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To: Ornamental Fish Importers/Exporters

SUPPLY OF ANIMALS TO ORNAMENTAL FISH SHOPS

The Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority (AVA) has observed during its regular enforcement inspections on some pet shops that certain animals which are not approved as pets in Singapore (eg ornamental reptiles like soft-shelled and pig-nosed turtles) are being sold.

2 We would like to inform you that only animals approved by the AVA can be displayed and sold in the pet shops or retail section of ornamental fish farms. Taking this into consideration, your company should supply only approved animals to the shops or farms for retail sale. Licensed ornamental fish importers may still import animals not approved for local sale but these must be re-exported. This is a condition of the import permits granted to ornamental fish importers.

3 The kinds of animals each pet shop is allowed to display and sell are listed on the Pet Shop Licence. As a rule of thumb, **pet shops licensed to sell ornamental fishes can display and sell only animals that fall under the following categories:**

- a. Ornamental fishes;**
- b. Small marine animals (non-poisonous) such as soft corals, sponges etc.;**
- c. Centipedes (as fish food);**
- d. Baby frogs (as fish food);**
- e. Green terrapins (only Red eared slider);**
- f. Asian arowana (Dragon fish);**
- g. Hard corals and Giant clams.**

4 CITES-listed species must be accompanied by copies of the CITES permits as proof of their legal acquisition / origin. Asian arowana can be sold only if the shop has a Letter of Approval for Display and Sale of Dragon Fish from AVA's Aquaculture Service Centre (tel: 6751 9851).

5 AVA will consider enforcement action against an importer who breaches the import permit conditions or found supplying, displaying or selling any unapproved animals under the Animals and Birds (Pet Shop and Exhibition) Rules 2004, the Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act or the Wild Animals and Birds Act. The animals will also be confiscated.

6 Please ensure that all your staff are aware of and comply with the contents of this letter. If you have any queries, please call 63257348 or 64717198. You can also email to ava_cawc@ava.gov.sg.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely

Mr Poh Yew Kwang
Senior AVA Officer
Wildlife Regulatory Branch
Import & Export Division
for Director-General, Agri-Food and Veterinary Services