

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF ISABELA
City of Ilagan

Office of the Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. <u>OG</u>

CREATION OF TASK FORCE BIRD FLU THAT WILL BE RESPONSIBLE IN THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF BIRD FLU (AVIAN INFLUENZA) IN POULTRY AND IN HUMAN IN THE PROVINCE OF ISABELA

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the state to promote a just and fair environment for trade and other economic activities and provide effective mechanism or measures to promote the well-being of its citizens and safeguard them from human activities that pose risk to public health and safety;

WHEREAS, the Province of Isabela is one the provinces that has a progressive poultry industry with big poultry inventory raised by backyard as well as commercial growers, and that their products are not just consumed in the province but are also shared to other provinces and regions.

WHEREAS, an outbreak of Bird Flu, a highly contagious disease that killed thousands of poultry and caused culling of another hundred thousands was reported in Barangka Baliuag, Bulacan last January 06, 2022 and that another outbreak of the disease was reported in Pampanga, Laguna, Camarines Sur, Nueva Ecija, Bataan, Tarlac, Sultan Kudarat, Benguet, North Cotobato and Davao Del Sur despite the disease containment efforts of the Government;

WHEREAS, our province had positive bird flu cases in barangay Marabulig 2, Cauayan City and barangay Bantug Petines, Alicia on April 23 and May 5, 2022 respectively as declared by the Department of Agriculture – Regional Field Office No. 02.

WHEREAS, the outbreak of Bird Flu in the 12 provinces for a period of three (3) months demonstrates how fast the disease may be transmitted thereby posing threat to the poultry industry in the province and causing alarm to the poultry raisers as well as to the consumers.

WHEREAS, there exists an urgency to create a Task Force that will establish the monitoring and quarantine of poultry transported to Isabela, as well as set up related procedures that will ensure the quality and safety of poultry meat products in Isabela;

NOW THEREFORE, I, RODOLFO T. ALBANO III, Governor of Isabela, by virtue of powers vested in me by law, do hereby decree the following:

Section 1. Creation of the Task Force. There is hereby created a Task Force to monitor the entry of live poultry, poultry products and its by-products in Isabela into the 34 municipalities and three (3) cities of Isabela, and ensure that poultry and meat quality and safety standards are complied with dealers/transporters of poultry meat its by-products;

Section 2. Composition. The Task Force shall be composed of the following:

Chairman - Hon. Rodolfo T. Albano III

Vice Chairman - Hon. Faustino G. Dy III

Task Force Commander - **Dr. Belina N. Barboza** (Committee on Animal Health Protection) Provincial Veterinarian

Task Force Commander - **Dr. Nelson O. Paguirigan, MD., MPH, FPSMS**(Committee on Human Health Protection) Provincial Health Officer

Members - Atty. Constante A. Foronda, Jr.
Public Safety Officer (PSO)

PCOL. Julio R. Go
Isabela Provincial Police Office

Atty. Eduardo R. Cabantac
Provincial Planning and Development Office

Engr. Crispulo S. Santos
Provincial Agriculture and Fishery Council

Engr. Corazon D. Toribio, CESO VDepartment of the Interior Local Government

Ms. Maria Theresa Araneta-Flores, CPAProvincial Treasurer's Office

Ms. Elsa M. Pastrana Provincial Budget Office

Atty. Elizabeth Cureg-BinagProvincial Information Office

Ms. Marites E. Frogoso, DPA
Office of the Provincial Agriculturist

Mr. Rodrigo T. Sawit

Provincial General Services Office

For. Geronimo P. Cabaccan, Jr.
Environmental and Natural Resources Office

Section 3. Functions. The Task Force shall have the following functions:

 a) Intensify Animal Health Quarantine Checkpoints in the four (4) entry points (Municipality of Cordon, Quezon, Sta. Maria and San Pablo) of the province for the inspection of incoming poultry animals and by-products including chicken dung; Ensure the compliance of incoming poultry suppliers with applicable agriculture and environmental laws, and identity irregular, inappropriate, suspicious, and potentially unsafe and unhealthy practices and procedures governing or related to the transport of the poultry to Isabela;

c) Refer to the proper law enforcement authorities, all individual with incomplete documents who are involved in the transport of poultry animals fresh meat products, as well as those who are transporting unhealthy poultry animals;

 d) Conduct regular assessment of the health Inspection and Quarantine personnel to help determine the impact of the transported poultry on public health and safety;

e) Create a database containing information gathered and researched, and raw and processed data that will be helpful in the conduct of monitoring activities, which can be accessed by members of the Task Force;

f) Recommend corrective mitigating measures in accordance with its mandate, including but not limited to penalties and fines, and the issuance of a temporary or permanent ban or erring outside suppliers who brought in sick or suspicious poultry, in violation of this Order;

g) Conduct regular meetings for cohesive action and systematic procedures;

 Request from any official, instrumentality or agency of the government or any private person or enterprise dealing in or engaged in public and health and safety, such data or information as it may need to implement its mandate;

i) Recruit and screen persons from the private or public sector for designation as additional members of the Task Force, as necessary;

Disseminate information on public health and food safety to all residents of Isabela, to raise awareness or increase public vigilance on food quality and safety issues as well as arm them with information on what signs or symptoms to look out for when raising poultry or purchasing fresh meat products;

k) Submit a quarterly report of all findings and recommendations to the Provincial Governor for his action;

Perform other tasks as may be necessary to achieve the objectives of the Task Force.

Section 4. Funding. Funding for the Task Force shall be sourced from the Office of the Governor.

Section 5. Repealing Clause. All issuances, orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof that are in consistent with any provision of this Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 6. Effectivity. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Issued this 19th day of _____May_____, 2022 in the City of Ilagan, Isabela.

RODOLFO T. ALBANO III