

Republic of the Philippines **Bepartment of Education**



Office of the Secretary

OCT 0 6 2008

DepED MEMORANDUM No. 461 , s. 2008

HEALTH ADVISORY ON CONTAMINATED INFANT FORMULA AND MILK PRODUCTS PRODUCED IN CHINA

To: Bureau Directors

Directors of Services/Centers and Heads of Units

Regional Directors

Schools Division/City Superintendents

Heads, Public and Private Elementary and Secondary Schools

- 1. The Bureau of Food and Drugs (BFAD) of the Department of Health (DOH) has advised the public not to purchase and use outright infant formula and milk products from China that might have been brought into the country through unauthorized means because no records of these products are registered.
- 2. School officials are hereby instructed to advise canteen managers not to use such products in preparing foods served in the canteens for health safety of the pupils and to mobilize teachers, school health and nutrition personnel to disseminate information on this matter. Close collaboration should be made with the Parents-Teachers-Community Associations (PTCAs), Local Government Units (LGUs), Municipal Health Officers (MHOs) in the conduct of investigation on the availability of such infant formula and milk products in the market which are manufactured in China.
- 3. Enclosed is DOH-BFAD Advisory No. 008, s. 2008 for ready reference.
- 4. Immediate dissemination on this Memorandum is desired.

RAMON C. BACANI
Undersecretary

Encl.:

As stated

Reference:

None

Allotment: 1--(D.O. 50-97)

To be indicated in the <u>Perpetual Index</u> under the following subjects:

HEALTH EDUCATION OFFICIALS SCHOOLS

Maricar/DM-Milk Products 10-02-08

(Enclosure to DepED Memorandum No. 461, s. 2008)



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH BUREAU OF FOOD AND DRUGS

Civic Drive, Filinvest Corporate City Alabang, Muntinlupa City Website: www.bfad.gov.ph



PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

22 September 2008

DOH-BFAD ADVISORY No. 008 s. 2008

Subject:

Contaminated Infant Formula and Milk Products

Produced in China

Following the reported findings and confirmation of the presence of the toxic substance Melamine in infant formula and milk products that were manufactured in China and subsequent recalls of said products, the Bureau of Food and Drugs has decided and hereby issues this advisory, in the interest of protecting public health and welfare, directing <u>all</u> licensed importers and/or distributors of registered milk products sourced from China to immediately stop temporarily from further importing, distributing, selling and offering for sale the aforesaid products until further notice from this Bureau when data are presented assuring the products' safety and fitness for human consumption.

Records of this Office show that there is no registered infant formula produced in and imported from China. Thus, consumers are advised not to purchase and use outright infant formula from China that might have been brought into the country through unauthorized means. Instead, please report immediately of any articles being sold to BFAD or the Center for Health Development offices. On the other hand, consumers are advised not to purchase, for the time being, milk products that are manufactured or sourced in China until further notice from this Bureau when data are presented assuring the products' safety and fitness for human consumption.

Finally, all local officials nationwide are enjoined to conduct investigation on infant formula and milk products manufactured in China that might have been brought into the country through unauthorized means.

The Bureau of Food and Drugs is continuously determining whether or not samples of imported milk products from China taken from the local market contain Melamine to ensure the safe supply of food imported products from China.

PROF. LETICIA BARBARA B. GUTTERREZ, M.S. Director IV

Breastmilk is the Best for Babies up to Two (2) years of Age and Beyond.