

[BAI MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 28, December 14, 2010]

LIFTING THE TEMPORARY BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM CATTLE FROM PORTUGAL

WHEREAS, Portugal has been recognized as having a controlled Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) risk according to Resolution No. XXI during the 76th General Session of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) last May 30, 2008;

WHEREAS, recent international guidelines set out by the OIE Animal Health Code provides for conditions under which all beef and beef products from animals of all ages maybe safely traded;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PROCESO J. ALCALA, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby lift the temporary ban on the importation of meat and meat products derived from cattle from Portugal thereby allowing the importation of the above-mentioned products subject to the following conditions which shall be certified by the Ministry of Agriculture Rural Development and Fisheries of Portugal:

1. Boneless and bone-in beef can be sourced from cattle of all ages devoid of any nerves and other BSE-specified risk materials (SRM) shall be imported.
2. The beef, whether boneless or bone-in should come only from healthy ambulatory and not downer cattle.
3. The slaughter date of the cattle or the production date of the beef shall be included in the packaging label.

All shipments into the country of beef originating from Portugal not complying with these conditions shall be confiscated by DA Veterinary Quarantine Officers/ Inspectors at All Major sea/airports.

All orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Order are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

Adopted: 14 December 2010