

### **Guidelines for Recognition of disease free areas, zones and compartments**

The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (**‘Department’**), Government of India, vide notification number S.O.2337 (E) dated 08 July 2016 (**‘notification’**) allows import of poultry and poultry products from country, zones/ compartment free from Avian Influenza.

Pursuant to paragraph 3 of the notification, the Central Government, taking into consideration the requirements under the World Trade Organization Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of World Organization for Animal Health, hereby issues the following guidelines:

- a) An exporting country may approach the Department with an application to recognize their pest- or disease-free areas and areas of low pest or disease prevalence, as applicable, for trade in poultry and poultry products. The application is required to be accompanied with a completed response to the Questionnaire, a copy of which can be accessed at <http://dahd.nic.in/>.
- b) The Department will examine and evaluate the application and the questionnaire response. If further information and/or necessary evidence is required, the Department may promptly issue a supplementary questionnaire.
- c) The Department, if required, may request for inspection and verification of the information provided in the response to the Questionnaire and/or supplementary questionnaire. Any such request will be made to the exporting country expeditiously. If required, the Department may issue a post verification questionnaire.
- d) The final decision with respect to the application shall be communicated to the exporting country in writing along with the reasons in case of non acceptance of the application on receipt of complete information. The entire process of evaluation will be completed expeditiously.