

TANZANIA FOOD AND DRUGS AUTHORITY



PUBLIC NOTICE

11th June, 2018

LIFT OF THE BAN ON IMPORTATION OF MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS FROM SOUTH AFRICA

1. On 7th March, 2018, Tanzania Food and Drugs Authority suspended the importation of meat and meat products from South Africa due to reports on the outbreak of Listeriosis caused by contamination of several brands of meat products with a causative bacteria, *Listeria monocytogenes*.
2. Further to suspension of importation, TFDA conducted a thorough inspection to ascertain whether brands of the products implicated with the outbreak were on the market. Furthermore, samples of meat products were collected from the market and analyzed for contamination with *Listeria monocytogenes*. Outcome of the inspection confirmed the absence of the implicated brands of products on the Tanzania market. Similarly, results of laboratory analysis of the samples revealed that none of the samples had been contaminated with the causative bacterial.
3. TFDA has also reviewed official reports on food safety measures undertaken by its South African counterparts in addressing the Listeriosis outbreak and prevention of future incidences and we are satisfied that the respective measures are sufficient and provides assurance of safety of meat and meat products sold on the South African market and exported overseas.
4. In view of the above, the importation ban on meat and meat products from South Africa is now lifted with effect from the date of this notice. As a precautionary measure, importation ban still holds for brands of meat products from the following companies; Enterprise Foods Polokwane (ZA 33), Enterprise Foods Germiston (ZA 126) and RCL Foods Consumer - Chicken (ZA 32) which were previously implicated with the Listeriosis outbreak.
5. All importers of meat and other food products are reminded to comply with requirements governing importation of food products in Tanzania including applying and obtaining relevant importation permits from Government Institutions.
6. TFDA will continue to conduct inspections and strengthen control of food imports. Furthermore, special market surveillance and laboratory analysis on meat products and all other food products that are susceptible to contamination by bacteria *Listeria monocytogenes* shall be conducted to ensure the safety of respective food products and protection of public health.

Issues by:

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