



**URGENT**

21 May 2003

**MEMORANDUM ORDER**

No. 16  
Series of 2002

**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 THE STATE OF TEXAS, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**WHEREAS**, the US Department of Agriculture, based on a report submitted to the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) last 10 April 2003, has confirmed an outbreak of Newcastle disease (ND) in Texas, USA;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines imports poultry and poultry products from the USA;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to prevent the entry of virulent Newcastle disease virus to protect the health of the local poultry population;

**NOW THEREFORE; I, CELESTINO E. MARTINEZ, JR.**, Officer-in-Charge of the Department of Agriculture, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby Institute emergency measures banning the importation of the ND-susceptible animals, their meal, meat products and by-products originating from Texas, USA to the Philippines and prescribe the following:

1. Immediate suspension of the processing, evaluation and issuance of Veterinary Quarantine Clearance/SPS Import Permit for applications relevant to the importation of the above-stated commodities from Texas, USA by the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI);
2. Stoppage and confiscation of all shipments into the country of affected products originating from Texas, USA by all DA Veterinary Quarantine Officers/Inspectors at all major sea/airports; and
3. The BAI director may issue guidelines for the effective implementation of this memorandum order.

This **ORDER** shall take effect immediately.

**CELESTINO E. MARTINEZ, JR.**  
Officer-In-Charge

