

Reference: POAO REG 59/013

**THE PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN (THIRD COUNTRY IMPORTS)
(ENGLAND) (NO. 4) REGULATIONS 2004 ("the Regulations")**

DECLARATION UNDER REGULATION 59

Whereas the Food Standards Agency has reasonable grounds to suspect the presence of

- (i) serious shortcomings in the capacity of the Mexican authorities to carry out reliable checks of meat of equidae, in particular to detect substances prohibited by Directive 96/22/EC; and
- (ii) serious shortcomings in Mexico as regards controls of the market in veterinary medicines, including non-authorised products;

Whereas this is liable to present a serious threat to public health;

Whereas on 16 January 2006, following the identification of such shortcomings the Commission of the European Communities adopted Commission Decision 2006/27/EC on special conditions governing meat and meat products of equidae imported from Mexico and intended for human consumption (OJ No. L19, 24.1.06, p.30).

The Food Standards Agency declares in accordance with regulation 59 of the Regulations that with effect from 26 January 2006 the importation into England from Mexico of meat and meat products intended for human consumption is permitted subject to the conditions specified in Articles 2 and 3 of Commission Decision 2006/27/EC on special conditions governing meat and meat products of equidae imported from Mexico and intended for human consumption.

Signed *JA* at 16:22 hrs on 25th January 2006

Print name *T.P. FOSTER*

Give details of post held *HEAD OF PRIMARY PRODUCTION DIVISION*

For and on behalf of the Food Standards Agency

NOTES

- (1) Any expression used both in this declaration and Commission Decision 2006/27/EC on special conditions governing meat and meat products of equidae imported from Mexico and intended for human consumption has the meaning it bears in Decision 2006/27/EC.
- (2) Importation of meat and meat products of equidae from Mexico in contravention of this declaration is a criminal offence, punishable by a fine or with imprisonment or both.