

**[ DA MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 18, s. 2003, May 27, 2003 ]**

**LIFTING THE TEMPORARY BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF PORK, PORK PRODUCTS AND BY-PRODUCTS FROM MAINLAND SOUTH KOREA**

WHEREAS, the *Office International des Epizooties (OIE)* recognized the restoration of Korea as foot and mouth disease (FMD)-free country without vaccination;

WHEREAS, based on the evaluation of the Bureau of Animal Industry, the risk of contamination from importing pork, pork products and by-products from South Korea is negligible;

WHEREAS, based on the evaluation of the National Meat Inspection Commission (NMIC), there is a need for the Korean Meat Traders' Association (KMTA) to police their own ranks to ensure quality standards of the meat and meat products for export;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LUIS P. LORENZO, JR. Secretary of Agriculture, by the powers vested in my by law, do hereby lift the temporary ban on the importation of live pigs, semen, pork, pork products and by-products from South Korea thereby allowing the importation of the abovementioned products, subject to the following conditions that the Veterinary Administration of the exporting country shall issue certification attesting that:

1. the live pigs, semen and meat from slaughtered animals must come from farms located in Classical Swine Fever (CSF) Free Zone and where no clinical sign of any other diseases were observed;
2. the animals were slaughtered in accredited abattoir/meat establishments listed Annex A\*, and found to be healthy before and after slaughter.

Furthermore, the KTMA shall issue good standing performance certificate of the exporting firm.

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orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this order, are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.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: 27 May 2003