



MINISTRY
OF
FOOD AND
AGRICULTURE

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My Ref. No. KF 401/496/01

Your Ref. No. _____

Date. 11/07/2023

IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

TO ALL MEDIA OUTLETS

**LIFTING OF BAN ON THE MOVEMENT OF RUMINANTS AND DONKEYS,
SLAUGHTERING, SALE, AND CONSUMPTION OF MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS IN
THE UPPER EAST REGION**

On 31st May 2023, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture imposed a ban on the movement of ruminants and donkeys, slaughtering, sale, and consumption of meat and meat products in the Binduri district of the Upper East Region. This followed reports and confirmed cases of anthrax, an acute bacteria disease transferable from animals to humans.

The situation has since been contained with no recorded case of the disease since 14th June 2023.

In view of the above, and based on expert advice, the ban on the movement of ruminants and donkeys, slaughtering, sale, and consumption of meat and meat products in the Upper East Region is hereby lifted today, Tuesday, 11th July 2023.

Notwithstanding this directive, the following measures will apply and be strictly enforced:

- the slaughter of all animals should be under close supervision of the veterinary and environmental health officers at designated abattoirs and slaughter slabs;
- food vendors/ restaurants and owners/butchers will be arrested and prosecuted for the sale of meat and meat products of animals whose slaughtering was not supervised by the veterinary or environmental health officers;
- all dead animals should be promptly reported to veterinary or environmental health officers as well as people in authority for immediate investigation;
- at all costs, the public is advised to desist from eating the meat of animals found dead.

As a precautionary and proactive action, the following activities will also continue:

- vaccination of animals against the anthrax disease;
- intensification of surveillance of animal and human anthrax;
- sensitization of the general populace on the prevention of anthrax.

The Ministry takes the opportunity to thank all stakeholders for supporting the relentless effort to bring the anthrax disease under control and urge the sustenance of the spirit of cooperation.


**BRYAN ACHEAMPONG (MP), Ph.D.
MINISTER**