

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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12 June 2008

MEMORANDUM ORDER No. <u>09</u> Series 2008

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 ARKANSAS, USA

WHEREAS, based on the report submitted by Dr. Stan Bruntz, National Surveillance Unit Epidemiologist, to the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) an occurrence of Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI) has been detected in Arkansas, USA;

WHEREAS, low pathogenic avian influenza (serotype H7N3) has been detected in a poultry farm in Arkansas, Washington County, USA affecting broiler chickens;

WHEREAS, travelers may bring in birds and its products from Arkansas, USA;

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARTHUR C. YAP, Secretary of Department of Agriculture, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby institute the following emergency measures:

- Banning the importation of domestic and wild birds and their products, including dayold chicks, eggs and semen from Arkansas, USA;
- Immediate suspension of the processing, evaluation of the application and issuance of Veterinary Quarantine Clearance (VQC) to import the above-stated commodities from Arkansas, USA;
- Stoppage and confiscation of all shipments of poultry and poultry products into the country riginating from Arkansas, USA by all DA Veterinary Quarantine Officers/Inspectors at all major ports.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

ARTHUR C. YAP Secretary

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