PRESS RELEASE



LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED DUE TO FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (FMD) OUTBREAK IN LILONGWE DISTRICT

The Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development wishes to inform the general public that it has, with immediate effect, lifted all restrictions which were imposed due to the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in Lilongwe district.

This action follows successful disease control measures employed in the district and vigilant surveillance which indicates that there are **no** further cases detected in the outbreak areas following completion of vaccinations in all high risk zones.

Therefore, in conformity with the regulations under the Control and Animal Diseases Act (Cap 66:02), and guidelines by the World Animal Health organisation, the Ministry would like to inform the general public that it has authorized with immediate effect:

- Resumption of slaughter and sale of all livestock (cattle, goats, sheep and pigs) in Lilongwe district with immediate effect.
- Lifted the temporary suspension of all livestock (cattle, goats, sheep and pigs) markets in Lilongwe district.
- Removed restriction of livestock and livestock products movement in the affected areas within Lilongwe district provided appropriate procedures are followed.

However as prevention measure against any future outbreaks, livestock farmers are requested to report any suspected cases of FMD and any other sicknesses in their livestock to their nearest Agriculture Offices.

For more information and clarification, please contact, the Director of Animal Health and Livestock Development, Dr Patrick Chikungwa on 0888 371509 or the Public Information Officer, AB. Hamilton Chimala on 0888 544 544.

(signed)

Gray S.V.K Nyandule Phiri
SECRETARY FOR AGRICULTURE, IRRIGATION AND WATER
DEVELOPMENT
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