



UPDATE ON SUSPENSION OF POULTRY IMPORTS FROM MALAYSIA – MALAYSIA'S PROPOSAL FOR RESUMPTION OF EXPORTS FROM DISEASE FREE AREAS

1 As mentioned by the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority's (AVA) spokesman yesterday, AVA has been working with Malaysia to look into resuming the export of poultry and eggs to Singapore from bird flu disease free areas in Malaysia. AVA has since received a proposal from Malaysia's Department of Veterinary Services (DVS).

2 AVA is studying the proposal to ensure that the biosecurity measures put in place by DVS are able to establish and maintain Johor and Malacca as bird flu disease free areas, in line with international standards. The biosecurity measures include the establishment of buffer zones to isolate the disease free states from the affected area in Malaysia and road blocks for movement control, as well as intensive disease surveillance programmes. An inspection team of 4 senior AVA officers will be in Malaysia this evening to evaluate the operationalisation and adequacy of the biosecurity measures. The thorough evaluation will take a few days to complete.

3 If AVA is satisfied that Malacca and Johor are free of the disease and disease prevention and control measures have been put firmly in place, so that public health and animal health will not be compromised, AVA will consider lifting the suspension on imports from these states without the need to wait for Kelantan to be declared bird flu free.

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