[BAI MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 08, S. 2004, February 09, 2004]

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

WHEREAS, the US Department of Agriculture confirmed the occurrence of avian flu in Kent County, Delaware, USA last February 6, 2004;

WHEREAS, there were two (2) birds tested positive for the virulent H7 virus in the said state;

WHEREAS, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea and Hong Kong already imposed a ban on US poultry imports;

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LUIS P. LORENZO, JR., Secretary of Agriculture, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby institute the following emergency measures:

- 1. Banning the importation of domestic and wild birds and their products, including day-old chicks, eggs and semen from Delaware, USA.
- 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 Delaware, USA by the Bureau of Animal Industry.
- 3. Stoppage and confiscation of all shipments of poultry and poultry products into the country originating from Delaware, USA by all DA Quarantine Inspectors/Officers at all major sea/airports.

This ORDER shall take effect immediately.

Adopted: 9 Feb. 2004

(SGD.) LUIS P. LORENZO, JR. Secretary