

Statutory Instruments

S.I. No. 190 of 2006

European Communities (Control on Imports of Products of Animal Origin from Madagascar) Regulations 2006

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European Communities (Control on Imports of Products of Animal Origin from Madagascar) Regulations 2006

I, Mary Coughlan, Minister for Agriculture and Food, in exercise of the powers conferred on me by section 3 of the European Communities Act 1972 (No. 27 of 1972), and for the purpose of giving effect to Commission Decision 2006/241/EC¹ of 24 March 2006, hereby make the following regulations:-

Citation

1. These Regulations may be cited as the European Communities (Control on Imports of Products of Animal Origin from Madagascar) Regulations 2006.

Interpretation

- 2.(1) In these Regulations —

"animal product" has the same meaning as in Article 1 of the Commission Decision;

"authorised officer" means —

- (a) an authorised officer within the meaning of section 17A (inserted by section 2 of the Diseases of Animals (Amendment) Act 2001 (No. 3 of 2001) of the Diseases of Animals Act 1966 (No. 6 of 1966),
- (b) a member of the Garda Síochána, or
- (c) an officer of Customs and Excise;

"Commission Decision" means Commission Decision 2006/241/EC of 24 March 2006;

"Madagascar" means the territory of Madagascar;

"Minister" means the Minister for Agriculture and Food;

"premises" includes land with or without buildings;

"vehicle" includes a ship, hovercraft, aircraft and offshore installation (being an offshore installation within the meaning assigned to it by section 2 (1) of the Safety, Health and Welfare (Offshore Installations) Act, 1987 (No. 18 of 1987)).

¹ OJ No. L88. 25.03.2006, p 63

- (2) A word or expression that is used in these Regulations and that is also used in the Commission Decision has, unless the contrary intention appears, the same meaning in these Regulations as it has in the Commission Decision.

Restriction on imports of Animal Products

3. (1) A person, including the master or person in charge of a vehicle, shall not import an animal product, from Madagascar or cause or permit another person to import an animal product from Madagascar.
- (2) A person, including the master or person in charge of a vehicle shall not have in his or her possession or under his or her control an animal product that has been imported in contravention of paragraphs (1).

Authorised Officers

4. (1) An authorised officer may, for the purpose of enforcing these Regulations and the Commission Decision, exercise all or any of the powers conferred on an authorised officer under section 17A of the Diseases of Animals Act 1966.
- (2) An authorised officer shall not enter, other than with the consent of the occupier, a private dwelling, unless he or she has obtained a search warrant under Regulation 5.
- (3) An authorised officer when exercising any powers under this Regulation or Regulation 5 may be accompanied by other persons and may take with him or her, or those persons may take with them, any equipment or materials to assist the officer in the exercise of those powers.
- (4) An authorised officer shall not be liable in any proceedings for anything done in the purported exercise of his or her powers under this Regulation if the court is satisfied that the act was done in good faith and that there were reasonable grounds for doing it.
- (5) If a member of the Garda Síochána has reasonable cause to suspect that a person has committed an offence under these Regulations, the member may without warrant arrest the person.

Search Warrant

5. (1) If a judge of the District Court is satisfied by information on oath of an authorised officer that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting-

- (a) that there is on any land or in any premises, vehicle, vessel, aircraft or container any animal product that has been, may have been or may be imported in contravention of Regulations 3, or
- (b) that there is evidence of an offence under these regulations relating to any animal product therein or thereon,

the judge may issue a search warrant.

- (2) A search warrant issued under this Regulation shall be expressed and operate to authorise a named authorised officer, accompanied by such authorised officers, members of the Garda Síochána, officers of Customs and Excise and other persons as the named officer thinks necessary, at any time or times, within one month from the date of issue of the warrant, on production if so requested of the warrant, to enter (if necessary by force) the land, premises or vehicle, vessel, aircraft or container named in the warrant.
- (3) Where any premises, land or vehicle, vessel, aircraft or container is entered pursuant to a warrant issued under this Regulation, an authorised officer so entering may exercise all or any of the powers conferred on an authorised officer under these Regulations.

Obstruction

- 6. A person shall not -
 - (a) obstruct or impede an authorised officer in the exercise of any of his or her powers under Regulation 4 or 5.
 - (b) fail, without reasonable excuse, to comply with a requirement or direction made by an authorised officer under Regulation 4, or
 - (c) in purporting to give information required by an authorised officer for the performance of the officer's powers under Regulation 4 –
 - (i) make a statement which he or she knows to be false in a material particular or recklessly make a statement which is false in a material particular, or
 - (ii) fail to disclose any material particular.

Offences

- 7. (1) A person who, by act or omission, contravenes Regulation 3 or 6, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding

€5,000 or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding 6 months, or to both such fine and such imprisonment.

- (2) An offence under these Regulations may be prosecuted by the Minister
- (3) If an offence under these Regulations has been committed by a body corporate and it is proved to have been so committed with the consent or connivance of or to be attributable to any neglect on the part of any person who, when the offence was committed, was a director, manager, secretary or other officer of the body corporate, or a person purporting to act in any such capacity, that person, as well as the body corporate, commits an offence and is liable to be proceeded against and punished as if he or she committed the first-mentioned offence.
- (4) If the affairs of a body corporate are managed by its members, paragraph (3) shall apply in relation to the acts and defaults of a member in connection with the functions of management as if such a member were a director or manager of the body corporate.

GIVEN under my Official Seal,
April 2006

Mary Coughlan
Minister for Agriculture and Food

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the instrument and does not purport to be a legal interpretation.)

This Order gives effect to Commission Decision 2006/241/EC concerning certain protective measures with regard to importation of certain products of animal origin, excluding fishery products, originating in Madagascar.

Instrument No.:

Instrument Title: European Communities (Avian Influenza) (Control on Imports from Madagascar) Regulations 2006