

**[NMIS ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 20 S. 2010,
October 21, 2010]**

GUIDELINES ON POST-MEAT ESTABLISHMENT CONTROL

WHEREAS, pursuant to Republic Act 9296, otherwise known as the Meat Inspection Code of the Philippines, it is the policy of the State to prescribe specific guidelines governing the flow of food animals and its meat and meat products through the various stages of marketing, preservation, and inspection, to ensure food security and provide safety and

quality standards for meat and meat products to assure the protection of the public against unreasonable risks of injury and hazards to health, and to support local government units in their endeavor to be self-reliant and continue exercising the powers in discharging the duties and functions currently vested upon them;

WHEREAS, the Act also provides that, the conduct of post-meat establishment control shall be vested in the NMIS and LGU to regulate the flow, preparation, and sale of meat and meat products for human consumption in accordance with national policies, procedures, guidelines, and rules and regulations to ensure that meat and meat products have undergone meat inspection;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Republic Act 7394, otherwise known as The Consumer Act of the Philippines, the state shall implement measures to achieve the objectives of protecting the consumer against hazards to health and safety, deceptive, unfair and unconscionable sale, acts, and practices;

WHEREAS, there had been rampant selling of hot meat, meat, and meat products, sourced from neither accredited nor locally registered meat establishments and unaccredited or banned countries, in various meat markets and other meat channels;

WHEREAS, there is a need to strengthen the power and functions of the national, provincial, city and municipal meat controlling authorities to curb down these illegal practices by unscrupulous vendors, traders, importers, consolidators, indentors, and technical smugglers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PROCESO J. ALCALA, Secretary of Agriculture, pursuant to the foregoing premises, do hereby issue the **Guidelines on Post-Meat Establishment Control**.

Section 1. Definition of Terms. – As used in these guidelines, the following terms, words, and phrases shall be construed to mean as follows:

1.1 Adulterated – carcasses, or any part thereof, whether meat or meat product, under one or more of the conditions stated in RA 9296.

1.2 Banned – refers to meat, meat products, and processed meat products that are prohibited for importation, or have come from a country, or refers to a country,

prohibited to export to the Philippines.

1.3 Casing – means the act of observing a stationary subject, such as premises where an alleged illegal activity is being conducted in order to obtain information and/or validate the complaint.

1.4 Controlling Authority – refers to the NMIS, provincial, city or municipal meat inspection service.

1.5 Core Group – the regular members of the task force currently employed as veterinary inspectors/meat control officers and meat inspectors of the NMIS, provincial, city, and/ or municipal meat inspection service.

1.6 Donee – refers to the person who or charitable institution which is a recipient of the donated meat/meat products.

1.7 Enforcement Team / Task Force – a group composed of veterinary inspectors/meat control officers, meat inspectors, and representatives from concerned LGU agencies organized and designated by the head of office to conduct post-meat establishment management activities.

1.8 Hot Meat – refers to the carcass or parts of the carcass of food animal which was slaughtered in an unregistered meat establishment and has not undergone the required inspection.

1.9 Imitation – a product that is made to appear as to be mistakable for what is real or original.

1.10 Imported – refers to meat, meat products, or processed meat products, from an accredited foreign meat establishment or country, accompanied with corresponding importation documents and have passed through the border inspection requirements of the Philippines.

1.11 Inspector / Meat Inspector – a professionally qualified and properly trained officer, duly appointed by the NMIS or the local government unit for meat inspection and control of hygiene under the supervision of a veterinary inspector.

1.12 Local Meat Inspection Service (LMIS) – includes Provincial, City, and Municipal Meat Inspection Services responsible for ensuring the safety and quality of meat and meat products for human food.

1.13 Meat – refers to the fresh, chilled or frozen, edible carcass including offal derived from food animals.

1.14 Meat Market / Channel – premises where meat, meat products, and/or processed meat products are sold, catered, or served, in public or clandestinely, for human consumption.

1.15 Meat Product – any product capable of use as human food which is made wholly or in part from any meat or other portion of the carcass of any food animal, excepting products which contain meat or other portions of such carcasses in a relatively small proportion only or historically have not been considered by consumers as products of the meat industry, and which are exempted from definition as a meat product by the Secretary under such conditions as he may prescribe to assure that the meat or other portions of such carcasses contained in

such product are not adulterated and that such products are not represented as meat products.

1.16 Mission Order – an authorization issued by the head of office directing the task force to conduct enforcement activities, such as, but not limited to surveillance, search, and seizure.

1.17 Post-Meat Establishment Control – shall mean the control measures conducted on meat products during transport up to the time of retail sale for the enforcement of regulations governing meat and meat product inspection.

1.18 Processed – includes all methods of manufacture and preservation but does not include pre-packaged fresh, chilled and frozen meat.

1.19 Seizure – the act of taking possession of hot meat or spurious meat items by the task force from a person and/or premises where the actual selling took place.

1.20 Strike Operation / Raid – an all-out act of confiscating hot meat / spurious meat items and other pieces of evidence accessory to the act of illegal selling said products, such as, but not limited to, knives, cleavers, chopping boards, containers, weighing scales, makeshift stalls, vehicle/s, and the like, and apprehension of the suspect and his accomplices / cohorts for the purpose of detention, investigation, and filing of a case/s.

1.21 Surveillance – the act of following a suspect or subject person or vehicle in order to obtain information related to a case or complaint being investigated or verified.

1.22 Veterinary Inspector or Meat Control Officer – an inspector who is professionally qualified as a veterinarian duly appointed by the NMIS or the local government unit responsible for the supervision and control of meat hygiene including meat inspection.

Section 2 . CREATION AND COMPOSITION OF AN ENFORCEMENT TEAM – An enforcement team, which shall be known as the task force shall be created through an administrative order/ordinance which shall define the role of all members of the task force. The members of the team shall be designated by the NMIS/concerned LCE of LMIS through a special order.

2.1 The team shall be composed of a core group and support group from NMIS / LMIS, the number of which shall be determined based on the requirements of NMIS / concerned LMIS. The core group shall have the following minimum qualifications:

2.1.1 For NMIS, must be a permanent employee; for LMIS, preferably a permanent employee who has completed the Basic Meat Inspector's Training Course.

2.1.2 The team leader shall be a licensed veterinarian where applicable.

2.2 In case of NMIS, the support group shall be composed of representatives from the technical services. For LMIS, the support group may be taken from other concerned LGU departments/offices which shall be represented by its head/OIC. It may be composed of, but not limited to, the office of the administrator, business permits and licensing, traffic enforcement, public order and safety, health, economic enterprise, legal, and engineering.