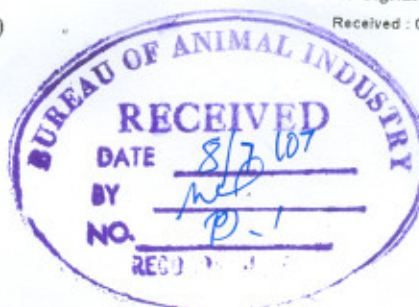




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24 July 2007

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 12
Series 2007

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 VIRGINIA AND NEBRASKA, USA

WHEREAS, based on the report submitted by Dr. John Clifford, Deputy Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture, to the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) last 23 July 2007, a Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI) virus serotype H5N1 and H7N9 has been detected in Virginia and Nebraska, respectively;

WHEREAS, USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) has confirmed that the North American strain of H5N1 was present in the samples taken from turkeys in Virginia and Nebraska and is compatible with LPAI;

WHEREAS, there is a possibility that travelers may bring in pet birds, poultry and poultry products from Virginia and Nebraska, USA;

WHEREAS, there is a need to prevent the entry of LPAI virus to protect the health of the local poultry population, as well as human health;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARTHUR C. YAP, 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 and their products, including day-old chicks, eggs and semen from Virginia and Nebraska, USA;
2. Immediate suspension of the issuance of Veterinary Quarantine Clearance (VQC) to import the above stated commodities from Virginia and Nebraska, USA;
3. Stoppage and confiscation of all shipments of poultry and poultry products into the country originating from Virginia and Nebraska, USA by all DA Quarantine Officers/Inspectors at all major airports and seaports.

This Order shall take effect immediately.


ARTHUR C. YAP
Secretary

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