




REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

1099 Manila

MASTER COPY

MEMORANDUM

TO : The District/Port Collectors, All Ports And Sub-Ports

FROM :  **ATTY. EDWARD JAMES A. DY BUCO**
Deputy Commissioner, AOCG

Date : 22 April 2019

Subject : Bureau of Animal Industry – Request for a List of Cargo Houses, Couriers, Forwarders, Brokers etc.

The above-captioned subject pertains to the attached letter of Mr. Ronnie D. Domingo, Officer-in-Charge, Director, Bureau of Animal Industry relative to the looming threat of potential incursion of African Swine Fever (ASF) due to sustaining and progressing disease outbreaks in China since its first reported case on 3 August 2018. As represented, ASF is a highly transmissible and fatal disease of pigs with no available treatment worldwide. The environment resistant nature of ASF virus facilitates its spread through live or dead pigs, domestic or wild, and pork products.

Further, one important identified possible route of introduction of the virus is through smuggled shipment, luggage or hand carried items that might be containing infected, uncooked or undercooked pork, pork products and by products from ASF affected countries which dock/land in seaports and airports that could potentially be transmitted indirectly through swill feeding to local swine.

Relative thereto, the BAI request the assistance of the Bureau to provide **a list of cargo houses, couriers, forwarders, brokers and other entities of similar nature with international operations** in order to ensure proper information dissemination and cooperation of these relevant stakeholders.

In view of the foregoing, please submit the requested list for its subsequent consolidation to the Port Operations Service, AOCG on or before 30 April 2019.



2019-04-017 p.2

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

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April 10, 2019

REY LEONARDO B. GUERRERO
Commissioner
Bureau of Customs
Gate 3, South Harbor, Port Area, Manila

BUREAU OF CUSTOMS	
OFFICE OPERATIONS COORDINATION DIVISION	
RECEIVED BY:	Daniel
TIME:	4:04
DATE:	4-12-19

BUREAU OF CUSTOMS MESSAGE CENTER	
RECEIVED	
APR 11 2019	
BY: <u>prey</u>	TIME: <u>6:57</u>



BOC-09-01083

Dear Commissioner Guerrero,

As with the rest of ASEAN Member countries, the Philippines is presently facing a looming threat of potential incursion of African Swine Fever (ASF) due to sustaining and progressing disease outbreaks in China since its first reported case on August 3, 2018. The recent outbreaks of ASF in Mongolia, Vietnam and Cambodia represent a continual, growing threat for the pig industry in Asia, regardless of national borders. ASF is a highly transmissible and fatal disease of pigs with no available treatment worldwide. The environment resistant nature of ASF virus facilitates its spread through live or dead pigs, domestic or wild, and pork products. Moreover, transmission can also occur via contaminated feed and fomites (non-living objects) such as shoes, clothes, vehicles, farm equipment, etc. brought in by crews and passengers.

One important identified possible route of introduction of the virus is through smuggled shipment, luggage or hand carried items that might be containing infected, uncooked or undercooked pork, pork products and by products from ASF affected countries which dock/land in our seaports and airports that could potentially be transmitted indirectly through swill feeding to local swine. It has been customary to our foreign based relatives and "balikbayans" to send parcels and packages containing canned or processed food items that might carry the virus. Thus, stringent screening procedures and public compliance to existing regulations and preventive measures are essential.

Relative thereto, may we respectfully request the assistance of **Bureau of Customs (BOC)** to **kindly provide a list of cargo houses, couriers, forwarders, brokers and other entities of similar nature with international operations**, in order to ensure proper information dissemination and cooperation of these relevant stakeholders.

Your utmost consideration and support on this matter to keep our countries ASF free will be highly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE D. DOMINGO, DVM, MSc
Officer in Charge, Director

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES BUREAU OF CUSTOMS OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER ASSESSMENT & OPERATIONS COORDINATING GROUP	
RECEIVED	
BY: <u>Cherie</u>	
DATE: <u>12 APR 2019</u>	
TIME: <u>12pm</u>	

BUREAU OF CUSTOMS	
PORT OPERATIONS SERVICE	
RECEIVED BY: <u>Daniel</u>	
TIME: <u>2:52</u>	
DATE: <u>4-12-19</u>	