



Guide to the Identification and Systematization of Information on International Trade Regulations for the Poultry Sector



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Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) 2022



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International Trade Regulations for the Poultry
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Preface

Working together, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the Latin American Poultry Association (ALA) have developed this document to afford ALA members easy access to aspects of up-to-date national regulations governing trade in the poultry sector that the Association's member countries require to be able to access international markets.

IICA and ALA undertook this joint initiative due to the countries' need for timely, up-to-date, and easy-to-access information for the poultry sector. Until now, this information has only been published periodically in a piecemeal fashion, in newsletters and via social networks.

In addition to this document, there is an ongoing three-stage project that calls for: (i) the identification and collection of information, (ii) the identification of tools for its systematization, and (iii) an analysis of sustainability, implementation, and dissemination. The aim in the first stage is to collect information, for which six-digit tariff codes related to the chicken meat sector were chosen that are of interest to members; and international, national, and regional databases were researched that provide useful information on restrictive measures applied by countries to trade in poultry products.

In the remaining stages, the project will seek to: assist ALA members as they make use of and comply with the commitments assumed by their countries in the field of international agricultural trade; strengthen the technical capabilities of ALA members in trade policy matters; and present to ALA members proposed national, regional, and international regulations that are currently the subject of public consultations.

Finally, it is hoped that the authorities and the private sector will find this document useful, and that the information provided will enable them to submit contributions to the consultation process and make timely preparations for any changes to regulations.

Signature Federico Villarreal

Signature Juana Galvan

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This document is the result of a joint effort by the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the Latin American Poultry Association (ALA). **Adriana Campos** (IICA) coordinated the drafting of the document, which was the responsibility of intern **Christian Vargas**, and **Juana Galván and Maxwell Reyna** (ALA).

Christian Vargas deserves special mention for drafting the main content of the publication. We would also like to express our gratitude to **Daniel Rodríguez**, Manager of the IICA International Trade and Regional Integration Program, who lent his support. And to **Diana Arroyo**, for her collaboration with the infographics and layout work.

Southern Region: Argentina



1) Regulations governing primary production

Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants

[Resolution No. 542/2010](#) of 20 August 2010 establishes the requirements regarding facilities, biosecurity, hygiene and sanitary control for purposes of registering and issuing health certificates to commercial poultry establishments, such as hatcheries and establishments rearing chickens, hens, ducks, turkeys, pheasants, quail, ratites and other domestic birds for commercial purposes, whether for meat, eggs or other by-products.

Health certification. Establishments must be certified by the National Service of Agrifood Health and Quality (SENASA), prior to engaging in these activities, for which they will require the relevant provincial or municipal permit and license.

Provisional health certification. Establishments that apply for health certification but that do not strictly satisfy all the requirements established in the existing regulations, may be awarded a provisional health certificate for no less than one month and no more than one year, at the discretion of the local office, and with the approval of the Regional and National Animal Health Office. Applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis, considering factors such as time, mode and place, and are to be documented in official records. Once the provisional period has ended and the conditions have been met, the establishment will be awarded final approval. If not, the establishment's provisional certificate will be revoked.

Reasons for revoking health certification. Having been issued a health certificate, the establishment must maintain its operational conditions and continue to satisfy the requirements on the basis of which the certificate was awarded. Noncompliance with the requirements established in the resolution, failure to cooperate with the competent authority or any obstruction of inspections and/or sampling required for the implementation of national surveillance plans and/or disease control will be considered grounds for revoking the certificate, without prejudice to any relevant sanctions that may apply.

Transfer of the health certificate to another party. This transfer will be undertaken either at the joint request of the current owner and the new owner or only at the request of the latter, when the legal instrument attesting to the change of ownership of the establishment has been reliably accredited. Until the transfer is granted, the obligations and responsibilities accruing to the original holder of the health certificate will remain in force.

Change in the accredited health officer. The relevant local office should be advised of any change of the veterinarian responsible for oversight of health-related matters at the establishment, within 15 days of this taking effect.

Change in the zootechnical purpose. In the event that an establishment that has been certified for a specific zootechnical activity (livestock rearing, meat or egg production) wishes to change its activities, they must seek the authorization of the local office, and said authorization will be subject to the decision of the office.

Authorization for poultry slaughtering. The veterinary inspection service under the jurisdiction of the regional center in which the establishment is located will authorize the

slaughtering of birds if these birds are from farms with the requisite health certification and if their certification number is recorded on the corresponding sanitary transit permit.

A health document must be prepared for each batch of birds produced, indicating the place of origin of the animals. Thus, it enables traceability, providing a guarantee to the consumer regarding the quality and safety of poultry meat and other poultry products.

The businesses also contribute to quality improvement by implementing plans to ensure good manufacturing practices (GMPs) and Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP), audited by SENASA veterinary services.

Health certification requirements for poultry establishments (Annex 1, [Article 22](#) of Resolution No. 542/2010 of 20 August 2010).

In order for a poultry facility to be granted a health certification, it must submit the following to the local SENASA office in the jurisdiction where the facility is located:

- 1) A provincial or municipal permit that authorizes the establishment to operate, within the specific field and/or activity for which permission was requested, as well as a license, land use or zoning permit, or any other related documentation issued by the municipality, district, department or competent agency that certifies that the facility is located in a zone that is suitable for its purpose.
 - 2) Registration number in the National Health Registry of Agricultural Producers.
 - 3) If the application is by a legal entity, the company bylaws or articles of incorporation, as well as the company registration documentation.
 - 4) An application requesting a poultry establishment health certificate.
 - 5) Breeding facilities and hatcheries must submit their registration number in the National Registry of Poultry Breeders and Hatcheries and must also register with the Program for Mycoplasma and Salmonella Control in Poultry and for Preventing and Monitoring Exotic and High-Risk Diseases in Breeding Facilities, in accordance with [Resolution No. 882/2002](#) of 5 December 2002.
 - 6) An accredited veterinarian must be registered as the individual responsible for sanitary matters in the establishment. The local offices are tasked with maintaining a record of veterinarians with oversight for the poultry establishments within their jurisdiction, which should include their personal data, data related to their professional qualifications and their signature. This record should always be kept up to date.
 - 7) SENASA staff will conduct an inspection of the establishment, ensuring that it complies with the requirements stipulated in this regulation.
- **Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases, such as Newcastle disease and avian influenza**

Newcastle disease

[Resolution No. 683/96](#) of 31 October 1996 states that Newcastle Disease must be diagnosed using techniques that have been internationally established and officially accepted and recognized, in order that the results throughout the country may be collated. SENASA is responsible for implementing or ensuring the implementation of the following measures:

- a) An official count of all the birds in the establishment, detailing the number of dead birds and birds with clinical symptoms and any changes in that data over the surveillance period;
- b) Collection and sending of samples to the laboratory, according to the indicators specified in Annex I of this resolution;
- c) Isolation of all birds to prevent contact with other birds;
- d) Steps to prevent the entry of new birds into the facility and the movement of birds out of the facility; and
- e) Steps to curtail movement of persons, animals, vehicles, bird carcasses, waste, manure, tools, food or any other element capable of transmitting the disease.

Avian influenza

The entities with primary responsibility for public health and animal health actions are the Ministry of Public Health and Environment and SENASA, respectively. No case of the disease has ever been detected in the country, and thus Argentina is internationally recognized as a country that is free of avian influenza.

[SENASA Resolution No. 1078/99](#) of 27 September 1999 established the Active Epidemiological Surveillance Program, which is carried out annually and assesses the following populations: commercial birds, pure bred birds, non-commercial birds (domestic birds) and wild birds.

The Program includes a closed season on importation of live birds and fresh poultry products from countries with the disease, serology and virology testing of imported birds and the sampling of local production. Live, commercial, ornamental and non-commercial birds must be held in quarantine on entering the country, during which time SENASA will take serum samples and cloacal swabs to conduct testing to isolate the virus that causes avian influenza.

It must be noted that the virus cannot be transmitted through food consumption, given that exposing the meat to temperatures above 70°C guarantees that it will be inactivated. Thus, infection through consumption of chicken or eggs is impossible.

- **Biosecurity regulations**

According to [Resolution No. 1421/2000](#) of 15 September 2000, in order to renew or issue certification for cattle farms, they must be equipped with facilities that enable proper management, inspection and treatment in the location, including enclosures, loading bays, alleys, squeeze chutes and headgates.



SENASA will establish measures to be adopted vis-à-vis animals that are sick—with or without obvious clinical symptoms—their contacts, as well as other animals that appear to be sick or have displayed evidence of such, through lab tests. It is authorized to oversee the slaughtering or culling of animals, disinfection and disinfestation of the facilities and affected areas, and waste disposal. Upon identifying animals with any clinical symptoms or for which lab tests have detected the minimal presence of any exotic disease, SENASA will require that the animals be confined to their location and that all preventive measures included in these regulations be adopted, to ensure a maximum level of prevention of disease spread and prophylaxis.

SENASA must certify a washing and disinfection facility for vehicles that transport livestock, located on the premises or within a radius of no more than 12.5 km, in accordance with the provisions of [Resolution No. 275/72](#) of 21 December 1972. All vehicles arriving with animals to be unloaded at stockyards should produce the relevant documentation attesting to washing and disinfection, which the official SENASA representative will keep after the animals have been unloaded to prevent re-use. Once unloading has been completed, the vehicle will not be allowed to depart the premises without the corresponding washing or disinfection at the on-site facility or at the facility within a radius of 12.5 km, before carrying a new load of animals.

SENASA staff will conduct the respective inspections and certification, and must be present from the beginning until the end of the activities. In order to ensure effective control and inspection of animals entering the stockyard and of the supporting health documentation, arrival of animals will only be authorized at times of the day when there is natural light. Therefore, entry later than one hour prior to the start of the auction or cattle market will not be permitted.

Any cattle market operating without prior written authorization from SENASA will be deemed a high-level health risk, and all the animals involved will be confiscated and slaughtered, and the owner will not be entitled to any compensation.

SENASA is empowered to prescribe supplementary technical standards to improve compliance with the aforementioned sanitary measures, as well as to prescribe supplementary regulations, rules of interpretation and all measures that contribute to ensuring greater compliance with this resolution.

- **Animal welfare regulations**

In situations in which animal welfare is affected, a report can be made to SENASA in reference to a production establishment, the transportation of live animals or a cold storage facility. The following existing regulations governing the welfare of domestic production animals are important:

- [Law No. 346](#) of 5 November 1954 on animal protection establishes penalties for those who mistreat animals or subject them to cruelty.
- [Law No. 18 819](#) of 14 October 1970 “Stunning Techniques for Slaughtering Animals” establishes proper techniques for slaughtering animals.
- [SENASA Resolution No. 413/2003](#) of 20 August 2003 prohibits force feeding of birds, for whatever use, as well as the sale of the resulting products or organs.
- [SENASA Resolution No. 46/2014](#) of 30 January 2014 incorporates Chapter XXXII on animal welfare into the Regulations on the inspection of products, by-products or derivatives of animal origin.

- **Official antimicrobial resistance surveillance plans**

[Joint Resolutions No. 834/2015 and 391/2015](#), published on 29 June 2015, and [SENASA Resolution No. 609/2007](#) of 28 September 2007 establish that all veterinary products with antimicrobial properties will be categorized as prescription drugs. [Resolution No. 666/2011](#), published on 14 September 2011, determines that establishments producing animals for human consumption should maintain a record of treatments administered, which is subject to inspection by SENASA, and which should make note of all veterinary drugs administered to production animals.

In 2013, SENASA introduced the National Traceability System for Phytosanitary and Veterinary Products to identify the amount and types of antimicrobials that are sold as veterinary products. This online system is based on sworn declarations regarding the sale of veterinary products at all levels of the commercial chain, from the manufacturer or importer of the products to the veterinarian that prescribes and sells the product. Thus, when the product is sold, the seller should declare what has been sold and the identity of the buyer who received the item and assumed responsibility for ownership of the acquired products.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

Microbiological criteria

[Resolution No. 336/2016](#) of 28 June 2016 establishes the *Procedural Manual for Microbiological Monitoring in Managing the Cleaning and Disinfection of Establishments* that process products from poultry, eggs, minor species and game birds.

In accordance with this Manual, establishments must adhere to the following obligations. They must:

- a) Undertake microbiological monitoring to manage cleaning and disinfection.
- b) Follow the minimal steps that the procedure indicates for sampling and all procedures in the Self-Management System.
- c) Train operators that are undertaking sampling in techniques for taking, handling and dispatching samples.
- d) Submit a list of contact surfaces and the surface and work equipment sampling plan to the Veterinary Inspection Service (SIV).
- e) Implement statistical analyses (averages) of the microbiological results that have been obtained and ensure their availability for inspection by the SIV.
- f) Advise the SIV, within no more than 48 hours, of the laboratory results.
- g) Submit to the SIV, within no more than 48 hours, the plan for corrective actions and any preventive measures that have been adopted.

3) Regulations governing trade

Import requirements

According to [Resolution No. 552/2002](#) of 16 June 2002, importation of all products, by-products or derivatives of animal origin must be approved by way of an export health certificate signed by an authorized professional employed to the official health inspection services of the country of origin or provenance that is recognized by SENASA. The notarization of that signature by a consular office will be required, where appropriate.

Among other things, the certificate must include the following: country of origin and destination, type of product, packaging, amount, weight, processor establishment, seal and container number (where applicable), identification of the mode of transport, as well as the zoosanitary and public health requirements for the certified product and any other data that SENASA requests in accordance with the law.

The health certificate authorizing the importation of the goods must be in Spanish or accompanied by a Spanish translation prepared by a national public translator and must be presented when the item enters the country.

All entities importing products of animal origin should be registered in the SENASA Importation Register in accordance with the rules prescribed by this national service.

Upon arrival at the authorized border checkpoint, the imported goods will be inspected by SENASA staff. Once physical, documentary and identification control requirements have been satisfied, the goods will be sent to the establishment with the previously authorized SIV services for final clearance.

Southern Region: Chile



1) Regulations governing primary production

Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants

[Resolution No. 3138](#), published on 28 October 1999, establishes certification requirements for poultry meat producers that wish to export animals or animal products to Chile.

Slaughterhouses. The processor/exporter must be registered on the List of Establishments Producing Livestock Products for Export (LEEPP).

In order for an establishment to be authorized to export, the destination country must have a specific ruling in place authorizing this type of export. The accreditation of a manufacturer/exporter must be obtained directly from the authorities of the destination country; therefore, the Agricultural and Livestock Service (SAG) must arrange for the official inspectors of that country to visit the establishment to verify compliance with that country's requirements.

If the establishment does not have the requisite registration, certification will not be granted. It is advisable that the establishment consult the SAG website or contact the closest office.

Click on the following links to access the evaluation template for:

- [Registration on LEEPP List](#)
- [Certification of establishments](#)

Moreover, the following are lists of slaughterhouses certified for:

- [Domestic consumption](#)
- [Exportation](#)

[This link outlines the requirements for the certification of markets and products, the types of certification and the evaluation template, in accordance with the market.](#)

- Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases

Avian influenza:

[Resolution No. 1445](#) of 17 April 2020 stated that the country was free of avian influenza.

Newcastle disease:

[Resolution No. 1469](#) of 12 October 2007 declared the country free from Newcastle disease and sanitary control measures were established regarding velogenic Newcastle disease by way of Resolution No. 1030 of 20 July 2007.

- *Biosecurity and transportation regulations*

Biosecurity:

Under its [2006 Action Plan for the Prevention of and Response to Avian Influenza \(AI\)](#), SAG, in collaboration with the Commission on Biosecurity in Commercial Poultry and Aviculture Family Farming Establishments, developed seven manuals on biosecurity

procedures in commercial plants and backyard poultry establishments to inform and enable their application by poultry owners in the country. These, in addition to the *Technical Instructions on Biosecurity in the Handling of Birds*, are fundamental for training and communicating the risks, with a view to preventing the entry of exotic bird diseases into the country. These eight documents are presented below:

Manuals:

- [Procedures Manual No. 1 BIOSAV/MP1: Biosecurity in Granddam Facilities: BIOSAV/MP1](#)
- [Biosecurity in Poultry Breeding Facilities: BIOSAV/MP2](#)
- [Biosecurity in Commercial Layer Facilities: BIOSAV/MP3](#)
- [Biosecurity in Hatcheries for Commercial Meat Birds and Layers: BIOSAV/MP4](#)
- [Biosecurity in Broiler Facilities: BIOSAV/MP5](#)
- [Biosecurity in Ratite Facilities: BIOSAV/MP6](#)
- [Biosecurity in Backyard Poultry Farming: BIOSAV/MP7](#)

Technical Instructions:

- [Technical Instruction Booklet No. 1 VIGEP/IT3: Personal Biosecurity in the Handling of Birds](#)

Transportation of animals, products and by-products

Animals, products and by-products are considered to be in-transit when they are arriving in Chile from one destination on the way to a third country. This movement is regulated in order to minimize the likelihood of the introduction of animal diseases. To this end, the following general sanitary measures must be followed:

- Transit of livestock products and inputs ([Resolution No. 2153](#) of 7 August 1997). Moreover, animals and products may only be brought into the country through [authorized air, maritime or land ports of entry](#), in accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture's [Exemption Decree No. 53](#) of 29 January 2007.

- ***Animal welfare regulations***

On 3 October 2009, Chile implemented [Law No. 20380](#) on Animal Protection, as well as three supplementary regulations, whose application is monitored by SAG, as the competent authority on this issue. These areas include:

- **Regulations on protecting cattle during transportation** ([Decree No. 30](#) of 16 May 2013).
 - **Regulations on protection during the slaughter of animals reared for meat, skins, feathers and other products in processing establishments** ([Decree No. 28](#) of 30 May 2013).
 - **Regulations on the protection of animals during processing, trade and while in confinement areas** ([Decree No. 29](#) of 24 May 2013).
- ***Official antimicrobial resistance surveillance plans***

These have been implemented by way of the following resolutions:

- [No. 3466/2017 of 5 June 2017](#) created a list of veterinary diagnostic laboratories for sanitary programs, determining how their results would be officially recognized and stipulating dissemination of these results. This resolution replaced Resolution No. 5070/2012;
- [No. 908/2012 of 13 February 2012](#), which approved the *Technical Instruction Booklet on Disseminating the Results of Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories* - [I-PP-VE-015](#).
- The [List of Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories](#).

Veterinary inspection

In 2001, the Undersecretariat of Public Health of the Ministry of Health (on behalf of the regional ministerial health secretariats) and SAG signed agreements to delegate the responsibility for the veterinary-medical inspection of slaughter cattle, poultry and their meat, covering all commercial slaughterhouses (for domestic consumption and export) and some slaughterhouses for personal consumption.

These agreements entrust SAG with ensuring that all fresh meat and its by-products from the delegated establishments are produced in accordance with health parameters established in two Ministry of Health technical standards:

- [General Technical Standard No. 62](#), enacted on 16 July 2002, in reference to the medical and veterinary inspection of slaughter cattle and their meat and criteria to classify its suitability for human consumption; and
- [General Technical Standard No. 117](#) of July 2010, in reference to the medical and veterinary inspection of poultry animals and their meat.

In order to comply with the above regulations, SAG has sought to ensure that facilities are monitored by official inspection teams, comprising official veterinarians and technical inspectors.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

Official surveillance plans

The monitoring of animal diseases focuses on two objectives:

- Ensuring timely and widespread access to updated health-related information regarding the major animal diseases that are present in the country;
- Establishing an early detection system for diseases that are not present in Chile, with a view to activating actions to contain and eliminate the causal agent.

[List of diseases requiring mandatory notification to SAG](#)

The Epidemiological Surveillance System has three components:

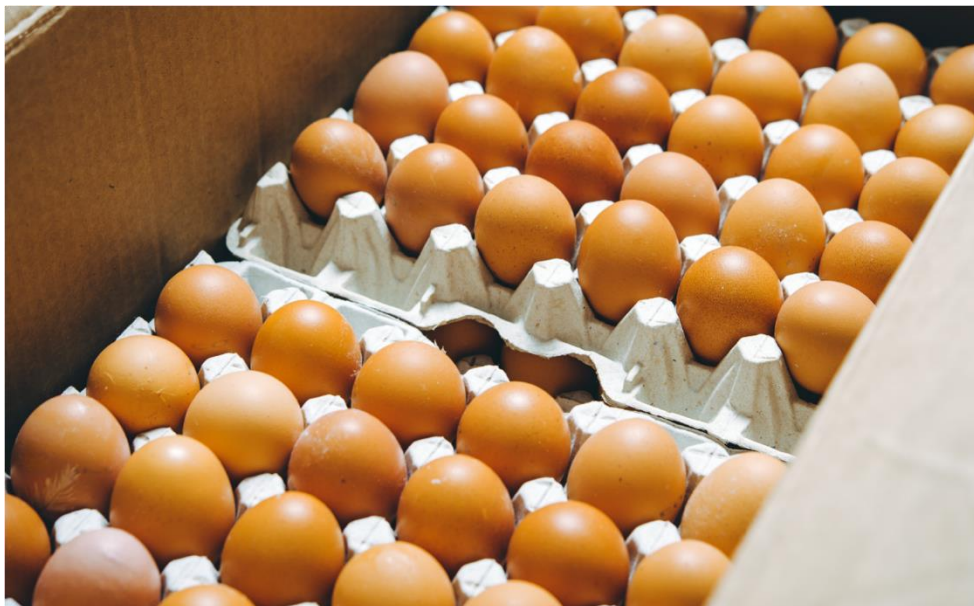
- [Active surveillance](#) undertaken via an annual program of national scope.
- [Passive surveillance](#) that involves receiving and responding to reports on transmissible diseases and pathologies affecting animals.
- [Surveillance in risk areas](#) that is undertaken in highland pastures, fairgrounds, poultry establishments and family farming properties.

3) Regulations governing trade

Import requirements

[Resolution No. 1552](#), published on 4 April 2008, establishes health requirements for importing processed meat and processed poultry products into Chile.

- 1) Processed poultry meat and poultry meat products that are brought into the country must be accompanied by an official health certificate, issued at the time of shipment by the authorized health authority of the country of origin, in accordance with the format approved by the Agricultural and Livestock Service and prepared in Spanish and in the official language of the country of origin.
- 2) For purposes of this resolution two categories of products are recognized:
 - a) Raw products, that is, products that have been processed without the application of any type of thermal treatment.
 - b) Thermally processed products that during preparation were subjected to heat at a defined temperature and for a specified time.
- 3) Countries or regions satisfying the conditions outlined in the SAG resolution on sanitary requirements for the importation of fresh poultry meat may export any of the above-mentioned products to Chile.
- 4) Countries that fail to satisfy the previously mentioned conditions may export products in Category b) to Chile, only when these products originate from plants where there has been no outbreak of Newcastle disease or avian influenza in the last six months, as well as from slaughterhouses and processing establishments in regions that have been evaluated by SAG and where there has been no outbreak of the aforementioned diseases in the last



three months. Meat from countries that are only allowed to export Category b) products to Chile must be deboned and must have been subjected to one of the following types of thermal treatment:

- a) A minimum temperature of 70°C, applied to all the meat for at least 82 seconds;
- b) A minimum temperature of 74°C, applied to all the meat for at least 40 seconds;
- c) A minimum temperature of 80°C, applied to all the meat for at least 29 seconds;
- d) Treatment in a hermetically-sealed container to an Fo value of 3 or more; or
- e) Any other thermal treatment previously proposed by the competent veterinary authority and that in the view of SAG can be scientifically proven to be equivalent to one of the abovementioned thermal treatments.

5) The poultry used to produce the meat products:

- a) Must have been born in the exporting country or region or imported as day-old chicks, and also bred and slaughtered there.
- b) Must not have been slaughtered as part of a process to eradicate infectious diseases or parasites, nor have come from regions in which quarantine restrictions were imposed on the species.
- c) Must have been slaughtered in a slaughterhouse authorized to export by the competent official health authority, operating with a permanent official veterinarian and under proper structural, operational and health inspection conditions.
- d) Must have undergone ante and postmortem inspections, displaying no signs of transmissible diseases.

6) The product was processed in a processing plant that SAG authorized for export to Chile.

7) The product must include a label indicating the processing and expiration dates.

8) The containers and packaging must be sealed and labelled. The label should describe the product and indicate the volume and net weight, the establishment where it was processed and the country of origin.

9) Transportation of meat products, from the establishment of origin to their destination in Chile, must be on vessels and in compartments that ensure that hygienic and sanitary conditions are maintained.

10) On arrival to the country, they may be tested, as determined by SAG.

[Resolution No. 3817](#) of 17 August 2006 establishes health requirements for the entry of fresh, chilled or frozen poultry, specifically in relation to the country of origin, the processing plant, the birds, meat, packaging, transportation and certification.

11) [Resolution No. 1748](#), published on 27 March 2017, establishes obligations for the entry of offal meal, meat and bone meal and oils or fat from poultry, swine or horses, such as the following:

- a) Products should be backed by an official health certificate issued by the competent health authority of the country of origin, indicating the name of the production establishment, the product, amount and net weight, name of the exporter and the consignee and the method of transportation.
- b) The health certificate should state the following:
- The poultry, swine and horses used to produce the offal meal, meat and bone meal and the oils or fats:
 - Were slaughtered in a slaughterhouse operating under the permanent oversight of official veterinary services and in compliance with the necessary structural, operational and sanitary inspection requirements for export.
 - Underwent an antemortem inspection in a slaughterhouse operating under the permanent oversight of official veterinary services.
 - The offal meal, meat and bone meal and the oils or fats:
 - Were processed in a rendering facility that was approved by the competent health authority in Chile and that does not process raw material from ruminants or contains separate processing lines.
 - Were subjected to a minimum temperature of 90°C for at least 10 minutes.
 - Were processed under sanitary conditions and in accordance with GMPs, including precautions to prevent cross-contamination between the processed and the unprocessed products.
- c) The containers for the products should be sealed and labelled. Labels should indicate the name of the country, establishment of origin, identification of the product, volume and net weight.
- d) Transportation of the product from the establishment of origin to its destination in Chile should be on vessels and in containers that ensure that hygienic and sanitary conditions are maintained.
- e) In the case of offal meal and meat and bone meal, each production batch must have undergone microbiological analysis, complying with the following:
- *Salmonella*: absent in 25 g: n = 5, c = 0, m = 0, M = 0
 - *Enterobacteriaceae*: n = 5, c = 2, m = 10, M = 300 in 1 g
- Where:
- n = number of samples
- m = threshold value for the number of bacteria; the result is considered satisfactory if the number of bacteria in all samples does not exceed m.
- M = maximum value for the number of bacteria; the result is considered unsatisfactory if the number of bacteria in one or more samples is M or more; and
- c = number of samples of which the bacterial count may be between m and M, the sample still being considered acceptable if the bacterial count of the other samples is m or less.
- These results should be indicated on the official health certificate or attached to the corresponding protocol documents.
- On entering the country, the products must be subjected to controls and the costs will be borne by the user.

Southern Region: Brazil



1) Regulations governing primary production

- Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants

[Normative Instruction No. 18/2017](#) of 25 May 2017 establishes procedures for the registration, supervision and control of establishments involved in poultry breeding, commerce, training and research.

[Decree No. 9013](#) of 29 March 2017 (RIISPOA) provides more information about the classification of establishments, oversight and the industrial and sanitary inspection of products of animal origin.

A company that is eyeing the export market should first [register the establishment](#) with the [Federal Inspection Service \(SIF\)](#) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply, which certifies that the facility and the different stages of the production process are in compliance with sanitary, technical and legal regulations. After completing registration, the company must request authorization to export from the [Department of Animal Product Inspection \(DIPOA\)](#) at the Secretariat of Agricultural and Livestock Health.

Any company that has been authorized to trade internationally should be included in the general or specific list(s) of [authorized export establishments](#). For details, please consult the [Procedures and Requirements for Listing National establishments](#) form. Moreover, to obtain information on importing animal products to Brazil and on the countries that are authorized to export to Brazil, the document to consult is [Importation of products of animal origin](#).

Note

It is essential that countries verify all content in memoranda and letters circulated on the SIGSIF and PGA/SIGSIF bulletin board. Countries or products not listed on the form are not covered by a signed bilateral health agreement. Therefore, if countries are interested in selling their products in the corresponding markets, they must check with the importer about the possibility of export in accordance with [Memorandum No. 67/2015/GAB/DIPOA](#) of 10 March 2015.

Registration of imported products

In order to export products to Brazil, the overseas production establishment must apply to the DIPOA to register their products/label, in accordance with the guidelines included in [Normative Instruction No. 01/2017](#) of 31 January 2017 regarding the registration of products in the PGA-SIGSIF electronic system of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply (MAPA). It is also important to verify that the company has an [International Health Certificate \(IHC\)](#) and a [Declaration of Conformity for Products of Animal Origin \(DCPOA\)](#), issued by way of an authentication code.

- Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases

Brazil has implemented [Normative Instruction No. 32](#) of 13 May 2002, which is a technical standard for the monitoring, control and eradication of avian influenza and Newcastle disease.

[Normative Instruction No. 20](#) of 21 October 2016 establishes provisions for the control and monitoring of *Salmonella spp.* in commercial broiler and turkey establishments and broiler and turkey slaughterhouses registered with the SIF, in a bid to reduce the prevalence of the pathogen, while ensuring adequate levels of protection for national and international consumers. Noncompliance with these provisions may lead to sanctions. For example, the establishment may have to be evaluated and a *Salmonella spp* investigation may be undertaken by accredited laboratories prior to allowing the products to be released.

In poultry, *Salmonella Enterica*, *Salmonella Typhimurium* or monophasic *Salmonella* represent major concerns for public health. If any of these are detected, the products are thermally treated prior to being sold to guarantee elimination of the pathogen.

Moreover, the facility must identify the cause of the breach (identification of the presence of the pathogen), review its self-management programs and adopt corrective and preventative measures to re-establish compliance in this area, both in the slaughterhouse and on the poultry farms.

As part of its inspection activities, as described in [Internal Regulation DIPOA/SDA No. 01](#) of 8 March 2017, MAPA undertakes official verification of control programs within companies as part of health certification and laboratory analysis processes. This includes assessing compliance with specific market requirements. For purposes of traceability, supporting documents, which are evaluated in each health certification exercise, are kept on file.

Additionally, the National Prevention and Monitoring Plan for avian influenza and Newcastle disease establishes biosecurity and epidemiological surveillance measures.

- *Biosecurity and transportation regulations*

[Normative Instruction No. 56](#), published on 6 December 2007, guarantees a greater level of biosecurity for Brazilian poultry production and provides a description of the hygienic, sanitary and biosecurity measures that should be adopted by the poultry establishment, as well as technological processes, including a detailed description of the management approach, the location and isolation of the facilities, natural and physical barriers, access controls and traffic flow, protection of the feed and water supply, the poultry health program, contingency plan and staff training plan.

- *Animal welfare regulations*

With respect to animal welfare, the country established [Normative Instruction No. 3](#), dated 17 January 2000, which approved Technical Regulations on Stunning Methods for the Humane Slaughter of Slaughter Animals.

Moreover, in 2010, the World Society for the Protection of Animals published a manual on [The Humane Slaughtering of Birds](#).

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

- Product regulations

[Normative Instruction No. 17](#) of 6 March 2020 established procedures for recognition of equivalence and adherence to the Brazilian Animal Products Inspection System and the Unified Agricultural Health Care System.

[Collegiate Board Resolution - RDC No. 45](#) of 3 November 2010 approved the Technical Regulations on Food Additives, in compliance with GMPs.

[Normative Instruction No. 22](#) of 24 November 2005 approved the Technical Regulations for Labelling Packaged Products of Animal Origin. Moreover, with respect to the registering of labels, [Normative Instruction No. 1](#) of 11 January 2017 superseded Circular Letter 42/2010, stipulating that much like the registration of establishments and products, the registration of labels should be done using the PGA/SIGSIF information platform.

In reference to hormone-treated meat and poultry, MAPA [Normative Instruction No. 17](#) of 18 June 2004 prohibits the importation, production, marketing and use of natural or artificial substances with anabolic hormonal effect for purposes of inducing growth and accelerating weight gain.

Import requirements:

Health certificate

After an establishment has been registered and certified it may export products of animal origin, accompanied by an international health certificate (CSI).

The CSI is the official document (printed or in electronic format) issued by the competent authority to authorize national or international transit of raw materials and products of animal origin, in compliance with sanitary, technical and legal requirements.

[Normative Instruction No. 23](#) of 26 July 2018 and its [clarifications](#) establish the procedures to obtain this certificate and outline important concepts, such as:

Health certification. Procedure by which the competent authority at MAPA ensures that raw materials and products of animal origin comply with sanitary, technical and legal requirements.

Certification Center. MAPA unit that has a Federal Inspection Service (SIF) that issues National Health Certificates, International Health Certificates (CSIs) and the Transit Permits (GTs).

Issuing unit. This is the Federal Inspection Service (SIF), Certification Center or International Agricultural Surveillance Unit responsible for issuing the health certificate.

DCPOA. Document issued by a representative from the establishment, in printed or electronic format, to attest to the fact that the raw materials and products of animal origin to certify comply with the requisite sanitary, technical and legal requirements of the importing country.

GT. Official document, in printed or electronic format, issued by the competent authority, regarding the movement of raw materials and products of animal origin within the country, in compliance with sanitary, technical and legal requirements.

National establishments

All owners of establishments that wish to trade internationally (exporting from Brazil) should consult the template on procedures and requirements for the accreditation of national establishments, to determine if there are specific requirements to export to their intended markets. If so, the company may apply to the SIF to conduct an analysis.

If the establishment satisfies the market requirements and if the SIF considers it to be acceptable, the process must be undertaken on the Electronic Information System, following the rules included in [Normative Instruction No. 27](#) of 27 August 2008. If on assessment, the request is considered to be satisfactory, the Animal Products Inspection Service responsible for the establishment should forward it to the Qualification and Certification Division.

Furthermore, the [Manual to request, verify and issue International Health Certificates \(CSIs\), National Health Certificates \(CSNs\) and Transit Permits through SIGSIF](#) was also published by way of [Memorandum No. 138/GAB/DIPOA/2014](#) of 15 April 2014.

Southern Region: Paraguay



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants**

[Resolution No. 4009/14](#) of 31 October 2014 establishes new requirements for poultry facilities and establishments as regards biosecurity, hygiene and sanitary management, including:

- The presence of a trained veterinarian who is registered with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock; and
- A log with health-related information on additives, daily egg production and feed consumption.

Decree No. 15 000 of 4 November 1996 establishes the Hygiene and Security Standard for the Certification of Poultry Breeding Establishments and Hatcheries for Trade within the Southern Common Market.

Other sources of reference are the Technical Instruction Manual: Officially Certified Poultry Establishments—containing requirements for poultry establishments to become officially certified—and the Procedural Manual.

- **Self-declaration and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases**

Newcastle disease is considered to have been eradicated in the country, as it has not been detected since 1997 and Paraguay declared itself free of the disease on 11 December 2000, via Decree No. 11 469.

In 1966, the Republic of Paraguay established sanitary measures to control Newcastle disease via Decree No. 20 274/66.

In 1970, Decree No. 15 655/70 established sanitary measures governing the importation of poultry and eggs, stipulating that they be accompanied by a health certificate from the country of origin attesting to the absence of infectious, contagious or parasitic diseases in the establishment of origin.

At the same time, measures were also implemented for the importation of vaccines against Newcastle disease for their application in the country.

From 2000 to date, the country has also been undertaking sero-epidemiological sampling, in conjunction with cloacal and tracheal swabbing of poultry and wild and migratory bird populations to detect viral activity for Newcastle disease and avian influenza.

Avian influenza is considered to be an exotic disease as it has not been diagnosed in the country. Therefore, sanitary surveillance measures have been put in place to prevent its entry into the country.

Article 2 of [Law No. 99/91](#) of 16 December 1991 tasks the National Animal Health

Service (SENASA) with organizing and implementing the National Animal Health Plan, which includes actions to combat Newcastle disease.

Since 1992, the Newcastle Disease Control Program has been implemented and executed at the national level, focusing primarily on vaccination strategies, active epidemiological surveillance, control of outbreaks and health education. Decree No. 21 945/98 provides a legal framework for implementation.

Avian influenza is a notifiable disease pursuant to Resolution No. 105/06. It is caused by the avian influenza type A virus and may affect various poultry species bred for consumption (chickens, turkeys, pheasants, guinea fowl, etc.), as well as pets and wild birds. Some variants may result in high mortality rates.

- **Animal welfare regulations**

The country has implemented Law No. 4840 of 28 January 2013 regarding animal protection and welfare.

- **Official antimicrobial resistance surveillance plans**

Paraguay instituted the 2019-2023 National Antimicrobial Resistance Action Plan, by way of Resolution SG 163/2018, which was approved by the National Antimicrobial Resistance Technical Committee.

Resolution No. 147/87 of 18 September 1987 approved bromatological regulations with respect to food, food additives, food products, and non-alcoholic and alcoholic beverages.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

- **Product regulations**

Decree No. 17 056 of 29 April 1997 outlines general criteria for containers and food equipment that come into contact with food.

Resolution No. 327/95 of 7 August 1995 regulates the provisions of Executive Decree No. 8734/95, regarding technical standards on labels, tags and pre-measured products.

Decree No. 3255 of 19 October 1989 prohibits the production, importation, marketing and use of substances with hormonal effect to accelerate weight gain in animals whose meat and products are intended for human consumption and regulates the use of other substances used in animal breeding.

- **Import requirements**

Resolution No. 90/96 of 8 May 1996 regulates meat imports, as well as products, by-products and derivatives of animal origin.

Decree No. 3737/2020 of 22 June 2020 established the Register of Meat and Offal Importers of *Gallus domesticus* and import licenses for products under tariff headings NCM 0207.11.00, 0207.12.00, 0207.13.00 and 0207.14.00.

Decrees No. 15 000, No. 3255, No. 17 056, No. 11 469, No. 20 274, No.15 655 and No. 21 945, and Resolutions No. 105/06, SG No.163/2018, No.147/87, No.327/95 and No. 90/96 are available for online consultation.

Southern Region: Uruguay



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Poultry establishments and processing plants**

[Decree No. 199/013](#), published on 15 July 2013, stipulates requirements for establishments registered in the Animal Industry Division (DIA) to be authorized to export. The export authorization is given to a slaughterhouse and/or meat or meat products processor that has already been certified by DIA at the Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries (MGAP). Moreover, the applicant must also satisfy the requirements established in [Decree No. 369/983](#) of 16 November 1983 (certification for the domestic market) that sets out conditions and hygienic and sanitary requirements to certify slaughterhouses, processors and meat storage facilities and their products destined for the domestic market.

[Decree No. 396/019](#) was published on 31 December 2019 as an update to Decree No. 170/004 establishing the mandatory obligation to register and certify hatcheries, as well as poultry breeding, broiler production and egg production facilities for all poultry species bred for commercial purposes with the Animal Health Division of the Directorate-General of Livestock Services (DGSG).

- **Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases**

In response to the avian influenza or bird flu, [Decree No. 50/004](#) of 11 February 2004 prohibited entry to the country of domestic or wild birds, eggs and related products from the Asian region, including Korea, Japan, Vietnam, China, Indonesia, Laos, Pakistan, Thailand, Cambodia, and the island of Taiwan.

[Decree No. 434/982](#), published on 14 December 1982, and other supplementary resolutions established a registry of hatcheries and breeding facilities. Annual control measures for avian Salmonellosis (Pullorum and Typhimurium) in these establishments is mandatory through rapid plate hemagglutination testing undertaken or supervised by a qualified veterinarian. The veterinarian should verify that the test has been administered, prepare the corresponding certificates, identify and isolate chickens that are diseased or suspected and finally, supervise the culling of these animals.

- **Biosecurity regulations**

[Resolution No. 18/008](#) of 24 March 2008 establishes sanitary biosecurity standards for the certification of poultry breeding and broiler and egg production establishments, as well as hatcheries for all poultry species used for commercial purposes, with regards to the facilities, operations and management of carcass residue and waste.

- **Animal welfare regulations**

[Decree No. 396/2019](#), published on 31 December 2019 as an update to regulations governing operations in the poultry sector, stipulates that poultry meat should be identified using a system that ensures that parts are readily distinguishable. The competent health authority will determine the specific cuts of meat that must be identified. The Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries, through its competent technical divisions, will be responsible for defining the characteristics, conditions, expiry dates and management of the identifiers. The Ministry may collaborate with other governmental or para-governmental

institutions to ensure compliance with the established procedures.

Health certification and registration of establishments utilizing other avian species for commercial purposes will be governed by the provisions established in [Decree No. 51/004, published on 17 February 2004](#), as well as by regulations stipulated for this purpose by the competent authority.

The DGSG of the Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries should plan, manage, regulate and execute health programs for the prevention, surveillance, control and eradication of avian diseases, whether for health or environmental purposes or to abide by international market requirements. Moreover, the Division is empowered to carry out, based on reasonable grounds, the seizure, culling or total stamping out of birds for health reasons or due to noncompliance with animal welfare regulations.

The [Guide to Best Practices in Animal Welfare During the Rearing and Slaughter of Meat Producing Birds](#) defines specific recommendations relative to poultry (*Gallus gallus*) reared for meat production, with a view to improving the welfare of the animals during intensive breeding. It includes indicators to assess the welfare of the animals during production on the farm and in the final period of their lives, from transportation to stunning.

- **Official antimicrobial surveillance plans and biological waste programs**

The country established the [National Plan for the Containment of Antimicrobial Resistance in Uruguay](#), as well as [microbiological control programs](#) to monitor veterinary drug residue and environmental contaminants in products of animal origin at the national level. Sampling is conducted on the meat and by-products of cattle, sheep, horses, as well as on game meat, cow's milk and by-products, honey and aquaculture products. Moreover, samples from swine and poultry are analyzed.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

a) Product regulations

Uruguay has implemented product certification procedures, based on national and international standards. Imported products must undergo a process to verify compliance with national bromatological conditions, in order to protect the consumer, ensure that the products pose no risk to health and verify that their labels contain information that is readily understood, reflective of the product being offered and true. The Technological Laboratory of Uruguay is responsible for oversight and certification of processed products intended for export, in accordance with the provisions of [Decree 338/82](#) of 22 September 1982.

Moreover, [Resolution No. 315/017](#) of 28 September 2017 refers to formulas and instruction to register monographs and labels for meat, meat products and by-products and egg products that have been imported.

b) Processing regulations

Pursuant to [Article 214 of Decree No. 369/983](#) of 7 October 1983, the Animal Industry Division will determine the rules and procedures to verify whether the composition of meat

products meets the hygienic and sanitary requirements set out in current legislation, and whether the food substances and additives are within permissible limits.

The DGSG is tasked with authorizing the importation of animals and products of animal origin, in accordance with the provisions of [Law No. 3606](#) of 13 April 1910.

In accordance with [Decree No. 55/003](#) of 6 February 2003, the Ministry of Public Health (MSP) will establish the sanitary requirements for food products for human consumption, in consultation with the General Directorate of Health, which in 2003 replaced the Ministry's Technical Commission. The standards laid down by the Ministry are based on Codex Alimentarius standards. The MSP has delegated the responsibility for certain functions to municipal authorities and to the MGAP. Thus, municipal administrations ensure compliance with the [National Bromatological Regulations](#), whereas the MGAP oversees the control of the hygiene and sanitary conditions of establishments involved in food production, processing and preparation, within its sphere of competence.

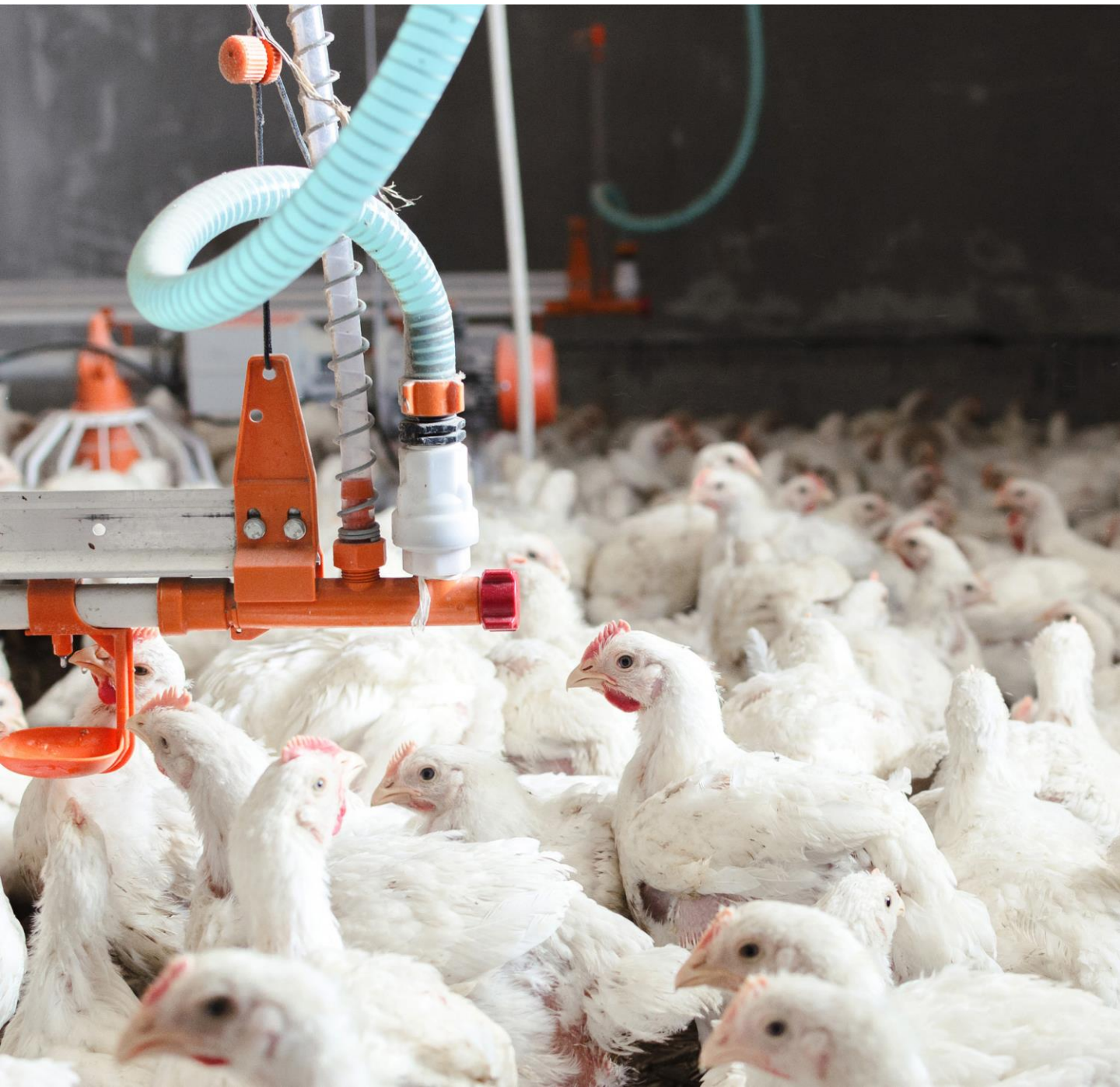
DGSG [Resolution S/N/008](#) of 15 December 2008 establishes regulations for the production, storage, composition and use of mechanically separated or mechanically recovered meat, including poultry.

3) Regulations governing trade

Import requirements

- According to [Resolution No. 47](#) of the National Meat Institute (INAC), dated 15 April 1993, the importer must be registered in the Register of Poultry Meat Exporters and Importers.
- The Resolution regarding [Authorization to Import Food for Human Consumption Containing Ingredients of Animal Origin](#), [Decree No. 14/93 of 12 January 1993](#), and [Law No. 3606](#), published on 26 April 1910, stipulate the requirements to introduce (import) products and by-products of animal origin into the country (with the exception of dairy products, meat and bee products). Moreover, the products may need to satisfy other requirements, such as prior authorization or registration requirements.
- INAC [Resolution No. 13/017](#) of 25 February 2013 states that importers of meat of all species covered in [Decree Law No. 15 605](#) of 3 August 1984, which are bringing in meat intended for the domestic market, should prepare a corresponding 1A or 1B guide, as appropriate, labelled "GUIDE EXCLUSIVELY FOR IMPORTED MEAT".

Andean Region: Perú



1) Regulations governing primary production

a) Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants

[Law No. 27 322](#): Framework Law on Agricultural Health, dated 23 July 2000, and [Supreme Decree No. 029-2007-AG](#) of 1 November 2007 designate the National Agrarian Health Service (SENASA) as the national authority in this area. Moreover, the law established the Poultry Health System Regulations to regulate sanitary measures related to standardization, protection and oversight of the poultry industry, including registration and accreditation of establishments, sanitary controls, disease monitoring, safety and the accreditation of poultry health professionals.

[Supreme Decree No. 020-2009-AG](#) of 13 October 2009 **modified** the Poultry Health System Regulations.

Furthermore, [Administrative Resolution No. 143-2001-AG-SENASA](#) of 28 June 2001 approved the procedure for the health accreditation of establishments devoted to exporting products and by-products of animal origin.

b) Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases

[Supreme Decree No. 010-2003-AG](#) of 23 March 2003 establishes regulations on sanitary measures for the control and eradication of Newcastle disease. The country also instituted a [Zonal Plan for the Eradication of Newcastle Disease and the Control of Poultry Product Safety](#), approved via [Administrative Resolution No. 0082-2019-MINAGRI-SENASA](#) of 26 June 2019.

[Administrative Resolution No. 230-2002-AG-SENASA](#) of 30 October 2002 approved the Action Plan for the Prevention of Avian Influenza in Peru.

Moreover, there is supporting documentation regarding Peru's declaration as a country free from avian influenza.

- Letter addressed to Dr. Bernard Vallat, Director General of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), dated 15 September 2005.
- Administrative Resolution 273-2005-AG-SENASA in which Peru declares itself as free from avian influenza, dated 30 December 2005

[Administrative Resolution No. 386-2008-AG-SENASA](#) of 3 December 2008 approved the Plan for the Prevention, Control and Eradication of Avian Infectious Laryngotracheitis in Peru.

Biosecurity and transportation regulations

[Annex 3, Chapter 15 of Supreme Decree No. 010-2003-AG](#) lists the major biosecurity measures that farms must adopt to minimize the risk of entry of infectious diseases, including aspects related to isolation, design, perimeter fencing, access, feed, water, materials and equipment, medicine, waste disposal, pest control, visitation records and biosecurity measures in transporting animals, among others.

Animal welfare regulations

The OIE defines animal welfare as the physical and mental state of an animal in relation to the conditions in which it lives and dies.

The organization's guidelines on the welfare of terrestrial animals include the “**five freedoms**” established in 1965 and widely recognized to describe the rights that human beings must uphold, namely, to ensure that animals live without:

- 8) hunger, thirst or malnutrition;
- 9) fear or distress;
- 10) physical discomfort or heat stress;
- 11) pain, injury or disease, and
- 12) with the freedom to express normal patterns of behavior.

2) National regulations

Peru enacted [Law No. 30 407: Animal Protection and Welfare Law](#) of 8 January 2016, the Guide to Best Practices in Poultry Production (reproduction and fattening) and official antimicrobial resistance surveillance plans.

Moreover, [Supreme Decree No. 010-2019-AG](#) of 17 May 2019 approved the Multisectoral Plan to Tackle Antimicrobial Resistance.

Additionally, the [2017-2021 National Plan to Tackle Antimicrobial Resistance](#) was also established.

3) Regulations governing trade

Import requirements

[Supreme Decree No. 051-2000-AG](#) of 16 September 2000, establishing the Zoosanitary Regulations Governing the Importation and Exportation of Animals, Products and By-products of Animal Origin, was devised to prevent the emergence and spread within the country of infectious and contagious diseases of quarantine importance, which affect animal health and/or the health quality of products and by-products of animal origin.

Third-party authorization

Authorization request

Existing procedures related to the official administering of the Poultry Health System Regulations are as follows:

1. [Health Certification or Renewal of Operations in Poultry Farms and Hatcheries](#)
2. [Guidelines for Imposing Sanctions in the Poultry Health System](#)

Andean Region: Bolivia



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants**

[Administrative Resolution No. 120/2002](#) of 29 August 2002 approved the General Regulations on Poultry Farming in Bolivia, which incorporate the Procedural Manual for the Inspection and Registration of Poultry Farmers, and F.S.A 001, 002, 003-A, 003-B and 003-C forms.

Additionally, [Administrative Resolution No 232/2011](#) of 18 October 2011 was established as an update to the General Poultry Regulations of 2002; its third chapter includes the registration requirements for poultry establishments.

The National Agricultural Health and Food Safety Service (SENASAG) regulates, controls and ensures the health protection of Bolivia's agricultural and forestry resources. It is responsible for maintaining a sanitary register of individuals and/or legal entities importing meat products, as well as operating facilities, such as cold storage plants—in accordance with [Administrative Resolution No. 143/2017](#) of 29 December 2017—which are subject to control and oversight by SENASAG, within the limits of its competencies and powers.

To apply, the importing company must present:

1. A letter addressed to the district manager of SENASAG, requesting inclusion in the health register.
2. A photocopy of the importer's tax registration number card (NIT in Bolivia).
3. Duly completed application forms and lists of ingredients and additives to be used.
4. A letter or certificate of approval for labels.
5. A diagram of the warehouse layout in the established format. If the company has warehouse facilities in the country, this should be stated on the registration application form so that these facilities may be certified.
6. A health certificate from the country of origin of the product to be imported and, in the case of food additives and supplements, a technical data sheet on the products of the exporting company.
7. If the Bolivian company is importing products that are designated as ecological, organic or biological products, it must present a certificate issued by a certification agency accredited by the competent authority of the country of origin.

Upon review and final approval of the documentation, SENASAG staff will conduct a technical visit to inspect the company's facility, warehouses and offices. They will then prepare a final technical report, validating all the information and issuing a health certificate to the Bolivian company, which will be valid for five years.

- **Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases**

On 31 January 2020, the OIE received the [Self-declaration by Bolivia of freedom from Avian influenza](#) in poultry.

According to Chapter I, Article 7 of [Administrative Resolution No. 232/2011](#), which mentions notifiable diseases, any person involved in poultry breeding activities must notify SENASAG when there is a suspected outbreak of any of the following poultry diseases:

-
- Avian infectious bronchitis
- Infectious bursitis (Gumboro disease)
- Avian chlamydiosis
- Avian cholera
- Marek's disease
- Newcastle disease
- Duck virus hepatitis
- Avian influenza
- Avian infectious laryngotracheitis
- Avian microplasmosis (*M. gallisepticum*)
- Avian microplasmosis (*M. synoviae*)
- Salmonella pullorum
- Turkey rhinotracheitis
- Fowl typhoid (*Salmonella gallinarum* and *Salmonella pullorum*)
- Avian paratyphoid (*Salmonella enteritidis* y *Salmonella typhimurium*)

Moreover, the regulations of [Law No. 1763](#) regarding the Professional Practice of Veterinarians, Zootechnician Veterinarians and Zootechnicians, published on 19 November 1999, establish the obligation (Article 6, paragraph e) to act responsibly and promptly in reporting notifiable diseases to the competent authorities.

[Administrative Resolution No. 118/2002](#) of 29 August 2002 establishes epidemiological surveillance requirements for exotic poultry diseases in Bolivia, including avian influenza. Article 4 of the resolution states that the disease is considered a notifiable disease throughout national territory and links the reporting to the national epidemiological surveillance network.

[Administrative Resolution No. 119/2002](#) of 29 August 2002 established the National Program for the Eradication of Salmonellosis and Avian Health.

The [Regulation on the National System for Zoosanitary Emergencies](#) of 18 October 2006 established the National System for Zoosanitary Emergencies, a procedural instrument that facilitates rapid and effective actions in response to the possible emergence of exotic or endemic epizootic diseases in the country or within a zone that is recognized as a disease-free zone.

• **Animal welfare regulations**

Bolivia has enacted a resolution governing the slaughter of animals ([Administrative Resolution No. 117-A/2005](#) of 18 July 2005), which approved the Manual on Methods for Slaughtering and Disposing of Animals and Veterinary Products and By-products.

Moreover, SENASAG has developed avian best practices manuals on biosecurity, pest control and safe handling of drugs, among others.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

- **Product regulations**

A registry of food product labels exists in the country, which are determined according to the type of meat in accordance with Administrative Resolution No. 072/2002 of 15 March 2012, which stipulates the mandatory implementation of controls and approval of labelling for pre-packaged food sold in the country as imported products.

Pursuant to the Food and Beverage Labelling Regulations, once the submitted label has been approved, the importer is then instructed to affix the label to all product packages intended for sale, or a sanction will be applied.

General requirements

1. Letter requesting approval of labels, addressed to the District Chief of SENASAG.
2. Copy of the tax ID number (NIT).
3. Request form for approval of the sample label (UIA-REG-SOL-003 form).
4. Sworn statement (UIA-INSPETRL-DJUR-form) regarding the merchandise.
5. Sample label (must be identical to the one that will be used to market the product). A sample must be submitted for each product and if various product sizes will be sold, all the corresponding labels must be submitted. When the label is for an array of products, a label must be submitted for each of the products to be selected. Sample labels should be submitted in electronic and printed format in accordance with the established criteria. A supplementary label must be attached to the label of origin. If there is no label of origin, the label must include the information about the local importer.
6. Copy of the health certificate of the country of origin.

Other requirements

- Certificate of conformity with nutritional labeling and the graphics scheme requested by the Bolivian importer.
- Organic certificate, issued by the competent authority (if it involves an organic, ecological or biological product).
- Mention on the product label of any certificates for awards or recognition of the product.
- For genetically modified organisms (GMOs) as well as products containing or derived from GMOs, the importer must include documentation certifying them as such, validated by the competent authority.
- For food additives, importers must submit the company's technical datasheet, which must satisfy the health regulations of the country of origin.

Meat packaging considerations:

Opaque bags, casing or wrappers of any color are accepted, including bags for poultry carcasses, or transparent and tinted semi-transparent bags, wrapping or plastic film. Mesh covering should be in a color that contrasts significantly with the color of the product. The color, design or type of wrapping should not mislead the consumer with respect to the color, quality or kind of product to which it is applied.

Transparent or semi-transparent wrapping for fresh meat (uncooked) should not bear lines or designs in red or in any other form that may give a false impression of leanness of the product. Transparent or semi-transparent wrappers, casing or bags used in packaging, curing and smoking of cooked cured meats and sliced, ready-to-eat products, should not include designs in red that enrich the appearance of the product.

When meat products are labelled for sale in the retail market, all mandatory information on the package should appear in the official languages. SENASAG may at any moment request a routine review, inspection and analysis of any regulated product.

3) Regulations governing trade

Import requirements

In reference to international trade, the country approved Administrative Resolution No. 07/2018, which specifies requirements and procedures for issuing food safety permits for imports, as well as Administrative Resolution No. 06/2018: Procedural Manual for Food Safety Certificates for Exports.

Moreover, [Circular Letter No. 138/2016](#) of 1 July 2016 makes reference to Administrative Resolution No. 031/2016 of 1 March 2016, which approves the applicable procedures for issuing import permits.

It is also worth noting other formalities already in place for the entry of goods into Bolivia:

- The business partner in the country must have a legally established importing company (regular or occasional) and comply with the respective duty and tax requirements;
- Depending on the type of goods, the label must be registered and the certificates and prior authorizations to import meat and meat by-products must be obtained.

The importer is required to register with the Operator Service Unit of the National Customs as a regular (*presencial*) or occasional (*no presencial*) importer, in accordance with the Procedures for registering and managing foreign trade operators, approved by [Administrative Resolution No. RA-PE-01-004-15 of 13 March 2015](#).

According to [Supreme Decree No. 26590](#) of 17 April 2002 on phyto- and zoosanitary and food safety import permits, and [Supreme Decree No. 2522](#) of 16 September 2015 on modifying aliquots and animal and plant health import permits, Bolivian importers must verify whether the goods to be imported require prior authorizations and certifications. If so, these must be obtained from the respective entity prior to shipment in the country of origin or provenance. In the case of live animals and animal products, a certificate and health permit are required for importation.

Additionally, in accordance with [Administrative Resolution No. 085/2016](#) of 23 June 2016, SENASAG is responsible for issuing import permits to Bolivian companies that meet

certain requirements demonstrating the phytosanitary condition of the products to be imported (particularly meat and meat by-products). To this end, Bolivian importers must submit:

1. A letter addressed to the District Chief of SENASAG requesting registration of the import permit;
2. An application form, filled out electronically or by hand, with the documentation supporting the veracity of the information and signed by the legal representative;
3. A photocopy of the health certificate (current);
4. A photocopy of the commercial invoice;
5. A photocopy of the packing list (in the case of household goods, an affidavit must be included that will replace the commercial invoice, as well as the packing list, CRT or consignment note, MIC/DAT, customs transit declaration, ALBO acceptance document and consular validation document) for SENASAG technicians to issue an import permit within two working days, which must be presented at customs clearance at the border or customs office, depending on the destination inside the country. This permit will be valid for 90 days for the one-time import of the specified goods (in case of expiration, a one-time 40-day extension may be requested to import the goods).

Andean Region: Ecuador



1) Regulations governing primary production

a) Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants

[Decree No. 3609](#) “Regulations for controlling the installation and operation of poultry farms” (Volume II, Title II of the Consolidated Text of the Secondary Legislation issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock) dated 20 March 2003, as amended on 26 July 2011, classifies poultry farms into one of the following categories: a) breeding farms for the production of fertile eggs for artificial incubation; b) commercial egg production farms for human consumption; c) commercial poultry production farms; and d) farms of other avian species, including turkeys, ducks, geese, quail, etc.

Additionally, poultry production and processing establishments must obtain a biannual permit, for which they must: a) submit an application to the provincial office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of the area where the poultry farm is located; b) register any poultry plants already in operation within ninety days of the agreement’s date of publication; c) in the case new poultry plants, submit an application to the provincial office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock.

b) Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases

The [Self-Declaration](#) of continental Ecuador as a zone historically free of infection from the highly pathogenic avian influenza virus in poultry was sent to the OIE on 31 January 2020.

The [Organic Law of Agricultural Health \(LOSA\)](#) of 3 July 2017 established the Phyto- and Zoosanitary Regulation and Control Agency, an entity attached to the National Agrarian Authority, and responsible for regulating and controlling animal health and welfare, in order to maintain and improve the phyto- and zoosanitary status of agricultural production.

[Resolution No. 031](#) of 13 July 2011 established the National Avian Influenza Prevention Program, the general objective of which is to prevent the disease from entering the country by providing agency technicians with training on taking and processing serological samples and tracheal and cloacal swabs, serological monitoring and publishing results.

Resolution DAJ201338E-0201.0071 of 10 September 2013 created the [National Poultry Health Program](#), which identifies health risks and implements the control of diseases that have a high economic impact on the country’s poultry sector by strengthening public and private institutional capacity, institutional organization, sanitary measures to control poultry farms, Ecuador’s Animal Health Information System, epidemiological surveillance, disease control, the Best Practices for Poultry Program, and the registration and control of veterinary products, which is overseen by the Agricultural Input Registry Coordination Unit.

[Resolution No. 0040](#) of 24 March 2016 created the Contingency Plan for Avian Influenza in Ecuador, which comprises the guidelines to be applied by local veterinarians of the Phyto- and Zoosanitary Regulation and Control Agency, as well as sanitary actions based on the

phases of emergency, such as: alert phase, suspicion phase, and emergency or confirmation phase, including the control measures to be taken. To be able to respond to a health emergency, a three-tier structure must be established that includes a political-strategic tier, a strategic tier and a technical-operational tier.

The use of vaccines to control avian influenza in domestic and wild birds is prohibited in Ecuador in accordance with [Resolution No. 0159](#), issued on 16 August 2019.

Chapter I, Article 2 of Official Registry Supplement No. 315 regarding the [Animal Health Law](#) published on 16 April 2004, establishes that the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Aquaculture and Fisheries will adopt measures to preserve the health of national livestock, prevent the appearance of new diseases, control those that do occur and work to eradicate them.

Article 1 of the General Regulations to the Animal Health Law, issued by means of [Executive Order No. 3609](#) published on 20 March 2003, establish that the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, through the Ecuadorian Agricultural Health Service (today, the Ecuadorian Agriculture Quality Assurance Agency, AGROCALIDAD), is responsible for conducting research on the different diseases, pests and flagellates that affect national livestock, as well as for coordinating and monitoring any research done by national and foreign public and private entities aimed at obtaining a diagnosis of and preventing and treating a given disease.

- *Biosecurity and animal welfare regulations*

[Technical Resolution No. 0017](#) dated 19 March 2013 adopted the Guide to Poultry Best Practices, which details essential standards, hygienic and biosecurity measures for farms, food and animal health aspects and the Pest Control Program. Later, on 8 March 2017, an [annex to Technical Resolution No. 0017](#) was included as an update.

- *Official antimicrobial resistance surveillance plans*

The [National Plan for the Prevention and Control of Antimicrobial Resistance for 2019-2023](#) is in place in Ecuador.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

Product regulations

[Resolution No. 67](#) of 1 February 2016, entitled “Consolidated Technical Health Regulations for processed foods, food processing plants and distribution, sale, food transport and collective food establishments” establishes the hygienic-sanitary conditions and requirements for the manufacturing, production, processing, preparation, packaging, transport and sale of food for human consumption, as well as the requirements for obtaining the health notification of domestic and foreign processed foods based on the risk profiler with the aim to protect the population’s health and ensure the supply of safe, healthy products.

3) Regulations governing trade

Import and export regulations

Importers in Ecuador must apply for the respective health importation documents through ECUAPASS, for which they must follow the procedures below:

- [Registration procedure in the GUIA system](#) – AGROCALIDAD
- [Registration procedure in the VUE system](#) – ECUAPASS
- [Import permit application procedure](#)
- [Destination Customs Document request procedure for animal and plant products](#)

[Executive Order No. 285](#) of 18 March 2010 implemented the Ecuadorian Single Filing Window (*ventanilla única*) to simplify the process under the Foreign Trade Policy.

[Resolution No. 0143](#) dated 28 June 2016 adopted the Livestock Production Centers for Export Registration Handbook, the Livestock Products for Export Inspection Handbook and the Pre-certification and Export Certificate Issuance Handbook.

Andrean Region: Venezuela



1) Regulations governing primary production

Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants

[Administrative Providence No. 259](#) of 13 November 2017 establishes the sanitary standards for regulating, monitoring and controlling animal slaughterhouses for human consumption. Additionally, it categorizes slaughterhouses and adopts the definitions of competent authority, veterinary inspector and food safety and handling.

Specifically, Article 6 states that, prior to granting the health operating permit, all slaughterhouses must first submit a report to the Autonomous Health Regulatory Service of their respective state in which they specify:

- The number of animals to be slaughtered;
- Species;
- The tools and/or equipment used in the slaughtering process;
- The source of drinking water used;
- A description of the slaughtering procedure; and
- A description of the carcass and edible by-product storage and transport process.

Biosecurity and transportation regulations

In addition, on 4 November 1996, the country enacted the [General Standards for Food](#), along with the [supplementary standards](#) and Resolution No. 082, published in Official Gazette No. 38 678 on 8 May 2007.

[Administrative Providence No. 122](#) of 21 April 2016 establishes the Health Guide for Food Transport to ensure products are transported in adequate conditions and that they are safe for human consumption. It is of mandatory compliance for all perishables or food groups requiring refrigeration.

Lastly, the [National Plan for the Surveillance, Prevention and Control](#) of a potential avian influenza pandemic is in place.

Animal welfare regulations

Venezuela's [Criminal Code](#), enacted on 28 March 2000, provides for pecuniary sanctions for animal abuse. Specifically, Article 539 sanctions animal cruelty and the subjection to manifestly excessive labor.

Chapter II of the [Constitution of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela](#) of 1999 gives jurisdiction over plant and animal health to the National Public Power, primarily in terms of comprehensive agricultural health to prevent the introduction of diseases that could affect the security of the country's agrifood industry.

[Law No. 39 338](#) (Law on Protecting Free and Captive Domestic Fauna) of 4 January 2010,

is the most important regarding animals. It aims to establish the protection, control and welfare of domestic animals by regulating ownership, possession, management, use and sale in order to achieve the “optimal animal”.

With regard to animal welfare, this law encourages actions that guarantee their physical and psychological integrity, specifically in terms of mistreatment, abandonment, damage, cruelty or suffering, considering the lack of hygienic and sanitary conditions, food and free movement. Article 32 prohibits owners from abandoning live or dead animals on public roads, mistreatment, aggression and subjection to any practice that causes suffering, harm or death, mutilation, use as target practice, castration without anesthesia and overcrowding. In addition, it regulates humane (pain and cruelty-free) slaughtering carried out by veterinarians in places intended for that purpose, as well as overcrowding and vivisection under controlled conditions.

For animals for human consumption, the law establishes a period of rest prior to being slaughtered. If pain is involved, the law prohibits observation by children and adolescents. The state and, more specifically, the municipality are responsible for animals that are abandoned, both living and dead, on or around public roads, as well as for their sterilization and pain-free euthanasia for control purposes or public health.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

Product and trade regulations

[Decree No. 824](#) (General Standards on Animal Input Activities) of 10 May 2000 establishes that the importation of biological products, raw materials and samples with no commercial value (for registration and testing purposes) is subject to the respective Health Import Permit issued by the Autonomous Agricultural Health Service.

Article 21 of Decree No. 824 stipulates that products must be registered through a written document sent to the Autonomous Agricultural Health Service. Each product must have its own application, which must include the following information:

- a) Product registration application signed by the company’s technical advisor;
- b) Brief product statement;
- c) Product description;
- d) Product manufacturing methods;
- e) Ingredient analysis method;
- f) Finished product analysis method;
- g) Product stability tests;
- h) Efficacy tests;
- i) Product analysis performed by the company’s quality control laboratory;
- j) Product analysis carried out by the laboratory authorized by the Autonomous Agricultural Health Service;
- k) Certificates of free sale and the manufacturer or processor authorization agreement, in the case of imported products;

- l) Updated scientific literature about the product; and
- m) Draft label

In addition, Article 22 provides that any application for registration must be accompanied by two long-form product analysis certificates carried out by two different laboratories: the manufacturer's lab and the lab authorized by the Autonomous Agricultural Health Service, as well as a copy of the draft packaging, box, label and leaflet with scientific information in Spanish.

[Resolution No. SG-403-96](#) of 9 September 1996 sets out the requirements for granting health permits to food establishments and vehicles, including those used in importation.

Central Region: El Salvador



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants**

Commercial poultry farms are subject to the provisions of [Legislative Decree No. 524](#) (Animal and Plant Health Law), published on 18 December 1995 and amended in 2005.

Poultry processing establishments (slaughterhouses and processing industries) are regulated by the operating standards for food production establishments for human consumption, which are enforced by the Ministry of Health. [Agreement No. 216](#) of 28 May 2004 stipulates the technical health standards for authorizing and controlling food establishments, in accordance with the Health Code. Per these standards, the Ministry of Health has jurisdiction over poultry processing plants and processed meat producers, including some matters related to labeling.

[Agreement No. 1164](#) of 5 December 2007 establishes the technical standards for granting health permits to agricultural farms.

[Agreement No. 170](#) of 27 May 2009 is intended to establish the hygienic, sanitary and environmental conditions to be met by poultry establishments, including aspects relating to definitions, waste management, hatcheries, processing plants, worker safety and the inspection, registration and authorization process.

Lastly, rules governing competitiveness and consumer protection are a more recent development in the Republic's regulatory framework and are being enforced gradually. These are generally applicable standards that do not fall within the specifics of the industry.

Given the importance of poultry products to consumer welfare, the Consumer Defense Authority systematically monitors marketing conditions (quality, labeling, expiration dates) and prices of both products (eggs and poultry meat). Pursuant to Article 13(c) of the Competition Law, published on 23 December 2004, the Superintendency of Competition ordered a study of the competitiveness of the poultry sector with the aim to prevent anticompetitive practices and obtain a general characterization of the sector's competitiveness and of any barriers to entry.

- **Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases, such as Newcastle disease and avian influenza**

[Agreement No. 132](#) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, in force as of 12 June 2000, establishes provisions to subject all poultry imports, including parts, products and by-products, to rigorous control. Imports must have a certificate of origin and an animal health certificate from the competent authority of the exporting country indicating that the material is free from the following diseases affecting avian health: highly pathogenic Newcastle, avian influenza, pullorum-typhoid disease and avian infectious laryngotracheitis.

Commercial farms are subject to epidemiological surveillance protocols and mandatory



compliance programs developed by the Ministry of Agriculture to prevent and control avian pests, particularly related to avian diseases affecting trade, such as laryngotracheitis, Newcastle disease, avian influenza and avian typhoid. Surveillance includes backyard poultry within a 15-kilometer radius of commercial farms.

On 20 December 2000, El Salvador sent to the OIE the [Self-Declaration](#) of freedom from avian influenza and on 19 July 2002, it sent the [Self-Declaration](#) of freedom from pullorum and typhoid disease in poultry.

- **Biosecurity regulations**

In 2013, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of El Salvador published the [Biosecurity Manual for Aviculture](#).

- **Animal welfare regulations**

On 7 April 2016, El Salvador enacted the [Law on Protecting and Promoting Pet Welfare](#) aimed at ensuring that owners take responsibility for their welfare and protection and condemn abuse and cruelty, thereby generating a culture and citizen participation. The law establishes that the municipalities and the Ministries of Agriculture and Livestock, Health and Environment and Natural Resources are responsible for implementing national plans and policy.

- **Official antimicrobial resistance surveillance plans**

In 2015 the country established the [Technical Guidelines for Preventing, Monitoring and Containing Bacterial Resistance to Antimicrobials](#).

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

Salvadoran Technical Regulations [RTS 67.02.01:16](#) (Poultry products: Meat of the species *Gallus gallus* ready to cook whole, cuts or giblets: Specifications) establishes general requirements for slaughterhouses, as well as finished product, organoleptic, microbiological, physical and chemical requirements.

Microbiological criteria

In terms of microbiological criteria, Salvadoran Technical Regulations [RTCA 67.04.50:08](#) (Food: Microbiological criteria for food safety) are in place.

3) Regulations governing trade

Import requirements

Based on the Animal and Plant Health Law, there are different sanitary regulations in place that restrict live poultry imports, specifically establishing the sanitary conditions of the countries and farms of origin (Mandatory Salvadoran Standard [NSO-ZOO-06-98](#) of 16 March 2006 (Zoosanitary requirements and specifications for importing poultry, products and by-products)). The following requirements must be met:

- a) The poultry are from parent stock raised in the country of origin.
- b) They are from countries or areas free of the following diseases: Newcastle disease, avian influenza and avian infectious laryngotracheitis, among others.
- c) The poultry, products and by-products are from farms preauthorized by the General Directorate of Animal and Plant Health for export to El Salvador or from countries whose health measures have been acknowledged as equivalent by El Salvador in accordance with the respective procedure.
- d) The farms of origin must follow a zoosanitary control program under the official supervision of the exporting country's health authority and be free of the following diseases based on species: Salmonellosis, mycoplasma infection and psittacosis (also called ornithosis and caused by *Chlamydia psittaci*), among others.
- e) The poultry must have been born in hatcheries under official veterinary control with verifiable biosecurity measures, in accordance with international standards.
- f) They must have a zoosanitary certificate issued by the respective authority in the country of origin certifying compliance with the zoosanitary requirements set out in national regulations. The certificate must be presented at the point of entry into national territory.
- g) All boxes and packaging used to transport poultry must be made of new cardboard and must not have been exposed to contamination by infectious agents affecting the species, or reusable plastic boxes provided that they have been subject to a cleaning and disinfection process using authorized products prior to loading the poultry.
- h) The containers or transport vehicles must be cleaned and disinfected using authorized products prior to loading the poultry and must not be transshipped in quarantine countries.

Central Región: Belize



1) Regulations governing primary production

- Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants

Chicken processing plant hygiene requirements

Part VI of the [Belize Agricultural Health Authority Act \(Chapter 211\)](#), as amended on 31 December 2000, refers to the establishment of services, permit requirements, limit entry orders, permit modification orders, official imports, phytosanitary certificates and export certification.

Part VII refers to plant quarantine orders, pest control notice and the determination of eradication.

All establishments must have safe, adequate facilities approved and authorized by the Veterinary Public Health Authority as per voluntary declaration [BZ 4 \(1999\): Specification for whole chicken \(eviscerated\) and chicken parts](#). Additionally, the necessary precautions must be taken to prevent product contamination from solid equipment, individuals with injuries and other sources of contamination. Both whole chicken (eviscerated) and chicken parts must be handled under strict hygiene conditions by people who are free from infectious and contagious diseases and in clean, hygienic facilities.

An adequate supply of hot and cold water, hoses, brushes and other equipment necessary for the proper cleaning and disinfection of machinery and equipment must be available at all times.

Live chicken requirements

- Poultry will be subject to antemortem inspection.
- Chickens should be healthy and well nourished. The breastbone must be well covered with flesh, the eyes and nostrils free from discharge, the comb and wattles firm and bright in color and the feathers glossy. Chickens should be active and there should be no evidence of diarrhea or other disease. No dead or dying chickens are to be placed on the kill line.

Chicken processing requirements

- Live chickens are to be slaughtered at licensed facilities and the carcasses must be thoroughly bled and properly dressed.
- Chickens are to be dry plucked, wax plucked or semi-scalded. All feathers, pin feathers and body hair are to be removed. The feet should be clean and the vents emptied.
- At evisceration, the carcass will be subject to a government-authorized postmortem inspection.

Refrigeration requirements

Type 1: Refrigerated - Fresh whole chicken and chicken parts that are chilled to a temperature of 2-4°C and kept in this range until delivery.

Type 2: Frozen - Fresh whole chicken or chicken parts packed in suitable packaging and frozen solid at -18°C (0°F).

Minimum requirements

Regardless of grade, whole chicken (eviscerated) and chicken parts must be:

- a. intact;
- b. clean, free from any visible foreign matter, dirt or blood;
- c. free of foreign odors;
- d. free of visible bloodstains, except those which are small and unobtrusive;
- e. free of protruding broken bones;
- f. free of severe bruising; and
- g. show no evidence of deterioration.

According to [Statutory Instrument No. 116](#), which took effect on 1 November 1999, BZS1: Part 1: 1998 Specification for Labeling (General Principles), the following applies:

Packaging. Unless otherwise agreed between the buyer and seller, whole chickens (eviscerated) and chicken parts must be wrapped in transparent material. Whole chicken, both frozen and refrigerated, will be packaged individually. Any chicken that is not individually packaged will be delivered in closed containers (with ice, packaged if necessary).

Labelling. Any package containing whole chicken (eviscerated) or chicken parts must include the following information:

- a) Processor's full name and address;
- b) Product type, class and grade, as per standard (3.1);
- c) The following indication, as applicable, printed in bold: **"KEEP FROZEN (OR REFRIGERATED)"**.

Transport. The vehicle used to transport chicken must be closed, insulated and/or refrigerated to avoid deterioration and contamination. Refrigerated chicken will be transported at a temperature not exceeding 4°C (39°F) and frozen chicken at a temperature not exceeding -12°C (10°F). At the time of delivery, frozen chicken must show no evidence of thawing or deterioration.

The Belize Bureau of Standards establishes standard requirements for labeling and marking both imported and locally manufactured products sold in Belize, according to which, the label must provide detailed information about the product, including ingredients and nutritional data.

The Department of Food Security is mandated with monitoring, evaluating and taking action on any issues that could affect, directly or indirectly, the security of the food supply, not only on the export market, but also at eating establishments. In this regard, healthy, nutritious food is also considered a requirement as per the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement, to which Belize is a signatory.

To play out this increasingly important role, a team of inspectors from the Department of Food Security conducts health inspections of several food processing plants, as well as of certain food products imported into Belize.

It is worth noting the following mandatory technical labeling standards from June 1998:

[BZS1: Part 2: 1998 Belize National Standard: Specification for Labelling: Labelling of Prepackaged Goods](#). This standard sets out the information to be included on labels of goods prepackaged for retail, how to display the required information, and, where necessary, the wording and units of measurement to be used.

[BZS1: Part 3: 1998 Belize National Standard: Specification for Labelling: Labelling of Prepackaged Goods](#). This standard applies to labeling all prepackaged foods to be offered as such to consumers or for catering purposes.

While a partial list of national regulations and technical standards is made available on the [website of the Belize Bureau of Standards \(BBS\)](#), direct access is not given to those documents. Authorities have indicated that all technical regulations in Belize are based on Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Codex Alimentarius or ISO standards, except for the Code of Hygienic Practice for the Preparation and Sale of Street Vended Foods.

- **Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases**

[Statutory Instrument No. 48](#) of 24 November 2014 (Animals (Diseases and Importation) Act) establishes the main regulations for importing animals and by-products of animal origin and controlling associated diseases.

[Chapter 211. Poultry Disease Regulations](#) stipulates the regulations regarding poultry diseases.

- **Biosecurity regulations**

The [Belize Agricultural Health Authority \(Biological Residues\) \(Control\) Regulations](#) of 29 December 2001 provide for the inspection and control of biological residue in animals intended for slaughter.

- **Animal welfare regulations**

With regard to animal welfare, on 31 December 2000, the [Cruelty to Animals Act, Chapter 115](#) was enacted.

[Statutory Instrument No. 23](#) of 17 February 2001 (Belize Agricultural Health Authority (Animals) (Ante Mortem) (Inspection) Regulations of 2001) regulates the control of animals before slaughter by inspectors appointed by the Belize Agricultural Health Authority (BAHA). No animal classified as condemned may be slaughtered in a slaughterhouse.

Suspect or condemned animals must be identified by or under the supervision of an inspector. Any animal classified as suspect must be kept separate and, if deemed fit, slaughtered in an isolation slaughterhouse.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

[Chapter 211: Belize Agricultural Health Authority Food Safety Regulations](#) of 17 February 2001 establishes that all food exporting companies must be registered with BAHA. Moreover, they are required to comply with HACCP guidelines as set out in the first, second and third schedules of the regulations.

[Chapter 291: Food and Drugs Act](#) of 31 December 2000 sets out the specifications and requirements for the handling of food, including food of animal origin.

The [Code of Practice for Fresh Meat](#) was published in 2002.

3) Regulations governing trade

- **Import requirements:**

The [BAHA Act of 1999 \(Chapter 211 of the Laws of Belize\)](#), as revised on 31 October 2003, established the Department of Food Safety to effectively implement the necessary regulations and controls and to allow BAHA to address food issues affecting human health. It regulates the import and export of food products through BAHA programs, such as import permits and certification programs.

[Statutory Instrument No. 72](#) of 28 July 2012 amended the Supplies Control (Import/Export) Regulations and introduced significant changes to the list of products subject to import licensing requirements. As of September 2012, products for which an import license is required include live animals, meat and edible offal and prepared animal fodder.

In addition, BAHA requires phytosanitary, zoosanitary and health risk certificates, as well as analysis documentation and certificates of origin. Importers must also submit original commercial invoices to the Customs Department in order to protect certain industries. The Government maintains a list of 27 product categories requiring import licenses, which include mainly consumer goods such as flour, rice, beans, dried pasta, aerated products, beverages and beer.

Central Región: Costa Rica



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants**

The main reference is [Decree No. 37 548](#) of 6 March 2013 (Health and Veterinary Inspection Regulations for Slaughterhouses and Poultry Processors), which regulates the physical and sanitary conditions of facilities and warehouses, in addition to personnel; cooling, refrigeration and freezing systems; water supply and quality; transport; veterinary inspection; ante and postmortem inspection; and slaughter and processing operations. It also stipulates microbiological controls and animal welfare measures.

Additional regulations include:

[Decree No. 29 588-MAG-S](#) of 22 June 2001 (Health and Veterinary Inspection Regulations for Slaughterhouses and Meat Production and Processing);

[Decree No. 42 467-MAG](#) of 31 July 2020 (Amendment to the General Regulations for Issuing Veterinary Operating Certificates);

[Decree No. 24 583-MAG](#) of 11 September 1995 (Creation of the National Poultry Commission (CONAVI)); and

[Decree No. 31 088-S](#) of 7 May 2003 (Regulations governing Poultry Farms).

- **Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases, such as Newcastle disease and avian influenza**

In this context, [Decree No. 34 669](#) (List of Reportable Animal Diseases) was passed on 13 August 2008.

Newcastle disease

[Decree No. 40 301](#) of 26 April 2017 declares the country free from velogenic Newcastle disease.

[Decree 25 088-MAG](#) of 24 April 1996 declares the country free from viscerotropic Newcastle disease.

- **Biosecurity regulations**

In terms of biosecurity regulations, [Decree No. 37 011-COMEX-MEIC-MAG](#) of 28 February 2012 adopted Resolution No. 271-2011 (COMIECO-LXI) of 2 December 2011 (Approval by full replacement of the amendments to the Central American Regulations on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and Procedures).

- **Animal welfare regulations**

Regarding animal welfare, the country has the following laws and decrees:

[Law No. 7451](#) of 16 November 1994 (Animal Welfare Law);

[Law No. 8495](#) of 16 May 2006 (General Law on the National Animal Health Service);

[Law No. 9458](#) of 26 June 2017 (Amendments to Law No. 4573, Penal Code and Law No. 7451 on Animal Welfare);

[Decree No. 14 584-A](#) of 24 June 1983 (Animal Health Defense Regulations);

[Decree No. 30 580-MINAE-MAG-S](#) of 31 July 2002 (Effective administrative techniques to assist in eradicating any form of violence, animal abuse, wildlife trade and habitat loss that threatens wildlife);

[Decree No. 37 920-MAG-MEIC-COMEX](#) of 15 May 2013 adopting Public Resolution No. 304-2013 (COMIECO-EX) and annex “Sanitary Permit Recognition Procedure for Products used in Animal Feed”; and

[Decree No. 37 560-A](#) of 5 March 2013 adopting Resolution No. 300-2012 (COMIECO-LXIV) of 11 December 2012 and annex “Central American Technical Regulations (RTCA) 65.05.63:11: Products used in animal feed, good manufacturing practices and checklist”.

- **Official antimicrobial resistance surveillance plans**

The country has the [Manual of good livestock practices in poultry production](#).

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

The following decrees apply to processing plants:

[Decree No. 18 341-MEC](#) of 8 August 1988 (Official Meat Products Standard: Classification and characteristics);

[Decree No. 37 025-MAG-S](#) of 27 March 2012 (Regulations for coordination between the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock concerning food establishment operating permits);

[Decree No. 37 280](#) of 18 June 2012 (Central American Technical Regulations RTCA 67.01.11: 10: General Standard for Labeling of Prepackaged Food);

[Decree No. 37 294 COMEX- MEIC-S](#) of 27 September 2012 adopting Resolution No. 283-2012 (COMIECO-LXII) of the Council of Ministers of Economic Integration of 14 May 2012 and annex “Central American Technical Regulations RTCA 67.04.54:10: Processed Food and Beverages: Food additives”; and

[Decree No. 37 057](#) of 28 May 2012 adopting Resolution No. 276-2011 (COMIECO-LXI) and annex: Central American Technical Regulations RTCA 67.06.55:09: Good Hygiene Practices for Unprocessed and Semi-Processed Foods and Checklist.

- **Microbiological criteria**

The following decrees apply to processing plants:

[Decree No. 34 687](#) of 20 August 2008 adopting RTCR 409: 2008 Maximum microbiological and drug and contaminant residue limit regulations for the products and by-products of fisheries and aquaculture intended for human consumption;

[Decree No. 35 485-COMEX-S-MEIC-MAG](#) of 22 September 2009 adopting Resolution No. 243-2009 (COMIECO-LV): Central American Technical Regulations RTCA 67.04.50:08 Food: Microbiological criteria for food safety;

[Decree No. 29 145-MAG-S-MINAE](#) of 18 December 2000 (Regulations for management and control of chicken manure and broiler litter);

[Decree No. 28 861-MAG](#) of 23 August 2000 (Regulations for registration and control of veterinary drugs);

[Decree No. 34 038-S](#) of 18 December 2007 officially recognizing the International Health Regulations;

[Decree No. 34 493-MAG](#) of 27 February 2008 (Regulations for third-party and reference laboratories conducting official SENASA testing);

[Decree No. 34 859-MAG](#) of 27 November 2008 (General regulations for issuing veterinary operating certificates);

[Decree No. 36 605-COMEX-MEIC-MAG](#) of 14 June 2011 adopting Resolution No. 257-2010 (COMIECO-LIX): Central American Technical Regulations RTCA 65.05.51:08 Veterinary Drugs and Related Products: Registration and control requirements (Annex 1) and related agreements RTCA 65.05.51:08 (Annex 2).

The country also has the [Manual of good practices for veterinary drug use in poultry](#).

3) Regulations governing trade

- **Import requirements**

The following decrees apply to imports:

[Decree No. 33 724-MEIC](#) of 30 April 2007 officially recognizing Resolution No. 176-2006 (COMIECO-XXXVIII): Processed Foods: Procedure for granting health permits;

Procedure for granting health permits and registration; Processed food import requirements; Processed food and beverages industry;

[Decree No. 21 858-MAG](#) of 11 March 1993 (Regulations for evaluating and approving products and/or by-products of animal origin imported by Costa Rica);

[Decree No. 26 559-MAG-S](#) of 20 January 1998 (Processors of food and animal products and by-products for export are subject to MAG control through the Department of International Zoosanitary Services of the Animal Health Directorate); and

[Decree No. 33 102](#) of 16 July 2006 (Creation of the Register of Importers of animals and products, by-products and derivatives of animal origin that are fresh or frozen, unprocessed or minimally processed and intended for human consumption and/or industrial use). This decree sets out the requirements for registering with the Register of Importers and for the Health Requirements Form application (FRS for its acronym in Spanish). The FRS is a pre-import permit and indicates the mandatory health requirements applying to the imported goods.

These health requirements will vary based on the merchandise and health status of the country of origin; as such, they are subject to change based on any changes in the health status of the exporting countries. The requirements are based on the OIE health codes, the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and international standards. Moreover, imported goods may be sampled upon entry into the country to confirm product safety and the animals' health status.

- **Importation of products and by-products**

Authorization to import products and by-products of animal origin for human consumption or industrial use will also depend on if the establishments of origin are approved to export to Costa Rica. The document “Accreditation of establishments exporting products, by-products and derivatives of animal origin to Costa Rica” [DCA-PG-02-IN-01](#) describes the procedure whereby SENASA authorizes establishments interested in exporting products and by-products of animal origin to Costa Rica.

To obtain the FRS, the user must submit the Customs Clearance Authorization Form (FAD, for its acronym in Spanish) through a customs agent. Next, to collect the FRS, the user must deposit into the bank account of SENASA the respective fee and laboratory test costs. With the proof of payment and electronic FAD or FAD number in hand, the user then goes to the Single Window (*ventanilla única*) for Foreign Trade, with the understanding that the product and the establishment are authorized by SENASA.

Central Region: Guatemala



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants**

[Ministerial Agreement No. 131-2005](#) of 20 May 2005 sets out the requirements for registering, establishing and operating poultry production farms, including:

- Documentary requirements;
- Technical requirements for poultry production facilities;
- Biosecurity measures;
- Distance between production units;
- Registration renewal and validity;
- Epidemiological surveillance;
- Disease reporting; and
- Prohibitions, which include:
 - a. Using used cartons as egg separators or for transporting day-old chicks or other materials that cannot be disinfected;
 - b. Entry into poultry production units of individuals that fail to comply with the biosecurity measures approved by the National Poultry Health Program (PROSA for its acronym in Spanish);
 - c. Operation of poultry production units that lack a current registration with PROSA of the Standards and Regulations Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food;
 - d. Transporting poultry litter within national territory without the sanitary authorization of PROSA personnel or other responsible professional, taking as a basis the zoosanitary status from the zone of origin to the zone of destination;
 - e. Operation of poultry production units without the services of a responsible professional, where appropriate; and
 - f. Performing laboratory diagnostic tests and analyses that fail to comply with the requirements, specifications and methodologies established by PROSA.

[Ministerial Agreement No. 456-2009](#) of 23 October 2009 establishes the requirements for becoming certified as an avian influenza-free poultry production unit with and without vaccination.

- **Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases, such as Newcastle disease and avian influenza**

[PROSA](#) was created by [Ministerial Agreement No. 1528-2003](#) of 20 November 2003. Its scope is national, where it applies measures for the prevention, control and eradication of avian diseases on high-tech, semi-tech and backyard poultry farms, including the following services:

- Monitoring (serological, cloacal and/or tracheal swabs);
- Laboratory diagnostics;

- Epidemiological tracing;
- Epidemiological surveillance of avian diseases;
- Characterization of wetlands;
- Assessment of farm biosecurity;
- Preparation of a weekly epidemiological bulletin;
- Issuance of import permits and control of biological products for poultry use;
- Issuance of health certificates for exporting poultry products;
- Certification and registration of poultry production units;
- Vaccination campaigns;
- Register of official veterinarians;
- Issuance of certificates of farms free from avian diseases;
- Technical support; and
- Training

[Ministerial Agreement No. 565-2004](#) of 6 February 2004 declares the Republic of Guatemala as a territory free from Newcastle disease and highly pathogenic avian influenza.

Newcastle disease

[Ministerial Agreement No. 335-2017](#) of 1 December 2017 declares the Republic of Guatemala as a territory free from Newcastle disease and highly pathogenic avian influenza.

[Ministerial Agreement No. 625-2004](#) of 13 January 2004 establishes the rules for preventing, controlling and eradicating Newcastle disease.

Avian influenza

On 14 January 2004, Guatemala sent the [Self-declaration of Guatemala as a country free from avian influenza \(PAIA\) in poultry](#) to the OIE.

Additionally, [Ministerial Agreement No. 19-2018](#) of 8 February 2018 declares the eastern zone, consisting of the departments of Zacapa, Chiquimula, Izabal, Jalapa and Jutiapa, as free from low pathogenic avian influenza H5N2-IABPH5N2. Moreover, [Ministerial Agreement No. 18-2018](#) of 8 February 2018 declares the departments of Alta Verapaz and Baja Verapaz as free from this disease and [Ministerial Agreement No. 215-2016](#) of 7 December 2016, covers the department of Petén.

[Ministerial Agreement No. 1166-2003](#) of 9 July 2003 establishes the rules for diagnosing avian diseases.

[Ministerial Agreement No. 457-2015](#) of 10 September 2015 establishes the Emerging Preventive Vaccination (Prophylaxis) Agreement Against High Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H7N3), as well as supplementary health measures.

Other diseases

[Ministerial Agreement No. 495-2006](#) of 11 September 2006 establishes the zoosanitary provisions for mandatory reporting of diseases in animal species.

[Ministerial Agreement No. 257-2014](#) of 15 May 2014 issued the Standards for preventing, controlling and eradicating diseases caused by Salmonella serovars.

- **Biosecurity regulations**

[Ministerial Agreement No. 410-2015](#) of 11 July 2015 adopted the Poultry Production Units Biosecurity Procedures Manual.

In addition, the [Guide to Good Poultry Production Practices](#) includes information on cleaner production, pollution control, poultry meat production processes and waste management, among other aspects.

- **Animal welfare regulations**

[Decree No. 870-1952](#) of 9 January 1952 protects animal rights by punishing any kind of abuse, including striking animals with a blunt object; using sharp tips or whips to excite animals or tear their skin; forcing injured, disabled, wounded, sick, thin, exhausted or fatigued animals to work; starving or depriving animals of water or feeding them deficient foods; enclosing animals in inappropriate or unhygienic spaces; loading a traction vehicle with a weight greater than what can rationally be drawn by animals or that rubs or mistreats them; transporting two- or four-legged animals in an unnatural position, cramming them into small spaces or exposing them to the sun; and transporting birds with their wings crossed.

The law regulates animal-drawn vehicles, dogs, birds and poultry and sets pecuniary sanctions for animal abuse and acts of cruelty.

[Ministerial Agreement No. 1166-2003](#) of 9 July 2003 establishes the standards for the diagnosis of avian diseases by the Omitopathology Lab of San Carlos University, Guatemala.

[Ministerial Agreement No. 16-2014](#) of 30 January 2014 adopts the Animal Health Questionnaire.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

[Decree No. 36-98](#) of 8 June 1998 establishes the Plant and Animal Health Law aimed at ensuring the health and protection of flora, fauna and forest and aquatic species.

[Government Agreement No. 745-99](#) of 30 September 1999 establishes the Plant and Animal Health Law Regulations.

Chapter III of [Ministerial Agreement No. 1317-2002](#) of 27 December 2002 sets out the guidelines for processing, packaging, labelling, storing, transporting and marketing organic

products and by-products of animal and plant origin.

[Ministerial Agreement No. 1128-2001](#) of 21 November 2001 establishes the Regulations for recognizing laboratory testing for analysis and diagnosis, as well as the microbiological requirements.

3) Regulations governing trade

- **Import requirements**

[Ministerial Agreement No 1029-99](#) of 17 November 1999 contains the Health Requirements for importing animals, products and by-products of avian origin.

In addition, [Ministerial Agreement No. 1090-2001](#) of 20 November 2001 establishes the general mandatory standards applicable to the importation and transit of animals, hydrobiological resources and their products and by-products.

[Ministerial Agreement No. 135-2001](#) of 9 April 2001 sets out Guatemala's tariff for meat and edible offal of domestic poultry species.

[Ministerial Agreement No. 108-2007](#) of 26 February 2007 electronically regulates pre-import permits for animals and their products, by-products and inputs.

Central Region: Honduras



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants**

[Agreement No. C.D. SENASA-01-2018](#) of 24 January 2018 approves the regulations for registering importers, processors and/or exporters of products and by-products of animal and/or plant origin and establishes the requirements for registering and renewing importers, processors and/or exporters of products and by-products of animal and/or plant origin.

Additionally, [Agreement No. 916-13 \(SAG\)](#) of 18 February 2014 sets out the sanitary regulations for operating poultry farms at the national level.

The following documentary requirements are also in place:

[Requirements for registering poultry farms](#); and

[Requirements for renewing farm registration](#).

- **Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases, such as Newcastle disease and avian influenza**

[Agreement No. 1618-97](#) of 11 March 1998 resolved to issue the Agricultural Quarantine Regulations, establishing the technical, administrative and legal provisions to preserve the country's agricultural health through actions aimed at preventing the introduction, establishment and dispersion of pests and diseases of economic, quarantine and social importance that threaten human, animal and plant health in the country.

[Agreement C.D. SENASA 004-2018](#) dated 26 January 2018 approved the regulations for preventing, controlling and eradicating avian diseases, which set out monitoring, epidemiological surveillance, transport, vaccination and quarantine measures.

[Decree No. 344/05](#) (Amendment to the Phytozoosanitary Law) is intended to protect plant and animal health and to safeguard their products and by-products against pests and diseases of economic, quarantine and human importance.

Avian influenza

On 16 October 2001, Honduras sent the [Self-declaration of freedom from avian influenza, infectious laryngotracheitis and pullorosis in poultry](#) to the OIE.

- **Biosecurity regulations**

[Agreement C.D. SENASA 003-2018](#) of 26 January 2018 approved the Regulations for the National Poultry Program (NAP for its acronym in Spanish) aimed at coordinating activities to develop, conserve and protect the national poultry industry. The NAP has the

following components: a) coordination; b) administration; c) registration and statistics; d) field operations; e) dissemination and training; f) epidemiological surveillance; g) laboratory diagnosis; h) computer science and information technologies; i) health campaigns; j) technical assistance; and k) biosecurity.

The Animal Health Epidemiological Surveillance Regulations, adopted by [Agreement No. 401-13](#) of 30 September 2013, aim to strengthen epidemiological surveillance through timely, uniform, complete and reliable information on diseases in animal populations.

- **Animal welfare regulations**

The Animal Welfare and Protection Law was enacted by [Decree No. 115-2015](#), which entered into force on 5 April 2016. The main aspects include responsible ownership, social and state participation in animal-related issues, education, awareness-raising and regulation of animals for human consumption and experimentation.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

[Agreement No. 552/05](#) (Regulations for inspecting, slaughtering and processing poultry products and by-products) of 8 November 2005 is intended to control the quality and safety of poultry products for domestic consumption and export.

Article 77 of the Health Code ([Decree No. 65-91](#)) of 3 February 1992 refers to obtaining the health permit issued by the Secretariat of Health prior to installing and operating food production and sale establishments.

3) Regulations governing trade

- **Import requirements**

Per Article 2 of [Agreement No. C.D. S.E. NASA-01-2018](#), all processor, importer and/or exporter establishments of products and by-products of animal and/or plant origin must be registered with the National Food Health and Safety Service (SENASA), through the Food Safety Sub-Directorate General. To register, in addition to an application, the following documents must be submitted:

- a. Registration application form (encrypted) submitted by the legal representative or by proxy with a duly certified power of attorney. The legal representative must demonstrate his/her capacity by means of a public deed or power of representation;
- b. Copy of the property title or, in the case of a third-party establishment, copy of the lease, duly certified, or a signed and sealed document indicating that the owner will make, or authorize the tenant to make, improvements to or take corrective actions regarding the infrastructure, as per the observations made during the SENASA inspection;
- c. Proof of payment of the registration or renewal fee as established in the SENASA fee schedule;

- d. Proof of payment of the registration or renewal inspection fee as established in the SENASA fee schedule;
- e. Proof of payment of water sample transfer and shipping fees as established in the SENASA fee schedule;
- f. Proof of payment of the water analysis fee as established in the SENASA fee schedule;
- g. Area design or layout plan and operating or process flow chart;
- h. Affidavit of the quantity to be processed or produced in kilograms or liters per year; and
- i. Affidavit, certified by a public notary and issued by the establishment's legal representative, indicating that the company complies with the hygienic-sanitary measures.

Article 7 of [Agreement No. C.D. SENASA-01-2018](#) establishes other requirements for importers. To register or renew as an importer, in addition to the requirements of Article 2, the following documents must be submitted:

- a. List of suppliers; and
- b. Affidavit indicating that the conditions under which the initial registration was granted have not undergone any legal or infrastructure changes. If this is not the case, all documents supporting the changes must be submitted.

Central Region: Nicaragua



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants**

[Nicaraguan Technical Standard No. TON 11 030-18](#) of 30 April 2019 establishes the health measures regarding the inspection and authorization of poultry establishments.

Per this standard, the general provisions applicable to poultry establishments are the following:

- All poultry establishments must be registered with the National Poultry Health Program (including primary breeders, multipliers, layer and broiler farms, hatcheries, concentrated poultry food plants and fighting and ornate bird farms, when for commercial purposes).
- The competent national authority (CNA) is to monitor the establishment's operating activities, which must be duly supported with records. In accordance with its procedures, the CNA will establish surveillance by means of its official inspectors.
- All poultry establishments must comply with the requirements set forth in Nicaraguan Technical Standard (NTON): Regulation of poultry activities regarding distance from other poultry establishments and urban settlements.
- The CNA must keep up-to-date information on the registration, location, biosecurity measures and statistical sampling to comply with the National Program for the Prevention, Control and Eradication of Avian Diseases.
- The CNA must have specific epidemiological surveillance systems and diagnostic methods in place as set out in the OIE Health Code and the Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals.
- The inspectorate of the National Program for the Prevention, Control and Eradication of Avian Diseases must be composed of qualified veterinarians.

Moreover, [Nicaraguan Technical Standard No. NTON 11 030-11](#) of 27 November 2012 (Inspection and certification of poultry establishments), sets out the following requirements for registering establishments:

- Inspection request letter;
- Operating health certificate issued by the Ministry of Health;
- On-site inspection of the establishment(s) in question;
- Plant blueprints;
- Drainage plans;
- Potable water plans;
- Rodent trap placement plans;
- Process flow diagram;
- Environmental impact study;
- Implementation of the HACCP system, standard operating procedure for sanitation, GMP and compliance with chemical and microbiological waste programs;
- Compliance with microbiological plans; and
- Permanent inspection service of the Institute for Agricultural Protection and Health.

- **Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases, such as Newcastle disease and avian influenza**

Newcastle disease

[Nicaraguan Technical Standard No. NTON 11 031-11](#) of 27 November 2012 (Prevention and Control of Newcastle Disease).

Avian influenza

[Nicaraguan Technical Standard No. NTON 11 033-11](#) of 27 November 2012 (Prevention and Control of Avian Influenza).

In addition, the [National Response Plan to the Risk of Pandemic Influenza and Avian Influenza](#) is in place.

Others

[Nicaraguan Technical Standard No. NTON 11 032-11](#) of 27 November 2012 (Prevention and Control of Pullorum-Typhoid Disease).

[Ministerial Agreement No. 31-2001](#) of 7 November 2001 established the National Program for the Prevention, Control and Eradication of Avian Salmonellosis (*S. Gallinarum* and *S. Pullorum*).

- **Biosecurity regulations**

[Nicaraguan Technical Standard No. NTON 11 029-17](#) of 13 October 2017 (Poultry Activity Regulations) establishes the obligations regarding registration and location, as well as basic biosecurity measures for poultry farms.

- **Animal welfare regulations**

In this area, [Law No. 291](#) (Basic Law on Animal and Plant Health) was enacted, in addition to [Law No. 747](#) (Law for the Protection and Welfare of Domestic Animals and Domesticated Wildlife).

Moreover, [Nicaraguan Technical Standard No. NTON 20 003-11](#) (Products used in animal feed and establishments: Health registration and control requirements) of 3 October 2013 was enacted.

- **Official antimicrobial resistance surveillance plans**

In the area of antimicrobial resistance, the country developed the [National Action Plan for Containing Antimicrobial Resistance](#).

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

In this context, the following standards have been issued:

[Nicaraguan Technical Standard No. NTON 07 006-14](#) (Determining the amount of liquid resulting from thawing whole frozen chicken) of 23 September 2014;

[Nicaraguan Technical Standard No. NTON 03 023-12](#) (Nicaragua Technical Standard for ready-to-cook whole chicken, parts or giblets, 2nd Revision) of 28 August 2014;

[Nicaraguan Technical Standard No. NTON 03 026-99](#) (Food Handling Health Standard: Sanitary requirements for food handlers); and

[Nicaraguan Technical Standard No. NTON 03 021-08](#) approved on 25 September 2008 (Nicaraguan Technical Standard on Labeling Prepackaged Food for Human Consumption).

Microbiological criteria

In this area, there is the [Central American Technical Regulation RTCA 67.04.50: 17](#): Food: Microbiological criteria for food safety, published on 19 November 2018.

3) Regulations governing trade

Import requirements

[Nicaraguan Technical Standard No. NTON 11 034-12](#) (Import requirements for goods of animal origin) of 11 July 2014, establishes the following:

Importer registration requirements

- To register as an importer, the original and a copy of the following documents must be presented at the Single Window (*ventanilla única*) of the Directorate General for Agricultural Health and Protection (DGPSA):
 - a. Physical persons: A valid passport or residence card (foreigners) or national identity card (nationals) or unique taxpayer's registration number (RUC) and certification of fiscal solvency issued by the General Directorate of Revenue (DGI). The procedure must be carried out by the interested party or his/her legal representative.
 - b. Legal persons: RUC number, certificate of fiscal solvency issued by the DGI, articles of incorporation duly registered in the respective register and power of attorney.
- With respect to the RUC and certificate of fiscal solvency, these must be updated annually or whenever there is a change to the articles of incorporation or legal representation, which must be duly notarized.

Requirements and procedures for obtaining the animal health import permit for goods of animal origin

- The health permit application for goods of animal origin must be filed at the Single Window of the DGPSA-MAGFOR by means of a legible letter that is free of smudges, erasures or alterations of any kind, along with:
- A copy of the proforma or commercial invoice that is legible and free of smudges, erasures or alterations of any kind;
- A copy of the health certificate issued by the competent authority of the exporting country; and
- A copy of the certificate of origin issued by the competent authority or institution officially delegated for that purpose in accordance with treaties, protocols or international conventions recognized, signed and ratified by Nicaragua.
- If the goods to be imported require it, the competent authority will conduct a risk analysis.
- If it is not possible to determine whether the goods are of animal or plant origin, the competent authority will request a copy of the technical data sheet.
- Once the documents and health requirements have been reviewed and the consultations with other competent institutions and authorities have been completed in compliance with the provisions of the Standard, and once the respective decisions have been made, the competent authority will have up to three business days to issue the health import permit. If the interested party fails to comply with the Standard and health requirements, his/her request will be denied.
- Once the health import permit application has been approved by the Animal Quarantine Department, all related tariffs must be paid at the DGPSA.
- With the official receipt from the DGPSA-MAGFOR, the Animal Quarantine Department will sign and seal the health import permit for goods of animal origin.
- In accordance with specific health requirements set out in the national and international legal framework for importing goods, the Animal Quarantine Department will establish the points of entry in accordance with Law No. 291 (Basic Law on Plant and Animal Health and its Regulations), which will be detailed in the official document entitled Health Permit for Importing Goods of Animal Origin.
- The permit, which can be used for a single shipment, is valid for 30 calendar days from the date of issue. Once it expires, the interested party has a 30-day period to renew it, which he/she can do only once. The renewal must be processed with the Animal Quarantine Department at the DGPSA-MAGFOR by submitting the original expired permit and the corresponding carbon copies and paying the service fee.
- In the case of a biological product of animal origin, it must be registered with the Department of Registration and Control of Veterinary Products, in accordance with the requirements of Law No. 291 (Basic Law on Plant and Animal Health and its Regulations).

Central Region: Panama



1) Regulations governing primary production

Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants

[Executive Decree No. 368](#) of 27 September 1995 regulates and sets out sanitary provisions on the production, slaughter, processing and inspection of poultry and poultry by-products in national territory. Moreover, it establishes the requirements for poultry farms or establishments, which must:

- a) Ensure proper environmental control;
- b) Allocate an area or building to poultry that is duly separated from human residences;
- c) Carry out insect and rodent control;
- d) Comply with appropriate hygiene measures and have a medical certificate;
- e) Have a warehouse or storage area;
- f) Have adequate water supply;
- g) Perform a chicken health check and present a veterinarian-issued certificate;
- h) Allocate a room or area to egg storage; and
- i) Dispose of solid waste adequately.

Additionally, they must comply with all documentary requirements for obtaining an operating permit, as well as with the specifications regarding facilities, operation, slaughtering, dressing and chilling of carcasses and cuts, postmortem inspection, transport and processing of poultry meat, packaging and labelling, and more.

[Executive Decree No. 64](#) of 27 March 1996 corrects and modifies certain articles of Executive Decree No. 368 of 27 September 1995.

[Executive Decree No. 333](#) of 12 August 1997 regulates the sale of meat and meat by-products in the various establishments in the country and sets out other health provisions.

[Executive Decree No. 352](#) of 10 October 2001 regulates the mandatory application of standard operating procedures (SOPs), GMP and HACCP in slaughterhouses and plants and establishments that process, transform, distribute and ship meat, dairy, fish, eggs and miscellaneous products for human consumption.

[Executive Decree No. 64](#) of 27 March 1996 amends and modifies certain articles of Executive Decree No. 368 of 27 September 1995.

[Executive Decree No. 223](#) of 5 September 1996 establishes provisions for veterinary inspections in the various slaughterhouses operating throughout the country and for inspections of meat product processing plants.

[Executive Decree No. 81](#) of 31 March 2003 modifies Executive Decree No. 352 of 2001 regarding SOPs, GMPs and HACCP in plants.

[Executive Decree No. 856](#) of 4 August 2015 modifies articles of Executive Decree No. 40 of 26 January 2010 and establishes other provisions.

[Executive Decree No. 94](#) of 8 April 1997 establishes provisions regarding clothing and licenses for food handlers, and creates training centers for food handlers.

Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases, such as Newcastle disease and avian influenza

[Executive Decree No. 40](#) of 26 January 2010 establishes the activities associated with high-risk situations for public health or the environment, as well as the types of sanitary establishments, among other provisions.

Newcastle disease

There have been no cases of the disease in the country since 1976. On 27 June 2001, Panama's Self-Declaration as a Country Free from Newcastle Disease in Poultry was sent to the OIE.

- **Animal welfare regulations**

The [Political Constitution of Panama](#) of 1972 does not provide any constitutional legal protection for animals in any area.

[Law No. 70](#) for the Protection of Domestic Animals was enacted on 12 October 2012, for the purpose of preventing, eradicating and penalizing bad practices against animals, such as mistreatment, abandonment and cruelty, fostering responsible ownership and requiring owners to care for and protect animals. In particular, it establishes regulations for working animals; for instantaneous, painless and distress-free slaughter; for animal testing and breeding; as well as for trade.

Dog fights, animal races and bullfights are prohibited by the Law, which also provides for the suspension of circuses that mistreat animals.

Insofar as they violate the principles that inspired the legislation, the offenses described in the Law are punished with fines and community work.

Chapter IV of the Single Text of [Panama's Criminal Code](#) of 2015, and Article 421 in particular, states that acts of cruelty, or acts that cause the death of or serious injury to an animal, will be sanctioned with one hundred to two hundred day-fines or community work.

The National Poultry Health Program of the National Directorate of Animal Health of the Ministry of Agricultural Development was created by means of [Executive Decree No. 251](#) of 2 September 2013.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

[Law No. 66](#) of 10 November 1947 approved the Health Code.

The Health Code was approved through [Law No. 40](#) of 16 November 2006, which modifies and adds articles to Law No. 66 of 1947, and establishes another provision.

[Resolution No. 001](#) of 24 January 2014 establishes the Technical Regulation DGNTI-COPANIT 14-2013: Food Technology, Poultry and Eggs, Hen Eggs for Consumption.

The Panamanian Food Safety Authority (AUPSA) was created by means of [Decree Law No. 11](#) of 22 February 2006, which establishes other provisions as well.

The Inspection Guide for Meat and Meat Products was adopted by means of [Resolution No. 29](#) of 29 December 1995, for application in all plants throughout the country.

Technical Regulation DGNTI-COPANIT 32-479-00: Poultry meat, Handling of Processed Chicken was established through [Resolution No. 591](#) of 5 December 2000.

Technical Regulation DGNTI-COPANIT 33-2007: Food Technology: Poultry Meat, Chicken, Hen and Ready-to-cook (Raw) Whole Rooster, Parts or Giblets, was established through [Resolution No. 650](#) of 10 October 2007.

Regarding specifications and characteristics, this regulation establishes that:

- Whole chicken and cuts must not have any bruising.
- Processed whole chicken, parts and giblets must be complete, clean and in good condition.
- The product's meat must have the usual color and smell.
- The product's meat must be free of dyes.
- The product's fat and muscle tissue must be firm and elastic to the touch.

The cooling temperature and the refrigeration and freezing processes utilized must protect and maintain the product's quality. Chicken should not remain refrigerated for more than ten days, including the time it is stored in the retail store, provided that the hygiene and temperature (0 to 7 °C) conditions are maintained.

At the time it is cut, the chicken's internal temperature must not exceed 7 °C and the room temperature must not exceed 12 °C.

Chicken to be frozen must be stored at a temperature of 0 to 4 °C before it enters the freezing facility, which must take no more than 18 hours to reduce the temperature of the chicken from 4 °C to -18 °C. Once it is frozen, stored chicken must remain at a temperature ranging from -22 to -18 °C.

For distribution and marketing, processed, ready-to-cook whole chicken, parts and giblets must be placed in primary packaging and sealed according to GMP. Primary packaging must

be new, made of materials that do not react to or dissolve in the product and that do not transfer strange odors or flavors.

Stunning is carried out using electricity or any other method that does not kill or damage the chicken and that guarantees its well-being.

In the case of establishments that have pre-cooling and cooling tanks, this equipment shall not constitute a source of contamination for the product and shall maintain an adequate temperature. Water and ice must be replaced periodically. Chlorine of up to 50 ppm or iodine of up to 25 ppm, or any other method approved by the competent authority, shall be used as a disinfection method to prevent contamination.

Whole chicken, cuts or giblets that are declared unfit for human consumption shall be removed from the production area using systems that avoid contamination, using water-resistant and labeled containers exclusively for this purpose.

Blood and viscera must not come into contact with the final product; should this happen by accident, the product will be rejected and declared unfit for human consumption, to avoid the risk of contamination. Furthermore, to avoid cross-contamination, products must be kept separate from possible by-products and waste.

Personnel in the establishment must comply with [Decree No. 94](#) of 8 April 1997, which covers provisions regarding clothing and licenses for food handlers, and establishes training centers for food handlers. This decree regulates the health, clothing and health training of food handlers, including owners and managers, who must not suffer from any contagious or infectious diseases and must wear appropriate protective gear, including caps and footwear, which must be clean and in good condition. During the manufacturing process, all equipment that comes in contact with the raw material or product must be kept clean.

3) Regulations governing trade

Import requirements

The Health Requirement for the Importation of Prepackaged Poultry Meat for Human Consumption was issued by means of [Resolution AUPSA-DINAN-083-2007](#) of 12 March 2007.

According to this requirement, importers must report the product's entry to the Panamanian Food Security Authority (AUPSA) by completing the import notification form, whether manually or electronically, 48 hours before the product's arrival at the point of entry.

Prepackaged food for human consumption must be covered by a health certificate, issued by the health authority of the exporting country, which must state compliance with the following requirements:

- 13) The country of origin must have declared its status as free of Newcastle disease and avian influenza to the OIE, and this status must have been recognized by AUPSA.
- 14) The farm of origin must be free of *Salmonella pullorum*, *Salmonella gallinarum*, *Salmonella typhimurium* and *Salmonella enteritidis*.

- 15) The country of origin must be recognized by AUPSA as eligible for the export of meat products.
- 16) Prepackaged poultry products must be adequately packaged and must meet Codex Alimentarius labeling standards.
- 17) These prepackaged foods must be processed in accordance with HACCP-based quality assurance principles, i.e., thermal treatment to guarantee the elimination of pathogenic microorganisms, according to the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code and Codex Alimentarius.
- 18) These products must also be processed in an establishment authorized for export by the exporting country and must come from plants approved by AUPSA or by the National Directorate of Animal Health of the Ministry of Agricultural Development, based on Article 77 of [Decree Law No. 11](#) of 22 February 2006.
- 19) The traceability records of prepackaged food must be kept for a minimum of two years.
- 20) These products must be adequately packaged in sealed containers, identified with the country of origin, plant number, lot number and processing day, month and year.
- 21) Prepackaged poultry food that requires refrigeration must be kept at temperatures ranging from 0 to 4 °C and those that require freezing, at temperatures below -12 °C.
- 22) Poultry meat products must be transported in thermo-refrigerated containers and/or vehicles to meet the required hygienic conditions. The products must also be sealed (labeled and strapped) in such a way that the seals can only be removed by the corresponding health authorities of the country of transit and/or destination.

The following supporting documentation must be provided for each shipment of prepackaged food:

- Health certificate,
- Copy of the notification,
- Certificate of origin of the product,
- Commercial invoice, and
- Customs pre-declaration.

Northern Region: Mexico



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants**

Within this context, the following official standards have been issued:

[Mexican Official Standard NOM-194-SSA1-2004](#) of 24 August 2004 on sanitary specifications for products and services in establishments dedicated to the slaughter and dressing of animals, specifically regarding supply, storage, transport and sale;

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-008-ZOO-1993](#) of 16 November 1994: Animal Health Specifications for the Construction and Furnishing of Establishments Dedicated to Animal Slaughtering and the Industrialization of Meat Products; and

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-CCA-022 ECOL/1993](#) of 18 October 1993: Maximum Limits of Contaminants Permitted in Wastewater Discharge from the Animal Slaughter and Meatpacking Industry into Bodies of Water.

- **Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases, such as Newcastle disease and avian influenza**

Newcastle disease

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-013-ZOO-1994](#): National Campaign against Velogenic Newcastle Disease was issued on 28 February 1995.

Avian influenza

Regarding this disease, the following was established:

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-055-ZOO-1995](#) of 22 June 1998: Minimum Requirements for Vaccines Used to Prevent and Control Avian Influenza; and

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-044-ZOO-1995](#) of 30 January 2006: Modification of Official Mexican Standard, National Campaign against Avian Influenza.

Other

Likewise, [Official Mexican Standard NOM-005-ZOO-1993](#) of 12 March 1992: National Campaign against Avian Salmonellosis was issued.

- **Biosecurity regulations**

The following official standards on this topic were issued:

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-046-ZOO-1995](#) of 19 February 1997: National Epidemiological Surveillance System; and

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-054-ZOO-1996](#) of 8 June 1998: Establishment of Quarantines for Animals and Animal Products, which refers to biosecurity and quarantine measures for animals as well as animal products and by-products.

- **Animal welfare regulations**

The Animal Protection Law was enacted by means of [Decree No. 15](#), which came into effect on 5 September 1985. The law protects domestic and wild animals that are not harmful to man or that are kept in captivity, regulating their growth, life and slaughter, promoting their rational use, eradicating mistreatment and cruelty, as well as fostering love, respect, consideration and responsible ownership.

Additionally, Mexico enacted the new [Federal Law on Animal Health](#), which was published on 25 July 2007 and amended on 7 June 2012.

The following official standards were also issued:

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-022-ZOO-1994](#) of 16 October 1995: Zoosanitary Specifications and Characteristics for the Transportation of Animals and their Products and By-products; as well as Chemical, Pharmaceutical, Biological and Food Products for Use on or Consumption by Animals;

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-060-ZOO-1999](#), modified on 24 May 2018: Zoosanitary Specifications for the Transformation of Animal Offal and its Use in Animal Feed;

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-051-ZOO-1995](#) of 23 March 1998: Humane Treatment in the Mobilization of Animals.

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-033-ZOO-1995](#) of 16 July 1996: Humane Slaughter of Domestic and Wild Animals; and

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-033-SAG/ZOO-2014](#) of 26 August 2015: Methods for Killing Domestic and Wild Animals.

- **Official antimicrobial resistance surveillance plans**

On 5 June 2018, the [Agreement](#) Declaring the Mandatory Nature of the National Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy was signed.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

- **Plans related to microbiological criteria**

Within this context, two official standards were enacted:

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-003-ZOO-1994](#): Criteria for the Operation of Approved Zoosanitary Testing Laboratories, which was modified on 16 November 1998; and

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-113-SSA1-1994](#): Goods and Services: Method for Counting Total Coliform Microorganisms in Plates, of 25 August 1995.

3) Regulations governing trade

The following trade-related official standards have been issued:

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-213-SSA1-2002](#): Products and Services. Processed Meat Products. Sanitary Specifications. Testing Methods;

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-009-ZOO-1994](#): Sanitary Meat Processing;

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-024-ZOO-1995](#): Zoosanitary Specifications and Characteristics for the Transportation of Animals and their Products and By-products; as well as Chemical, Pharmaceutical, Biological and Food Products for Use on or Consumption by Animals, of 16 October 1995; and

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-051-SCFI/SSA1-2010](#): General Labeling Specifications for Prepackaged Foods and Non-Alcoholic Beverages - Commercial and Sanitary Information, of 5 April 2010.

- **Import requirements**

With respect to importations, the following documents were issued:

On 9 August 2012, the country issued an [Agreement](#) describing the procedure for obtaining, through electronic means, importation and exportation certificates for agricultural, livestock, aquaculture and fishery goods;

An [Agreement](#) dated 29 May 2014, which establishes the general criteria applied by Mexico in the establishment and modification of animal, plant, aquaculture and fishery health and safety requirements for the importation of goods regulated by the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (SAGARPA) through the National Service for Agrifood Health, Safety and Quality;

An [Agreement](#) dated 13 October 2010, which establishes the means for consulting the animal health requirements for importing goods regulated by SAGARPA into the country; and

[Official Mexican Standard NOM-030-ZOO-1995](#) of 17 April 1996: Specifications and Procedures for the Verification of Imported Meat, Carcasses, Viscera and Offal at Zoosanitary Verification Points.

Caribbean Region: Antigua and Barbuda



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases**

Within this context, on 17 February 1993, the [Protection of Animals \(Amendment\) Act \(No. 5 of 1993\)](#) was issued. Amendments to the main law relate to the seizure of an animal that has been subjected to cruel treatment. The animal's owner shall be notified of the seizure. A new section related to the regulation of the minister's powers was also included.

Furthermore, [the Importation Prohibition \(Epidemic Diseases\) Act \(No. 1 of 1888\)](#) of 9 March 1888, empowers the cabinet to prohibit, by means of an order and for a specific period of time, the importation or unloading of any animal, article or thing brought from any place outside of Antigua and Barbuda where epidemic disease of a contagious or infectious nature prevails. Every person who imports or attempts to import any animal, thing or article in contravention of an order prohibiting importation shall be guilty of an offense.

[The Animal \(Diseases and Importation\) Act \(No. 31 of 1953\)](#) of 14 April 1953 introduced measures for the control and eradication of diseases affecting all types of animals except poultry. According to this act, owners of sick animals must keep them separate from other animals and report the disease to the assistant inspectors appointed for that purpose. It also establishes procedures for the declaration of infected places or zones as well as provisions for the slaughter of sick animals and compensation, among other aspects.

[The Animals \(International Movement and Disease\) Act 1986 \(No. 34 of 1986\)](#) of 1 January 1987 seeks to control the importation into Antigua and Barbuda and to regulate the movement from Antigua and Barbuda of birds, fish, insects and reptiles and of animal carcasses, parts and meats, veterinary biological products, litter and fodder for the purposes of preventing the introduction of disease into Antigua and Barbuda and into other Member States of CARICOM and of providing for the safe and humane movement of animals from Antigua and Barbuda and for other matters related thereto.

Lastly, [the Animals \(International Movement and Disease\) Regulations, 1993 \(S.I. No. 19 of 1993\)](#) of 3 March 1993 addresses matters related to importation permits and general provisions regarding the importation and landing of animals, as well as animal quarantine for poultry, hatching eggs and animal carcasses, among others.

- **Animal welfare regulations**

[The Animal Health Act No. 12 of 2017](#) of 14 June 2017 was created to control the movement of animals, animal products and animal-related items into and within Antigua and Barbuda in order to prevent the introduction and spread of diseases within Antigua and Barbuda and other countries; to safeguard animal health; to facilitate veterinary public health; to establish standards for animal welfare in Antigua and Barbuda; and for other incidental matters.

[The Protection of Animals Act \(No. 10 of 1935\)](#) of 20 March 1935 was enacted to protect animals from any form of cruelty. The term “animals” includes any domestic, captive or wild animal, whether bird, beast, fish, reptile or insect (Section 2). If keeping an animal alive is deemed cruel, the Court shall have the power to order its destruction and to deprive the person of ownership of that animal.

2) Regulations governing trade

- **Import requirements**

Sections 4 and 5 of [The External Trade Act Chapter 163](#) of 10 December 1958 establishes importation and import license restrictions, according to which the importation of all kinds of goods from any country or place without a license may be prohibited.

Caribbean Region: Barbados



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases**

Within this context, the [Animals \(Diseases and Importation Control\) Regulations, 1961 \(No. 53 of 1961\)](#) of 1961 were enacted. According to these regulations, the importation of animals requires a permit from the Senior Veterinary Officer. Vessels and aircraft carrying animals must be disinfected and kept in quarantine in accordance with Regulation 5. Animals shall be inspected before landing (Regulation 7) and kept in quarantine in accordance with Regulation 8. Regulations 11 to 24 provide for the importation of specified animals, among other aspects.

Additionally, [the Animals \(Diseases and Importation\) Act](#) of 1997 provides for the control of diseases affecting animals in Barbados by prescribing measures regarding, among other things, notification of diseases, segregation and slaughter of suspected animals, as well as marking and declaration of infected places. It also addresses the importation of birds and other animals. The Senior Veterinary Officer may grant licenses to import animals under section 15.

Lastly, [the Animals \(Diseases and Importation\) \(Amendment\) Act \(No. 10 of 2014\)](#) amends section 22 of the Animals (Diseases and Importation Control) Regulations, regarding the minister's power to enact regulations and amend any one of them. Regulations issued under the Act shall be subject to a negative resolution.

- **Animal welfare regulations**

[The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act](#) of the year 2000 places restrictions on cruel behavior of humans against animals, the use of condemned animals and destruction of unfit animals by an order of a magistrate. One of the offenses defined by this Act is abandonment of animals by its owner. The act requires owners to take good care of an animal in confinement. The Act also applies to captive animals.

[The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals \(Amendment\) Act, 2007 \(No. 43 of 2007\)](#) of 2007 amends the Cruelty to Animals Act by giving a definition of "authorized person", offenses (Section 3) and compensation (Section 8), among others.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

[Chapter 356 Safety and Health at Work](#) addresses the hygienic aspects of food businesses and establishes general requirements for the development of food businesses in terms of the safety, health and welfare of registered establishments and their workers.

The [Health Services \(Food Hygiene\) Regulations](#) of 1969 address matters related to the transportation and handling of food to prevent contamination and proper control to maintain hygiene.

Barbados has more than 44 technical regulations (mandatory and suggested) related to health, public safety, food, labeling and environmental protection. There are 151 specifications and 21 codes of practice from the Barbados National Standards Institution (BNSI). This information was previously available on the BNSI website; however, in 2021, the site was under maintenance for several months. Among the mandatory regulations are:

- Barbados National Standard Specification for Labeling of Commodities [General] (BNS 5: Part 1:1974);
- Barbados National Standard Specification for Labeling of Prepackaged Food (BNS 5: Part 2:2004 second revision);
- Barbados National Standard Specification for Labeling of Prepackaged Goods (BNS 5: Part 6:1979);
- Barbados National Standard Specification for Labeling of Prepackaged Meat and Poultry Parts/Cuts and Fish and Fishery Products (BNS 5: Part 7:2004 revised); and
- Barbados National Standard Specification for Processed Foods (BNS 30:1976).

3) Regulations governing trade

- **Import and export regulations**

Barbados applies export restrictions on certain products included in the List of Prohibited and Restricted Exports, which forms part of the Customs Act, as amended by the [Customs \(List of Prohibited and Restricted Imports and Exports\) Order of 2009](#) (S.I. 2009, No. 127).

Restrictions on the importation of meat and meat products are also in force. Importation of these products may only take place if the country of origin of the products is included in the fifth and sixth lists of approved countries included in the Regulations. In this regard, perhaps the most important aspect is that the Government can limit the import volumes of beef, pork, lamb and poultry meat through a system of import licenses. Depending on the circumstances, these licenses may or may not be automatic.

The countries included in these lists are the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, Argentina, Canada, Denmark, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, the Netherlands, the United States, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago, for poultry meat; and Australia, Canada, Chile, New Zealand, the United States, Uruguay, Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago in the case of pork, sheep and goat meat. A series of procedures must be followed to include a new country in this list, including completing a form and coordinating a visit by Barbados officials to the exporting country. Barbados follows the OIE's recommendations to remove countries from the list. Shipments must come directly from the country of origin to Barbados, unless approval is granted for transshipped imports. Transshipments are authorized only in the case of countries that have not experienced an outbreak of FMD or other diseases specified by the OIE in the previous 12 months. Importers must notify authorities of shipments received and provide the Customs

Department with the original health certificate of origin with the stamp of approval of the animal quarantine officer.

Among the documents required to export are a customs declaration form, a commercial invoice, a certificate of origin for preferential exports, a form from the Central Bank, a bill of lading, a shipping instructions form and an export declaration form. The Entry Processing Office at the port of departure must verify the validity of the Central Bank's exchange control form, which also applies to imports.

A health certificate issued by the Veterinary Office of the Ministry of Agriculture is required for the exportation of live animals. At the request of the receiving country, this office also issues health certificates for the exportation of fresh and processed foods of animal origin.

Commercial importers of animal products must obtain an annual import permit, issued by the Department of Veterinary Services of the Ministry of Agriculture, that costs BBD 500 and is valid for twelve months and renewable. Prior to placing the corresponding order, importers must apply in writing for an import permit for each shipment.

Caribbean Region: Cuba



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new poultry farms and processing plants and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases**

The country has issued the following resolutions on this topic:

[Resolution No. 53/07](#) of 27 March 2007, which establishes the mandatory nature of the Branch Technical Standard on terms and definitions related to meat and meat products;

[Resolution No. 70/09](#) of 22 February 2006: Amendment to Resolution No. 6/08: “Procedure for the movement of egg, chicken and light beer products”, which modifies the resolution that regulates the movement of poultry products with respect to the weight and price of commercialized fried chicken;

[Resolution No. 215/07](#) of 25 November 1994: Technical Standard NRIAL 211 on the Determination of Sodium Chloride in Meat and Meat Products, which establishes the mandatory nature of the Branch Technical Standard on the Determination of Sodium Chloride through the Routine Method and Mohr’s Method for Meat and Meat Products; and

[Resolution No. 223/07](#) of 4 December 2007: Technical Standard NRIAL 196 on Smoked Meat and Meat Products, which establishes the mandatory nature of the Branch Technical Standard on Quality Specifications for Smoked Meat and Meat Products.

- **Biosecurity, animal welfare and microbiological criteria regulations**

[Resolution No. 386/14](#) of 24 October 2014, which approves the health regulations and specific regulations regarding the bromatological nature of raw materials of animal, vegetable or mineral origin for the production of concentrate intended for animal consumption.

[Resolution No. 339/01](#) of 28 November 1994: “Importation of biological products, preparations for animal feed and medicines for animal use”, establishes provisions regarding the importation of biological products, raw materials, medicines for human and animal use, diagnostics, and cosmetics of bovine origin or containing elements of bovine origin, as well as animal feed preparations made from fishmeal or crustaceans.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

[Resolution No. 62/10](#) of 31 March 2010: Technical Standard NRIAL 144:10 on the Transportation of Meat and Meat Products establishes the mandatory nature of the Branch Technical Standard on Conditions for the Transport of Meat, Meat Products and Meat By-products.

[Resolution No. 6/08](#) of 25 November 1994: “Procedure for the movement of egg, chicken and light beer products”, establishes provisions on the movement of egg, chicken and bottled and labeled light beer products through a single wholesale distribution channel and the unification of retail marketing prices in food establishments.

3) Regulations governing trade

- **Import requirements**

[Resolution No. 50/14](#) of 12 March 2014: General Regulations on Imports and Exports establishes the principles and basic rules that must be satisfied by entities authorized to import and export goods, which are those registered in the National Registry of Exporters and Importers, which forms part of Cuba's Chamber of Commerce.

[Resolution No. 387/14](#) of 24 October 2014 approves the "Procedure for the rejection of imports of products and by-products of animal origin for human consumption, as well as products, by-products, ingredients and raw materials of vegetable or mineral origin intended for animal feed", which establishes the requirements for imports, inspections and decisions regarding the rejection of imports of a commercial nature.

Caribbean Region: Grenada



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants**

The [Occupational Standard for National Vocational Qualification: Poultry Rearing](#) was issued on 15 February 2018 for training and certification purposes in Grenada.

Level 1 of the national vocational qualification for poultry rearing is geared towards individuals whose role in the agriculture sector requires well developed behavioral competencies but whose scope for independent decision making and for bringing about change is limited. Certification can be obtained through formal training or on-the-job experience by scheduling assessments with certified assessors of the Grenada National Training Agency.

- **Self- declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases, such as Newcastle disease and avian influenza**

The [Animals \(Diseases and Importation\) Act \(Cap. 15\)](#) of 1 August 1953 applies to livestock animals, pet animals, birds, reptiles and insects, but does not apply to bees. By Order, the Minister may apply, subject to such exceptions, adaptations and modifications as may be therein set out, the provisions of this Act and of any regulations made thereunder to poultry. Inspectors may be appointed under Section 3. Diseases among animals shall be notified by the owner and diseased animals shall be kept separate from other animals.

The [Diseases of Poultry Regulations](#) of 1953 prescribe measures, to be taken both by owners of animals and public officers, to prevent the spread of fowl pests or infectious laryngotracheitis affecting poultry. Regulation 3 prescribes duties of the owner of the animal affected by the disease with regards to notification, whereas Regulation 5 defines the duties of owners of infected animals regarding the keeping of such animals.

Prior to issuing the [Grenada Food and Nutrition Security Policy](#) in 2013, the Government of Grenada defined food and nutrition security as a national priority in its pronouncement on the building of a new economy. On 3 July 2012, an initiative to develop Grenada's Food and Nutrition Program was launched.

The [Animals \(Prevention of cruelty\) Act \(Cap. 16\)](#) of 22 March 1952 seeks to protect all domestic or captive animals from cruel treatment and, to this end, defines various offenses and grants powers to court to take measures regarding animals that were subjected to cruel treatment. The Act also provides for compensation to owners of animals that were subjected to cruel treatment and regulation-making powers of the Minister in this regard.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

The [Butchers Act \(Cap. 39\)](#) of 1 July 1910 provides for licensing and control of any person who kills and/or sells any animal for and as butcher's meat. Every licensed butcher shall keep in some suitable place and in a sanitary condition within the precincts of his or her place of

residence, the hide or skin of any animal (except swine) killed by him or her during a period of five days from the date of slaughtering.

3) Regulations governing trade

- **Import requirements**

The [Grenada Food Safety Bill](#) of 2014 establishes requirements for importing and exporting food, permits, registration, as well as the prevention and eradication of diseases, among other aspects.

Caribbean Region: Guyana



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new farms, legal provisions on trade limiting diseases, and animal welfare regulations**

The [Animal Health Act 2011](#) entered into effect on 3 August 2011. According to the Act, animals, products of animal origin and parts of imported animals, regardless of whether or not they are intended for human consumption, must no longer come from prescribed countries. Import bans or restrictions are only applied to products from areas that the OIE has determined are infected by diseases.

Imports of animals, animal products and animal parts are subject to the [import permit](#) system applied by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism. A permit from the Guyana Livestock Development Authority (GLDA) must be obtained prior to requesting an import license. When making their request, importers must submit a health certificate issued by the competent authorities of the exporting country. The permits issued by the GDLA are valid for a period of no more than six months and for a specific shipment.

In the case of animal products and animal parts, a zoosanitary certificate issued by the competent authorities of the exporting country must be provided for each import shipment no more than 14 days before the shipment's arrival in Guyana.

All imports of animals (and animal parts and products) or plants are subject to inspection at the border post. Importers must notify the entry office of the shipment and request inspection 72 hours before its arrival. Border inspectors have the right to request samples to conduct more detailed analyses. When samples are taken, the goods in question are not released to the importer until the laboratory analysis report has been completed, which, according to authorities, usually takes about a week. Importers are not charged an inspection fee. Quarantine measures may be adopted when anomalies are detected during border inspections.

The list of products subject to export licenses under the Foreign Trade Act has not changed since the most recent review. As in the case of import licenses, export licenses may or may not be automatic.

The [Animal Health Fees Regulations](#) of 2016 establishes the rates of the services mentioned in the Animal Health Act of 2011.

2) Regulations governing trade

- **Import requirements**

According to Rule 2 of the [Poultry and Poultry Eggs \(Conditions of Importation\) Order \(No. 12 of 1965\)](#), the term poultry includes any live bird, including turkey, goose, duck, Guinea fowl, pheasant or pigeon. No poultry or poultry eggs shall be imported into Guyana from any country other than those specified in the schedule. Such imports shall be accompanied by a health certificate signed by the competent authority in the country of origin to the effect that the poultry or poultry eggs emanated from flocks free from specific diseases.

According to the [Poultry Carcasses \(Conditions of Importation\) Order](#) of 1968, poultry carcasses shall not be imported into Guyana unless they have been plucked, eviscerated, and the head and feet removed, nor will they be imported from any country other than those countries specified in the schedule. The importation of poultry feathers or the viscera of poultry is prohibited, unless they are imported from a country included in the schedule, following an inspection carried out by a government veterinary, who must declare that the importation is not likely to cause the introduction of a disease into Guyana.

Caribbean Region: Jamaica



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants**

Pursuant to the [Jamaica Processed Foods Establishments Regulations 1959](#) of 18 September 1959, every application for registration of an establishment shall be made to the Director of the Bureau of Standards by the person proposing to operate the establishment in Form A in the Schedule. A certificate of registration shall not be transferred from one establishment to another.

Every certificate of registration shall remain valid until the 31st day of August succeeding the issue of the certificate, and shall then expire. On the other hand, every application for renewal of the registration of an establishment shall be made no later than the 31st day of August of each year.

The Director shall assign to every establishment a registration letter or number, and every certificate of registration shall bear the corresponding letter or number. No establishment shall be assigned any registration letter or number that has been previously assigned to any other establishment. The registration letter or number assigned to an establishment under this regulation shall appear at the beginning of any identification code used in relation to that establishment.

The operator of every registered establishment shall keep the certificate of registration exhibited in a conspicuous place in the establishment.

The [Public Health \(Butchers\) Regulations 1989](#) of 14 December 1989, developed in accordance with the Public Health Act, establishes regulations for slaughterhouses and animal slaughtering. According to the regulations, no person shall operate as a butcher unless such person has a valid license granted by the local board. Other provisions refer to inspections, record-keeping by butchers, slaughtering and packaging methods, and marking and transport of meat.

The [Public Health \(Meat Inspection\) Regulations 1989](#) of 15 August 1989, developed in accordance with the Public Health Act, establishes regulations related to inspections and the slaughtering of animals intended for human consumption.

- **Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases, such as Newcastle disease and avian influenza**

The [Diseases of Poultry Regulations, 1949](#) of 24 October 1949 introduces measures to control the spread of poultry pests in Jamaica, including Newcastle disease and Infectious Laryngotracheiti.

The [Animals \(Diseases and Importation\) Act](#) of 15 October 1948 establishes provisions for the control of animal diseases in general, and for the regulation of animal imports within this context.

An [Influenza Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan](#) is also available.

- **Biosecurity regulations**

The [Processed Foods \(General\) Regulations 1959](#) of 18 September 1959 establishes criteria for the purity of processed food and provisions regarding export certificates, methods for conducting microbiological and chemical analyses, and criteria for categorizing specific foods.

The [National Food Safety Policy 2013](#) of January 2013 addresses the following matters:

- legislative gaps and overlaps,
- lack of coordination of the food safety function,
- instituting comprehensive traceability systems,
- performance of ongoing risk analysis,
- participation in international meetings,
- implementation of trade agreements,
- undertaking systematic research,
- surveillance/epidemiology activities,
- lack of locally accredited laboratories for food safety analysis,
- monitoring of food production and distribution systems,
- ensuring that imported food is safe for consumption,
- national food safety emergency response systems, and
- public awareness and education.

Policy recommendations addressing the above issues include:

- rationalization of existing legislation and promulgation of modern food safety legislation in keeping with international standards,
- establishment of a National Food Safety Council,
- strengthening of existing systems in the domestic trade of food and food products,
- establishment of systems that facilitate traceability from ‘farm to fork’, and
- strengthening of formal risk analysis mechanisms.

- **Animal welfare regulations**

The [Cruelty to Animals Act 1904](#) of 22 April 1904 is the most widely-referenced law in Jamaica for matters related to animal welfare. It covers all animal species by sex and age and includes all forms of abuse. It was last updated in 1995; among other modifications, the fine for noncompliance was increased to JMD 1,000.

Clauses 3 and 5 note that cruelly beating, ill-treating, starving, over-driving, over-riding, over-loading, abusing, torturing, intentionally neglecting, or causing any injury or suffering to an animal shall be considered an offense. According to Clause 6, it is illegal to manage, keep, charge admission fees for, or take bets in animal fights (dogs, cocks, bulls). According to Clause 7, it is illegal to transport an animal in a manner that subjects it to unnecessary pain or suffering. Pursuant to Clause 9, any person who willfully, carelessly or negligently causes an animal unnecessary suffering shall be punished.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

The [Meat and Meat Products and Meat By-products \(Inspection and Export\) Act](#) of 12 March 1999 applies to the inspection and certification of any meat, carcass, offal, meat product or meat by-product for export, and establishes provisions for the issuance of licenses to exporters of such products.

The [Public Health \(Food Handling Amendment\) Regulations 2000](#) of 3 August 2000 modifies the Public Health Act (Food Handling) of 1998, specifically by: a) providing a new definition for “food-handling establishment”; b) changing the hygiene-related requirements for food-handling establishments; c) modifying regulations related to the storage of food offered to the public; d) inserting a new regulation on the handling, storage and preservation of high-risk foods; and e) mandating the fulfillment of requirements for the issuance of a food handler’s permit.

The [Food and Drugs Regulations 1975](#) of 3 March 1975 implements the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act with respect to labelling, advertisements, preparation and sale of food, dietary foods, preservatives, additives and poisonous substances in food and drugs administered to animals that may be intended for human consumption.

The [Processed Foods \(Grades and Standards\) Regulations 1974](#) of 14 February 1964 establishes regulations and measurements for processed food and for the processing of meat and meat products in particular. The country also enacted the [Processed Food Act, 1959](#) of 15 October 1959; the [Processed Foods \(Inspection & Sampling\) Regulations 1959](#) of 18 September 1959, regarding inspection and sampling; the [Processed Foods \(Labelling of Processed Foods\) Regulations 1974](#) of 23 September 1974, regarding the labelling of processed food; and the [Processed Foods Regulations 2002](#) of 10 October 2002, which updates the 1959 document.

The [Food Processed Act \(Amendment\) 2012](#) of 24 May 2012 amends the Processed Food Act, specifically sections 11 and 12 regarding the preparation of regulations and penalties for offenses defined in the primary Act. It also includes a new article that empowers the minister to modify any monetary penalty established in the primary Act.

3) Regulations governing trade

- **Import requirements**

The [Poultry \(Application of Act\) Order 1949](#) of 13 May 1949 establishes that the provisions of the Animals (Diseases and Importation) Act apply to poultry in the same manner, in all respects, as the said provisions apply to other animals.

The [Food and Drugs Act 1964](#) of 4 August 1975 establishes provisions for the control of animal diseases in general and in relation to the importation of animals.

All meat and dairy products imported into Jamaica must be accompanied by an import permit issued by the Director of Veterinary Services (VSD) of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries (MICAF) and an export certificate from the competent

authority (usually a federal/state agency) of the exporting country. Highly processed products that contain a small amount of animal ingredients have challenges entering Jamaica without certificates. However, the VSD accepts appropriately worded export certificates (those giving explicit guarantees) from state or county authorities as sufficient to satisfy its permit requirements. A notary public is not recognized as a competent authority in Jamaica for certifying the wholesomeness and safety of a food product and therefore, certificates of free sale are not accepted by VSD. Reference to an affidavit or other substantiating documents that originate outside of the formal government inspection system is not acknowledged by the VSD as constituting adequate regulatory oversight to justify generating an export certificate.

Caribbean Region: Dominican Republic



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants**

All sections of Resolution No. 11-2000 of 8 May 2000, which regulates poultry farms, ratify Resolution No. 35/99 of 7 June 1999, which establishes the technical standards for the regulation of poultry farms and their surroundings in the Dominican Republic. Additionally, the general provisions state that organized poultry farms are prohibited from conducting mixed farming of birds of different species (such as Guinea fowl and chickens, partridges and turkeys, etc.), and that commercial poultry breeding must be carried out in confinement, which implies that the buildings used for this purpose must be fenced and protected with metal mesh or its equivalent, to guarantee the confinement of the poultry.

Additionally, the document notes that new poultry facilities must meet the requirements for undertaking poultry farming and for hatcheries.

- **Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases, such as Newcastle disease and avian influenza**

[Resolution No. RES-MA 2019-30](#) of 6 May 2019 establishes measures to prevent the dissemination of the avian influenza virus.

The National Program for the Control and Eradication of Avian Influenza was established via Resolution No. RES-MA 2019-42 of 18 July 2019.

[Resolution No. RES-MA-2016-9](#) provides for the notification, epidemiological surveillance and mandatory vaccination against Newcastle disease in poultry. Notification of this disease is mandatory throughout the country.

The country published the [Plan for the Surveillance of Avian Influenza in the Dominican Republic](#) in May 2006.

[Law No. 4030](#) of 19 January 1955 declares, as a matter of public interest, the sanitary defense of cattle in the Dominican Republic, the control and eradication of epidemics and the prevention of animal diseases that can be transmitted to humans. Furthermore, according to the Law, the importation and exportation of animals that are suffering or suspected to be suffering from contagious or hereditary diseases is prohibited, as are the importation and exportation of any meat, by-product and offal of these animals and any object that was in contact with these animals or with other objects capable of infecting the animals.

The Executive Commission for the Surveillance of Avian Influenza and the Control of Newcastle Disease was created via Resolution No. 29-2013 of 25 March 2013.

[Decree No. 174-08](#), entitled “Strengthening of the Prevention, Control and Eradication of Exotic Diseases in Domestic Animals” was issued on 24 March 2008.

Resolution [RES-MA-2019-31](#), entitled “Protocol for the Temporary Vaccination Against Avian Influenza H5N2 and Complementary Sanitary Measures”, was issued on 23 May 2019.

- **Biosecurity regulations**

[Regulation No. 52-08](#): Regulation for the General Application of the Basic Rules of Good Agricultural and Livestock Farming Practices was published on 4 February 2008.

- **Animal welfare regulations**

[Regulation No. 521-06](#) regarding the Registration of Veterinary Establishments and Medicines was issued on 17 October 2006. It sets out the rules and regulations for the registration, certification, marketing and use of veterinary drugs, and for establishments involved in commercial and industrial activities related to these drugs.

[Decree No. 354-10](#): Maximum Residue Limits for Veterinary Medicines in Food of Animal Origin was published on 28 June 2010.

Resolution No. 4-2008 and [Resolution No. 6-2012](#) of 30 May 2008 and 20 March 2012, respectively, annul the registers for the marketing and use of certain chemical substances in animals.

[Resolution No. 10/2000 bis](#) of 18 March 2000 establishes the Accreditation System for Official Veterinary Services, which, under the supervision and control of the State Secretariat for Agriculture (SEA), authorizes the private sector to provide certain official services that were previously the exclusive responsibility of the State. As part of the structure of the Department of Animal Health of the General Directorate of Livestock (DIGEGA), the Accreditation Division was created. The division utilizes a system comprised of a regional code that identifies the regional livestock directorate where the veterinarian's accreditation service is authorized as well as an activity code, which determines the specific types of activities that the veterinarian is authorized to carry out. Within this coding system, number 5 corresponds to poultry health.

With respect to animal health controls and veterinary public health, the Dominican Republic has a Central Veterinary Laboratory owned by the SEA, created in 1948 through [Law No. 4030](#), which declares, as a matter of public interest, the sanitary defense of cattle in the country.

[Law No. 259](#) of 31 December 1971 aims to regulate the production, quality and marketing of livestock feed. The SEA, through DIGEGA, is responsible for the application and management of this law. To this end, the SEA is empowered to: a) take samples, conduct inspections and analyze feed that is transported, sold, offered or offered for sale in any amount and place, in order to verify whether such feed meets the requirements of this law and its regulations; b) have access to any place where feed exists; and c) prohibit the sale of any feed that fails to meet the requirements of this law and its regulations.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

- **In this regard, the following documents have been issued:**

[Regulation No. 1688-56](#) of 16 May 1956, regarding meat and meat products intended for human consumption, which regulates their transport and sale;

[Regulation No. 329-11](#) of 17 May 2011, regarding the sanitary inspection of meat and meat products; and

[Resolution No. 07-08](#) of 9 March 2017, which ratifies adjustments to the production of poultry meat.

3) Regulations governing trade

- **Import requirements**

DIGEGA is responsible for establishing requirements for the importation of products of animal origin. In this regard, prior to importing live animals and/or products and by-products of animal origin, a Sanitary No-Objection Certificate must be requested from the Animal Health Directorate of DIGEGA. This certificate must indicate the country of origin and shipment of these products, for evaluation purposes by the Department of Risk Analysis, which shall verify whether it is appropriate to grant the permit. Chicken is one of the livestock products that is protected by the trade agreement with the WTO and by Decree No. 114-98 of 16 March 1998; consequently, the procedures to request the importation of these products are different from those for products whose importation is not regulated.

To import poultry meat, importers must: 1) request a Sanitary No-Objection Certificate from the Directorate of Animal Health of DIGEGA; 2) once the phytosanitary or zoosanitary permit has been issued, it is submitted to the Department of Agricultural and Livestock Promotion of SEA, which prepares the import authorization letter.

In order to import, a formal request must be submitted to DIGEGA, specifying the type of product, the value of the goods, the species, the country of origin, the quantity to be imported, the country of provenance, the port/airport of entry and the proforma invoice. The birds must be native to the exporting country or must have remained in the country for 90 days prior to slaughter. The goods, which must be accompanied by their official certificate of origin and official sanitary/zoosanitary certificate, must not be close to expiring. The exporting country must guarantee that the meat comes from an authorized slaughterhouse, that it was butchered in an authorized establishment and that it is recognized as fit for human consumption or that it complies with the specific import requirements established by the Dominican Republic for the requesting country.

According to Resolution No. 99 of 13 April 2018: Technical Standards for the Regulation of Poultry Exports, DIGEGA issues no-objection certificates for poultry and for the exportation of products of animal origin, as well as health certificates for products of animal origin.

[Regulation No. 2430-1984](#) regarding the sanitary inspection of meat and meat products for export was issued on 13 October 1984.

[Resolution No. 021/2006 \(bis\)](#) of 3 November 2006 declares that the SEA, acting within its power to evaluate and accept national measures as equivalent to the sanitary, phytosanitary and food safety measures of WTO member countries or any other country wishing to export products to the Dominican Republic, recognizes the inspection system of the Food Safety and Inspection Service of the United States Department of Agriculture for the importation of bovine, swine and poultry products and by-products into the country as equivalent to the inspection system of the Dominican Republic for these products.

Caribbean Region: Saint Vincent and the Grenadines



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new poultry farms and processing plants and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases**

The [Birds and Fish Protection \(Amendment\) Ordinance \(No. 18 of 1954\)](#) of 14 May 1954 establishes provisions for the protection of birds, bird eggs, fish, turtles, lobsters and oysters. Infractions with respect to birds are described in section 2. Pursuant to this ordinance, a close season is established for each of the birds listed in the second schedule, as well as for oysters and lobsters. The Governor in Council may alter the date of the close season. The killing of birds during the close season shall be considered an offense. Any person who takes or destroys a turtle or turtle eggs on land or who has a turtle or eggs in his or her possession shall be guilty of an offense. Other provisions refer to the seizure and forfeiture of birds and their killing for scientific purposes. The governor in council may, by proclamation, declare any area to be a sanctuary for the birds listed in the second annex.

According to the [Birds and Fish Protection \(Amendment\) Act \(No. 4 of 1974\)](#) of 1 January 1974, every person guilty of an offense under the provisions of the ordinance shall on a first conviction be liable to the corresponding fee, and, on any subsequent conviction, to a fee that is double that amount, and in default, to imprisonment for up to three months.

- **Animal welfare regulations**

The [Animal Laws at National Level - Saint Vincent and Grenadines \(anti-cruelty, protection, and welfare\)](#) of 27 October 1979 establish general provisions to facilitate and regulate the treatment of animals, the promotion of animal health, animal trade, animal products and related articles. Among other things, it also establishes animal welfare standards.

2) Regulations governing trade

- **Import requirements**

The [Import and Export \(Control\) Regulations 2008](#) establish the requirements, prohibitions and regulations for the control of exports and imports into St. Vincent and the Grenadines, including the requirement of a license to import poultry meat.

Caribbean Region: Suriname



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants**

The [Meat Inspection Order \(No. 45 of 1961\)](#) of 25 March 1961 places restrictions on the placing on the market of meat and meat products that may harm public health and regulates the slaughter of large livestock. Articles 1 to 5 contain definitions. Articles 6 and 7 concern the slaughter of animals, noting that a license to operate a slaughterhouse is required. Articles 8 to 12 concern the inspection of animals before and after slaughtering.

- **Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases, such as Newcastle disease and avian influenza**

The [Order to Prevent Animal Diseases \(No. 23 of 1954\)](#) of 3 April 1954 regulates animal production and importation for the purposes of preventing and reducing diseases affecting animals. Article 2 concerns administration of the Order, noting that the Chief of the Livestock Service shall be the responsible authority. Article 3 outlines the duties of owners or keepers of animals with respect to notification of diseases and keeping diseased animals apart from other animals. The responsible authority or the Director of Livestock may take certain measures to prevent spreading of diseases.

- **Biosecurity regulations**

The [Law on Biosecurity and Occupational Health \(bioveiligheidswet\)](#) of 8 September 1947 establishes a framework for the analysis of risks related to GMOs that are imported, exported and produced in the country.

- **Animal welfare regulations**

The [Law Containing Rules regarding the Welfare of Animals and further Amendment of the Penal Code \(Animal Welfare Law\)\(No. 4 of 2017\)](#) of 16 January 2017 establishes general rules for the keeping of (livestock) animals and their slaughter. It seeks to ensure proper treatment of animals and places restrictions on the keeping of dangerous animals. It also establishes rules for the keeping of animals. Killing of animals is justified if the animal poses an immediate threat to human beings or other animals, or for animal health and welfare purposes.

The [Ordinance Regulating Import, Sale and Use of Vaccines, Sera and Biological Diagnostics Intended for Use in Animals](#) of 1 September 1959 prohibits the import, sale and use of vaccines, sera and biological diagnostics intended for use in animals without a valid permit issued by the Chief of the Veterinary Service. Such a permit shall be issued only when there are sufficient guarantees that such substances are adequately handled and stored and do not pose a risk of disease transmission.

2) Regulations governing trade

- **Import requirements**

The purpose of the [Act on the Import and Export of Goods, 2003 \(No. 58\)](#) of 8 July 2003 is to facilitate trade in goods and services through the elimination of trade barriers and preferences. The Minister of Trade and Industry is the responsible authority under the Act. In principle, importation and exportation of goods is free. However, the Act provides a “negative list” of goods divided into three categories: 1) goods for which importation and exportation is prohibited, 2) goods that require a license and 3) goods that require special treatment.

Caribbean Region: Trinidad and Tobago



1) Regulations governing primary production

- **Establishment of new poultry farms, hatcheries and processing plants**

The [Poultry Industry Regulations \(Cap. 63:03\)](#) of 31 December 2009, which were prepared under section 35 of the National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation Act of 1991, provide rules for the poultry industry and establish the Poultry Industry Control Committee. The Committee shall carry out the policy of the Central Marketing Agency with respect to the poultry industry. Poultry and egg producers must register with and be licensed by the Agency.

Subsequently, as part of the [National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation Act Chapter 63:05](#) of 31 December 2016, the National Poultry Industry Regulations were enacted. The regulations establish a Poultry Industry Control Committee and provide for the registration and licensing of producers, records and returns, as well as production quotas, among other relevant aspects.

- **Self-declarations and legal provisions on trade limiting diseases, such as Newcastle disease and avian influenza**

The [Animals \(Diseases and Importation\) Act \(Cap. 67:02\)](#), updated on 31 December 2014, provides for the control of diseases affecting animals and establishes, in particular, rules relative to the importation of animals. For the purposes of this Act, the Inspector shall be the Technical Officer (Animal Health). Measures regarding animal diseases occurring in Trinidad and Tobago include notification by owners of animals, segregation, declaration of infected or infested areas by the Minister, control of stray animals, slaughter and disposal of suspected animals.

- **Animal welfare regulations**

The purpose of the [Animals \(Diseases and Importation\) \(Amendment\) Bill](#) of 31 October 2019 is to protect and promote animal health and to prevent the introduction and spread of animal diseases within Trinidad and Tobago and from other countries; to facilitate and regulate trade in animals, carcasses, animal products and animal-related items; to establish standards for animal welfare, and for other related purposes.

2) Regulations governing poultry processing plants

The [Poultry \(Application of Act\) Order \(Cap. 67:02\)](#) of 31 December 2009 applies the provisions of the [Animals \(Diseases and Importation\) Act \(Cap. 67:02\)](#).

3) Regulations governing trade

- **Import requirements**

The [Animals \(Diseases and Importation\) Act \(Cap. 67:02\)](#), updated on 31 December 2014, as well as its [regulations](#), establish conditions for the importation of animals and animal products in Trinidad and Tobago. An import permit is required for all animals, animal carcasses, birds, reptiles, insects, etc. Origin restrictions apply to horses, cattle, pigs, sheep and goats, and poultry and poultry carcasses (except fully-cooked chicken), which may only be imported directly from specific trading partners listed in the schedules of the Animal Control Regulations. Carcasses of cattle, pigs, sheep or goats may only be imported from trading partners listed in these schedules or from any other trading partners with which the Chief Technical Officer is satisfied that the import is unlikely to result in the introduction or spread of disease. This restriction does not apply to commercially canned and fully processed meats, or imports made by, or on behalf of, the Government.

The [Importation of Poultry and Non-Poultry Products Permit Notice \(Cap. 67:02\)](#) of 31 December 2009, for the purposes of the Animals (Diseases and Importation) Act, specifies countries from which animal products (poultry products and non-poultry products) may be imported. It also specifies quantities of a single product that may be imported.

