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GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

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Morocco

Post: Rabat

Morocco Halal Label - Certification for the Right of Use

Report Categories:

Special Certification - Organic/Kosher/Halal

Livestock and Products

Poultry and Products

Approved By:

Morgan Haas

Prepared By:

FAS/Rabat

Report Highlights:

This report contains an unofficial translation of Morocco's certification rules for the right of use of the [Morocco Halal Label](#) in conformity of the Moroccan standard NM 08.0.800: "Halal food - Requirements."

MOROCCO HALAL LABEL

CERTIFICATION RULES

FOR FOOD PRODUCTS

RGLH01

Version: 02

Date of application: November 01, 2016

IMANOR

**Angle Avenue Kamal Zebdi and street da sector 21, Hay Riad - Rabat phone: (+ 212) 537-57 19 51/48 Fax: (+ 212) 537 71 17 73 e-mail: certification@imanor.ma
URL: www.imanor.ma**

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CHAPTER 1

GENERAL INFORMATION

ARTICLE 1: Object and field of application

This document sets the practicalities of assignment of the right of use of the Morocco Halal label in conformity with the Moroccan standard [NM 08.0.800](#): "Halal food - Requirements".

The Morocco Halal label concerns all stakeholders in the food 'chain' from reception, passing by transformation, up through distribution. The activities/products and sites are identified by the organization at the time of its application and are described in the certificate of the right of use of the Halal label.

The right of use of the Morocco Halal label is based on the respect of the above standard, found during an audit, and if necessary, respect by analyses carried out on samples of the product presented or admitted to the Halal label.

ARTICLE 2: Involved in the certification process

The different stakeholders in the certification process are:

- The Moroccan Institute of Standardization (IMANOR) as a certification body under [Law 12-06](#) and its implementing provisions;
- The Advisory Committee;
- The listeners and experts from Islamic Affairs;
- Analytical laboratories.

ARTICLE 3: Application for certification

Any organism having adopted provisions in accordance with the rules laid down by the above standard can request halal for all or part of its business or sites.

Such a request is referred to below as "application", the organization that the formula being named "applicant".

When the applicant is certified, it is named "holder".

ARTICLE 4: Right of use of the Morocco Halal label

The assignment of the right of use of the label is imposed in the light of the results of the audits and the commitments made by the applicant in accordance with these rules.

IMANOR is custodian of the Morocco Halal label and has all rights of deposits of this label in its different forms. The model of this label is given in Appendix 1.

ARTICLE 5: Right of use of the Morocco Halal label rules

The [NM 08.0.800](#) standard defines the requirements according to Islamic rules including the requirements for food safety. It does not define the criteria of quality of a particular product.

The label is strictly linked to the labeled products. It must be directly affixed to each product.

In the case where the products must be packaged or when material product size, its nature, or the tagging process does not allow it, the label must be affixed to the packaging in which the product is marketed, on a label or on the delivery note of the product.

The holder must reserve the commercial designation of Halal certified products to only these products and any change of the trade name of these products must be the object of an application addressed to IMANOR, respecting the provisions of the present document.

For the provision of services, the Halal label can be displayed within the area covered by the certification.

In the case of an abusive or incorrect reference to the Halal certification is found, IMANOR seizes the holder concerned to rectify the situation without undue delay.

If the unsatisfactory situation persists, the right of use of the label is removed from the holder in question and legal action may be taken against him under the regulations in force.

<p>CHAPTER 2 DESIGNATION, COMPOSITION AND POWERS OF STAKEHOLDERS IN THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS</p>
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ARTICLE 6: IMANOR

IMANOR is responsible for managing the system of Halal certification in accordance with the [Law 12-06](#) and relevant international standards, including:

- To record the applications for Halal certification;
- To make study of admissibility of such applications;
- To qualify the audience and train experts in Islamic Affairs;
- To qualify analytical laboratories of analysis;
- To program audits, and designate the audit teams;
- To ensure the dissemination of the directory of holders;
- To monitor the respect for the rules of reference to the Halal label;
- To ensure the promotion of the system of the Halal label.

ARTICLE 7: Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee is composed of representatives of the following members:

- Department of Islamic Affairs;
- National Office of Food Safety (ONSSA);
- Professional organizations concerned;
- Experts of the Islamic Affairs;
- Auditors;
- Analytical laboratories;
- IMANOR.

The Advisory Committee's mission is to:

- Give its opinion on the certification rules;
- Give its opinion on evaluation at the application of IMANOR reports;
- Handle calls;
- Ensure the impartiality of the audit and certification process.

Advisory Committee meetings are held at the call of IMANOR. The recommendations and any decisions of the Committee are established by consensus.

ARTICLE 8: Auditors

Auditors responsible for the conduct of Halal audits are auditors of the safety of food qualified by IMANOR in different categories of the food chain. They are trained on the halal standard by IMANOR, and commit to follow the code of ethics, the rules of confidentiality and potential conflicts of interest.

ARTICLE 9: Experts of Islamic Affairs

The Islamic Affairs experts are appointed by the Superior Council of Oulemas and trained by IMANOR on the conduct of audits according to the procedures defined by the latter.

ARTICLE 10: Analytical Laboratories

The analytical laboratories designated in the Morocco Halal Label to achieve halal compliance analyses, are qualified in accordance with the procedures laid down by IMANOR based on the [NM ISO accreditation / IEC 17025](#) and where applicable, on the approval in accordance with the regulations in force.

ARTICLE 11: Professional secrecy

All members of the Advisory Committee, the staff of IMANOR, laboratories, and teams of auditors and Islamic experts, are held to the confidentiality of all information, of which one may have knowledge during the course of one's activities under the Morocco Halal label, relating to a specific agency, to an individual, or to a reported domain as confidential by IMANOR.

CHAPTER 3 CERTIFICATION APPLICATION
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ARTICLE 12: Rights and obligations of the applicants and holders

The applicants or holders have the right to:

- Have access to information about their application;
- Report to IMANOR any situation that could present a conflict of interest vis-a-vis the designated audit team;
- Challenge a report of audit or analyses;
- Challenge the behavior of a member of the audit team;
- Appeal an adverse decision against them.

Applicants and holders are required to:

- Comply with the requirements of these rules and the requirements of the standard [NM 08.0.800](#);
- Cooperate with the audit team by facilitating any operation of verification in respect of the rules of freely accepted certification, and access to all relevant records. They must also appoint a person responsible for the contact during execution of audits;
- Accept observers who may be designated by IMANOR to accompany the audit team;
- Accept to submit to unannounced audits of IMANOR;
- Do not refer to their certification in a way that could damage the reputation of IMANOR;
- Recognize the Halal labels awarded or recognized by IMANOR;
- Stop use or refer to the Halal label after its suspension or withdrawal;
- Make use of the Halal label in compliance with the rules set out by IMANOR;
- Pay the fees related to the allocation and use of the Halal label.

ARTICLE 13: Certification process

The certification process takes place according to the following steps:

13.1. Submission of the application

The applicant of the Morocco Halal label must be the producer or service provider and justify this quality. The application is sent to IMANOR. It is established on letterhead of the applicant according to the model given in Annex 2 and it is accompanied by an identification questionnaire (Annex 3) as well as the following documents:

- The application domain (list of the products, services or activities to label, and the sites concerned);
- The list of ingredients/raw materials, auxiliaries as appropriate, with technical specifications and Halal certificates;
- The list of products used for servicing, maintenance, cleaning and disinfection (solvents, lubricants, detergents...);
- The description of the production chain (flow chart, utilized means...);
- The description of the self-monitoring plan, if applicable;
- Description of the laboratory control, if applicable;
- The description of the food safety management system;
- A copy of the approval / authorization of the competent authority if necessary.

13.2. Appointment of the audit team

If the application is found admissible, IMANOR designates a competent audit team in the category concerned and composed of a food safety auditor (SA) (lead auditor) and an expert in Islamic Affairs.

The audit is carried out in two stages: The first is a check of the documents transmitted for the admissibility and possibly others deemed necessary by the audit team, and one part on site for the audit of production practices.

For the activities of production of plant origin or products, unprocessed seafood or for certain service activities, the on-site audit is performed by one or more (SA) auditors.

The duration of the audit is set by IMANOR and takes into account the certifications including on food safety and Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP).

13.3. Carrying out of the audit

The audit team proceeds to the audit in accordance with the procedures laid down by IMANOR.

The applicant proposes the corrective actions he intends to bring in line detected gaps, as well as the deadline for their implementation.

The lead auditor prepares the final audit report and sends it to IMANOR. If necessary, the audit team takes samples of the final products or raw materials / ingredients / inputs, for analysis, it returns to the laboratory designated for this purpose.

As soon as IMANOR has analysis and audit reports, and before ruling on certification, it validates and shall forward a copy to the applicant, setting a time limit for any comment on the content of these reports.

13.4. Certification decision

After the examination of the reports of auditing and analysis and of the comments of the applicant, IMANOR decides on the follow-up. The final decision is notified to the applicant, giving reasons for refusing the Halal certification.

If the decision is favorable, a certificate of right of use of the Halal label signed by the Director of IMANOR is issued and transmitted to the holder.

ARTICLE 14: Call processing

If an applicant/holder is not satisfied with a decision made against him, he can appeal thereof in writing to IMANOR who acknowledges receipt. The appeal is submitted to the Advisory Committee for review and comment.

The applicant/holder in question shall be informed of the status of his appeal.

The final decision is notified to him by mail.

ARTICLE 15: Period of validity of the Halal certificate

The period of validity of the certificate of the right of use of the Morocco Halal label is one (1) year.

CHAPTER 4 MONITORING THE CERTIFICATION

ARTICLE 16: Extension/renewal of the right to use the Morocco Halal label

The renewal of the right to use the Morocco Halal label is conditioned by the performance of an annual audit focused on tracking the gaps/hotspots detected since the previous audit and potential changes on the conditions supply, production, packaging and delivery. This audit should be done before the expiry of the certificate. Otherwise, the revival of the right of use of the Morocco Halal label must be resubmitted.

Once every three years, a renewal audit takes place before the date of expiry of the right of use of the Halal label. The renewal audit procedure is the same as that of an initial certification audit (see section 13.3). The holder shall submit the record of renewal two months before the expiry of the right of use of the Halal Morocco label.

During the period of validity of the right of use of the Label Halal Morocco, unannounced audits can be performed according to the rules set by IMANOR.

ARTICLE 17: Special provisions

For products of animal origin produced abroad, the right to use the Morocco Halal label can be maintained by relying more on the supervision of slaughter activities by a third body in the country of origin by agreement of cooperation with IMANOR.

ARTICLE 18: Suspension or withdrawal of the Morocco Halal label

In case it turns out that the holder no longer meets the conditions set out in these general rules, the decision of IMANOR can be:

- Either a warning, suspension or withdrawal of the right of use of the label Halal Morocco;
- Either the suspension or withdrawal of the right of use of the Halal Morocco label.

The suspension of the right of use of the Halal label has deprived, for a period not exceeding six (6) months, the holder of the use of this right. The withdrawal of the right of use of the Halal label cancels halal certification for the product under consideration.

ARTICLE 19: Amendment of the requirements for the Morocco Halal label

Changes of certain requirements for the Morocco Halal Label, IMANOR shall notify all holders so that they perform the necessary adjustments in time.

Depending on the importance of the changes, the adjustments check is carried out during the next audit, or by a special audit.

ARTICLE 20: Modifications affecting the scope of the Morocco Halal label

The holder shall inform IMANOR without undue delay of any changes to the scope of the Halal Morocco label. Accordingly, the scope can be confirmed, amended or reduced. A new certificate can be awarded for the remaining term of the replaced certificate.

The changes that may affect the scope of the halal certification of an organization include the following:

- a) The legal status, name and owners,
- b) Organization and management (for example such as the leader's key personnel),
- c) The Area,
- d) The person to be contacted,
- e) Important changes to the manufacturing process, transport or other activities related to the labeled products,
- f) The introduction or manufacturing products halal or not labeled Halal.

ARTICLE 21: Extension or reduction of the scope of the Morocco Halal label

The holder may apply to IMANOR an extension or a reduction in the scope of its halal certificate according to the model given in Annex 4, IMANOR then program an extension or reduction audit that could coincide with the initial renewal/recertification audit.

ARTICLE 22: Temporary Interruption of activities covered by the Morocco Halal label

In the case of a temporary interruption in the activities covered by the Label Halal Morocco, the holder must notify IMANOR. If the interruption does not exceed three months, the right of use of the label remains without any formalities. If the interruption is greater than three (3) months and less than twelve (12) months, the resumption of activities is reported to IMANOR and the acquisition of the right of use of the label is confirmed by an unexpected audit or by the extension/renewal audit.

ARTICLE 23: Cost for the right of use of the Morocco Halal label

Fees related to the right of use of the Morocco Halal label consist:

- Review of the application fees;
- Costs of audits;
- Analysis fee if there is one;
- Annual fees for the right to use label Halal Morocco.

These fees shall be fixed by the Board of Directors of IMANOR in accordance with the provisions of the [Law 12-06 relative to standardization](#), certification and accreditation.

The applicant or holder of the halal label Morocco must pay expenses related to the review of the application, to the audit and analysis no later than three months after the implementation of these activities. The corresponding fees remain due to IMANOR regardless of the decision taken as a result of those activities.

ANNEX – 1
MOROCCO HALAL LABEL



ANNEX - 2 - The header of the applicant
MODEL OF APPLICATION FOR USE OF THE MOROCCO HALAL LABEL
TO
THE DIRECTOR OF IMANOR
- R A B A T -

Subject: Grant of the right of use of the Morocco Halal label

P –J: See section 13.1

>>*<<*>>*<<

Mr. Director,

I have the honor to submit you my application to benefit from the right of use of the label Halal Morocco, [Moroccan standard NM 08.0.800](#) for the following products:

- ...

Made in the unit ¹ size...to.....

I declare having read the rules on the Morocco HALAL Label.

I agree in General, to abide by these rules and, to:

- Comply with the requirements of [the standard NM 08.0.800](#);
- Cooperate with the audit team by facilitating any operation verification of the compliance with the rules for certification, as well as access to all relevant records;
- Accept observers who may be designated by IMANOR to accompany the audit team;
- Accept to undergo unannounced audits of IMANOR;
- Not to make State of the Halal Label in a way that could damage the reputation of IMANOR;
- Recognize the Halal labels awarded or recognized by IMANOR;
- Stop use or refer to the Halal label after its suspension or withdrawal; make use of the Halal label in compliance with the rules set out by IMANOR; pay me the fees related to the allocation and usage of the Halal Morocco label.

Please kindly accept, Mr. Director, the expression of my distinguished greetings.

Date, stamp and Signature of the applicant

¹ *Specify the corporate name of the unit concerned*

ANNEX – 3
MOROCCO HALAL LABEL IDENTIFICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMPANY

Company name:
Status:
Address:
Phone: Fax:
Email:
Areas of activity: Number of sites:
Part of the export turnover:
Total staff:
General Manager:
Correspondent Halal Label (name and title):
Correspondent fees regulation of certification (name and address):
.....

UNIT (S) CONCERNED (S):

Designation (*):
.....
.....
Address (*):
.....
.....
Phone: Fax:
Email:
Field of activity:
Products:
Used packing materials:
Type of activities (permanent, seasonal):
Duration of the campaign, if there is place:
Mode of operation (1 team, 2 teams, or 3 teams):
Number of sites concerned:
Total staff concerned:

Distribution by concerned site (provide if necessary an annex specifying for each site, the name, address and membership)

Other products.....
Means put in place to manage the two types of production (halal and non-halal), if there is place:
.....

Already obtained certifications (type and date of certification):
.....
.....

Name: Signature:
Function: Date:

ANNEX - 4

The header of the applicant

MODEL APPLICATION FOR EXTENSION / REDUCTION OF THE MOROCCO HALAL LABEL

TO

THE DIRECTOR OF IMANOR

SUBJECT: Application for extension / reduction of the Morocco HALAL Label

>>*<<*>>*<<

Mr. Director,

I have the honor to submit you my application to benefit from the right of use of the Morocco Halal label, [Moroccan standard NM 08.0.800](#) for the following products:

- ...

Made in the unit ² size...to.....

I declare having read the rules on the Morocco HALAL Label.

I agree in General, to abide by these rules and, to:

- Comply with the requirements of [the standard NM 08.0.800](#);
- Cooperate with the audit team by facilitating any operation verification of the compliance with the rules for certification, as well as access to all relevant records;
- Accept observers who may be designated by IMANOR to accompany the audit team;
- Accept to undergo unannounced audits of IMANOR;
- Not to make State of the Halal Label in a way that could damage the reputation of IMANOR;
- Recognize the Halal labels awarded or recognized by IMANOR;
- Stop use or refer to the Halal label after its suspension or withdrawal; make use of the Halal label in compliance with the rules set out by IMANOR; pay me the fees related to the allocation and usage of the Halal Morocco label.

Please kindly accept, Mr. Director, the expression of my distinguished greetings.

Date, stamp and Signature of the applicant

² *Specify the corporate name of the unit concerned*