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Report Name: Egypt's Halal Certification and Policy

Country: Egypt

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Report Category: Agricultural Situation, Agriculture in the Economy, Policy and Program Announcements, Livestock and Products, FAIRS Subject Report

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Report Highlights:

On January 5, 2020, the Government of Egypt issued Prime Ministerial Decree No. 35/2020, establishing a new state entity in the form of a joint-stock company integrated by the Ministries of Islamic Affairs, Agriculture and Land Reclamation, and the General Organization for Export and Import Control (an agency of the Ministry of Trade and Industry). This joint-stock company ISEGHALAL, is the sole official Egyptian entity responsible for granting label certification.

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY

GENERAL INFORMATION:

On January 5, 2020, the Government of Egypt issued Prime Ministerial Decree No. 35/2020, establishing a new state entity in the form of a joint-stock company integrated by the Ministries of Islamic Affairs, Agriculture and Land Reclamation, and the General Organization for Export and Import Control (an agency of the Ministry of Trade and Industry) (see APPENDIX I). This joint-stock company ISEGHALAL, is the sole official Egyptian entity responsible for granting halal label certification for foreign products being imported into the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Prime Minister Madboly on January 22, in a press statement said that the Egyptian Organization for Standardization (EOS), an agency of the Ministry of Trade and Industry, will hold a two percent share in ISEGHALAL. However, Egypt's standards authority will not receive any revenue from the joint-stock company's revenue stream.

This decree legitimizes the establishment of IS EG Halal (Edgewater, New Jersey) as Egypt's sole authorized halal certification entity in the United States for food and beverage products exported to Egypt (see <u>GAIN-EGYPT (2019-0025) FAIRS – Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards</u> <u>Country Report 2019</u> and <u>GAIN-EGYPT (2019-1180) – Livestock and Products Annual 2019</u>).

As of May 1, 2019, other halal certifiers in the United States are no longer recognized as eligible. Exporters should work closely with their respective importers to ensure that products comply with halal certification requirement.

FAS Cairo understands that this decree is similarly applicable for IS EG Latin America SRL (Montevideo, Uruguay) for the whole of Latin America, including Brazil, and potentially for other origins. Implementing procedures for Decree No. 35/2020 have not been published.

APPENDIX I - Prime Ministerial Decree No. 35 (2020) (UNOFFICIAL POST TRANSLATION)

BEGIN TEXT...

PRIME MINISTERIAL DECREE NO. 35 FOR 2020

The Prime Minster In Review of the Constitution And according to:

- Law 159 (1981) Establishment of joint-stock companies, recommended-stock companies, and limited liability companies;
- Law 127 (2015) Registration of public officials for the establishment of joint-stock companies;
- Presidential Decision No. 269 (2018) Cabinet formation and adjustments;
- And the Ministries of Islamic affairs, Agriculture and Land Reclamation, and Trade and Industry recommended and with prior approval of the Cabinet, it is determined:

Article 1

That the Ministries of Islamic Affairs, Agriculture and Land Reclamation, and the General Organization for Export and Import Control (an agency of the Ministry of Trade and Industry) are herewith authorized to establish jointly a company for granting the halal label "ISEGHALAL" according to the joint-stock companies, recommended-stock companies, and limited liability companies law, that will not conflict with the purposes and responsibilities of the aforementioned authorities.

Article 2

This determination is to be published in the official gazette and will enter into force effective its publication date.

January 5, 2020

The Prime Minster Dr. Mostafa Kamal Madboly

...END TEXT



APPENDIX II- Prime Ministerial Decree No. 35 (2020)

۲ الجريدة الرسمية – العدد الأول مكرر (ب) في ٥ يناير سنة ٢٠٢٠ ٢

قرار رئيس مجلس الوزراء رقم ٣٥ لسنة ٢٠٢٠

رئيس مجلس الوزراء

بعد الاطلاع على الدستور ؛ وعلى قانون شركات المساهمة وشركات التوصية بالأسهم والشركات ذات المسئولية المحدودة الصادر بالقانون رقم ١٩٩ لسنة ١٩٨١ ؛ وعلى القـانون رقم ١٢٧ لسنة ١٩٠ بالتسرخيم سلاً شـخـاص القـانون العـام بتأسيس شركات مساهمة ؛ وعلى قرار رئيس الجمهورية رقم ٢٦٩ لسنة ٢٠١٨ بتشكيل الوزارة وتعديلاته ؛ ويناءً على ما عرضته وزارات الأوقاف والزراعة واستصلاح الأراضي والتجارة والصناعة ؛ وبعد موافقة مجلس الوزراء ؛ قسرز:

.,,___

(المادة الآولى)

يرخص لوزارتى الأوقاف والزراعة واستصلاح الأراضى والهيئة العامة للرقابة على الصادرات والواردات بالمساهمة فى تأسيس شركة لمنح علامة "الحلال ISEGHALA"، وفقاً لأحكام قانون شركات المساهمة وشركات التوصية بالأسهم والشركات ذات المسئولية المحدودة المشار إليه ، وذلك بما لا يتعارض مع أغراض الجهات المشار إليها . (المحادة الشائية)

> يُنشر هذا القرار في الجريدة الرسمية ، ويُعمل به من تاريخ نشره . صدر برئاسة مجلس الوزراء في ١٠ جمادي الأرلى سنة ١٤٤١ هـ (الموافق 6 يناير سنة ٢٠٢٠ م) .

رئيس مجلس الوزرا ء

دکتور / مصطفی کمال مدبولی

رقم الإيداع بدار الكتب ٦٠/١٦ - ٢ الهيئة العامة لشئون المطابع الأميرية ١٩/٢٥٤٨٦ - ٢ - ١١/١/٠٢ - ١٣٠٩

Attachments:

No Attachments.