[BAI MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 23, S. 2004, August 20, 2004]

TEMPORARY BAN ON THE IMPORTATION AND TRANSSHIPMENT OF DOMESTIC AND WILD POULTRY AND BIRDS AND THEIR PRODUCTS INCLUDING POULTRY MEAT, DAY-OLD CHICKS, EGGS AND SEMEN ORIGINATING FROM MALAYSIA

WHEREAS, based on the report submitted by Malaysia to the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) last 19 August 2004, has confirmed an outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI);

WHEREAS, there is a possibility that some travelers may bring in pet birds from Malaysia;

WHEREAS, there is also a possibility of trans-shipment of live domestic and wild birds including poultry meat, day old chicks, eggs and semen through Malaysia;

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARTHUR C. YAP, Secretary of Agriculture, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby institute the following emergency measures;

- 1. Banning the importation and trans-shipment of domestic and wild poultry and birds and their products, including poultry meat, day-old chicks, eggs and semen from Malaysia;
- 2. Immediate suspension of the processing, evaluation and issuance of Veterinary Quarantine Clearance/International Veterinary Certificate/Import Permit for applications relevant to the importation of the above-stated commodities from Malaysia by the Bureau of Animal Industry;
- 3. Stoppage and confiscation of all shipments into the country originating and transshipped from Malaysia by all DA Veterinary Quarantine Officers/Inspectors at all major sea/air ports.

This ORDER shall take effect immediately.

Adopted: 20 Aug. 2004

(SGD.) ARTHUR C. YAP Secretary