



General Export Requirements for Halal Animal Material and Halal Animal Products

30 June 2020

TITLE

Animal Products Notice: General Export Requirements for Halal Animal Material and Halal Animal Products

COMMENCEMENT

This Animal Products Notice comes into effect on 30 June 2020.

REVOCATION

This Animal Products Notice revokes and replaces the Animal Products Notice: General Export Requirements for Halal Animal Material and Halal Animal Products, which was issued on 23 December 2019.

ISSUING AUTHORITY

This Animal Products Notice is issued pursuant to section 167(1) of the Animal Products Act 1999 for the purposes of section 60 of that Act.

Dated at Wellington this 30th day of June 2020.

[signed]

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(acting under delegated authority of the Director-General)

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Introduction

This introduction is not part of this Notice but is intended to indicate its general effect.

Purpose

- (1) The purpose of this Animal Products Notice is to specify the processing requirements for animal material or animal products in order to be:
 - a) eligible to be labelled and identified as halal for export; and
 - b) issued with a halal certificate.

Background

- (1) This Animal Products Notice establishes a halal assurance system (being the requirements specified in this Notice) to be in place in New Zealand in relation to animal products that are intended to be identified and labelled as halal for the purpose of export.
- (2) This Animal Products Notice specifies the requirements for:
 - a) the approval of halal programmes; and
 - b) the listing of halal premises; and
 - c) halal processing and storage of:
 - i) meat and meat products;
 - ii) poultry meat and poultry meat products;
 - iii) gelatine;
 - iv) non-dairy fats and oils; and
 - d) approval as an approved halal organisation; and
 - e) the listing of approved halal organisations for countries specified in Annex 1 of this Notice; and
 - f) the competency and responsibilities of the following employees of approved halal organisations:
 - i) assessment and approval persons; and
 - ii) issuing officers; and
 - g) competency and ongoing assessment of halal slaughter persons; and
 - h) the establishment of an Approved Halal Organisations Forum; and
 - i) the issuing of halal certificates and halal premises registration certificates.

Who should read this Notice?

- (1) This Animal Products Notice should be read by all persons involved in processing, exporting or certification of halal animal products specified in clause 1.1 of this Notice.

Why is this important?

- (1) This Animal Products Notice is important because any animal material or animal products that fail to comply with any requirements of this Notice is ineligible for export as halal.
- (2) Additionally, for the purposes of section 135(1)(c) of the Animal Products Act 1999, a failure to comply with this Notice, without reasonable excuse, is an offence.

Document History

Version Date	Section Changed	Change(s) Description
21 December 2018		
23 December 2019	Definitions	New definitions added for the terms “ JAS-ANZ ” and “ New Zealand Halal Scheme ” in this version.
	Annexes 1 and 5	These have been deleted. The remaining Annexes have been renamed accordingly.
	Clause 6.2.1(2)(c)	This clause has been changed to reflect the establishment of a New Zealand Halal Scheme. It now makes it a mandatory requirement for AHOs to be accredited to ISO:17065 for the New Zealand Halal Scheme.
	Clause 6.2.1(2)(e)	The old clause 6.2.1(2)(e) has been deleted. That clause required AHOs to be accepted by the relevant national authority of any of the markets listed in the old Annex 1 (which have been deleted).
	Clause 6.2.1(3) and (5)	These new clauses are transferred across from the Halal Dairy Notice to ensure consistency.
	Clause 13.1	This new clause preserves the approval status of halal premises listed prior to the commencement date.
	Clause 13.2	This new clause preserves the approval status of halal slaughter persons operating under the Notice prior to the commencement date.
	Clause 13.3	This new clause reflects the dates by which AHOs have to apply for accreditation, and the dates by which they have to be accredited.
30 June 2020	Definitions	The below definitions were added for the below terms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IEC • ISO/IEC 17025:2017 • AS/NZS ISO/IEC 17065:2013
	Definitions and Clause 6.2(1)(2)(c)	This clause changes the New Zealand Halal Scheme to New Zealand Export Halal Scheme.
	Clause 5.2.3(2)(b)i	This clause is updated to reference ISO/IEC 17025:2017 registered name.
	Clause 6.2.1(2)(c) and Clause 13.3(1),(2) & (3)	This clause is updated to reference AS/NZS ISO/IEC 17065:2013 registered name.
	Clause 7.2(2)(b)	NZQA 25927 is removed as a competency requirement for the Halal Assessment and Approval Person and Issuing Officer.
	Clauses 7.2(2)(b)ii and 7.3(2)(b)ii	Addition of equivalence option for NZQA unit standards
	Clause 13.3(1)	The approval and application dates have been extended by 3 months

Part 1: Preliminary provisions

1.1 Application

- (1) This Notice applies to the following animal material and animal products that are intended to be labelled, marked, identified, or otherwise designated as halal for the purpose of export for human consumption:
 - a) meat and meat products derived from halal species; and
 - b) non-dairy animal fats and oils derived from halal species; and
 - c) gelatine derived from halal species; and
 - d) poultry meat and poultry meat products.
- (2) This Notice does not apply to:
 - a) dairy material and dairy products; and
 - b) dietary supplements containing animal material or their wrapping or packaging;
 - c) gelatine capsules used for medical or therapeutic purposes.

1.2 Incorporation of material by reference

- (1) New Zealand standard *NZS 6116:2006 Safe Application of Electricity in the Meat Processing Industry* is incorporated into this Notice as a standard work of reference under section 168 of the Act.

1.3 Definitions

- (1) In this Notice, unless the context otherwise requires:

Act means the Animal Products Act 1999;

accreditation body means the Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand (JASANZ);

AP E-cert means the Animal Products Electronic Certification System specified for the raising and issuing of export declarations, halal certificates, official assurances, halal premises registration certificates, and transfer documents;

approved halal organisation (AHO) means an Islamic organisation approved and listed by the Director-General under Part 6 of this Notice;

AS/NZS ISO/IEC 17065:2013 (Conformity assessment—Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services) is an International Standard containing requirements for the competence, consistent operation and impartiality of product, process and service certification bodies.

carrion means animal material or animal products derived from halal species that died before halal slaughter and have not undergone ante mortem and post mortem examination or haram species that died before slaughter;

certification services means the activities undertaken by an approved halal organisation as part of their roles under this Notice;

competent halal slaughter person means a person who has met the halal competency criteria for a halal slaughter person under clause 8.2 of this Notice;

consignment means an identified lot or lots of animal material or animal products required to be described in a transfer document or export certificate;

Director-General means the Director-General of MPI;

eligible for export as halal means:

- a) prior to export, that a consignment meets or is capable of meeting all applicable requirements in this Notice to be exported to its intended destination; or
- b) at export, that a consignment meets all applicable requirements in this Notice to be exported to its intended destination;

food additive(s) has the same meaning as in Standard 1.3.1 of the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code;

gelatine means a protein product prepared from animal skin, bone or other collagenous material, or any combination thereof;

halal animal material means animal material that is intended to be eligible for export as halal;

halal animal products means animal products that are intended to be eligible for export as halal;

halal certificate means a certificate issued by an issuing officer in accordance with Part 11 of this Notice;

halal identification means any label affixed to halal meat or meat products wrapping or packaging material which claims to be halal in any language;

halal export assurance system means the requirements in this Notice that specifically relates to the processing, storage and transport of halal meat, and includes any country-specific OMAR;

halal mark means:

- a) the letter "H"; or
- b) the logo specified in Annex 4; or
- c) where a country-specific OMAR requires a logo, the logo specified in Annex 4;

halal official assurance means an official assurance with a halal attestation issued by the Director-General or an authorised person (the issuing of which replaces the need for a halal certificate to be given directly to the market to which this Notice applies);

halal premises means a premises that is listed by the Director-General under Part 4 of this Notice for the purposes of processing halal animal material and products;

halal premises of final control means the halal premises where a consignment of halal animal material or halal animal products is physically located before it is transferred for export;

halal premises registration certificate means the premises registration certificate with a 3 year period of validity, which is issued to the premises operator by the approved halal organisation immediately after his/her halal programme has been approved;

halal quality assurance officer means a person referred to in clause 4.8.2;

halal species means animals of the following species that have undergone and passed ante mortem and post mortem examination:

- a) bovine; and
- b) ovine; and
- c) caprine; and
- d) cervine; and
- e) poultry;

and **halal animal** has a corresponding meaning;

haram material means anything that is derived from a haram species, and includes any substance containing material from haram species or carrion, alcohol beverages and any other material that may cause intoxication; and **haram product** has a corresponding meaning;

Guidance

- To avoid doubt, the use of isopropanol in cleaning products as hand sanitisers and mediwipes is

allowed in processing areas provided that such products do not come into contact with halal animal material and halal animal products.

haram species means:

- a) porcine;
- b) canine;
- c) equus asinus (donkey);
- d) wild animals other than halal species;
- e) animal which lives both on land and water; and
- f) amphibians that are used as ingredients, additives or processing aids; and
- g) where notified in a country-specific OMAR, insects and their extracts;

IEC means The International Electrotechnical Commission which is an international standards organization that prepares and publishes international standards for all electrical, electronic and related technologies.

ISO means International Organisation for Standardisation and is an international developer and publisher of international standards;

ISO/IEC 17025:2017 (General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories) is a document which specifies the general requirements for the competence, impartiality and consistent operation of laboratories.

JAS-ANZ means the Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand;

MPI means the Ministry for Primary Industries;

New Zealand Export Halal Scheme means the halal accreditation framework based on this Notice as registered by JAS-ANZ and owned by MPI;

non-conforming halal animal material means any animal material derived from a halal species, which were intended to be or were processed as halal but were subsequently declared by an operator, an approved halal organisation, or an animal product officer to be non-compliant with the requirements of this Notice;

non-conforming halal animal product means any animal products derived from a halal species, which were intended to be or were processed as halal but were subsequently declared by an operator, an approved halal organisation, or an animal product officer to be non-compliant with the requirements of this Notice;

non-halal animal material means any animal material derived from a halal species that has been intentionally processed by the operator outside the scope of this Notice;

non-halal animal products means any animal products derived from a halal species that have been intentionally processed by the operator outside the scope of this Notice;

Guidance

The difference between non-halal animal product and non-conforming halal animal product is that for the former, the operator had intended from the outset to process the animal product in a non-halal manner whereas for the latter, the operator had intended to process the animal product in a halal manner but subsequently failed to comply with a requirement of this Notice.

NZQA means the New Zealand Qualifications Authority;

OMAR means market access requirements issued under section 60 of the Act;

poultry means chicken, duck and turkey;

processing aid has the same meaning as in Standard 1.3.3 of the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code; and

supplementary verification activities means verification activities carried out by MPI Verification Services' animal product officers in accordance with an annual verification plan which targets critical halal areas within the halal meat export assurance system.

- (2) Any term used but not defined in this Notice that is defined in the Act has the same meaning as in the Act.

Part 2: General requirements

2.1 Outline of regulatory roles under this Notice

2.1.1 Role of the Director-General

- (1) The Director-General's role in the halal export assurance system created by this Notice includes the following:
 - a) maintaining overall responsibility and oversight of the halal export assurance system; and
 - b) approving Islamic organisations as approved halal organisations; and
 - c) listing approved halal organisations; and
 - d) auditing the performance of approved halal organisations; and
 - e) listing premises that may carry out halal processing of animal products; and
 - f) assessing the ongoing technical competency of halal quality assurance officers; and
 - g) providing information to industry on matters relating to halal processing and export; and
 - h) conducting supplementary verification activities of the halal meat export assurance system.

2.1.2 Role of approved halal organisations

- (1) Approved halal organisations' role in the halal export assurance system created by this Notice includes the following:
 - a) providing halal certification services in accordance with this Notice; and
 - b) assessing and approving halal programmes; and
 - c) assessing halal premises; and
 - d) assessing the competency of halal slaughter persons (i.e. periodic assessment); and
 - e) assessing the competency of their halal assessment and approval persons and issuing officers and provide a list of competent persons and officers to the Director-General upon request; and
 - f) creating and maintaining a documented training programme for training their issuing officers and assessment and approval persons; and
 - g) creating and maintaining procedures relating to the evaluation of the competencies of assessment and approval persons and issuing officers.
 - h) participating in the approved halal organisations forum in accordance with Part 9 of this Notice.

2.2 Exporter to ensure compliance of halal animal products

- (1) An exporter must not export any animal products that are identified, labelled, marked or represented as halal unless the animal products meet:
 - a) the requirements of this Notice; and
 - b) any specific notified OMAR of the importing country.

2.3 Identification and traceability of halal animal products

2.3.1 Management of transfer documents in AP E-cert for animal material and animal products

- (1) Transfer documents that are raised for animal material and animal products that are eligible for export as halal must identify product as "halal" for each product item.
- (2) The consignor operator must not describe any product item as "halal" on transfer documents if the animal material or animal products do not comply with any relevant requirements of this Notice.
- (3) Country eligibility information on a transfer document's product item must only appear if the item also meets any applicable country specific halal OMAR.

Guidance

- The *Animal Products Notice: Official Assurances Specifications for Animal Material and Animal Products* requires every transfer of animal material and animal products between premises to be accompanied by an approved transfer document raised in AP E-cert.
- A drop down box with the word “halal” is provided in AP E-cert for each product item.
- The AP E-cert training website has the new transfer document (i.e. ED) version.

2.3.2 Halal identification requirements for meat and meat products, poultry meat and poultry meat products

- (1) In order to be eligible for export as halal, meat, meat products, poultry meat and poultry meat products must comply with the following halal labelling and identification requirements:
 - a) the products must be identified with the halal mark when they are wrapped and packaged and before they are transferred from a halal premises:
 - b) in the case of carcasses, parts of carcasses or cuts that are in their final packaging for export, the halal mark may be applied directly to the final packaging material labels:
 - c) in the case of cartoned products, the halal mark must be applied to carton labels and may also be applied to individual cuts and/or labels on inner packaging:
 - d) the halal mark must not be applied to non-halal animal products:
 - e) the halal mark must, if applied by stamp or brand, be securely locked away when not in use.
- (2) Where meat, meat products, poultry meat and poultry meat products have been halal-identified or halal-labelled but subsequently failed to meet the requirements of this Notice, the exporter or operator (as the case may be) must deface or remove the halal label or halal mark, and amend any affected transfer documents.

Guidance

- There is nothing to stop operators from selling non-halal animal products in the domestic market or exporting them, as long as they are not labelled, identified or represented as halal. The labelling and identification of animal products are required to be truthful in all cases.

2.3.3 Identification requirements for halal animal product that is gelatine, and halal animal products that are non-dairy animal fats and oils

- (1) Halal animal product that is gelatine, and halal animal products that are non-dairy animal fats and oils must comply with the following halal identification and labelling requirements:
 - a) the gelatine and non-dairy animal fats and oils that have been packaged for export at the halal premises of final control must bear the halal mark on their outer packaging material; and
 - b) the halal mark must not be applied to gelatine and non-dairy animal fats and oils that are not halal; and
 - c) the halal mark must, if applied by stamp or brand, be securely locked away when not in use.
- (2) Where halal animal product that is gelatine, and halal animal products that are non-dairy animal fats and oils have been halal-identified or halal-labelled but subsequently failed to meet the requirements of this Notice, the exporter or operator (as the case may be) must deface or remove the halal mark or halal label and amend any affected transfer documents.

2.3.4 Identification of raw materials used for producing halal animal product that is gelatine, and halal animal products that are non-dairy animal fats and oils being transferred between halal premises

- (1) Where raw materials intended for producing halal gelatine, and halal non-dairy animal fats and oils are transferred from one halal premises to another, the bulk containers or bulk packaging used to transfer such raw materials must be physically identified as halal before leaving the consigning halal premises.

2.3.5 OMAR requirements for halal identification

- (1) Where a country specific OMAR imposes different requirements for halal marking or labelling, the halal mark does not need to be applied to halal animal material or halal animal products exported to that country as required under this Notice.

Part 3: Halal programmes

3.1 Object of this Part

- (1) The object of this Part is to set the requirements for a halal programme.

3.2 What is a halal programme?

- (1) A halal programme is a programme designed to control and manage halal processing of animal material and animal products at halal premises to ensure compliance with this Notice.

Guidance

- Operators may choose to incorporate any country-specific halal requirements into their halal programme.

3.3 Which premises must have a halal programme?

- (1) The following premises must operate under an approved halal programme:
- slaughter premises; and
 - slaughter premises which also, at the same physical location:
 - bone, cut, dice, mince, cure, pack, preserve, or store halal animal material and halal animal products; or
 - render halal non-dairy animal fats and oils, or supply halal raw animal material for the manufacture of gelatine and non-dairy animal halal fats and oils; and
 - independent packhouses which bone, cut, dice, mince, cure, pack, preserve halal animal material and halal animal products; and
 - independent packhouses which carry out the processes in paragraph c) and also any of the following at the same physical location:
 - store halal animal material and halal animal products; or
 - render non-dairy animal fats and oils or supply raw animal material for the manufacture of halal gelatine and non-dairy fats and oils; and
 - premises which only render halal animal products that are non-dairy animal fats and oils; and
 - premises which manufacture halal animal product that is gelatine from animal material.
- (2) Operators of independent cold stores or independent dry stores which are not physically located in any of the sites listed under sub clause (1) are not required to be operating under an approved halal programme.

Guidance

- Independent cold stores or independent dry stores referred to in sub clause (2) are expected to have documented systems, which demonstrate how the applicable requirements of clause 5.2.5 of this Notice will be met. Also, as per existing sanitary rules, independent cold stores and dry stores are not allowed to carry out any repacking/repackaging activities.
- Recognised agencies are expected to verify compliance with clause 5.2.5 as part of their routine verification activities.
- To avoid doubt, a meat packhouse located within a slaughter premises or situated within the same boundary fence as a slaughter premises should be covered by the slaughter premises' approved halal programme.

3.4 Duties of operators of halal programmes

- (1) The operator of a premises operating under an approved halal programme must:
 - a) choose the approved halal organisation who will assess and approve their halal programme under this Part; and
 - b) keep a copy of the approved halal programme, and provide this to the Director-General or an animal product officer on request; and
 - c) ensure that the programme is consistent with the requirements of regulations and specifications in force from time to time under the Act; and
 - d) adequately implement and resource all operations under the programme, including provision for the instruction, competency, and supervision of staff to ensure the delivery of halal animal material and halal animal products; and
 - e) ensure that all operations under the programme are commensurate with the capability and the capacity of the premises or place, facilities, equipment, and staff to ensure the delivery of halal animal material and halal animal products; and
 - f) give relevant approved halal organisation's employees who provide certification services to the operator such freedom and access as will allow them to effectively carry out such services.

3.5 Form of halal programmes

- (1) A halal programme must be in writing in a form acceptable to the approved halal organisation(s) that will assess and approve it.

3.6 Contents of and requirements for halal programmes

- (1) A halal programme must:
 - a) specify the name and address of:
 - i) the operator; and
 - ii) the animal product business covered by the programme; and
 - b) state the RMP identifier and physical address of the premises; and
 - c) specify the species and product categories to which the programme relates; and
 - d) specify the scope of the halal activities carried out at the premises.
- (2) A halal programme must include:
 - a) a list of position titles of members of the premises' Halal Management Committee appointed under clause 4.8.1 of this Notice; and
 - b) the approved halal organisation(s), which carry out certification services for the premises; and
 - c) steps for ensuring that haram species or product or material derived from such species are not processed or stored at the premises at any time; and
 - d) details of the controls in place to ensure the integrity of halal products, which must encompass controls for the following (where applicable):
 - i) secondary processing; and
 - ii) sourcing of food ingredients, processing aids and food additives, and
 - iii) labelling; and
 - iv) storage (if applicable); and
 - e) security and procedures for application of the halal mark (where applicable); and
 - f) an internal operator audit schedule, describing the process by which the halal programme will be internally audited to ensure compliance with this Notice; and
 - g) processes and controls for ensuring that the requirements of clause 4.8 and Part 5 will be or are being met.

3.7 Additional contents for halal programmes for slaughter premises

- (1) In addition to clause 3.6, a halal programme for a slaughter premises must:
 - a) include a register recording the names of halal slaughter persons employed at the premises; and
 - b) specify the controls for ensuring the integrity of halal animal material and halal animal products, including controls for the following:
 - i) pre slaughter; and
 - ii) stunning; and
 - iii) slaughter; and
 - iv) post slaughter handling and secondary processing; and
 - c) specify the following:
 - i) the stunning and slaughter method; and
 - ii) steps for ensuring that haram species or animal material or animal products derived from such species are not physically present at storage, slaughter or processing areas of the premises at any time; and
 - iii) steps for ensuring that working dogs are not allowed into storage, slaughter and processing areas of the premises; and
 - iv) the agreed number of Muslim slaughter persons required at different chain speeds for each halal species which is processed.

3.8 Application for approval of halal programmes

- (1) An application for approval of a halal programme must be submitted to an approved halal organisation that is currently performing, or intends to perform halal certification services to the premises for which the halal programme relates.
- (2) The application must be made in writing to the approved halal organisation and be accompanied by a copy of the halal programme.
- (3) Where there are more than one approved halal organisations providing halal certification services to a premises, the approved halal organisation to which the application is submitted must consult the other approved halal organisations before approving the programme.
- (4) Where a dispute occurs between the approved halal organisations during consultation under sub clause (3), the Director-General may appoint an independent arbitrator to settle the dispute.
- (5) For the purposes of sub clause (4), the arbitrator's decision will be binding on all parties.

3.9 Approval of halal programmes by an approved halal organisation

- (1) An approved halal organisation must approve a halal programme if satisfied that:
 - a) the contents of the programme comply with the requirements imposed by this Notice; and
 - b) the programme adequately covers premises to which it applies; and
 - c) as far as practicable, the animal material or animal products to be processed under the programme will meet the halal requirements imposed by this Notice; and
 - d) the premises to which the programme applies is adequately equipped to comply with the programme and all other applicable requirements of this Notice.
- (2) For the purposes of sub clause (1), the approved halal organisation must carry out a site inspection.
- (3) The approved halal organisation must, as soon as practicable after approving a halal programme, provide a confirmation of approval and an authorised copy of the approved halal programme to:
 - a) the operator; and

- b) the other approved halal organisations that provide halal certification services to the operator (where applicable).
- (4) The operator must keep confirmation of approval and the current version of the approved halal programme and must provide these to the Director-General or an animal product officer immediately upon request.
- (5) Where the halal programme has been approved, the approved halal organisation must also issue a halal premises registration certificate to the operator.
- (6) The halal premises registration certificate and the approved halal programme must be valid for 3 years and are subject to renewal under clause 3.15 of this Notice before that 3 years have expired.

3.10 Refusal to approve halal programmes

- (1) An approved halal organisation may refuse to approve a halal programme if satisfied that any of the requirements in clause 3.9(1) have not been met.
- (2) Where an approved halal organisation proposes to refuse to approve a halal programme, it must give the applicant:
 - a) written notice of the grounds on which it proposes to refuse the application; and
 - b) a reasonable opportunity to make written submissions or be heard in respect of the matter.
- (3) Where the approved halal organisation finally determines to refuse to approve a halal programme, it must as soon as practicable notify that fact in writing, and provide the rationale for the refusal to:
 - a) the operator; and
 - b) the Director-General.

3.11 Halal programme not transferrable

- (1) The approval of a halal programme applies only to the particular operator and premises specified in the programme and may not be transferred to a different operator or premises.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, where an animal product business, which is covered by an approved halal programme changes name, nothing in sub clause (1) prevents the transfer of the approved halal programme to the newly named business without further approval.

Guidance

- MPI strongly recommends that animal product businesses consult with their AHO(s) to ensure that the new name is not offensive.

3.12 Significant amendments to halal programmes

- (1) If the operator intends to significantly amend their approved halal programme, the operator must resubmit the amended programme to the approved halal organisation for approval before the changes can be implemented.
- (2) For the purposes of sub clause (1), significant amendments include, but are not limited to:
 - a) any major alterations to processing facilities or equipment; and
 - b) the relocation of the business or operation; and
 - c) the inclusion of a new type of animal material or animal products, to be processed in the premises to which the programme relates; and
 - d) the introduction of any new processes or process modifications, for the production and processing of halal animal material and halal animal products; and

- e) the merging or splitting of existing approved halal programmes.
- (3) Significant amendments to halal programmes must be assessed and approved in accordance with clauses 3.8 to 3.10 of this Notice.

Guidance

- It is recommended that operators check with their AHO(s) when making any change to their approved halal programme.
- For a halal slaughter premises, a significant amendment includes:
 - any change of procedures or equipment used for halal slaughter or stunning; and
 - any change to the documented process for managing the traceability of non-halal carcasses.

3.13 Suspension of a halal programme

- (1) An approved halal organisation may suspend an approved halal programme if it has reasonable grounds to believe that:
- a) the programme may not be or is no longer effective; or
 - b) animal material or animal products processed under the programme do not meet or no longer meet the requirements of this Notice.

Guidance

- An approved halal organisation should not suspend an approved halal programme due to issues unconcerned with this Notice

- (2) Where the approved halal organisation suspends a halal programme, it must give written notice of that fact to the operator of the programme, specifying:
- a) the reason for the suspension; and
 - b) the period of the suspension; and
 - c) the date on which, or time, at which it commences (which may not be earlier than the date or time of notification); and
 - d) any conditions or requirements in relation to the suspension.
- (3) Where an approved halal programme is suspended, the operator of the premises to which the programme relates must not label, identify or designate any animal material or animal products processed at that premises, for the duration of the suspension, as halal.
- (4) Where an operator accidentally labelled or identified as halal any animal material or animal products processed at their premises when the premises halal programme was being suspended, the operator must deface or remove the halal mark or halal label.
- (5) The approved halal organisation may lift the suspension if it is satisfied that the problems have been rectified and conditions (if any) have been met.
- (6) The approved halal organisation must notify the Director-General immediately when:
- a) a suspension is imposed and the reasons for it; and
 - b) a suspension is lifted.

3.14 Approved halal organisations to keep and provide assessment reports

- (1) Approved halal organisations must:
 - a) document the approval of a halal programme in an assessment report; and
 - b) keep a copy of the assessment report for 4 years; and
 - c) provide assessment reports to the Director-General or an animal product officer immediately upon request.

3.15 Renewal of approval of halal programme

- (1) An application for renewal of a halal programme must be submitted prior to the expiry date.
- (2) Renewal of approval of a halal programme must be carried out in accordance with clauses 3.8 to 3.10 of this Notice.
- (3) The operator must submit a copy of the renewal approval letter and, where the halal programme has been amended during renewal, a copy of the approved amended halal programme to the Director-General.
- (4) Where a renewal application is refused, the approved halal organisation must notify the Director-General immediately giving reasons.

3.16 Review of decisions made by approved halal organisations

- (1) An operator may make a request to the Director-General, in the following manner, for a review of a decision made by an approved halal organisation in clause 3.10, 3.13 or 3.15:
 - a) the request must be in writing; and
 - b) the request must clearly outline the reasons as to why the approved halal organisation's decision is unjustified; and
 - c) the request must be made within 10 working days of the decision being notified to the operator.
- (2) The Director-General must notify the result of his or her review to the operator and the approved halal organisation as soon as a decision is made and the applicant and the approved halal organisation, if due process was not followed, comply with the decision.

Guidance

- Review by the Director-General is only to ensure that due process was followed in the making of the decision by the AHOs.

Part 4: Halal premises

4.1 Halal premises to be listed

- (1) Premises specified under clause 3.3(1) of this Notice must also be listed by the Director-General before any form of halal processing under this Notice can be carried out at that premises.
- (2) Premises specified under clause 3.3(1) must not have a risk management programme which approves slaughter and/or processing of porcine or any other haram species.

4.2 Application for listing

- (1) An application for listing as a halal premises must:
 - a) be made by the operator of the premises in writing to the Director-General in a form made available by the Director-General for that purpose; and
 - b) include all of the following:
 - i) a copy of the approval letter issued by the approved halal organisation for the approval of the premises' halal programme;
 - ii) the premises RMP identifier(s);
 - iii) the premises name;
 - iv) the premises' physical address;
 - v) in the case of meat, the halal species that will be processed at the premises;
 - vi) the relevant processing activity; and
 - vii) a copy of the premises' approved halal programme, which must include the date of approval.
- (2) The Director-General may refuse to process an application that does not comply with sub clause (1).

4.3 Listing of halal premises by the Director-General

- (1) Subject to clause 4.4, upon receipt of a valid application under clause 4.2, the Director-General must, as soon as practicable, list the premises as a halal premises on a publicly available website administered by the Director-General.
- (2) Animal material or animal products that are processed in premises that are not listed by the Director-General are not eligible for export as halal.

4.4 Refusal to list

- (1) Where the Director-General proposes to refuse to list a premises as a halal premises, the Director-General must give written notice of that fact to the operator of the premises,:
 - a) specifying the reason(s) for the proposed refusal; and
 - b) giving the operator a reasonable opportunity to respond.
- (2) If the Director-General decides to refuse to list the premises after considering the operator's response, the Director-General must notify the operator of this fact outlining the reasons for refusal.

4.5 Director-General to be notified about significant change in circumstances

- (1) The operator of a halal premises must give written notice to the Director-General of any significant change in circumstances immediately or as soon as otherwise practicable after the occurrence of such change.
- (2) For the purposes of this clause, significant change in circumstances means any of the following:
 - a) any change in the information that was provided under clause 4.2; or
 - b) when the approved halal programme has undergone significant amendments under clause 3.12 of this Notice; or
 - c) suspension of, expiry, or refusal of renewal of the premises' approved halal programme;
 - d) change in operator; or
 - e) change in ownership, bankruptcy, receivership, voluntary administration, or liquidation of the halal premises.

4.6 Revocation of listing as a halal premises

- (1) The Director-General may remove a halal premises from the list if:
 - a) the premises' approved halal programme has been suspended; or
 - b) the premises' approved halal programme has expired but was not renewed.
- (2) Where the Director-General removes a halal premises from the list, he or she must notify the operator of the premises in writing.

4.7 Periodic assessment of halal premises

4.7.1 Approved halal organisations and operators to arrange periodic assessment of halal premises

- (1) The operator must arrange for the periodic assessment of their halal premises with the approved halal organisation that carry out halal certification services for their premises.
- (2) The frequency of periodic assessment must occur as follows:
 - a) for halal premises that are not deemed under Part 13 of this Notice, from the date of site inspection stated in clause 3.9(2) of this Notice; and
 - b) for halal premises that are deemed under Part 13 of this Notice, from the commencement of this Notice.

Guidance

- For premises that are new to the halal assurance programme (i.e. those that currently do not carry out halal certification with an approved halal organisation) their initial assessment will be calculated from the date of site inspection stated in clause 3.9(2).
- For premises that are already in the halal assurance programme (i.e. those that are deemed under Part 13 their initial assessment will be calculated from the date of commencement of this Notice, since they will not be subject to site inspection under clause 3.9(2).

4.7.2 Frequency of periodic assessment

- (1) The frequency levels for assessment of halal premises are as set out in the following table:

Step	Assessment frequency
8	12 months
7	9 months
6	6 months
5	3 months
4	2 months
3	1 month
2	3 weeks
1	2 weeks

- (2) The approved halal organisation must set the assessment frequency for halal premises as follows:
- for halal premises of the type specified under clause 3.3(1)(a) and (b) (i.e. slaughter premises), step 3 of the table in sub clause (1) (the **table**); and
 - for halal premises of the type specified under clause 3.3(1)(c) to (f) (i.e. packhouses, gelatine manufacturers, and renderers of non-dairy animal fats and oils), step 5 of the table.
- (3) If the result of any subsequent assessment is an unacceptable outcome, the approved halal organisation must, after considering the nature of any non-compliance, set the frequency of assessment as follows:
- for halal premises that are of the type specified under clause 3.3(1)(a) and (b) (i.e. slaughter premises), either step 1 or step 2 as the approved halal organisation consider reasonable; and
 - for halal premises that are of the type specified under clause 3.3(1)(c) to (f) (i.e. packhouses, gelatine manufacturers, and renderers of non-dairy animal fats and oils), any step between step 1 and step 4 of the table as the approved halal organisation consider reasonable; and
- (4) If the result of any subsequent assessment is an acceptable outcome, the approved halal organisation must reduce the frequency of assessment to a level not exceeding the step set out in sub clause (2).

Guidance

- The assessment frequency levels in sub clause (2) are the ceiling frequency levels. For halal slaughter premises, the operator and their AHO(s) may mutually determine an alternative frequency provided the ceiling frequency is not exceeded.

- (5) Where the operator of a halal premises makes significant amendments to their halal programme under clause 3.12 of this Notice, an assessment must be carried out within one month of the approval of the amended halal programme.

4.7.3 Scope of periodic assessment

- (1) The approved halal organisation must assess whether or not the halal premises meet the following requirements:
- the premises' halal operations comply with the approved halal programme or any other requirements of the Notice; and
 - the premises have appropriate standard operating procedures for fulfilling notified country-specific halal requirements for markets listed in the programme.

- (2) Where the assessment by the approved halal organisation reveals that the premises has failed to meet any of the requirements in sub clause (1), the approved halal organisation must record a non-acceptable assessment outcome.

4.7.4 Reporting of assessment results

- (1) The approved halal organisation must discuss any non-compliances identified during an assessment of a halal premises with the operator at the conclusion of the visit.
- (2) The approved halal organisation must prepare an assessment report for each assessment being carried out.
- (3) For the purposes of sub clause (2), an assessment report must:
 - a) document the process that the approved halal organisation followed for the assessment; and
 - b) state whether or not the halal premises' halal operations are acceptable; and
 - c) record any operator-specified corrective actions that have been accepted by the AHO(s); and
 - d) state when the approved halal organisation will next assess the halal premises in accordance with sub clause 4.7.2 of this Notice.
- (4) The approved halal organisation must:
 - a) provide the assessment report to the operator of the halal premises:
 - i) within 10 working days after completion of the assessment; or
 - ii) where there is a critical non-conformance, as soon as possible; and
 - b) provide the assessment report to the Director-General immediately upon request; and
 - c) keep a copy of the assessment report for four years.

4.8 Additional requirements for certain halal premises

4.8.1 Halal management committee

- (1) Halal premises of a type specified under clause 3.3(1)(a) and (b) of this Notice (i.e. slaughter premises) must have a halal management committee that includes:
 - a) the halal quality assurance officer of the premises; and
 - b) at least one other person who is a practising Muslim and who is accredited to the following NZQA unit standards:
 - i) NZQA 25926; and
 - ii) NZQA 25927.
- (2) The halal management committee must ensure that the premises' halal programme is effectively implemented.
- (3) A halal management committee must:
 - a) review the effectiveness of a halal premises' implementation of its halal programme at least once a year; and
 - b) make the result of the evaluation available to:
 - i) the parties who are responsible for each activity and specify the timeframe for any required follow-up; and
 - ii) the operator's approved halal organisation(s) and the Director-General on request; and
 - c) keep records of the evaluation for a period up to 4 years.

4.8.2 Halal quality assurance officer

- (1) A halal premises of a type specified under clause 3.3(1)(a) and (b) of this Notice (i.e. slaughter premises) must have a halal quality assurance officer who is accredited to the following NZQA standards:
 - a) NZQA 21623; and
 - b) NZQA 25926; and
 - c) NZQA 25924 or an alternative auditing competency standard that is equivalent to NZQA 25924.
- (2) A halal premises of a type specified under clause 3.3(1)(c) and (d) (i.e. packhouses) must have a halal quality assurance officer who has attained competency in NZQA Standards 25924 or an alternative auditing competency standard to NZQA 25924.
- (3) A halal quality assurance officer must:
 - a) develop and use an audit check sheet; and
 - b) ensure that the halal premises' day to day operations are in accordance with its approved halal programme; and
 - c) report any major non-compliance to:
 - i) the operator; and
 - ii) the approved halal organisation(s) providing certification services; and
 - iii) the Director-General on demand; and
 - iv) keep records which demonstrate that the approved halal programme is being complied with.
- (4) Operators must ensure that a halal quality assurance officer is routinely present during each halal slaughter shift(s).

Guidance

- The role of a Halal Quality Assurance Officer is not envisaged as a full time position.
- An alternative auditing competency to NZQA 25924 may include NZQA 8086 or internal QA programmes delivered by a recognised agency.

Part 5: Halal processing

5.1 Halal processing at halal premises

- (1) Processing of halal animal material and halal animal products must:
 - a) be carried out in halal premises; and
 - b) be within the scope of the halal premises' approved halal programme; and
 - c) comply with the requirements of this Part.

5.2 General restrictions and requirements involving halal processing

5.2.1 Restrictions in relation to contact with prohibited items

- (1) An operator of a halal premises must ensure that:
 - a) animal material and animal products are not identified or labelled as halal where any of the following events occur:
 - i) the animal material or animal products have come into direct contact with, or have been contaminated by any haram material at any stage of processing; or
 - ii) the animal material or animal products have come into direct contact with non-halal animal material or non-halal animal products at any stage of processing; and

5.2.2 Requirements in relation to animal material used to manufacture halal animal products

- (1) Where a halal premises that uses animal material or animal products sourced from another halal premises to manufacture other animal products, the final animal products are not eligible for export as halal unless the animal material or animal products sourced from that other halal premises are halal.
- (2) Where a halal premises uses imported animal products to manufacture other animal products, the final animal products are not eligible for export as halal unless the imported animal products are identified to be halal in the records specified under sub clause (3).
- (3) For the purposes of sub clauses (1) and (2), the operator must keep records to demonstrate that animal material sourced from another halal premises or imported is halal, and in the case of imported animal material, the operator must keep the import halal certificate and/or confirmation from the relevant national halal authority of the exporting country that such material is halal.

5.2.3 Requirements in relation to other ingredients, processing aids and food additives

- (1) Ingredients, processing aids and food additives that are used in the processing of halal animal products must be halal.
- (2) Operators of halal premises must, if they use ingredients, processing aids and food additives other than those specified in Annex 5, which are derived from non-animal sources, keep the following evidence as proof of the halal status of ingredients, processing aids and food additives:
 - a) if the ingredients, processing aids or food additives are produced within New Zealand,:
 - i) a manufacturer's declaration and/or an accompanying certificate of analysis; or
 - ii) an appropriate halal certificate or written confirmation from the halal premises' approved halal organisation that such ingredients, processing aids or food additives are halal; or
 - b) if the ingredients, processing aids or food additives are imported,:
 - i) a manufacturer's declaration and/or an accompanying certificate of analysis from a laboratory that is certified by an accreditation body to ISO/IEC 17025:2017 (*General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories*); or

- ii) an appropriate halal certificate or confirmation from the relevant national halal authority of the exporting country that such ingredients, processing aids or food additives are halal.
- (3) Where an approved halal organisation or operator believes that a particular material should be added to the list of halal material in Annex 5, a request must be made to the Director-General.

Guidance

- Some countries-specific halal export requirements may require different confirmation steps for imported ingredients, processing aids or food additives.

5.2.4 Requirements in relation to transportation

- (1) Animal material or animal products derived from any animals of haram species must not be conveyed in the same land transport vehicle compartment or shipping container as halal animal material and halal animal products.
- (2) Halal animal material or halal animal products must not be conveyed in the same land transport vehicle or shipping container as non-conforming halal animal material or non-conforming halal animal products, or non-halal animal material or non-halal animal products, unless they are in packaged form or in separately enclosed bins or fully enclosed compartments.

5.2.5 Specific restrictions in relation to storage at independent stores

- (1) Haram animal material or haram animal products may be stored at an independent store which stores packaged halal animal material and packaged halal animal products provided that such haram animal material or haram animal products are in sealed packages and stored in a separate designated storage room.
- (2) Non-conforming halal animal material, non-conforming halal animal products, non-halal animal material, and non-halal animal products may be stored at independent stores which stores packaged halal animal material and halal animal products and in the same room as halal animal material and halal animal products provided that:
 - a) each such category of animal material or animal products are in separate sealed packages; and
 - b) each such category of animal material or animal products are stored on separate pallets or stillages; and
 - c) the packaging for each such category of animal material or animal products is not damaged and exposing the material or products to the environment; and
 - d) the premises operator's inventory system can reliably identify each such category of animal material or animal products from each other.

5.2.6 Specific requirements in relation to processing and storage at halal premises that are independent packhouses which process meat

- (1) Any animal material or animal products derived from any animals of haram species must not be processed or stored in a halal premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1)(c) and (d) of this Notice (i.e. packhouses) at any time.
- (2) Meat that is deboned, cut, or stored at halal premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1)(c) and (d) of this Notice (i.e. packhouses) is not eligible for export as halal unless it is halal meat sourced from other halal premises.
- (3) Notwithstanding sub clause (2), imported halal meat may be deboned, cut, or stored at a halal premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1)(c) and (d) of this Notice (i.e. packhouses).
- (4) Non-conforming halal animal material and non-conforming halal animal products:

- a) may be stored in a halal premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1)(c) and (d) of this Notice (i.e. packhouses) and in the same room as halal animal material and halal animal products provided that:
 - i) both halal and non-conforming halal animal material and products are each in separate sealed or closed packages; and
 - ii) both halal and non-conforming halal animal material and products are each stored on separate pallets or stillages; and
 - iii) the packaging of halal and non-conforming halal animal material and products is not damaged and exposing the material or products to the environment; and
 - iv) the premises operator's inventory system can, to the satisfaction of the approved halal organisation, reliably identify halal from non halal animal products and non-conforming halal animal products; and
 - b) may be processed at a halal premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1)(c) and (d) of this Notice (i.e. packhouses) and in the same room as halal animal material and halal animal products provided that:
 - i) there is time separation between processing; or
 - ii) processing is carried out at the end of the halal processing run; and
 - iii) the room and equipment are thoroughly cleaned between use.
- (5) Non-halal animal material and non-halal animal products:
- a) may be stored in a halal premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1)(c) and (d) of this Notice (i.e. packhouses) and in the same room as halal animal material and halal animal products provided that:
 - i) both halal and non-halal animal material and products are each in separate sealed or closed packages; and
 - ii) both halal and non-halal animal material and products are stored on separate pallets or stillages; and
 - iii) the packaging of halal and non-halal animal material and products is not damaged and exposing the material or products to the environment; and
 - iv) non-halal animal material and products are stored in a separate designated area from halal animal material and products.
 - b) may be processed at a halal premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1)(c) and (d) of this Notice (i.e. packhouses) provided that:
 - i) the processing is separated by time or carried out in a separate designated room; and
 - ii) the operator notifies the premises MPI verifier; and
 - iii) any possibility of cross-contamination arising from workers or equipment is adequately managed; and
 - iv) the room and equipment are thoroughly cleaned between use; and
 - v) the conversions and reversion requirements in clause 5.3 of this Notice are met.
- (6) Despite sub clause (5), chilled unwrapped or unpackaged whole carcasses may only be held in a designated separate chiller(s).

5.2.7 Specific requirements in relation to processing and storage at a halal premises that is a slaughter premises

- (1) Operators must ensure that haram species or animal material or animal products derived from such species are not physically present at storage, slaughter or processing areas of a halal premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1)(a) and (b) of this Notice (i.e. slaughter premises) at any time.
- (2) To avoid doubt, working dogs may be used at halal premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1)(a) and (b) of this Notice (i.e. slaughter premises) but must not be allowed into storage, slaughter and processing areas of the premises.

- (3) Non-conforming halal animal material and non-conforming halal animal products may be processed at a halal premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1)(a) and (b) of this Notice (i.e. slaughter premises) and in the same room as halal animal material and halal animal products provided that:
 - a) there is time separation between processing; or
 - b) processing is carried out at the end of the halal processing run; and
 - c) the room and equipment are thoroughly cleaned between use.
- (4) Non-conforming halal animal material and non-conforming halal animal products may be stored in a halal premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1)(a) and (b) of this Notice (i.e. slaughter premises) and in the same room as halal animal products provided that:
 - a) both halal and non-conforming halal animal material or animal products are in sealed packages and wrapped; and
 - b) both halal and non-conforming halal animal material or animal products are stored on separate pallets; and
 - c) the packaging of such both halal and non-conforming halal animal material or animal products is not damaged and exposed to the environment; and
 - d) halal animal products are kept physically separate from non-conforming halal animal material or animal products.
- (5) Despite sub clause (4), chilled unwrapped or unpackaged whole carcasses may be held in chiller(s) provided the carcasses are identified and kept physically separate (not touching) and held within a designated secure area within the chiller(s) to ensure that cross-contamination or contact is avoided.
- (6) Subject to sub clause (7), non-halal animal material and non-halal animal products, may be processed (e.g. cut or boned) at a halal premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1)(a) and (b) of this Notice (i.e. slaughter premises) provided that:
 - a) processing is carried out in a separate designated room or at a separate time within a processing room; and
 - b) the operator notifies the premises MPI verifier; and
 - c) any possibility of cross-contamination arising from workers or equipment is adequately managed; and
 - d) the room and equipment are thoroughly cleaned between use; and the conversion and reversion requirements in clause 5.3 of this Notice are met.
- (7) Where a country-specific OMAR does not allow any form of non-halal processing at halal premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1)(a) and (b) of this Notice (i.e. slaughter premises), that requirement prevails.
- (8) Subject to sub clause (9) halal species may be slaughtered as non halal animal material or halal animal products at a halal premises that is a slaughter premises on the same processing line that processes halal animal material and halal animal products provided that:
 - a) the slaughter is within pre-defined contiguous period(s) nominated by the operator; and
 - b) the nominated period referred to in paragraph (a) is notified in advance to the premises' on site MPI verifier; and
 - c) the slaughter and/or processing is carried out within the nominated period; and
 - d) any possibility of cross-contamination arising from workers or equipment is adequately managed; and
 - e) the conversion and reversion requirements in clause 5.3 of this Notice are met.
- (9) Where a country-specific OMAR does not allow any form of non-halal slaughter at halal slaughter premises, that requirement prevails
- (10) Non-halal animal material and non-halal animal products may be stored in a halal premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1)(a) and (b) of this Notice (i.e. slaughter premises) and in the same room as halal animal products provided that:

- a) both halal and non-halal animal material or animal products are in sealed packages and wrapped; and
 - b) both halal and non-halal animal material or animal products are stored on separate pallets; and
 - c) the packaging of such both halal and non-halal animal material or animal products is not damaged and exposed to the environment; and
 - d) halal animal products are kept physically separate from non-halal animal material or animal products.
- (11) Despite sub clause (10), chilled unwrapped or unpackaged whole carcasses may only be held in a designated separate chiller(s).

5.2.8 Specific requirements in relation to gelatine and non-dairy animal fats and oils

- (1) Animal material used by halal premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1) (e) and (f) of this Notice for the manufacture of halal animal product that is gelatine and halal animal products that are non-dairy animal fats and oils must be halal and must only be sourced from other halal premises.
- (2) Premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1) (e) and (f) of this Notice may carry out halal and non-halal processing of gelatine and non-dairy animal fats and oils provided:
 - a) the premises have procedures and systems in place to ensure physical separation on receipt and storage of halal and non-halal animal material prior to processing; and
 - b) there is time separation between halal and non-halal processing; and
 - c) the processing equipment is thoroughly cleaned between use.
- (3) Premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1) (e) and (f) of this Notice must not process or store any animal material or animal products derived from haram species at any time.

Guidance

- The requirement in clause 5.2.8 is supplemented by clause 2.3.5, which requires bulk containers or bulk packaging used to transfer halal raw materials from one halal premises to another to be physically identified as halal before leaving the consignor halal premises.

5.3 Conversion and reversion

- (1) Halal premises or halal premises processing facility(s) which have processed non-halal animal materials or non-halal animal products must, unless explicitly provided for otherwise in this Notice, undergo a cleaning regime that has been approved by the approved halal organisation(s) that provides halal certification services to that premises.

5.4 Requirements for halal slaughter

5.4.1 Minimum pre-slaughter requirements

- (1) A halal animal intended for slaughter for the production of halal animal products must have passed ante-mortem examination.

5.4.2 Minimum stunning requirements

- (1) Halal animals must be reversibly stunned prior to slaughter and in accordance with the minimum animal welfare requirements prescribed by New Zealand law.
- (2) Halal animals must:
 - a) not be killed or physically injured by the stunning; and
 - b) if subject to a recovery test after they have been stunned, be capable of exhibiting the recovery signs specified under Annex 3 of this Notice.

- (3) Stunning of halal bovine, ovine, caprine, cervine and equine animals prior to slaughter must be done as follows:
- the stunning must be electrical head-only stunning; and
 - the use of high frequency current (i.e. >50Hz) in head-only electric stunning is prohibited unless explicitly permissible in the halal OMAR for a market.
- (4) For the purposes of subclause (2)(a), in relation to the stunning of halal poultry, halal premises operators must agree with their approved halal organisations on the appropriate stunning parameters.

Guidance

- While it is recommended that stunning of halal poultry prior to slaughter is conducted using a DC low voltage water bath and with the maximum voltage not exceeding 30 Volts (peak) and 18 milliamps, this recommendation is now subject to further study. AHOs, industry and MPI have agreed for the need to conduct further study to ensure that any stunning parameters specified in this Notice will satisfy both halal and animal welfare requirements.

- (5) Operators of halal premises that are slaughter premises must ensure:
- that the stunner is fully functioning before or immediately after stunning commences; and
 - for bovine, ovine, caprine and equine animals, that the stunning apparatus is fitted with an automatic timing device to determine the duration of the stun and a calibrated meter positioned to enable observation of the amperage and duration of the stun; and
 - that electrical stunning equipment is maintained in good condition in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendation.

Guidance

- While it is recommended that stunning of halal bovine, caprine and ovine prior to slaughter is conducted in accordance with the stunning parameters in Annex 2 of this Notice, this recommendation is now subject to further study. AHOs, industry and MPI have agreed for the need to conduct further study to ensure that any stunning parameters specified in this Notice will satisfy both halal and animal welfare requirements.
- The parameters in Annex 2 may be varied to take into account the age, weight, and conductive properties of the animal provided the variance is validated in accordance with the protocol agreed between the operator and the responsible approved halal organisation(s)

- (6) Animal products that do not comply with sub clauses (1) to (5) are not eligible for export as halal and must be identified as non-conforming halal animal products and any halal mark or any other halal identification removed.

5.4.3 Minimum slaughter requirements

- A halal animal intended for slaughter must be alive after being stunned and must be presented on a slaughter table that is designed to face Qibla.
- The halal slaughter person must slaughter halal animals in accordance with Muslim Sharia Law, which includes reciting the *tasmiyah* "Bismillah Allahuakbar".
- For the purposes of sub clause (2), pre-recorded electronic recitals are prohibited.
- The halal slaughter person must slaughter each halal animal by severing the trachea, the oesophagus and both the carotid arteries and jugular veins of that animal in one cut using a sharp and clean knife.

Guidance

- Ruminant animals that are stunned in a stunning box which is orientated so that the animal faces Qibla when it is presented to the slaughter man should not be deemed non-conforming halal

material if the animal is periodically mis-presented on the slaughter table.

- Existing knives and blades technologies are acceptable. Any future technological advances in this area will have to be agreed with the AHOs. For example, laser cutting.

- (5) The death of a halal animal during slaughter must only result from the act described in sub clause (4) and the resulting spontaneous bleeding out of the animal.
- (6) Halal animals that are slaughtered and which have had their spinal cord cut or their neck broken are not eligible for export as halal and must be treated as non-conforming halal animal products.
- (7) The halal slaughter person must not use any slaughter tools other than knives or blades when slaughtering a halal animal.
- (8) In addition to the requirements specified under clauses 5.4.1, 5.4.2 and 5.4.3, any country-specific halal slaughter practices agreed and documented in an OMAR must be complied with in order for halal animal products to be eligible for export to that country.
- (9) Despite sub clause (4), a halal premises that is a slaughter premises may use mechanical slaughter for poultry provided that:
 - a) the competent halal slaughter person recites the *tasmiyah*; and
 - b) there is sufficient competent halal slaughter persons present on the chain as specified in the premises halal programme to:
 - i) reliably identify any animal that has had its' spinal cord cut or neck broken; and
 - ii) correct any mis-slaughtering, (which does not include the head being completely severed);
- (10) Animal material and animal products must be designated as non-conforming halal animal material or non-conforming halal animal products by the halal slaughter person if the requirements for slaughter are not met, including:
 - a) if an animal does not spontaneously and copiously bleed following the halal cut, noting that a momentarily delay in copious bleeding due to reflex arterial constriction is not a reason for declaring an animal non halal; or
 - b) if an animal has its spinal cord severed or neck broken immediately after the halal cut; or
 - c) if the stunner has inadvertently been applied to anatomical regions other than the head.
- (11) The competent halal slaughter person must, at the time of slaughter, identify halal and non-conforming halal carcasses in accordance with the premises approved halal programme.
- (12) Each halal premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1)(a) and (b) (i.e. slaughter premises) must have a dedicated Muslim prayer room that is fit for purpose and in reasonable close proximity to a hand basin, toilet and shower.
- (13) Operators must give their halal slaughter persons a reasonable time period during each prayer session to observe their Muslim prayer rituals.

Guidance

- The AHOs, MIA and MPI intend to produce photographic guidance to provide clarity over what constitutes spontaneous and copious bleeding. Where a slaughter person uses this guidance in making a decision on whether or not a carcass is halal, that decision should be treated as final.
- Operators should understand that:
 - the Muslim prayer ritual may take up to 20 minutes to complete during each pray time; and
 - multiple pray sessions are required daily.

5.4.4 Recovery verification for halal species other than poultry

- (1) The approved halal organisation must periodically arrange recovery verification to verify that the operator's electrical head only stunning equipment is not inadvertently delivering a lethal stun.

- (2) A recovery verification test must be performed:
 - a) in accordance with the recovery criteria in Annex 3 of this Notice; and
 - b) in the presence of an animal product officer.
- (3) Any animal that is subject to a recovery verification test must be irreversibly re-stunned immediately after the recovery verification test has been concluded and must be identified as non-halal.
- (4) The recovery verification test must be conducted in the stun box for bovine, cervine, and equine animals and on or near the bleeding table for ovine and caprine animals.
- (5) The recovery verification test must:
 - a) not occur more than twice a year on any given species being slaughtered at the premises as indicated in the halal programme; and
 - b) only be performed on one animal from each species slaughtered at the premises to determine if recovery phases are present; and
 - c) be conducted while representatives of the premises' approved halal organisation are present.
- (6) For the purposes of sub clause (5)(c), where two or more approved halal organisations provide certification services to a slaughter premises they may authorise one of their members to be present on their behalf.
- (7) For the purposes of sub clause (6), an authorisation must be in writing and provided to the operator.
- (8) Electric immobilisation and stimulation must not be applied to an animal that is undergoing recovery verification.

5.4.5 Alternative recovery verification for halal species other than poultry

- (1) Notwithstanding clause 5.4.4, the approved halal organisation may, where practicable, use manual cardiac palpation or veterinary equipment such as a stethoscope to ascertain whether or not the animal is in cardiac arrest or fibrillation. In such cases, more frequent periodic verification may occur.

5.4.6 Recovery and alternative recovery verification for poultry

- (1) The approved halal organisation must periodically undertake recovery verification to verify that the operator's electrical head only stunning equipment is not inadvertently delivering a lethal stun.
- (2) A recovery verification test must be performed in accordance with the recovery criteria in Annex 3 of this Notice.
- (3) Any animal that is subject to a recovery verification test must be irreversibly re-stunned immediately after the recovery verification test has been concluded and must be identified as non-halal.
- (4) The recovery verification test must be conducted while representatives of the premises' approved halal organisation are present.
- (5) Notwithstanding sub clause (4), where two or more approved halal organisations provide certification services to a slaughter premises they may authorise one of their members to be present on their behalf. Such authorisation must be in writing and be provided to the operator.
- (6) Electric immobilisation and stimulation must not be applied to an animal that is undergoing recovery verification.

5.4.7 Recovery test results to be provided to the Director-General on request

- (1) The results of all recovery tests must be jointly provided by the operators' approved halal organisations to the Director-General on request.

5.4.8 Electro immobilisation and stimulation

- (1) Electric immobiliser/stimulator may be applied provided:

- a) the immobiliser/stimulator is touch-safe category A and B of New Zealand Standards 6116:2006;
or
- b) if the immobiliser/stimulator is not touch-safe category A and B of New Zealand Standards 6116:2006, the immobilizer/stimulator is applied 30 seconds after the halal cut.

Part 6: Approval and listing of Islamic organisations as ‘approved halal organisations’ by the Director-General

6.1 Object of this part

- (1) The object of this Part is to specify the requirements in relation to:
 - a) the approval of Islamic organisations to become approved halal organisations in order to fulfil the roles specified under clause 2.1.2 of this Notice; and
 - b) the listing of approved halal organisations that intend to issue halal certificates or any other form of assurance under this Notice in respect of halal animal material and halal animal products intended for export to countries listed in Annex 1.

6.2 Approval as an approved halal organisation

6.2.1 Application for approval as an approved halal organisation

- (1) An Islamic organisation that intends to be an approved halal organisation for the purposes of this Notice must apply to the Director-General for approval in writing and in a form made available by the Director-General for that purpose.
- (2) An application for approval must contain evidence that demonstrates compliance with all of the following criteria:
 - a) the organisation must be managed and operated by people who are practising Muslims;
 - b) employees that are involved in the provision of halal certification services on behalf of the AHO must be practising Muslims;
 - c) the organisation must be accredited to AS/NZS ISO/IEC 17065:2013 (*Conformity assessment — Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services*) (ISO/IEC 17065:2013) for the New Zealand Export Halal Scheme by JAS-ANZ;
 - d) the organisation must have the ability and capacity to comply with the applicable requirements of this Notice;
 - e) the person applying on behalf of the organisation, and any director or manager of the organisation, is a fit and proper person having regard to any conviction, whether in New Zealand or overseas for any offence relating to fraud or dishonesty; and
 - f) the organisation’s assessment and approval persons and issuing officers have met the relevant competency criteria specified by the Director-General under clauses 7.2 and 7.3 respectively.
- (3) For the avoidance of doubt in relation to subclauses (2)(a) and (2)(b):
 - a) the Director-General will rely on the applicant’s declaration about whether the organisation is managed and operated by practising Muslims and whether the organisation’s employees who are involved in the provision of halal certification services are practising Muslims; and
 - b) the Director-General may seek the advice of the Approved Halal Organisations Forum if any person raises a question as to whether or not the ‘practising Muslim’ criteria is being met.
- (4) An Islamic organisation or its employees must not carry out any of the functions or roles of an approved halal organisation under this Notice unless that organisation has been approved as an approved halal organisation in accordance with clause 6.2.3.
- (5) A registered New Zealand company may apply for approval as an approved halal organisation for one of its subsidiaries or divisions, provided that:
 - a) the subsidiary or division complies with the criteria set out under subclauses (2)(b) to (2)(f); and
 - b) that subsidiary or division is exclusively accountable and responsible for undertaking halal auditing or making any halal certification decisions; and

- c) the registered company is not an operator of a halal premises under this Notice or any other halal notice issued under the Act.

6.2.2 Refusal to process an application

- (1) The Director-General may refuse to process an application that does not comply with clauses 6.2.1(1), 6.2.1(2) and, if applicable, clause 6.2.1(5) of this Notice.

6.2.3 Approval as an approved halal organisation

- (1) The Director-General may approve an application for approval as an approved halal organisation if the Director-General is satisfied that the applicant meets all of the criteria specified in clauses 6.2.1(1), 6.2.1(2) and, if applicable, clause 6.2.1(5) of this Notice.
- (2) Where the Director-General approves an application, the Director-General must:
 - a) publish the name of the approved halal organisation on a publicly available website administered by MPI; and
 - b) give the applicant written notice of the approval specifying the date on which the approval and listing takes effect and the duration of the approval.

6.2.4 Refusal to approve an application

- (1) The Director-General may refuse to approve an application for approval as an approved halal organisation if the Director-General is satisfied that the applicant has failed to meet any of the criteria specified under clauses 6.2.1(1), 6.2.1(2) and, if applicable, clause 6.2.1(5) of this Notice.
- (2) Where the Director-General proposes to refuse an application for approval as an approved halal organisation, the Director-General must, as soon as practicable, give the applicant:
 - a) written notification that clearly states the grounds on which the Director-General proposes to refuse to approve the application; and
 - b) a reasonable opportunity to make submissions on why the application should not be refused.
- (3) Where the Director-General determines to refuse an application for approval as an approved halal organisation, the Director-General must notify the applicant of the refusal in writing and the reasons for doing so as soon as practicable.

6.2.5 Revocation of approval as an approved halal organisation

- (1) Subject to sub clause (2), the Director-General may revoke the approval of an approved halal organisation if the Director-General has reasonable grounds to believe that:
 - a) the organisation is in substantive non-compliance with any of the applicable requirements specified under this Part; or
 - b) the organisation's practices regarding assessment and approval of halal premises and halal programmes, and issuing of halal certificates, are fraudulent or negligent or otherwise lack integrity; or
 - c) the organisation no longer meet any of the requirements specified under clauses 6.2.1(1), 6.2.1(2) and, if applicable, clause 6.2.1(5); or
 - d) the organisation has been inactive or dormant for 12 months; or
 - e) the organisation has failed to fully cooperate with an audit under clause 6.5.

Guidance

- An approved halal organisation is considered to be inactive or dormant if it has not issued a halal certificate for a consignment of animal products of the type(s) for which they are approved to certify by the relevant national authority of the country or countries for which they are listed.

- (2) Before revoking the approval of an approved halal organisation, the Director-General must:

- a) notify the organisation in writing of his or her intention; and
 - b) give the organisation a reasonable opportunity to be heard.
- (3) Where the Director-General revokes the approval and listing of an approved halal organisation, the Director-General must:
- a) give written notice of that fact to the organisation, including the reasons for the revocation; and
 - b) notify the operators of halal premises that are provided with halal certification services by the organisation; and
 - c) remove the organisation from the relevant website.
- (4) Where the approval an approved halal organisation is revoked, the organisation must not perform any functions or roles under this Notice.

6.3 Listing requirements for specified markets

6.3.1 Listing required for specified markets

- (1) Approved halal organisations may only issue halal certificates or any other form of assurance in respect of halal animal material and halal animal products intended for export to countries listed in Annex 1 of this Notice if they are listed for those markets.
- (2) Where an approved halal organisation is listed for a country listed in Annex 1 of this Notice, that organisation must only issue halal certificates or any other form of assurance in relation to animal material or animal products for which they are approved to certify by the relevant national authority of the country(ies).

6.3.2 Application and criteria for listing

- (1) An application for listing must:
- a) be submitted to the Director-General in the form and manner specified by the Director-General, which may be the same as those specified under clause 6.2.1(1); and
 - b) contain written evidence of acceptance from the relevant national authority of the country or countries for which listing is sought; and
 - c) include the animal product type(s) for which they are approved to certify by the relevant national authority of the country or countries for which listing is sought.

6.3.3 Listing by the Director-General

- (1) Where the Director-General is satisfied that clause 6.3.2 has been met, he or she must:
- a) list the name of that organisation, together with the relevant market or markets, and animal product types on a publicly available website administered by MPI; and
 - b) give the applicant written notice of the listing.

6.3.4 Revocation of listing

- (1) The Director-General must revoke the listing of an approved halal organisation for a country listed in Annex 1 if he or she is satisfied that the relevant national authority for that country has withdrawn or suspended its acceptance.
- (2) Where the Director-General revokes the listing of an approved halal organisation for a country listed in Annex 1:
- a) the Director-General must:
 - i) give written notice of that fact to the approved halal organisation; and
 - ii) remove the approved halal organisation from the list of approved halal organisations for that country; and

- b) the approved halal organisation must refrain from issuing halal certificates or any other form of assurance under this Notice in respect of halal animal material or halal animal products intended for export to that country.

6.4 Director-General to be notified about significant change in circumstances

- (1) An approved halal organisation must give written notice to the Director-General of any of the following significant changes in circumstances within 24 hours of the change or them becoming aware of the change:
 - a) any change that may result in that organisation not meeting the criteria under clause clauses 6.2.1(1), 6.2.1(2) and, if applicable, clause 6.2.1(5) of this Notice; or
 - b) where the national authority of a market or markets under Annex 1 for which the organisation is listed has withdrawn or suspended its acceptance; or
 - c) the death of the person who applied for approval on behalf of the organisation, and any director or manager of the organisation; or
 - d) change in ownership, bankruptcy, receivership, voluntary administration, or liquidation of the organisation.

6.5 Approved halal organisations to be audited

- (1) The Director-General may require approved halal organisations to be audited to determine whether they comply with applicable clauses of this Notice and are appropriately enforcing compliance with any country specific halal market access requirement specified under Part 5 of the Act.

6.6 Duties of approved halal organisations

- (1) An approved halal organisation must:
 - a) have a documented training programme for training all halal assessment and approval persons and issuing officers; and
 - b) ensure that its issuing officers meet the prescribed criteria under clause 7.3 and issue halal certificates in accordance with the requirements of Part 11; and
 - c) notify the Director-General of any serious non-compliance affecting the approved status of any approved halal premises, halal animal material or halal animal products to which this Notice applies, or competency of any halal slaughter persons; and
 - d) notify the Director-General of any additional halal requirements that may be required by an importing country authority; and
 - e) not require an animal product business to comply with any matters other than the matters contained within this Notice and any other notices promulgated by the Director-General; and
 - f) have procedures relating to the evaluation of the competencies of halal assessment and approval persons and issuing officers; and
 - g) hold a list of individuals who have attained the relevant New Zealand Qualification Authority (NZQA) competency standards; and
 - h) respond, in a timely manner, to requests from the Director-General to participate in audits carried out by or on behalf of the Director-General or importing market regulatory authorities; and
 - i) initiate corrective actions, including disqualification of halal slaughter persons, assessment and approval persons or issuing officers in the case of repeated non-compliance related to activities expressly prohibited by the Quran; and
 - j) provide representation to the Halal Organisation Forum under Part 9; and

- k) not disclose any confidential or commercially sensitive information they receive to any person, or make use of or act on that information for any purpose other than those specifically allowed under this Notice; and
 - l) not initiate or respond to communication with overseas regulatory authorities in respect of amending the New Zealand halal export assurance system without prior consultation with the Director-General.
- (2) For the purposes of sub clause (1)(a), a documented training programme must include:
- a) any competencies specified by the Director-General; and
 - b) ways to ensure that issuing officers can effectively undertake the requirements under Part 11 in relation to issuing halal certificates; and
 - c) ways to ensure that halal assessment and approval persons effectively undertake their responsibilities in relation to the assessment and approval of halal premises and halal programmes, and assessment of the suitability of halal slaughter persons during routine assessment.

Part 7: Requirements for halal assessment and approval persons and issuing officers

7.1 Object of this part

- (1) The object of this part is to specify requirements for ensuring that employees of approved halal organisations are qualified to undertake halal certification activities.

7.2 Competency of halal assessment and approval persons

- (1) Approved halal organisations must ensure that the following roles of an approved halal organisation under this Notice are only carried out by their employees who are halal assessment and approval persons:
 - a) approval, suspension and renewal of halal programmes; and
 - b) periodic assessment of halal premises; and
 - c) assessment of whether or not any cleaning regime carried out under clause 5.3 of this Notice is acceptable; and
 - d) recovery verification under clauses 5.4.4 to 5.4.6 of this Notice; and
 - e) periodic assessment of competent halal slaughter persons under clause 8.4 of this Notice.
- (2) In order to become a halal assessment and approval person, an employee of an approved halal organisation must:
 - a) be a practising Muslim; and
 - b) must meet one of the following competency requirements:
 - i) have attained competency in NZQA standards 21623, 25924, 25926, and 26025; or
 - ii) have attained competency in an alternative training qualification that in the opinion of the Director General is equivalent to any of the NZQA unit standards in clause 7.2(2)b)i) and where the person has provided the Director General sufficient justification that the training qualification is an equivalent qualification and sufficient evidence of having attained that qualification.

7.3 Competency of issuing officers

- (1) Approved halal organisations must ensure that the following roles of an approved halal organisation under this Notice are only carried out by their employees who are halal assessment and approval persons:
 - a) issuing halal certificates; and
 - b) issuing halal premises certificates.
- (2) In order to become an issuing officer, an employee of an approved halal organisation must:
 - a) be a practising Muslim and:
 - b) must meet one of the following competency requirements:
 - i) have attained competency in NZQA standards 21623, 25924, 25926, and 26025; or
 - ii) have attained competency in an alternative training qualification that in the opinion of the Director General equivalent to any of the NZQA unit standards in clause 7.3(2)b)i) and where the person has provided the Director General sufficient justification that the training qualification is an equivalent qualification and sufficient evidence of having attained that qualification.

7.4 Approved halal organisation to keep evidence of competency

- (1) Approved halal organisations must maintain a current list of all their halal assessment and approval persons, and issuing officers, and for each person:
 - a) a photographic identity; and
 - b) evidence of competency.

7.5 Director-General may suspend halal assessment and approval persons and issuing officers from undertaking certain functions

- (1) Subject to sub clause (2), the Director-General may suspend a halal assessment and approval person or an issuing officer from undertaking any of their roles if the Director-General has reasonable grounds to believe that the person:
 - a) has failed to competently carry out their obligations and duties under this Notice; or
 - b) acts in a fraudulent manner, is negligent or otherwise lacks integrity.
- (2) Where the Director-General proposes to suspend a halal assessment and approval person or an issuing officer, he or she must give written notice of that fact to the approved halal organisation,:
 - a) specifying the reason(s) for the proposed suspension; and
 - b) giving the approved halal organisation a reasonable opportunity to respond.
- (3) If the Director-General decides to suspend a halal assessment and approval person or an issuing officer after considering the approved halal organisation's response, the Director-General must notify the approved halal organisation of this fact outlining the reasons for suspension.

Guidance

- To avoid doubt, nothing in this clause prevents an approved halal organisation from addressing employment matters with their employees. This clause is designed to allow the Director-General to suspend a halal assessment and approval person or issuing officer where such employees are allowed by their employers to carry on their roles despite valid allegation of incompetency or fraudulent conduct.

7.6 Restrictions on halal assessment and approval persons, and issuing officers

- (1) Every halal assessment and approval person must not engage in any activities which conflict with or prejudice his or her independence of judgement or his or her integrity in relation to his or her assessment and approval functions.
- (2) Every issuing officer must not engage in any activities which conflict with or prejudice his or her independence of judgement or his or her integrity in relation to the issuing of halal certificates.

Part 8: Halal slaughter persons

8.1 Halal slaughter persons must be competent

- (1) Operators of halal premises that are slaughter premises must ensure that any slaughter of animals for the purposes of producing halal animal material or halal animal products under this Notice is carried out by competent halal slaughter persons.
- (2) To avoid doubt, the halal quality assurance officer of a halal slaughter premises is ultimately responsible for ensuring that halal slaughter persons within that premises meet the competency criteria prescribed under clause 8.2.

8.2 Competency of halal slaughter persons

- (1) Subject to clause 13.2, the operator of a halal slaughter premises must not designate a person as a halal slaughter person unless that person:
 - a) is a practising Muslim as determined by the approved halal organisation that approved that operator's halal programme; and
 - b) has attained, and is able to demonstrate knowledge of NZQA standards 21623, 25926 and 25927 standards or any other standards stipulated by the Director-General for the purpose of performing halal slaughter at approved halal premises in accordance with this Notice; and
 - c) is a person who has maintained such competency in sub clause (b), whether from the results of any periodic assessment performed in accordance with clause 8.4 or otherwise; and
 - d) is a person who does not take intoxicants prohibited by the Quran.

8.3 Evidence of competency to be kept

- (1) The operator of a halal premises that is a slaughter premises must maintain a current list of all competent halal slaughter persons working at the premises, and for each person:
 - a) a photographic identity; and
 - b) evidence of competency.
- (2) The operator must provide the documents referred to in sub clause (1) to the following persons on request:
 - a) the Director-General; and
 - b) the approved halal organisation(s) that provides halal certification services to the operator's premises.

8.4 Assessment of competent halal slaughter persons

8.4.1 Operators to arrange assessment of their halal slaughter persons

- (1) Operators of halal premises of the type specified in clause 3.3(1)(a) and (b) (i.e. slaughter premises) must arrange for the assessment of each of their competent halal slaughter persons once a year by their approved halal organisation(s).
- (2) Despite sub clause (1), where an approved halal organisation identifies and documents competency deficiencies in relation to a halal slaughter person, more frequent assessment may be carried out.

8.4.2 Scope of assessment

- (1) The approved halal organisation must assess halal slaughter persons:

- a) against the competency criteria prescribed under clause 8.2; and
- b) against all applicable requirements of this Notice, with particular regard to the provisions of clause 5.4 of this Notice; and
- c) against any applicable overseas market requirements in relation to halal slaughter.

8.4.3 Reporting of assessment results

- (1) The approved halal organisation must prepare an assessment report for each periodic assessment being carried out and the report must:
 - a) document the process that the halal assessment person followed for the assessment; and
 - b) state whether or not the halal slaughter person is competent, and where the slaughter person is deemed to be incompetent the reasons for such finding; and
 - c) outline any necessary training or upskilling actions required; and
 - d) state when the next assessment will occur.
- (2) The approved halal organisation must:
 - a) provide a copy of the assessment report to the operator of the premises at which the halal slaughter person is employed within 5 working days after completion of the assessment; and
 - b) provide a copy of the assessment report to the Director-General immediately upon request; and
 - c) keep a copy of the assessment report for four years.
- (3) An operator of a halal slaughter premises must:
 - a) take all reasonable steps to assist a halal assessment person when carrying out an assessment; and
 - b) take all reasonable steps to facilitate any recommendations of the halal assessment person as specified in the assessment report.

Part 9: Establishment of an Approved Halal Organisations Forum

9.1 Approved Halal Organisations Forum

- (1) There shall be a forum called the Approved Halal Organisations Forum.

9.2 Membership of the Approved Halal Organisations Forum

- (1) It is the responsibility of approved halal organisations to jointly decide the membership of the Approved Halal Organisations Forum, and in particular:
 - a) the number of members of the Forum; and
 - b) the number of representatives from each approved halal organisation; and
 - c) the Chairperson, who must be elected annually.
- (2) For the purposes of sub clause (1)(b), a representative of an Approved Halal Organisation must:
 - a) be an employee of the Approved Halal Organisation; and
 - b) be a practicing Muslim; and
 - c) have sound knowledge of halal principles and this Notice.
- (3) Nothing in sub clause (1) prevents the Director-General from:
 - a) providing an MPI representative as a member of the Forum; or
 - b) directing industry to provide representation to the Forum; or
 - c) overruling the participation of any representative of an approved halal organisation in the Forum if satisfied that the representative has engaged or is engaging in a conduct that brings the Forum into disrepute.
- (4) If the approved halal organisations cannot mutually agree on the membership of the Forum under sub clause (1), the Director-General must, after giving each approved halal organisation a reasonable opportunity to be heard, appoint members of the Forum and an independent Chairperson as he or she deems reasonable.

9.3 Functions and responsibilities of the Approved Halal Organisations Forum

- (1) The function of the Approved Halal Organisations Forum is to provide advice to MPI on halal operational matters that may arise from time to time.
- (2) Members of the Approved Halal Organisations Forum, when acting as members:
 - a) must act with honesty, integrity and in good faith; and
 - b) must not pursue their own interests or the interests of their organisation or any commercial organisation or business in New Zealand or overseas; and
 - c) must not disclose any confidential or commercially sensitive information they receive to any person, or make use of or act on that information for any purpose other than providing advice to the Director-General.

9.4 Frequency of Meetings of the Approved Halal Organisations Forum

- (1) The Approved Halal Organisations Forum must meet:
 - a) every 6 months; or
 - b) at a different frequency as mutually agreed by members of the Forum.

Part 10: Establishment of a Halal Academy

10.1 Halal Academy

- (1) The Director-General may, from time to time, for the purposes of providing independent expert advice to the Director-General on halal standards and related halal matters, establish a forum called the New Zealand Halal Academy.
- (2) Where the Director-General determines to establish the New Zealand Halal Academy, he or she must clearly specify the Terms of Reference for the Academy.

10.2 Membership of the Halal Academy

- (1) The Academy shall consist of:
 - a) an independent Chairperson, who is to be appointed by the Director-General; and
 - b) at least 3 persons nominated by the competent authorities of selected overseas countries; and
 - c) at least one New Zealand citizen with appropriate Islamic religious scholarship credentials nominated by the Approved Halal Organisations Forum.
- (2) If the Approved Halal Organisations Forum cannot mutually agree on their nomination under sub clause (1)(c) the Director-General must, after giving the Forum a reasonable opportunity to be heard, appoint the person under sub clause (1)(c) as he or she deems reasonable.

Part 11: Issuing of halal certificates

11.1 Halal certificates to be issued in AP E-cert by approved issuing officers

- (1) Halal certificates must be raised in AP E-cert by the exporter.
- (2) An approved halal organisation's issuing officer must approve halal certificate(s) if they are satisfied that:
 - a) the information on the certificate(s) are correct; and
 - b) all applicable requirements of this Notice and any applicable country specific OMAR have been met.

Guidance

- Halal certificates generated in AP E-cert will be printed directly from AP E-cert by the relevant approved halal organisation and the paper certificate, stamped and signed by that organisation, unless otherwise specified in a country-specific OMAR.
- Issuing officers should ensure that, as far as practicable, halal certificates are issued within 24 hours of the application being raised by the exporter in AP E-cert.

11.2 Responsibilities of approved halal organisations in relation to issuing of halal certificates

- (1) An approved halal organisation must ensure that:
 - a) its issuing officers have satisfactory knowledge of this Notice and any other notices issued by the Director-General (including, without limitation, the nature and extent of enquiries, tests, or examinations that need to be undertaken); and
 - b) their issuing officers are impartial; and
 - c) neither them nor their issuing officers have any commercial interest in the halal animal material or halal animal products being certified; and
 - d) their issuing officers are fully aware of the significance of the contents of each certificate they issued; and
 - e) their issuing officers only attest to information that is truthful; and
 - f) their issuing officers do not issue a halal certificate unless the consignment to which the certificate relates is sourced from a halal premises.
- (2) An approved halal organisation must have documented procedures for its issuing officers relating to the following matters:
 - a) checks and controls that prevent false or misleading certification by issuing officers; and
 - b) checks and controls that prevent the fraudulent production or use of halal certificate; and
 - c) checks and controls that ensure halal certificates are not issued for any purpose other than the ones specified under this Notice; and
 - d) remedial actions for any instances of issuing false or misleading halal certificate.
- (3) The issue or use of a halal certificate for any purpose other than the regulatory purposes specified under this Notice or any other country-specific OMAR is prohibited.

Guidance

- For example, meeting market access requirements for markets to which this Notice applies, and includes official border clearance procedures in those markets

11.3 Refusal to issue halal certificates

- (1) Subject to sub clause (3), an issuing officer may refuse to issue a halal certificate for a consignment of animal material or animal products if he or she has reasonable grounds to believe that the animal material or animal products do not meet, or no longer meet the requirements of this Notice or any other country-specific OMAR.
- (2) To avoid doubt, the issuing officer must not refuse a halal certificate request due to issues unconcerned with compliance with the requirements of this Notice or any other country-specific OMAR.
- (3) Where the issuing officer proposes to refuse a halal certificate request, he or she must give written notice of that fact to the exporter,:
 - a) specifying the reason(s) for the proposed refusal; and
 - b) giving the exporter a reasonable opportunity to respond.
- (4) If the issuing officer decides to refuse to issue a halal certificate after considering the exporter's response, the officer must notify the exporter of this fact outlining the reasons for refusal.

Part 12: Issuing of halal official assurances

12.1 Issuing halal official assurances

- (1) The Director-General may issue an official assurance with a halal attestation in respect of a consignment of halal animal material or halal animal products, in such cases a halal certificate must not be issued by an issuing officer for that consignment.

Part 13: Deeming and transitional provisions

13.1 Application of this Notice in relation to pre-commencement halal premises

- (1) The approval of halal premises listed on the relevant MPI website at the date of commencement of this Notice, in accordance with the Animal Products Notice: General Export Requirements for Halal Animal Material and Halal Animal Products issued on 21 December 2018, remains valid.

13.2 Application of this Notice in relation to the competency of pre-commencement halal slaughter persons

- (1) The status of halal slaughter persons operating in compliance with the Animal Products Notice: General Export Requirements for Halal Animal Material and Halal Animal Products issued on 21 December 2018 remains valid.

13.3 Transitional approval for Halal Organisations

- (1) A Halal Organisation approved under clause 6.2 of this Notice prior to 23 December 2019 but has not been accredited to ISO/IEC 17065:2013 or an equivalent standard by that date will have its approval continue until 1 October 2021 and will need to apply for accreditation to JAS-ANZ by 18 December 2020 under the existing clause 6.2.1(2)(c).
- (2) A Halal Organisation approved under clause 6.2 of this Notice and has been accredited to ISO/IEC 17065:2013 or an equivalent standard prior to 23 December 2019 will have its approval continue until 1 November 2022 and must submit an application to JAS-ANZ for accreditation by 1 February 2022 under the existing clause 6.2.1(2)(c).
- (3) The Director-General may direct a Halal Organisation approved under Clause 6.2 of this Notice prior to 23 December 2019 to provide evidence to prove that it is actively pursuing accreditation to ISO/IEC 17065:2013 under the existing clause 6.2.1(2)(c).

Annex 1 – Countries requiring listing

- (1) Algeria;
- (2) Bahrain;
- (3) Egypt;
- (4) Indonesia;
- (5) Jordan;
- (6) Kuwait;
- (7) Libya
- (8) Malaysia;
- (9) Morocco
- (10) Oman;
- (11) Qatar;
- (12) Saudi Arabia;
- (13) Tunisia
- (14) United Arab Emirates

Annex 2 – Stunning parameters

Type of stock		Minimum and Maximum (Minimum and Maximum Amperes (RMS))	Minimum and Maximum Duration (In seconds)
Lamb		0.7 – 1.50	2.00 – 3.00
Goat		1.00 – 2.00	2.00 – 3.00
Sheep		1.00 – 2.00	2.00 – 3.00
Calf		1.00 – 2.00	2.00 - 4.00
Steer		1.50 – 4.00	2.00 – 4.00
Cow		2.00 – 4.00	2.50 – 4.00
Poultry		12 mA – 18 mA	25 - 30
Bull		2.50 – 4.00	3.00 – 4.00
Deer	Hinds	1.50 – 3.00	2.00 - 4.00
	Stag	2.00 – 4.00	2.00 – 4.00

Annex 3 – Animal welfare recovery criterion

Signs of an effective head only reversible electrical stun in farmed mammals are as follows:

There are three phases to the physical seizure:

- a) immediate rigid immobility with either extension or rigid flexion of the front legs, and cessation of respiration and normal reflexes. This phase persists for 15-25 seconds
- b) clonic convulsions with uncoordinated kicking or paddling movements, and return of respiration and some reflexes. This phase persists for 20-40 seconds
- c) recovery, if the animal is not slaughtered, signs of the phase of recovery as exhibited by voluntary head righting should not occur before 40 seconds after the stun and usually resume within 60 seconds of the stun.

Signs of an effective head only reversible electrical stun in poultry are as follows:

- a) return of rhythmic breathing within approximately 30 seconds and head righting approximately within 70 seconds.

Annex 4 – Halal logo



The size and orientation of the halal mark is to be determined by the operator or exporter and must be legible on the outer packaging. The halal mark may be pre-printed on product packaging or applied as an adhesive sticker.

Annex 5 – Halal positive list of materials

Halal Positive List of Materials consists of all non-critical materials, in terms of their halal status, commonly used in processing industries.

Number	Material	Remark
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Metal/non-metal: Aluminium (Al), Chromium (Cr), Magnesium (Mg), Sodium (Na), Nickel (Ni), Silicon (Si), Tin (Sn), Titanium (Ti), Zinc (Zn) b) Metal/non-metal oxides: MgO, NiO, SiO₂, SnO, TiO₂, ZnO, c) Oxidizing reducing agent from metal/non-metal such as hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) and sodium borohydride (NaBH₄) d) Clay e) Activated earth/Bleaching earth: bentonite, diatomite, kaolin, zeolite f) Limestone g) Activated alumina h) Coal i) Asbestos j) Perlite k) Calcium oxide l) Lactic Acid m) Peroxyacid n) Acidified Sodium Chlorite (ASC) 	
2	<p><u>Gas:</u> hydrogen (H₂), chlorine (Cl₂), nitrogen (N₂), oxygen (O₂), carbon dioxide (CO₂), ammonia (NH₃), hydrogen sulfide (H₂S)</p>	
3	<p><u>Synthetic colours</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) E102 Tartrazine/FD&C Yellow 5 b) E104 Quinoline Yellow/Food Yellow 13 c) E110 Sunset Yellow FCF/FD&C Yellow 6 d) E122 Carmoisine/Azorubine e) E124 Ponceau 4R f) E127 Erythrosine BS/FD&C Red 3 g) E129 Allura Red AC/FD&C Red 40 h) E132 Indigotine/Indigo Carmine/FD&C Blue 2 i) E133 Brilliant Blue FCF/ FD&C Blue 1 j) E155 Eurocert Brown HT /Chocolate Brown HT k) E171Titanium dioxide l) E103 Chrysoine resorcinol m) E105 Fast Yellow AB n) E107 Yellow 2G o) E128 Red 2G p) E131 Patent Blue V q) E142 Green S/Acid Brilliant Green BS r) E151 Black PN/Brilliant Black BN s) E154 Brown FK t) E170 Calcium carbonate u) E172 Iron oxides and hydroxides 	

Number	Material	Remark
	v) E180 Pigment rubine/Lithol rubine BK	
4	<u>Synthetic antioxidant (Butylated Hydroxyanisole)</u> a) BHT (Butylated Hydroxytoluene) b) TBHQ (Tertiary Butylhydroquinone)	
5	<u>Short-chain organic acids containing C1-7, including:</u> a) Acetic acid (C ₂ H ₄ O ₂) b) Benzoic acid (C ₇ H ₆ O ₂) c) Formic acid (HCOOH) d) Phthalic acid (C ₆ H ₄ (CO ₂ H) ₂) e) Fumaric acid (acid/trans-butenedioic acid, HO ₂ CCH:CHCO ₂ H) f) Gluconic acid (C ₆ H ₁₂ O ₇) g) Glucuronic acid (β-D-Glucopyranuronic acid, C ₆ H ₁₀ O ₇) h) Glutaric acid (C ₃ H ₆ (COOH) ₂) i) Hexanoic/caprylic acid (CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₄ COOH) j) (DL) Malic acid (hydroxybutanedioic acid, HO ₂ CCH ₂ CHOHCO ₂ H) k) Malonic acid (CH ₂ (COOH) ₂) l) Oxalic acid (H ₂ C ₂ O ₄) m) Pentanoic/valeric acid (CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₃ COOH) n) Propionic acid (CH ₃ CH ₂ COOH) o) Sorbic acid (2,4-hexadienoic acid, C ₆ H ₈ O ₂) p) Succinic acid (butanedioic acid) q) Tartaric acid (2,3- dihydroxybutanedioic acid)	
6	<u>Salts of organic acids</u> a) Ascorbate salt b) Benzoate salt c) Butyrate salt d) Hydrogen phthalate salt e) Lactate salt f) Oxalate salt g) Propionate salt h) Citrate salt i) Sorbate salt j) Succinate salt	
7	<u>Organic base</u> pyridine, THF (tetrahydropyran), triethylamine	
8	<u>Inorganic acids</u> boric acid (H ₃ BO ₃), phosphoric acid (H ₃ PO ₄), carbonic acid (H ₂ CO ₃), chloric acid (HCl), nitric acid (HNO ₃), perchloric (HC1O ₄), and sulphuric acid (H ₂ SO ₄)	
9	<u>Inorganic base</u> ammonium (NH ₄ OH), barium hydroxide (Ba(OH) ₂), potassium hydroxide (KOH), calcium hydroxide (Ca(OH) ₂), sodium hydroxide (NaOH)	
10	<u>Salt (Inorganic acid-base)</u> a) Phosphate salt group: sodium phosphate (Na ₃ PO ₄), sodium dihydrogen phosphate (NaH ₂ PO ₄), sodium	In commercial production scale, these materials are produced synthetically by reacting chemical materials originating from

Number	Material	Remark
	hydrogen phosphate (Na_2HPO_4), ammonium phosphate ($(\text{NH}_4)_3\text{PO}_4$), Na-hexametaphosphate b) Carbonate salt group: ammonium carbonate ($(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$), potassium carbonate (K_2CO_3), sodium carbonate (Na_2CO_3) c) Chloride salt group: ammonium chloride (NH_4Cl), potassium chloride (KCl), calcium chloride (CaCl_2), sodium chloride (NaCl), sodium hypochlorite (NaClO), sodium chlorite (NaClO_2), sodium chlorate (NaClO_3) d) Nitrate salt group: potassium nitrate (KNO_3), sodium nitrate (NaNO_3) e) Nitrite salt group: sodium nitrite (NaNO_2) f) Sulphate salt group: aluminium sulphate/alum [$\text{Al}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3 \cdot 18\text{H}_2\text{O}$], ammonium sulphate ($(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$), ferro sulphate (FeSO_4), potassium sulphate (K_2SO_4), sodium sulphate (Na_2SO_4). g) Sulfite salt group: Na-metabisulfite	petrochemicals. If there is a purification stage in the production process, it is commonly done by using activated carbon which may be originated from wood, charcoal, coconut shell, or mine. Exception: if there are any additives such as anticaking.
11	<u>Fresh/dried plant materials:</u> a) Fruits b) Vegetables c) Cereals d) Tubers e) Nuts f) Simplisia (dried form) g) Seaweed	Fresh plant materials are those originating from plants without any further process. Dried plant materials are obtained by drying the materials using natural heat or heat produced by a machine. The materials can be in a whole/unprocessed plant or cut/ground form without any additives or processing aid.
12	<u>Processed plant materials/by-products of processed plant material:</u> a) Cassava flour b) Sago flour c) Rice flour d) Glutinous rice flour e) Corn flour f) Sweet potato flour g) Mung bean flour h) Soybean flour i) Sorghum flour j) Tapioca k) Corn starch l) Sago starch m) Corn grits n) Tofu o) Tofu skin/bean curd skin p) Soybean cake q) Peanut cake	Products are obtained from physically processed plant materials with or without any additives which are generally chemicals. Physical processes include grinding, cutting, sieving, precipitating, drying, etc.
13	Rice vermicelli, glass vermicelli, miso (dried)	
14	<u>Plant oil:</u> a) Virgin sesame oil b) Virgin olive oil	Exception: if there are any additives

Number	Material	Remark
15	<u>Fresh/dried algae:</u> a) <i>Chlorella ellipsoides</i> b) <i>Spirulina spp</i> c) <i>Scenedesmus spp</i>	Algae are grown in ponds, harvested by centrifugation, and then washed and dried without any additives
16	<u>Materials resulted from halal animals:</u> a) Pure honey b) Fresh milk c) Fresh/salted egg	Materials are obtained from halal animals without any additional material or salt.
17	<u>Microbial products:</u> a) <i>Angkak</i> (Chinese fermented red rice) TN b) <i>Dadih</i> (fermented buffalo milk from West Sumatra) c) Raw Nata (nata de coco, nata de aloe, nata de pina, etc.) d) Natto e) Black <i>oncom</i> f) Red <i>oncom</i> g) <i>Tapai</i> (fermented glutinous rice or cassava) h) Tempeh	
18	<u>Gum-polymers or pure hydrokoloid and their salts:</u> a) Alginate b) Galactomannan c) Glucomannan d) Guar gum e) Gum Arabic f) Carrageenan g) Konjac gum h) Tara gum	In commercial production scale, the materials are obtained by physically extracting plants followed by purification using chemicals. Salts from gum polymers or hydrokoloid are generally obtained by reacting them with a chemical material. Exception: if there are any additives.
19	<u>Cellulose-based polymers:</u> Cellulose, CMC (Carboxy Methyl Cellulose), cellulose diacetate. cellulose ether cellulose triacetate	
20	<u>Synthetic polymers:</u> polyethylene (PE), polypropylene (PP), polystyrene (PS), polyvinyl alcohol (PVA), polyvinyl chloride (PVC), polyvinyl pyrrolidone, polyacrylate and its salts, polyether, polyurea, polyurethane, polyamine.	
21	Potable Water	