



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Elliptical Road, Diliman
1100 Quezon City

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

No. 46
Series of 2022

SUBJECT: LIFTING THE IMPORTATION BAN ON CURED PORK MEAT PRODUCTS FROM ITALY

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture issued Memorandum Order No. 05 on January 31, 2022, restricting the entry of live swine and their products, including pork meat, pig skin, processed animal proteins, and semen from Italy due to outbreaks of African Swine fever (ASF) in wild boars;

WHEREAS, an official letter dated October 14, 2022, was received by the Philippines from the Italian authority to consider the possibility of a reversal of the ban, in view of the relevant scientific literature attesting that the ASF virus is deactivated by the process used to produce cured meats;

WHEREAS, Article 15.1.23 of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) Terrestrial Animal Health Code provides the procedure for the inactivation of African Swine Fever virus in dry-cured pig meat products, to wit: "Meat should be cured with salt and dried for a minimum of six months" and if, according to EU Regulation 687/2020, the area of origin of the animals from which the meat originates and/or the area in which the processing plant is located is free from ASF;

WHEREAS, based on the Import Risk Assessment (IRA) conducted and completed by the Department of Agriculture on November 8, 2022, the overall estimated risk of ASF introduction through cured meat is low in products such as dry-cured hams. The risk of release of ASF virus via the export of meat from Italy following the recommended physical parameters, in accordance with the OIE Code and Annex VII to EU Regulation 687/2020, is negligible, while exposure is estimated to be low;

NOW, THEREFORE, this Memorandum Circular is hereby issued, lifting the importation ban on cured pork meat products from Italy that was processed following the available minimum standards and parameters to achieve appropriate level of protection and inactivation of ASF virus. All orders, rules and regulations or parts of DA Memorandum Order No. 05 which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Order are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately.

Done this 28th day of December 2022.

DOMINGO F. PANGANIBAN
Senior Undersecretary of Agriculture



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BY: [Signature] / [Stamp]
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RECEIVED 2023-01-05