

HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA SITUATION

Communication from the Republic of Korea

The following communication, dated 10 October 2011, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the Republic of Korea.

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1. The Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MIFAFF) has been carrying out HPAI control and surveillance programmes in the country along with Animal Plant and Fisheries Quarantine and Inspection Agency (QIA). The purpose of this programme is to detect HPAI at an early stage and implement swift control measures in case of an outbreak.
 2. As a result of such programme, there has been no report of HPAI infection in the Republic of Korea for over two years since August 2008. However, following a confirmed HPAI infection in poultry on 29 December 2010, there have been reports of 53 HPAI cases in total until 16 May 2011.
 3. MIFAFF implemented a stamping-out policy without vaccination against HPAI to 6.47 million poultry in all infected and related poultry farms, and all farms were disinfected. Culling and disinfection on the last infected premises was completed on 23 May 2011. There has been no further outbreak of HPAI or evidence of HPAI infection through the nationwide surveillance programme.
 4. The Republic of Korea has met the requirements for HPAI free country established in Chapter 10.4 of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2011) of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE).
 5. The Republic of Korea declared itself as a HPAI-free country as of 23 August 2011 and notified it to the OIE on 5 September 2011.
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