

from regions that have reported the presence of highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 in poultry. (See 70 **Federal Register** 41608 [July 20, 2005].) As the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) have confirmed additional cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza (H5N1), USDA/APHIS has added additional countries to its ban. On December 29, 2005, HHS/CDC added the Republic of Kazakhstan, Romania, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Turkey, and Ukraine to its current embargo because of documented cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 in poultry in those countries. On February 8, 2006, HHS/CDC added Nigeria to its embargo because of the documentation of highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 in poultry. On February 22, 2006, HHS/CDC added India to its embargo because of documentation of highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 in poultry. On February 27, 2006, added Egypt to its embargo because of documentation of highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 in poultry. On March 2, 2006, CDC issued an amendment adding Niger to its embargo after H5N1 was confirmed in poultry.

On February 24, 2006, OIE reported confirmation of highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 in poultry in Azerbaijan. On March 7, 2006, OIE reported confirmation of highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 in poultry in Albania. On March 11, 2006, OIE reported confirmation of highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 in poultry in Cameroon. On March 12, 2006, OIE reported confirmation of highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 in poultry in Myanmar. USDA/APHIS subsequently added Albania, Azerbaijan, Cameroon, and Myanmar to their ban. At this time, HHS/CDC is adding Albania, Azerbaijan, Cameroon, and Myanmar to its current embargo. This action is effective on March 15, 2006, and will remain in effect until further notice.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On February 24, OIE reported laboratory confirmation of highly pathogenic avian influenza in poultry in Azerbaijan.

On March 10, OIE reported laboratory confirmation of highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 in poultry in Albania in the village of Cuke, Sarande County (Viore State). The outbreak began on February 16, 2006.

An outbreak of avian influenza due to highly pathogenic virus H5N1 was

reported in duck farms in Doualare area in Maroua, Cameroon. The outbreak began on February 21, 2006, and confirmation of infection was reported by OIE on March 12, 2006.

An outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza subtype H5N1 was reported in poultry at Aung Myae Thar Zan Township, in Mandalay Division, Myanmar. The outbreak began on March 8, 2006, and confirmation of infection was reported by OIE on March 12, 2006.

Introduction of birds infected with highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 into the United States could lead to outbreaks among birds and among the human population, a significant public health threat. Banning the importation of all avian species from affected countries is an effective means of limiting this threat. HHS/CDC is therefore taking this action to reduce the chance of introduction or spread of influenza A H5N1 into the United States.

Immediate Action

Therefore, pursuant to 41 CFR 71.32(b), HHS/CDC is amending the February 4, 2004, order to add Albania, Azerbaijan, Cameroon, and Myanmar to the list of countries subject to the order's embargo of birds and products derived from birds. All other portions of the February 4, 2004, order, as further amended on March 10, 2004, September 28, 2004, December 29, 2005, February 8, 2006, February 22, 2006, February 27, 2006, and March 2, 2006 shall remain in effect until further notice.

Dated: March 16, 2006.

Julie Louise Gerberding,

Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

The Ninth Annual Food and Drug Administration-Orange County Regulatory Affairs Educational Conference

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing the following conference: Ninth Annual Educational Conference cosponsored with the Orange County Regulatory Affairs Discussion Group (OCRA). The

conference is intended to provide the drug, device, and biologics industries with an opportunity to interact with FDA reviewers and compliance officers from the centers and district offices, as well as other industry experts. The main focus of this interactive conference will be product approval, compliance, and risk management in the three medical product areas. Industry speakers, interactive question and answer, and workshop sessions will also be included to assure open exchange and dialogue on the relevant regulatory issues.

Date and Time: The conference will be held on May 23 and 24, 2006, from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: The conference will be held at the Fairmont Newport Beach Hotel, 4500 MacArthur Blvd., Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Contact: Linda Hartley, Food and Drug Administration, 19701 Fairchild, Irvine, CA 92612, 949-608-4413, FAX: 949-608-4417, or OCRA, Attention to Detail (ATD), 5319 University Dr., suite 641, Irvine, CA 92612, 949-387-9046, FAX: 949-387-9047, Web site: www.ocra-dg.org.

Registration and Meeting Information: See OCRA Web site at www.ocra-dg.org. Contact ATD at 949-387-9046.

Before April 24, 2006, registrations fees are as follows: \$525.00 for members, \$575.00 for nonmembers, and \$350.00 for FDA/government/full-time students with the proper identification. After April 24, 2006: \$575.00 for members, \$625.00 for nonmembers, and \$350.00 for FDA/government/full-time students with the proper identification.

The registration fee will cover actual expenses including refreshments, lunch, materials, parking, and speaker expenses.

If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please contact Linda Hartley (see *Contact*) at least 10 days in advance of the meeting.

Dated: March 10, 2006.

Jeffrey Shuren,

Assistant Commissioner for Policy.

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