

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/PHL/70  
24 March 2004

(04-1332)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

## NOTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES

1.	<b>Member to Agreement notifying:</b> <u>PHILIPPINES</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved:</b>
2.	<b>Agency responsible:</b> Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), Department of Agriculture (DA)
3.	<b>Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable):</b> Domestic and wild birds, poultry meat, day-old chicks, eggs and semen
4.	<b>Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:</b> Maryland, United States
5.	<b>Title and number of pages of the notified document:</b> DA Memorandum Order (MO) No. 15, Series of 2004, 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 Maryland, USA.
6.	<b>Description of content:</b> The US Department of Agriculture confirmed the occurrence of avian flu in Pocomoke City, Maryland, United States last 5 March 2004. Two affected farms with a total population of 328,000 birds were quarantined and the birds depopulated. The Philippines imports birds from the State of Maryland. There is a need to prevent the entry of avian influenza to protect the health of the local poultry population.
7.	<b>Objective and rationale:</b> [ ] food safety, [ X ] animal health, [ ] plant protection, [ ] protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [ ] protect territory from other damage from pests
8.	<b>Nature of the urgent problem(s) and reason for urgent action:</b> Import restriction is imposed to prevent the entry of the virus causing avian influenza and to protect the health of the local poultry population.
9.	<b>International standard, guideline or recommendation:</b> [ ] Codex Alimentarius Commission, [ X ] World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), [ ] International Plant Protection Convention, [ ] None <b>If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:</b>
10.	<b>Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</b> English
11.	<b>Date of entry into force/period of application (as applicable):</b> 09 March 2004

**12. Agency or authority designated to handle comments: [ X ] National notification authority, [ X ] National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:**

**13. Texts available from: [ X ] National notification authority, [ X ] National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:**

Philippine National SPS Enquiry Point  
Office of the Director  
Policy Research Service  
Department of Agriculture  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, DA Building, Elliptical Road  
Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines  
Tel: (632) 926 7439  
Fax: (632) 928 0590  
E-mail: epad.polreser@eudoramail.com