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MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOOD SECURITY

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To: All Media Houses

PRESS RELEASE

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (FMD) OUTBREAK REPORTED IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

The Ministry of Agricultural Development and Food Security (MoA) informs the nation of the reported outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in cattle in the North-West province of the Republic of South Africa (RSA). This is in addition to outbreaks of this disease in the Limpopo and Kwazulu-Natal provinces which are still active.

The import ban of cloven hoofed animals and their fresh products is still in force.

The following additional measures are instituted with immediate effect:

- Importation of pigs and their fresh products from FMD free compartments in RSA is suspended;
- Importation of cloven hooved animals that were in quarantine prior to the outbreaks in Kwazulu-Natal is suspended.

Therefore, all import permits issued with respect to the above listed items are cancelled with immediate effect.

The farming community and stakeholders are urged to be vigilant and look out for clinical signs of the disease which includes lameness and drooling (excessive salivation).

The ministry will continue to monitor the disease situation closely and update on new developments.

For further clarification, contact Mr Moesi at 3689113 or Dr Kemolatlhe at 3689517.

Dr Letihogile Oarabile

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