BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF PORK AND PORK PRODUCTS FROM FMD-FREE COUNTRIES IN EUROPE

Sir:

The situation of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in Europe is now under control. The last case of FMD in France and the Netherlands was last April 2001. The FMD cases in the United Kingdom continue but the threat of spreading it to Mainland Europe has been significantly reduced because of the strict control measures instituted.

Several countries have already lifted their ban on the importation of pork and pork products from countries in Europe that were never affected with FMD. Our Agricultural Attache, Ms. Ana B. Abejuela, is also recommending similar action.

Based on our evaluation of the current FMD situation in Europe, we recommend to lift the ban on the importation of pork and pork products in Europe except UK, Ireland the Netherlands and France. For France and Netherlands, if there will be no new cases until the end of August 2001, maybe we can also consider lifting the ban from these countries.

Regarding the plan to inspect the meat establishments and evaluate the veterinary services of the European countries, we can still push through with this even after the lifting of the ban. As stipulated in DA A.O. 39, series of 2000, all exporting countries must be inspected and accredited for them to be allowed to continuously export their meat and meat products to the Philippines

Hoping for your appropriate action on our recommendation..

Respectfully yours,


TEODORO A. ABILAY
Director IV