



24 June 2013

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 23
Series of 2013

SUBJECT: TEMPORARY BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF DOMESTIC AND WILD BIRDS INCLUDING DAY OLD CHICKS, EGGS AND SEMEN ORIGINATING FROM Arkansas, USA.

WHEREAS, based on the official notification submitted by Dr. John Clifford, Deputy Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Washington, to the *Office Internationale de Epizooties* (OIE), that there was an outbreak of Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI) serotype H7N7 in Arkansas, Scott County, Arkansas, USA;

WHEREAS, LPAI serotype H7N7 was detected in a commercial broiler breeder flock which exhibited a decline in egg production on 6 June 2013. LPAI virus was confirmed thru Real-Time Reverse Transcriptase/Polymerase Chain Reaction (RRT-PCR) conducted by Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission Laboratory and Hemagglutination Inhibition Test (HIT) by the National Veterinary Service Laboratories;

WHEREAS, the OIE Animal Health Information Department: H5 and H7 avian influenza in its low pathogenic form in poultry is a notifiable disease as per Chapter 10.4 on avian influenza of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2012);

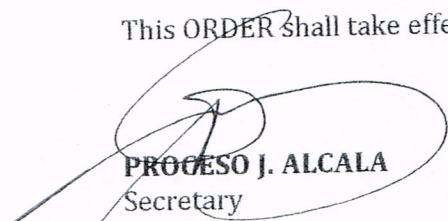
WHEREAS, travellers may bring in birds and its products from Arkansas, USA;

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PROCESO J. ALCALA, Secretary 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, including day old chicks, eggs, and semen from Arkansas, USA;¹
2. Immediate suspension of the processing, evaluation of the application and issuance of Veterinary Quarantine Clearance (VQC/SPS) to import the above-stated commodities from Arkansas, USA;
3. Stoppage and confiscation of all shipments of the above stated commodities (with the exception on heat treated products) into the country originating from Arkansas, USA by all DA Veterinary Quarantine Officers/Inspectors at all major ports.
4. Importation of meat products of poultry is subject to the conditions provided in article 10.4.19, 10.4.20 and 10.4.26 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code, 2012.²

This ORDER shall take effect immediately


PROCESO J. ALCALA
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

in replying pls cite this code
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¹ Heat treated products are acceptable following chapter 10.4 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2012) recommending, provided that in addition to the Veterinary Health Certificate, the Competent Authority will include in the certification the following:

