

22 September 2007

MEMORANDUM ORDER No. <u>19</u> Series of 2008

Subject: LIFTING THE 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

WHEREAS, based on the final report on July 18, 2008, APHIS officially notified the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) that the H7N3 Low Pathogenic Notifiable Avian Influenza (LPNAI) incident in Washington County, Arkansas has been successfully eradicated;

WHEREAS, after enhanced surveillance of all commercial flocks and backyard poultry in the 10 kilometer zone around the index premises detected no further outbreaks of LPNAI have been detected since the outbreak was confirmed on 7 June 2008;

WHEREAS, environmental testing of the single affected premises yielded negative results;

WHEREAS, based on the evaluation of the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), the risk of contamination from importing poultry and poultry products from Arkansas in negligible;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ATTY. ARTHUR C. YAP, Secretary of Agriculture, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby lift the 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.

All import transactions of the above products shall be in accordance with the existing rules and regulations of the Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Industry and National Meat Inspection Service (DA-BAI-NMIS).

All orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this order, are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

ATTY. ARTHUR C. YAP Secretary