



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 15
Series of 2023

REORGANIZING AND REACTIVATING THE MUNICIPAL ANTI- ASF TASK FORCE FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF THE AFRICAN SWINE FEVER (ASF) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ITOGON.

WHEREAS, piggery and backyard hog raising are among the major sources of income and livelihood of some residents in the municipality while others are engaged in meat vending, meat processing and retail supply of meat products from various producers;

WHEREAS, to prevent and control a widespread of the ASF virus in the locality, a Municipal Anti-ASF Task Force was first created by virtue of Executive Order No. 010, series of 2019 pursuant to the LGU's mandate to take lead in the prevention and control of this animal disease;

WHEREAS, cases of African Swine Fever virus affecting some pigs in various barangays were detected recently by our Municipal Agriculture Office which suggests that there is a recurring infection of the virus in the municipality;

WHEREAS, urgent measures have to be undertaken to prevent a repetition of the widespread of ASF virus infection in the locality and to abate its negative impacts on local economy including a spike in the price of pigs, pork and its by-products as well as massive economic losses to the hog and meat industry;

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, I, **HON. BERNARD S. WACLIN**, Municipal Mayor of the Municipality of Itogon, Benguet Province, hereby REORGANIZE and REACTIVATE the Municipal Anti-ASF Task Force as follows:;

Section 1. Composition. The Municipal Anti-ASF Task Force is hereby reorganized to be composed of the following:

Chairman: HON. BERNARD S. WACLIN, Municipal Mayor
Vice Chairman: HON. DANTE ALAIN XAVIER D. GODIO
Municipal Vice Mayor
Members: ENGR. ROGER P. CATAYAO, Acting Municipal Agriculturist
DR. FRANKLIN P. BALANBAN, Veterinarian i
DR. OLIVER P. GUADAÑA, Municipal Health Officer
HON. NORBERTO I. PACIO, S.B. Comm. on Agriculture
PMAJ MATHEW T. BURGOS, COP, IMPS
SFO4 EDGARDO R. REDUCA, Mun. Fire Marshall
MS. JULIE T. MALIG, DILG-MLGOO
ENGR. CYRIL L. BATCAGAN, MDRRM Officer
MS. GRACE O. POCSOL, MSWDO
ENGR. IMELDA F. NUGUID, Team Leader, MESWM-TWG
All Punong Barangays
Representative of the Bureau of Animal Industry

Section 2. Functions. Anti-ASF Task Force shall perform the following functions:

1. With the assistance of the Itogon Municipal Police Station, shall implement a total ban on the entry of live pigs and pork products from ASF-infected areas including processed meat products. In pursuit thereof, the Task Force shall

closely coordinate with concerned agencies or bureaus of the national government for the identification of ASF-infected areas including factories or companies and the specific products that are confirmed to have been contaminated with ASF virus;

2. Establish checkpoints in strategic locations to prevent the entry of live pigs without the necessary shipping documents issued by the Bureau of Animal Industry. In such case, the Task Force shall always validate the veracity of the presented documents by coordinating with the issuing authority. Provided further that the Task Force shall conduct an inspection of pork meats being delivered in large quantities either for sale or to be served as food during social gatherings or occasions. A clearance from the Municipal Veterinarian is required before these are to be allowed entry. This requirement shall also apply to ambulant meat vendors doing business in the municipality;
3. Conduct investigation, surveillance and monitoring on all local piggeries and backyard hog producers and carry out immediate diagnosis on suspected cases for the implementation of the culling out procedures in accordance with the approved National ASF Contingency Plan;
4. Develop strategies on how to provide immediate livelihood assistance to families affected by the implementation of anti-ASF efforts particularly those with ASF-infected animals;
5. Shall inspect all establishments in the municipality that are engaged in hog butchering and meat vending to determine whether their products are infected or not with the virus and in case of virus infection, the Task Force shall proceed with the immediate confiscation of the meat and employ proper disposal procedures, or shall order the owner of the establishment or his personnel in his absence to immediately destroy and dispose of the same in the presence of the Task Force;
6. Conduct massive information, education and communication campaign on the cause and effects of the African Swine Fever and on how to prevent the spread thereof in the locality;
7. Shall closely coordinate with the Provincial Agriculture Office, the Department of Agriculture and with the Bureau of Animal Industry for the observance and implementation of approved national protocols on African Swine Fever to include quarantine procedures, culling and disposal, destruction of ASF-contaminated products and sanitization of piggeries or pigpens;
8. Perform other related functions as may be directed by appropriate authorities.

Section 3. Secretariat. The Municipal Agriculture Office shall act as the Secretariat of the Anti-ASF Task Force.

Section 4. Separability Clause. If for any reasons, this Order or parts hereof are declared invalid or unconstitutional by competent authority, other parts hereof not affected thereby shall continue to be in force and effect.

Section 5. Repealing Clause. All Executive Orders and/or Issuances inconsistent herewith or parts hereof are deemed repealed and/or modified accordingly.

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

DONE this 25th day of July, 2023 at Itogon, Benguet.

HON. BERNARD S. WACLIN
Municipal Mayor