[BAI MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 28, S. 2004, September 06, 2004]

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 JAPAN

WHEREAS, based on the final report submitted by United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) last 12 July, 2004, it has completely eradicated the H5N1 subtype of avian influenza in Japan;

WHEREAS, after the detection of HPAI, the affected flocks were immediately depopulated and all index premises were completely cleaned and disinfected and movement control was strictly carried out within the areas around the index premises;

WHEREAS, based on the extensive surveillance conducted around the index premises, the outbreaks of HPAI in Japan have been completely controlled and eradicated and no further evidence of the virus has been detected;

WHEREAS, based on the evaluation of the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), the risk of contamination from importing poultry and poultry products from Japan, is negligible;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, 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 Japan.

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 Commission (DA-BAI-NMIC).

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orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this order, are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.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: 6 Sept. 2004

(SGD.) ARTHUR C. YAP Secretary