

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** August 24, 2022

**Report Number:** EG2022-0021

**Report Name:** Egypt Notifies New Halal Requirements and Procedures for Food Products

**Country:** Egypt

**Post:** Cairo

**Report Category:** Agricultural Situation, Special Certification - Organic/Kosher/Halal, WTO Notifications, Dairy and Products

**Prepared By:** Shaza Omar, Senior Agriculture Specialist and Elizabeth Mello, Senior Agricultural Attaché

**Approved By:** Elizabeth Mello

**Report Highlights:**

Egypt notified of new halal requirements and procedures for food products. This was disclosed via a Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) third addendum notification to the World Trade Organization (WTO). Neither the notification's commitment to the commenting period nor its entry into force date are specified. It does, however, amend the earlier notification from April 4, 2022, which said that Egypt prohibited the use of the Halal certification on milk and dairy products until September 30, 2022.

On August 15, 2022, the government of Egypt issued a WTO/TBT addendum highlighting products requiring halal certification and procedures for obtaining a certificate (Annex 1). The notification sets out product lists identified by HS codes. The requirements extend to the following dairy products; HS headings: 0401 - 0402 -0403 -0404 -0405 -0406:

HS code	Product
0401	Milk Not Concentrate
0402	Milk Concentrated
0403	Buttermilk
0404	Whey, Natural Milk
0405	Butter, Fats, Milk
0406	Cheese and Curd

*Source: FAS Cairo research, Global Agriculture Trade System (GATS) Harmonized Export Product Group Commodity Aggregation Definitions*

The notification outlines the procedure of issuance of halal certificates and names a sole certifier undertaken this mission.

The notification is not providing an entry into force date neither stated the commitment for commenting period. However, comments should be provided to Egyptian Organization for Standardization EOS the notifying agency. It is expected that this notification is updating the prior notification, were, Egypt suspended the application of Halal certification on milk and dairy products until September, 30, 2022 which was notified on April 4, 2022.

## **Background**

This comes prior three communications one notification and two addenda issued in March and April by the General Organization for Veterinary Services (GOVS) distributed instructions. See ([GAIN EG2022-0008 Egypt's Prime Minister Waives Halal Certification Fees for Milk and Dairy Products Until October 1 22 - Halal Certification Requirement Still in Question](#)).



**NOTIFICATION**

*Addendum*

The following communication, dated 12 August 2022, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Egypt.

**Title:** Halal Certificate accompanying imports of meat, poultry and their products, milk and dairy products (except for crude milk).

Reason for Addendum:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Comment period changed - date:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Notified measure adopted - date:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Notified measure published - date:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Notified measure enters into force - date:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Text of final measure available from <sup>1</sup> :
<input type="checkbox"/>	Notified measure withdrawn or revoked - date: Relevant symbol if measure re-notified:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Content or scope of notified measure changed and text available from <sup>1</sup> : New deadline for comments (if applicable):
<input type="checkbox"/>	Interpretive guidance issued and text available from <sup>1</sup> :
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other: Halal Certificate accompanying imports of meat, poultry and their products, milk and dairy products (except for crude milk).

**Description: Products covered** Meat, poultry and their products, milk and dairy products except for crude milk.

This addendum concerns the clarification of the following:

**I. HS Codes of the products that require halal certificates:**

**1- Meat, poultry and their products:**

HS headings : 0201- 0202- 0204 - of HS heading 0206 (except of swine, horses, assess, mules or hinnies ) - 0207 - of HS heading 0208 (except from 0208.30, 0208.40 ,0208.50) – HS subheading 0209.90- of HS heading 0210( except of 0210.11, 0210.12, 0210.19, 0210.91, 0210.92, 0210.93 ) , - 1601- 1602( except 1602.41, 1602.42, 1602.49, preparations of blood of any animal of HS subheading 1602.90 ).

<sup>1</sup> This information can be provided by including a website address, a pdf attachment, or other information on where the text of the final/modified measure and/or interpretive guidance can be obtained.

**2- Milk and dairy products:**

HS headings: 0401 - 0402 -0403 -0404 -0405 -0406.

**II. Halal certificate and labelling requirements for importing meat, poultry and their products, milk and dairy products:**

- The requirement for a Halal certificate as per ES 4249 to be accompanying imports of the stated products is among the requirements for acquiring an import permit from the General Organization for Veterinary Services (GOVS).
- Import permits are stipulated by Decree No. 47 of 1967 issuing the veterinary quarantine regulation.
- Slaughterhouses and factories/facilities of meat, poultry and their products are approved and registered at GOVS. Those slaughterhouses and factories/facilities must be certified and registered by a certification body approved by GOVS (currently IS EG halal).
- The relevant authority shall on regular basis monitor the performance of the certification bodies that were approved to ensure their compliance with the regulations set by the competent authority.

**1- Issuance of Halal certificates:**

- **Procedures applied by exporting slaughterhouses and factories/facilities of the stated products to Egypt:**

- Slaughterhouses and factories/facilities exporting to Egypt need to be certified and registered at IS EG Halal (the certification body currently approved by GOVS).
- IS EG Halal offices supervise the registration process for the facilities exporting to Egypt, in addition to supervising the production process.
- Slaughterhouses and factories/facilities can register through the IS EG Halal website ([www.iseghalal.com](http://www.iseghalal.com)) after filling up the application form and uploading the required documents necessary for registration. The registration process with IS EG HALAL is estimated to take from three to seven working days.
- IS EG Halal reviews the uploaded documents. If the documents are complete, they are transferred to the technical and religious officials of the company to review and evaluate the documents, and then a date is set for the audit visit to the facility.
- The audit visit is to ensure that the facility carries out its process according to Islamic Sharia (law) with respect to Halal, as well as to review all technical procedures applied by the slaughterhouses and the facilities /factories.
- After completing the registration process, IS EG Halal Company sends a supervisor from the company to supervise the production process until shipping in order to ensure the conformity of the production process audit report with the shipments documents.
- The certificates certifying the product as halal will be issued accordingly.

**2-labelling requirements:**

- As for the labelling requirements with respect to halal, the label shall comprise the logo of IS EG Halal in addition to the phrase "under supervision of IS EG Halal "in Arabic and English. This label shall take the form of printing or a non-detachable sticker. The label will be on the outer package as well as the retail packages.

It is also worth mentioning that the draft new version of the Egyptian standard 4249 "General Requirements on Halal Food according to Islamic Sharia " has been finalized and can be obtained from the Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality (EOS) for comments.

**Agency or authority designated to handle comments and text available from:**

National Enquiry Point

Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality

16 Tadreeb El-Modarrebeen St., Ameriya, Cairo – Egypt

E-mail: [eos@idsc.net.eg](mailto:eos@idsc.net.eg)/[eos.tbt@eos.org.eg](mailto:eos.tbt@eos.org.eg)

Website: <http://www.eos.org.eg>

Tel: + (202) 22845528

Fax: + (202) 22845504

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**Attachments:**

No Attachments.