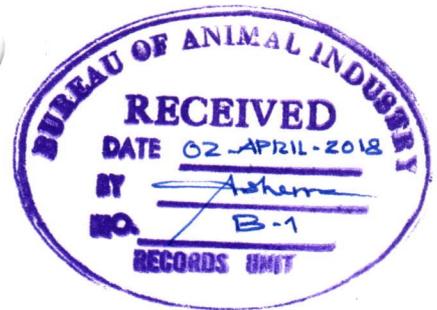




Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City, 1100 Philippines
Tax Identification Number: 000-845-895



February 21, 2018

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

No. 02
Series of 2018

SUBJECT: REINSTATEMENT OF ONLINE PROCESSING AND ELECTRONIC APPROVAL OF SPS IMPORTATION CLEARANCE FOR LIVE ANIMALS, GENETIC MATERIALS, ANIMAL PRODUCTS, ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS, VETERINARY DRUGS AND BIOLOGICS, FEED AND FEED INGREDIENTS

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture created the Technical Working Groups (TWG)-Monitoring, Evaluation and Inspection Groups that shall ensure the integrity of the SPS Importation Clearance (SPS-IC) pursuant to **DA Memorandum Circular No.5** dated November 22, 2016;

WHEREAS, as per **DA-Special Order No. 1116** dated November 24, 2016, the approval and authority to sign the SPS or Import Clearance shall be the DA Secretary or Chief of Staff or Undersecretary for Operations;

WHEREAS, the importer was directed to file SPS-IC application online thru the DA-Intercommerce but the concerned regulatory Bureau shall manually process and endorse the application to the Office of the Secretary for validation and approval as provided in the **DA Memorandum** dated December 5, 2016;

WHEREAS, the verification on issued SPS-Import Permits as well as on the accreditation status of facilities and importers have been well carried out and completed;

WHEREAS, the proposal for implementation of fully online application and issuance of SPS-IC of the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) to the Office of the Secretary was approved last January 18, 2018 and commenced on February 12, 2018, and through the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Operations endorsed to the DA Regulatory agencies in a letter dated February 9, 2018 the adoption of similar measures in order to facilitate a more efficient issuance of SPS-IC;

NOW THEREFORE, I, EMMANUEL F. PIÑOL, Secretary of Agriculture, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law and in order to carry out the President's directive to further streamline government frontline services so as to be more timely and efficient, do hereby issue this Circular reinstating the Full **Online Processing and Electronic Approval** of SPS Importation Clearance or Import Permit for Live Animals, Genetic Materials, Animal Products, Animal By-Products, Veterinary Drugs and Biologics, Feed and Feed Ingredients;

The incoming shipment shall be subjected to the usual inspection upon arrival at the port of entry together with the checking of required documentation.

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force until revoked in writing. All orders and memoranda inconsistent herewith are deemed revoked or amended accordingly.

EMMANUEL F. PIÑOL
Secretary