



## **AVA'S EXERCISE TO TEST OPERATIONAL READINESS TO DEAL WITH A BIRD FLU OUTBREAK**

The Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority (AVA) will be testing its emergency preparedness to respond to an outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) or bird flu, through an exercise on 22 March 2012.

2 Code-named "Exercise Gallus VI", this will be AVA's sixth exercise, and will test AVA's crisis management framework and the operational readiness of AVA staff when dealing with an outbreak of bird flu. Specifically, the exercise will test:

- i) The activation and recall process for emergency response staff;
- ii) Efficiency of logistic teams in preparing staff for their assigned duties;
- iii) Efficiency of the system of "culling" and disposal (no chickens will be used in this exercise);
- iv) A new foam decontamination process; and
- v) Surveillance protocol at an "unaffected" poultry farm.

3 The exercise will be held at AVA's Veterinary Public Health Centre premise in Lim Chu Kang as well as at a local poultry farm.

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# **MEDIA RELEASE**