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Newest List of Approved Halal Certification Bodies

Report Categories:

Halal

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Report Highlights:

The Indonesian Council of Ulama (MUI) released the amendment of list of approved halal certification bodies in foreign countries.

General Information:

On October 15, 2009, the Indonesian Council of Ulama (MUI) issued Decree No. D-410/MUI/X/2009 concerning the list of approved foreign halal certification bodies. This decree supersedes Decree No. Kep-99/MUI/III/2009, List of Halal Certifier Bodies and Technical Procedures of Evaluation, March 6, 2009 (please see GAIN report ID 9014). This new decree is valid for two years from the date of issue.

The list still classifies the halal certification bodies into three groups: 1. cattle slaughtering; 2. processed foods; and 3. flavoring. This most recent list has no approved certification bodies listed as eligible to certify halal for poultry or lamb.

The currently approved halal certification bodies in the United States are:

For slaughter (cattle only)

No.	Name of Halal Certification Body				
1.	American Halal Foundation (AHF), IL				
2.	Halal Food Council S.E.A., MD				
3.	Halal Transaction of Omaha, NE				
4.	Islamic Food and Nutrition Council of America (IFANCA), IL				
5.	Islamic Information Center of America (IICA), IL				
6.	Islamic Services of America (ISA), IA				

For processed foods

No.	Name of Halal Certification Body	Remarks
1.	American Halal Foundation (AHF), IL	Approved
2.	Halal Food Council S.E.A., MD	Approved
3.	Islamic Information Center of America (IICA), IL	Witness Audit
4.	Islamic Food and Nutrition Council of America (IFANCA), IL	Approved
5.	Islamic Services of America (ISA), IA	Witness Audit

For flavoring

No.	Name of Halal Certification Body	Remarks
1.	American Halal Foundation (AHF), IL	Witness Audit
2.	Halal Food Council S.E.A., MD	Witness Audit
3.	Islamic Food and Nutrition Council of America (IFANCA), IL	Witness Audit
4.	Islamic Services of America (ISA), IA	Witness Audit

Some additional certifiers have been added to the new list of approved halal certification bodies. This list now approves IFANCA to certify halal for cattle slaughtering. In addition to ISA and IFANCA, MUI now also authorizes Halal Food Council S.E.A, AHF, and IICA to certify halal for processed foods. Furthermore, MUI now allows AHF, Halal Food Council S.E.A, IFANCA, and ISA to certify halal for flavoring. However, some of the approved halal certification bodies for processed food (IICA and ISA) and all of the approved certification bodies for flavoring (AHF, Halal Food Council S.E.A., IFANCA, and ISA) require "witness audit". A "witnes audit" is defined as a MUI official accompanying an official from the U.S. halal certification body for an initial audit of the certification process. The initial audit is subject to review at any time.

This decree also identifies the criteria and requirements, as well as the operational procedure of approved foreign halal certification body.

This MUI's decree can be accessed at:

http://www.halalmui.org/images/stories/news/pdf/hcb15okt09.pdf