



Legal Watch

CUSTOMS AOCG MEMO 36-2026



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* Agency Name

Bureau of Customs (BOC)

* Issuance Title

Request from Food and Drug Administration to Furnish Information and Take Appropriate Action on Shipments of Food and Products from Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (ARASFF)

* Issuance Date

24 March 2026

* Link

<https://customs.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/2026-36-AOCG-MEMO.pdf>

SUMMARY

This memorandum relays an endorsement from the Food and Drug Administration regarding notifications under the ASEAN Rapid Alert System for Food involving various imported food products found to have issues such as microbiological contamination, absence or incorrect labeling, and presence of pathogenic microorganisms. The products reportedly originated from or were dispatched through countries including Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, France, Brazil, New Zealand, Netherlands, and Australia. All collection districts are directed to verify whether the identified products entered their jurisdictions and to take appropriate enforcement action in the interest of food safety and public health.

ACTIONABLE ADVICE

Importers, distributors, customs brokers, and food businesses dealing in processed or packaged food products should immediately review the memorandum and the attached FDA advisory list through the link provided above. Companies should verify whether any listed products, brands, lots, batches, or suppliers form part of their supply chain, suspend distribution of affected items where necessary, and coordinate with their regulatory, quality assurance, and customs compliance teams for proper documentation and response. Businesses should also strengthen supplier due diligence, product labeling review, and microbiological safety controls to mitigate the risk of seizure, recall, detention, or other enforcement action by customs and health authorities.

