

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: February 13, 2024

Report Number: IV2024-0001

Report Name: Togo's ban on poultry imports

Country: Togo

Post: Accra

Report Category: Poultry and Products

Prepared By: Isaac Yao

Approved By: Robert Tuebner

Report Highlights:

CORRECTION: The country of Côte d'Ivoire was incorrectly displayed above in an earlier version of this report. It has been corrected and updated to Togo. The Togolese government has temporarily banned poultry imports due to high quantities of unsold local chicken on the market.

On January 22, 2024, the Togolese government announced a temporary decision to halt the importation of frozen poultry into the country. This decision was made by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Rural Development (MALRD) to assist local poultry farmers who are struggling to sell their existing stocks. According to the MALRD, there is an excess of 70 metric tons of local poultry meat stored in cold storage facilities and slaughterhouses.

To address this issue, the government has decided to temporarily suspend import permits for frozen poultry meat to boost local chicken consumption. The MALRD has stated that the restriction will be lifted once the excess stock of locally produced poultry has been sold.

This temporary import restriction should not have a significant impact on the selling price of local poultry, which is sometimes 50 percent more expensive than imported chicken. The price for imported frozen chicken varies from \$2.12 to \$2.95 per kilogram, depending on the district and the desired cut (thigh, wings, etc.), while local chicken is traded between \$4 and \$4.90.

To make local chicken more competitive in the long term, Togo's National Development Plan has outlined a plan to invest in developing the country's poultry processing facilities with the goal of creating large scale employment opportunities for the population.

For industry players, locally produced chicken is labor-intensive (from breeding, to slaughtering, to processing). The country's development plan hopes to boost production and provide well-paying jobs for approximately 150,000 people by 2025.

On an annual basis, around twenty government approved importers typically import about 20,000 metric tons of poultry. The European Union is Togo's largest supplier, shipping an average of 15,000 metric tons per year, followed by the UK at 3,000 metric tons. The U.S. contributes only 700 metric tons for a 3 percent market share. Poultry is sold whole quartered, with by-products such as gizzards and backs and sausages among the best-selling products.

End of report

Attachments:

No Attachments.