

Republic of Lebanon
Ministry of Agriculture

The Minister

[stamp of Directorate of Animal Wealth, no. 988/6, dated 22/05/2009]

Decision No. 239/1
Specification of Conditions for Import of Animal Products

The Minister of Agriculture,

Based on Decree No. 18 dated 11/07/2008 (formation of government),
Based on Legislative Decree No. 97 dated 16/09/1983 and its amendments (merger of public institutions with the Ministry of Agriculture and reorganization of the Ministry),
Based on Law No. 31 dated 18/01/1955 and its amendments, in particular Article Two therein (designating the tasks of the Ministry of Agriculture),
Based on Decree No. 5246 dated 20/06/1994 and its amendments (organization of the Ministry of Agriculture...),
Based on the Law issued by Decree No. 12301 dated 20/03/1963, in particular Article 10 therein,
Based on Decisions No. 166/1 dated 13/04/1996, No. 228/1 dated 14/05/1996, No. 477/1 dated 15/02/2005 and No. 156/1 dated 28/03/2009 relating to the preconditions for import of live animals and their products,
Based on accelerating developments in the world economy and presence of new ways of marketing, requiring reconsideration of the relevant Decisions within the health controls and preconditions observed by the rules and regulations in force,
Based on the meeting held on 11/05/2009 between the Minister and officials of the Ministry, members of the International Organization for Animal Health, and parties concerned in this sector,
Based on the studies of the Directorate of Animal Wealth, No. 837/6 dated 07/05/2007 and No. 688/6 dated 08/05/2009,
Based on the recommendation of the acting Director General for Agriculture,

Has Decided the following:

Article One: Animal products may be imported directly from the country of origin or from a port or airport of a country neighboring the country of origin, accompanied by a bill of lading showing that the goods are intended for Lebanon.

[For circulation.

Signed: Acting Director of Animal Affairs, Dr Abdo Medawar, 22/05/2009]

Article Two: The following documents shall accompany the animal products imported:

1. Certificate of origin, authenticated by the chamber of commerce or industry or agriculture or the parties concerned with authentication.
2. Veterinary health certificate issued by the authorities concerned in the country of origin.
3. Bill of lading showing that the goods are intended for Lebanon.

The lead used to stamp the container in the country of origin should remain intact on arrival at the Lebanese border crossing.

Article Three: Processed animal products, excluding cold and frozen meats, which are packaged in the country of origin may be imported for purpose of re-export to another country on condition that:

- a. The brand and its trademark were already permitted import into Lebanon.
- b. The products are imported from a second country in containers ready for sale as a finished product.
- c. They are accompanied by the following documents:
 1. A copy of the original certificate of origin issued by the country of origin.
 2. A copy of the veterinary health certificate issued by the country of origin showing clearly:
 - Type and weight of the container.
 - Production date and expiration date.
 3. A veterinary health certificate issued by the veterinary authorities in the second country verifying the origin of the goods and showing clearly:
 - Type and weight of the container.
 - Production date and expiration date.

And confirming that the goods the subject of the certificate did not undergo any transfer or change of containers or labels in the country of origin.

Article Four: Animal products, excluding cold and frozen meats, that were unloaded in the free zone of another country may be imported provided that these products are accompanied by a veterinary health certificate issued by the veterinary health quarantine of this free zone where unloading took place and are also accompanied by the original veterinary health certificate and certificate of origin signed by the veterinary authorities in the free zone where unloading took place. Determination of which free zones may be considered authorized shall be by decision of the Minister of Agriculture at the recommendation of the Directorate of Animal Wealth based on a request presented by the importer.

Article Five: In any and all cases, the Ministry of Agriculture may undertake any additional investigation into the validity and legality of the documents presented, and may reject any document it deems of doubtful validity. The Ministry may request any other document that it deems suitable.

Article Six: Entry shall be barred to any shipment of animal products found to have been destined for another country, and no unloading will be done whatever the reasons.

The Ministry of Agriculture shall refuse receipt of imported animal products if it is found that the country of origin did not indicate that the product is unsafe based on the bulletins of the International Animal Health Organization or other specialized international organizations (e.g., WHO, FAO).

Article Seven: All texts contrary to the content of this Decision are hereby cancelled, in particular Decisions No. 166/1 dated 13/04/1996, No. 228/1 dated 14/07/1996, No. 477/1 dated 15/12/2005 and No. 156/1 dated 28/03/2009.

Article Eight: This Decision shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall take effect as of the date of its publication.

Article Nine: Whosoever is concerned shall be notified of this Decision.

Beirut, 16/05/2009
Minister of Agriculture
Elias Skaff
[signature and stamp]

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