[BAI MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 18, September 04, 2008]

LIFTING THE TEMPORARY BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF DOMESTIC AND WILD BIRDS AND THEIR PRODUCTS INCLUDING POULTRY MEAT, DAY OLD CHICKS, EGGS AND SEMEN ORIGINATING FROM CZECH REPUBLIC

WHEREAS, based on the report submitted by the Czech Republic to the Office International des Epizooties (OIE), ninety days have elapsed without any evidence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) since the cleaning and disinfection of infected premises;

WHEREAS, based on Article 2.7.12.3 of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the OIE, Ai-free status can be regained 3 months after a stamping-out policy (including disinfection of all affected establishments) is applied, providing that surveillance in accordance with Appendix 3.8.9 has been carried out during that three-month period;

WHEREAS, based on the evaluation of the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), the risk contamination from importing poultry and poultry products from Czech Republic is neglible

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ATTY. ARTHUR C. YAP, Secretary of Agriculture, by the Powers vested in me by law, do hereby lift the temporary ban on the importation of domestic and wild birds and their products including poultry meat, day old chicks, eggs and semen originating from Czech Republic.

All import transactions of the above products shall be in accordance with the existing rules and regulations of the Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Industry and National Meat Inspection Service (DA-BAI-NMIS).

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orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this order, are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.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: 4 Sept. 2008

(SGD.) ATTY. ARTHUR C. YAP Secretary