



MEDIA STATEMENT

28 October 2026

SOUTH AFRICA'S RESPONSE TO THE NEWCASTLE DISEASE OUTBREAK IN BRAZIL

Brazil notified South Africa on 20 October 2026 of an outbreak of Newcastle disease in the state of Santa Catarina.

Following consideration of the notification, South Africa will not impose a countrywide restriction on the importation of poultry and poultry products from Brazil because of this outbreak.

The veterinary health certificates negotiated between South Africa and Brazil provide for trade in fresh poultry meat, hatching eggs and day-old chicks to continue during a Newcastle disease outbreak, provided that the applicable requirements are met.

For fresh poultry meat, the certificates require that the birds come from premises at which no cases of Newcastle disease have occurred during the past six months, including within a 10-kilometre radius of the premises. The abattoir and cutting plant must also not be situated in a Newcastle disease-infected zone.

For hatching eggs and day-old chicks, the farms and relevant facilities must have been free from the disease for the past 12 months and must not be situated in a Newcastle disease-infected zone.

South Africa has requested Brazil's veterinary authorities to ensure that all consignments intended for export to South Africa comply with the relevant certification requirements.

South Africa appreciates Brazil's prompt notification and the continued cooperation between the two countries' veterinary authorities. These measures allow trade to continue while safeguarding animal health in South Africa.

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