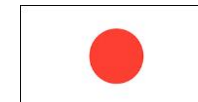


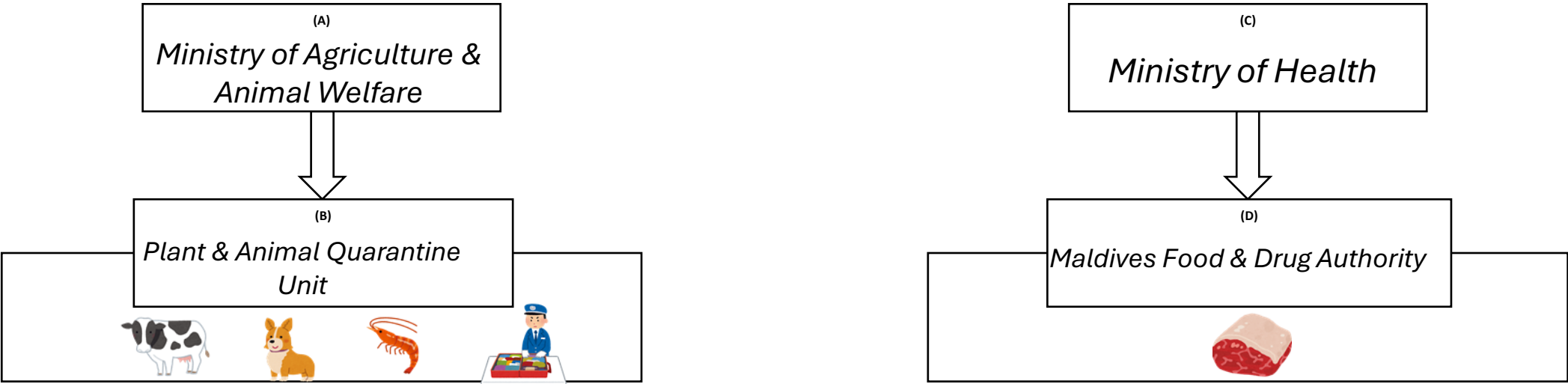
Member experience on Implementing Border inspection and Animal quarantine [Maldives]







Ali Safwan Ibrahim / Mohamed Zaheen
State Minister / Asst. Quarantine Officer

1 – 3 July 2025
Chiba, Japan



Organisational Structure for Veterinary Inspection at the Border Post



	Commodity	Document Check	Quarantine Isolation	Clinical Examination	Serological Test	Pathogen Detection (e.g. PCR)	Other Tests(e.g. visual, chemical)	Responsible Authority
	Livestock (e.g. cattle, pigs)	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	B
	Companion animals (e.g. dogs, cats)	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	B
	Products of animal origin (e.g. meat, eggs)	Yes / No	Yes / No	N/A	N/A	Yes / No	Yes / No	D
	Animal generic materials (e.g. semen, embryo)	Yes / No	Yes / No	N/A	N/A	Yes / No	Yes / No	B
	Aquatic	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	B
	Passenger luggage	Yes / No	N/A	Yes / No	N/A	Yes / No	Yes / No	B

Current Situation and Key Issues

Top 3 Animals with the highest import volume

Pet Birds; Rosy-faced lovebird (*Agapornis roseicollis*)

Aquarium fish; Guppy (*Poecilia reticulata*)

Poultry; Day old chicks (*Gallus gallus domesticus*)

- Top 3 Animal Products with the highest import volume

Chicken meat, chicken eggs and beef.

Commodity with significant change in import volume in recent years

The import of pet birds peaked from a steady increased to until 2023 after which imports have declined. The reason may be speculated as weakened post covid economy and the market being saturated. This may have been affected by local breeding which has increased in recent years. The overall trajectory of imported pet birds is increasing for the past 10 years.

Good Practices in Border Inspection and Quarantine

- Successful approaches or innovations

Online verification of documents via QR Code or online-portal is successful and convenient.

Micro-chipping is also a reliable method for verifying consignments.

Online certification and permit issuing makes the process convenient and transparent.

- Lessons learned from past experiences

During border inspections inspectors will come across of forged documents.

Public awareness on laws, regulations and import process is lacking.

- Replicable models for other countries/territories

Online application for Veterinary Certificates and Permits.

Challenges and risks identified

- Resource limitations

Lack of Animal Import Legislation.

Limited number of trained staff.

Lack of adequate inspection facilities at border post.

- Risk of transboundary animal diseases

Introduction of Avian Influenza with imported pet birds and poultry.

Introduction of rabies with imported animals.

- Informal/illegal movement

Smuggling of Animals in checked baggage.

Prohibited animals imported with permitted species.

Collaboration with other agencies

Purpose of Collaboration

- *Collaboration between national border control agencies will reduce the chances for illegal import of animals.*
- *Verification or amendments of conflicting documents can be resolved before shipments are destroyed.*

Key Partners

Customs, Police, Food and Drug Authority and Maldives National Defense Force.

Examples of Joint Activities

Inspectors assist Customs on identification of CITES species included in consignments.

Benefits

- *Collaboration with other agencies will increase detection of illegal imports as more authorities becomes aware of the regulations and standards.*
- *As the amount of illegally imported animals decrease the probability of disease introduction is decreased.*

Thank you

Ali Safwan Ibrahim / Mohamed Zaheen
State Minister / Asst. Quarantine Officer

