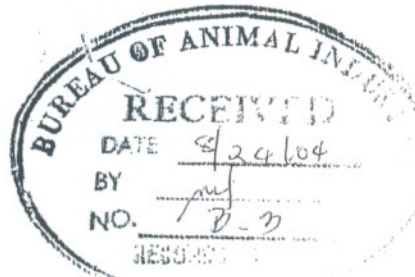




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12 August 2004

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 24
Series of 2004

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 SOUTH AFRICA

WHEREAS, based on the report to the Office International des Epizooties (OIE), the National Department of Agriculture of South Africa confirmed an outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in ostriches;

WHEREAS, based on the diagnostic tests conducted, it was identified that avian influenza virus subtype H5N2 caused the outbreak of HPAI;

WHEREAS, the Philippines imports wild birds from South Africa;

WHEREAS, there is a need to prevent the entry of the pathogenic virus causing avian flu to protect the health of the local poultry population;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARTHUR C. YAP, Officer-in-charge 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 South Africa;
2. Immediate suspension of the processing, evaluation and issuance of Veterinary Quarantine Clearance/ International Veterinary Certificate Import Permit for applications relevant to the importation of the above-stated commodities from South Africa by the Bureau of Animal Industry.
3. Stoppage and confiscation of all shipments into the country of suspected/affected products originating from South Africa by all DA Veterinary Quarantine Officers/ Inspectors at all major sea/air ports.

This **ORDER** shall take effect immediately.

ARTHUR C. YAP
Officer-in-Charge