



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **NOTIFICATION ref 1/2019**

#### **SUSPENSION OF IMPORTATION OF LIVE, CLOVEN HOOFED ANIMALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS FROM SOUTH AFRICA**

The Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement wishes to advise the public and stakeholders that all imports from South Africa of live cloven-hoofed animals and their products are suspended with immediate effect.

This position has been taken following an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) affecting the non-vaccination disease free zone in the Limpopo Province of South Africa, reported on the 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2019. The control of Foot and Mouth Disease involves implementation of trade restrictions. Consequently, all import permits that had been issued before 09/01/2019 and not used, are hereby cancelled.

In line with the Animal Health Act CAP 19:01, the issuance of permits is a mandatory requirement for the importation of all animals and animal products. Any import application will now be considered on a case by case basis depending on the risk.

Towards normalizing trade with South Africa in these commodities, the Department of Veterinary Services continues to monitor the situation, in view of progress to be made in the control of the outbreak.

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