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GENERAL INFORMATION

The "1st International Conference on Tourism & Technology 2011" (Banking & Insurance Sectors Involvement)

1st International Conference on Tourism & Technology 2011" (Banking & Insurance Sectors Involvement) is to be held in IIT Campus, New Delhi from July 07 ~ 09, 2011. The IIT Delhi is one of the oldest & premier institutes in India, and it has taken the initiative of organizing this international conference for providing insights and solutions to accelerate technology innovation, use and its growth in Tourism, Banking and Insurance sectors.

2. The objective of the conference is to: FOCUS ON NEXT GENERATION TOURISM & TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

(i) Understand principles, philosophy and concepts of technology transfer in tourism and hospitality industry as applied in developing countries with reference to culture, nature and community.

(ii) Understand the roles of all stakeholders in the process of technology transfer that would increase the comparative and absolute benefit for tourism development.

3. This conference will be a good platform for exchanging views and enhancing the technical developments in the Tourism, Banking and Insurance sectors.

CONFERENCE KEY CONCEPTS (TENTATIVE)

Key Plenary Sessions

A/ Strategic Technology Management Sector wise: keynote on Technologies and Strategies

- Tourism industry
- Aviation industry
- Hotel industry
- Travel industry
- Banking industry
- Insurance industry

B/ Advanced Technology Development – A Concept for Policy Makers.

1. Comprehensive Technical and Technology use in the Tourism Industry – Applications

2. Upcoming Changes in the Technology – Key Focus on Next Generation Technology Solutions

3. Basic Guidance in Technology aspects involved in the Tourism industry

4. How to prepare the amalgamation with other industry domains i.e. Banking and Insurance.

5. Specifically Designed Platforms for Banking, Insurance, Technology Sectors.

Other Sessions

A/ Online Travel Shopping_ Hotels / Airlines /Tour Packages / Train / Buses / Taxies.

(1) Looking Does Not Automatically Lead to Booking - An Analysis of Click streams on Indian Travel Agency Website

(2) Why Some Internet Users Don’t Buy Air Tickets Online – An Analysis

(3) Extracting Room Prices from Web Tables – an Ontology-Aware Approach.

B/ Technology in the Destination Management Organizations

(1) DMOs, e-Democracy and Collaborative Destination Management: An implementation Framework.

(2) E-Learning Offers By Destination Management Organizations

(3) Online / Destination Marketing: Do Local DMOs Consider International Guidelines for Their Website Design?

(4) Automated, Scalable event capture and dissemination e-event management solution.

C/ Adoption and use of Technology by Airlines Sector

(1) Use of Internet Applications and Tools by Airline companies in India: An Exploratory Study.

D/ Technology in the Banking Sector

(1) How technology in banking sector can be utilized in the tourism advancement.

(2) How new alliances can be beneficial for tourism sector development

(3) ATMs can be used for selling Tourism Products.

(4) How banking sector huge infrastructure can be utilized.

E/ Technology in the Insurance Sector

(1) How technology in insurance sector can be utilized in tourism advancements.
(2) How new alliances can be beneficial for tourism sector development.

F/ Technology to be used by Airports, Hotels and Security Systems
(1) Hotel Domain Name Adoption and Implementation
(2) Technical Efficiency and Effectiveness in Hotel sector
(3) Analysis of in-room Technology Amenities in Hotels
(4) Advanced, Automated video surveillance and analytics solution for hotels, banks and Airports
(5) Asset and document inventory management and tracking using Radio Frequency identifier (RFID) technology applications to Hotels and Airlines Industry

G/ Travel Distribution Channels
(1) Indian Travel Agents and E-Commerce
(2) Dynamics e-Shop

H/ Social Media Marketing
(1) Destination Marketing through User Personalized Content
(2) The Role of Social Media in Promoting Special Events: Acceptance of Facebook ‘events’
(3) Adoption of viral Web 2.0 and social Media technologies for improving user experience and effectiveness on online tourism, airline and hotel websites

I/ Online Search for Travel Planning
(1) An Analysis of search Engine Use for Travel Planning
(2) Web Usage Mining in Tourism -A Query Term Analysis and Clustering Approach
(3) Assessing the Dynamics of Search Results on Google

J/ Mobile Technology in Tourism Sector and Optimum use
(1) Usability Guidelines for WAP-based Travel Planning Tools
(2) Application of QR Codes in Online Travel Distribution
(3) Evaluation of the concept of Early Acceptance Tests for Touristic Mobile Applications

K/ Tracking Technologies in Tourism Research, Management & Planning.
(1) Effective Tracking of tourists and key personnel using integrated Radio Frequency Identifier (FRID), GPS, Facial Recognition and Video Surveillance solution
(2) Advance Visitors Tracking Analysis in practice
(3) Monitoring and Managing Visitors Flow in Destinations Using Aggregate GPS Data.
(4) Tracking Tourism in Historic City Centers

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(3) User Experience Risk Assessment Model

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(3) An Analysis of the impact of Tourism Journals on Google Scholar

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(3) eTourism for All? Online Travel Planning of Disabled people.

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(2) Corporate Connection
(3) Technology Views

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(2) A historical Evaluation of ICT
(3) Applying Technology of Services
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2. An investigation of Leapfrogging and Web 2.0 Implementation
3. An investigation of Motivation of share online Content by Young Travelers – why & where
4. Web 2.0-style management of multimedia with video search and content extraction, adaptation capabilities.

**R/ Online Destinations**

1. The impact of Virtual Experience on People’s Travel Intentions
2. Attitude towards e-solution in a small Tourism Destination.

**S/ Use of Green Technologies that promote Energy Saving, Usage Analysis, Monitoring and Control. Industries: Hotel, Banks, Event / Tourism Centres, Airports, Insurance, Tourism Offices.**

**T/ Optimization of Real –Time IT Data sending Technologies to prevent Fire, Water contamination hazards, insect & Disease detection / control. Industries: Hotels, Airlines, Banks, Insurance, Tourism Offices.**

**Registration Details**

Online Registration Form Link: [www.icttindia.com./registration_ictt.asp](http://www.icttindia.com./registration_ictt.asp)

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**Registration Fee Includes:**

1. One Conference Kit
2. Three Conference Lunches
3. One Conference Dinner
4. Conference Attendance Certificate

**Please Note:**

For Registration Fee waiver the Sr. Professors / Professors / Associate Professors / Research Associates from the recognized Tourism Institutions, can write to the organizing chairman – ICTT 2011 at the below mentioned address:

Prof. (Dr) Sushil
Organizing Chairman-ICTT 2011
Department of Management Studies,
IV Floor, Vishwakarma Bhavan,
Indian Institute of Technology Delhi Hazu Khas,
New Delhi- 110016, India
Website: [http://www.dmsiitd.org](http://www.dmsiitd.org)
Email: icttindia@gmail.com

**Acceptance of Observer Status for Pakistan by Association for Latin American Integration (ALADI), the largest Latin American Regional Group**

On 23 March 2011, the Representative Committee of the "Association for Latin American Integration" (ALADI), in its regular session held in Montevideo, considered and approved Pakistan's request for Observer Status with ALADI.

ALADI is the largest Latin American integration group with 12 members (comprising Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colomba, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela). It covers an area of 20 million square kilometers and represents over 500 million people with approximately US $ 7,800/- per capita. The Inter-regional trade of ALADI is US$ 146 billion.

By gaining observer status, Pakistan will be able to promote its interest both economically and culturally in the Latin American region. ALADI offers a support system to business community which includes information on: tariff benefits, contacts and opportunities, exports guide, imports guide, investments, financing mechanisms, trade promotion, etc. It also provides a preferential economic region with the objective of achieving a Latin American Common Market, which could trade with third countries like Pakistan.

The observer status would provide Pakistan with an excellent opportunity to interact freely with all member countries and explore trade opportunities as well as create a larger market for its products.
SEMINARS & CONFERENCES

Sugar Trade Outlook 2011

F.O. Licht, will be organized the conference on Sugar Trade Outlook from 22nd & 23rd June 2011 at Hotel Bloom, Brussels – Belgium.

F.O. Licht, is the leading authority on the global sugar trade. Sugar Trade Outlook is a unique opportunity to gain valuable insights into a highly competitive industry. Offering an unrivalled breadth of topics delivered by expert speakers Sugar Trade Outlook provides authoritative market insights to help you succeed in the sugar trade.

Join us at F.O. Licht’s Sugar Trade Outlook so that you can:

- Examine the future of Brazilian sugar production and the impact on global sugar prices
- Assess the oil-sugar dynamic and how rising oil prices will affect sugar markets
- Analyst strategies for dealing with challenges faced in sugar procurement.
- Capitalize on exclusive insights into developments in organic and fair trade sugar certification and trade.
- Network with lenders supporting the growth of the sugar market

Interested Pakistani Companies may contact directly for further information at the given address:

Matthew Kilgour,
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URL: www.sugartrade.agraevents.com

FAIRS & EXHIBITIONS

Africa Export and Import Fair 2011

Africa Export and Import Fair 2011 will be held from 24th ~ 27th August 2011 at Kenyatta International Conference Centre, Nairobi.

PRESS CLIPPING

Exports Reach New Peak

Pakistan made use of favorable terms of trade, making another record by exporting goods worth $ 2.5 billion in March, achieving growth of more than 41 per cent.

The country exported goods worth $ 2.5 billion in March, $ 727 million more than exports in the corresponding month last year, according to data released by the Federal Bureau of Statistics. The March figure, the best milestone in history, breaks the two month old record of $ 2.32 billion exports witnessed in January 2011.

The country’s imports rose almost four per cent to $3.4 billion during the month in review - $130 million more than the imports posted in the same month last year.

"This is the highest and most remarkable monthly record," said Trade Development Authority of Pakistan Chief Executive Mr. Tariq Puri.

He warned that the down side risk in the coming months may be rising petroleum products prices in the international market, which can widen the trade deficit as the country imports more than 85 per cent of its oil. Mr. Puri added that although major contribution came from textile and clothing exports, non-traditional sectors such as marble, chilled meat, and value-added petroleum products also helped achieve the record export figure.

Trade gap shrinks

Unprecedented exports also shrunk the gap between exports and imports by almost 40
per cent. The trade deficit stood at $920 million, compared with last year's deficit of $1.5 billion.

Independent economists have warned the government that domestic fiscal problems may appear at the external front within a year. However, the healthy trend has so far checked the current account deficit-gap between total external receipts and expenditures. On the domestic front, the government remains unable to tap revenues, causing larger budget deficits. Notwithstanding, authorities are under pressure to provide subsidies on fuel and electricity.

**Cumulative numbers**

Overall, in the first nine months (July-March) of the current fiscal year, Pakistan's trade deficit rose to $11.3 billion, 1.7 per cent more than the deficit in the same period of the preceding year. The gap is still much below the initial estimates, as the government had estimated trade deficit at $18 billion that was revised downward to $13 billion later.

Pakistan's exports stood at $17.8 billion during the July-March period, $3.7 billion or one-fourth more than the preceding year's exports. Imports during this period stood slightly over $29 billion, showing a growth of 15.6 per cent over imports last year. In absolute terms, Pakistan's imports increased $3.9 billion during the nine months.

Authorities are expecting $24 billion worth of exports by end of this financial year, almost $3 billion more than initial estimates.

Compared with February, exports grew 15.7 per cent or $339 million in March. Imports in March increased 11.9 per cent or $364 million. The trade deficit in March widened marginally to 2.8 per cent.

✈ Pak exports increase by 26.5 pc: Fahim

Minister for Commerce Makhdoom Amin Fahim apprised the National Assembly that Pakistan's exports had witnessed a tremendous upsurge in 2010-11 (July-March) as these touched the figure of $17.799 billion as compared to $14.072 billion during the corresponding period of last year.

"Our exports have registered an increase of 26.5% in the year 2010-11", he said in reply to a question asked by Mian Marghoob Ahmad of PML-N during the question hour session.

He said since March 2008, till present the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) aggressively marketed the country's products in the world through participation in 184 prestigious international trade fairs, held across the globe and arranged visits of 39 outgoing and incoming delegations. The TDAP, he said had also organized 26 seminars, workshops and interactive session in the country. He said with an aim to achieve market access and help, remove restrictions of Pakistan's exports the TDAP invited various inspection missions of concerned authoritative from international market for inspection purpose. This helped in removing restrictions on the exports of kinnows, mangoes and rice to China and Iran and meat to UAE, he said.

To another question asked by PMLN's Malik Shakeel Awan, he said Pakistan imported over 1.4 million metric ton sugar from different countries during the past three years to meet its domestic needs.

He said in the year 2008-09 Pakistan imported 125,743 metric ton sugar, while in the years 2009-10 and 2010-11 it imported 501,759 and 789,515 metric tons, respectively.

During these three years Pakistan imported sugar from Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Germany, Guatemala, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Romania, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Thailand, USA, United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom.

He said the country exported 260,840 metric ton sugar during the year 2007-08, but the export of the commodity was banned in 2008-09 "which still continues." During that period sugar was exported to Afghanistan, Austria, Bangladesh, China, Hong Kong, Saudi Arabia, Yemen and the United Kingdom.

✈ Pakistan to go with open mind in trade walk with India, Puri

Pakistan's delegation will go with an open mind to trade talks with India and since the agenda is open-ended, there are hopes that
the two countries will move forward; says Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) Chief Executive Mr. Tariq Puri.

Talking to The Express Tribune on the sidelines of a trade exhibition Mr. Puri said: "Our business community has expressed reservations about non-tariff barriers in trade with India and we want to raise such issues in the talks."

Pakistan and India resumed trade talks in Islamabad at the commerce secretary level. Indian Commerce Secretary Rahul Khullar reached Pakistan for talks with his Pakistani counterpart Zafar Mehmood.

Responding to a question on the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status for India, Mr. Puri said, "We will see how it (India) sees our problems, only then we will move forward on the MFN issue."

Earlier, Mr. Puri inaugurated the 5th Food, Agriculture and Livestock Asia 2011 exhibition at the Karachi Expo Centre in the presence of foreign diplomats and dignitaries.

"Unfortunately, we neglected the livestock market in the past despite the fact we have one of the largest livestock populations in the country," he said, Citing the presence of foreign exhibitors from France, Russia and Turkey in the exhibition, he said that these countries had a strong livestock sector and their presence in the exhibition showed the interest of foreign companies in Pakistan's market.

Investment in livestock would not only help Pakistan increase its exports but it would also "assist our people in learning modern techniques," he said and laid stress on value addition and quality upgrading in the food processing industry.

"The biggest problem is logistics. We are exporting so much processed livestock products that we are running short of airplanes," he said.

Pakistan was fast capitalizing on its resources in the Livestock sector, owing to which the export of finished food products was increasing rapidly, he added.

Underlining the growth in exports, he said, Pakistan was one of the top exporters of livestock products to Middle Eastern countries. In 1999, exports to the region were almost negligible but today livestock exports are more than $200 million.

More and more companies were opening slaughterhouses in the country because investors saw a huge potential in exports as well as local consumption of food products, he said, adding that such companies were dealing in all types of meat like chicken, beef and mutton.

He mentioned a number of food processing chains, saying many brands had been launched. Few years earlier, he said, "we were exporting live animals but now we earn huge profits by exporting value-added meat products."

**Bodies to identify NTBs in trade with India**

The Ministry of Commerce plans to set up sector specific committees led by the private sector for identification of barriers in bilateral trade with India.

The decision to this effect was taken in a meeting chaired by Secretary Commerce Zafar Mahmood at the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP).

During the meeting the secretary commerce discussed with the TDAP officials the modalities of speedy and effective implementation of the decision taken in Pak - India trade talks held in Islamabad.

The TDAP chairman Mr. Tariq Iqbal Puri was also present in the meeting wherein it was also decided that a consultation process will be undertaken with all the stakeholders for taking forward the agenda of joint statement to prepare set of strategies for the next round of talks.

The TDAP will hold seminars and workshops to create awareness and to identify opportunities in the bilateral trade with the emphasis on regulatory requirements of the Indian market. It was also decided that the TDAP will coordinate with Director General of trade Organization and FPCCI on formation of joint chambers, of commerce for setting out terms of reference and actions to be taken to facilitate the business community.

The TDAP in collaboration with academia and sector specialists will develop position papers on different aspects of trade and investment between the two countries.

Furthermore, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) will be entered into between TDAP and its counterpart in India (ITPO) to institutionalize joint collaboration for promotion of trade.
**Expo Pakistan’ exhibition to be organized from October 20 2011**

Expo Pakistan is going to be organized from October 20th to 23rd, 2011 in Karachi.

This was announced by Mr. Tariq Iqbal Puri, Chief Executive, Trade Development Authority of Pakistan, while talking to the media at his office.

He said that the sixth edition of Expo Pakistan would take place at Karachi Expo Centre. Mr. Puri further said the event, which was earlier planned for February was postponed due to the feedback received from the stakeholders regarding the timing of the event, which took into consideration many aspects, including the law and order situation in Karachi. Nevertheless, it has now been decided to organize the event in October, which will not only showcase national exports potential, but will also go a long way in positively portraying the image of Pakistan to the international community.

He also informed that as part of TDAP export enhancement and private sector endeavors, a multilateral conference on investment and exports is also being organized to leverage the event. The conference titled "Foreign Investment Opportunities & Exports from Pakistan" will be organized on October 20 at Karachi Expo Centre in collaboration with the international business forums of the city. The conference will cover several sectors like engineering, infrastructure, agriculture, energy, mining and chemicals.

CE TDAP apprised that the first two days of the event will be reserved for international buyers while the last two for public, so that people could, experience the vast variety of products of international standard produced Pakistan. He asked exporters to come forward and participate in the national event. He added that the event will represent products of all different regions of Pakistan and demonstrate the vibrant and colorful Pakistan. Furthermore, various products associations will be consulted for inviting foreign buyers on predetermined selection criteria for extending hospitality based on imports and size of the foreign company.

He lauded the role of Abdul Kader Jaffer, President Pakistan Japan Business Forum in spearheading this exercise, adding that through the joint effort, they would be able to come up with proposals for structural improvements, in the export industry of Pakistan. The conference is expected to attract a, large number of foreign and local experts in their respective fields, he added.

**Export Crosses $ 20 b mark in 10 months**

Pakistan's exports have crossed the $ 20 billion mark in the first 10 months of the Current financial year.

Chief Executive TDAP Mr. Tariq Iqbal Puri announced and said that as a result of Prime Minister of Pakistan declaring 2011 as Year of Export, Ministry of Commerce and Trade Development Authority of Pakistan, through coordinated efforts, have succeeded in achieving the landmark figure.

Despite the economic slowdown of the Western economies, it is all the more significant that Pakistan is on course to set new records of exports growth. To build on this landmark achievement, Mr. Puri stated that TDAP is accelerating its efforts and taking out-of-box measures to achieve a possible $ 24 billion exports by the end of this financial Year.

He briefed the Press that Pakistan's exports in the month of April 2011 of $ 2.38 billion, was 40 per cent higher than the level of $ 1.7 billion during April 2010. Pakistan has been consistently crossing the $ 2 billion mark for the last 5 months of current financial year.

He informed that imports during April 2011 were valued at $ 3.247 billion registering a growth of 7.7 per cent over the level of imports valued at $ 3.016 billion in April 2010. However the trade deficit shrunk in April by 34 pc compared to April last year, which is also a positive sign for our current account.

Cumulative value of exports for the period July-April 2010-11 was $ 20.18 billion as against $ 15.773 billion registering a growth of 27.9 per cent over the same period last year.

While, cumulative value of imports for the period July-April 2010-11 was $ 12.263 billion as against $ 28.123 billion last year, registering a growth of 14.7 per cent over the same period last year. For the period April-July 2010-11, the trade deficit was marginally reduced by about 2 percent, he added.
TDAP optimistic it will achieve $24bn FY 2011 export target

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), Mr. Tariq Iqbal Puri, on Saturday said that the TDAP was making all-out efforts and taking out-of-box measures to achieve $24 billion exports by the end of current financial year 2010-11.

He said this while addressing members of Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) here. LCCI President Shahzad Ali, Senior Vice President Mohammad Arshad, Vice President Sohail Azhar, Misbahur Rehman, Shahid Hassan, Sohail Lashari, Tahir Javed, Aftab Ahmad Vohra and Shafqat Saeed Piracha also spoke on the occasion.

Mr. Tariq said that for the first time in the country's history, exports have surpassed the target. Despite the economic slowdown, it was all the more significant that Pakistan was on course to set new records of exports growth. To achieve this landmark achievement, he said, TDAP was accelerating its efforts.

Despite power and gas shortages, the exporters are doing good business in the international market and are competing well with foreign competitors, he said, adding the demand for textiles has increased considerably.

He said that there are a number of other areas including non-traditional items, minerals, livestock and pharmaceutical that has huge export potential and Pakistani businessmen should avail the opportunity.

The CE said that as the current year had been declared as "Exports to China Year", TDAP was encouraging Pakistani entrepreneurs to focus on non-traditional items for exports; TDAP, he added, would ensure that it provides all possible assistance and was in the process of setting up a web portal. This web portal, he said, would be a state-of-the-art affair catering to the needs of the businessmen.

About trade concessions to Pakistan by the European Union, Mr. Puri expressed optimism for good news in this regard.

Regarding suspension of Enterprise Capacity Building Programme by TDAP, he promised to look into the matter for the early revival of the programme.

LCCI President Shahzad said that delegations organized by the TDAP should be finalized in consultation with the chambers to ensure greater representation of private sector at international trading event such as trade fairs and single country exhibitions. The TDAP should actively support the trade delegations organized by LCCI on preferential basis, he added. "Embassies of our neighboring countries are playing very active role in promoting trade diplomacy all around the globe in close liaison with their trade supporting organizations. The commercial sections of these Embassies are found proactive and the commercial councilors remain busy in studying the international market trends. They keep posting their nationals about their findings in order to facilitate international trade, "he said.

He proposed that the TDAP should also interact with Pakistan's embassies abroad and ask them to raise awareness among the business community about the new trends and trade related legal requirements of any particular country or a trading bloc.

The LCCI President said that the government needs to make greater efforts for the image building abroad. Again, Pakistan missions abroad can spearhead these efforts. Likewise, road shows and catalogue exhibitions can be organized by these embassies, he added.

He said that the government had signed FTAs and PTAs with many countries but overall it failed to greatly benefit as compared to foreign counterparts. There is a need to revisit these agreements, he added. "It has been a longstanding demand that major chambers of commerce must be taken into confidence while finalizing international trade agreements". In Pak Afghan Transit Trade Agreement, the private sector which is a main stakeholder was not even consulted. "In the same manner, we were not made part of group that negotiated with European Union for having duty access," he said.
ORDER

S.R.O. (I) I 2011. -In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1950 (XXXIX of 1950), the Federal Government is pleased to direct that the following further amendment shall be made in the Import Policy Order, 2009, namely: -

In the aforesaid Order-

(a) in Appendix-C, in column (1) against Sr. No.1 0, in column (2) after item (xiii) the following item shall be added, namely:-

"(xiv) Buses not older than three years with seating capacity of forty or above, subject to the condition that such buses shall be certified by a pre-shipment inspection company, as listed in Appendix-H, to the effect that such buses have a road worthiness of at least five years from the date of importation. The formula for determining the age of vehicles provided in the procedure for import of vehicles (Appendix-E) shall be equally applicable in determining the age of buses."); and

(b) in Appendix-E, in paragraph 3, in sub-paragraph (1 ),-

(i) for the word "three" the word "five" shall be substituted; and

(ii) for the colon at the end, full stop shall be substituted and thereafter first and the second provisos" Omitted.

-[F. No. 4 (1)/2007-A.C (T.P) (Vol-I)]

(Dr. Safdar A.Sohail)
Director General
1. OVERVIEW OF ECONOMY AND MAJOR EVENTS:

(i) Main trends

The Russian State Statistics Service (Rosstat) released monthly data for February showing small, but positive, growth in the consumer sector. Retail sales grew against the previous month, increasing 3.3% year on year (YoY) basis. After the last month's 12 month low, real wages also posted a modest increase of 2.4% YoY. Unemployment fell slightly to 7.4%. In the real sector, industrial production fell against the previous month to 5.8% YoY. Investment in fixed assets recovered from January's low but still posted a decline against the previous year of -0.4% YoY.

Annual rolling inflation (CPI) decelerated slightly to 9.5%. The first time CPI in Russia has fallen since droughts and wildfires caused huge damage to Russia's agricultural heartland in July and August last year.

(ii) Major Events

President Medvedev set out a 10 point plan for modernization, including a suggested reduction in the role Ministers play in key state owned companies. Vice President Biden and Turkish Prime Minister Erdogan visited and discussed economic cooperation with Russia. In the mining sector Alexander Voloshin was re-elected as chairman of Norilsk Nickel. While in finance Sberbank, Russia's largest and state owned bank, bought investment bank Troika Dialogue for $1 billion. Troika Dialogue was one of the first private investment banks to be established in Russia following the collapse of the Soviet Union. The deal is increase the efficiency of budgetary spending, tackle corruption, and improve the protection of minority shareholders. The President also said the state officials and Ministers should no longer serve on the boards of state companies when they also have a role as a regulator. Many Russian state firms have Ministers chairing, or sitting on, their Boards of Directors.

US Vice President Biden visited Moscow and met President Medvedev, Prime Minister Putin and a range of civil society, religious and business leaders. During the visit the Vice President called for US-Russia economic relations to catch up with the improved political relations following the US-Russia "re-set'. Biden also voiced support for Russia's accession to the WTO and said the Obama administration would make every effort to 'graduate' Russia from the current Jackson-Vanik trade restrictions. The visit also saw Aeroflot sign a $2 billion contract with Boeing for the supply of new 777 jumbo jets.

Turkish Prime Minister Erdogan also visited Moscow later in the month to co-Chair the "High Level Russian-Turkish Cooperation Council" with President Medvedev. The visit coincided with the anniversary of the 1921 Moscow agreement establishing relations between Ataturk's Turkey and Lenin's Russia. The two leaders discussed a range of economic and energy issues and reiterated their intention to jointly construct a nuclear power station in Turkey. No announcement was made on whether the proposed South Stream gas pipeline would travel through Turkish waters.

(iii) Trade

The Central Bank of Russia (CBR) issued trade figures for January. Exports fell back from their December high to $33.3 billion. Imports also posted a significant fall, to $16.0 billion, meaning Russia's trade surplus increased to $17.3 billion, the largest the trade surplus has been since August 2008.

(iv) Financial Sector

Sberbank, Russia's largest and state owned bank, announced it had purchased Troika Dialogue for $1 billion. Troika Dialogue was one of the first private investment banks to be established in Russia following the collapse of the Soviet Union. The deal is
Sberbank’s first venture into investment banking; currently the bank dominates the domestic market accounting for nearly 50% of all retail deposits.

In the mining sector Norilsk Nickel, one of the world’s leading producers of nickel, held an EGM as the company’s major shareholders continued their long running dispute.

(v) Energy Sector

In the energy sector, the impacts of the devastating Japanese earthquake and tsunami were felt around the world. Prime Minister Putin announced that Russia would double its supplies of energy to Japan including shipping extra liquefied natural gas (LNG) from Sakhalin Island. Later Russia offered Japan a strategic partnership in the gas sector, mooting that Japanese companies could take large stakes in major Russian fields. Prime Minister Putin also announced a review of safety procedures in Russia’s nuclear industry.

Gazprom bought TNK-BP’s Kovktya gas field, at auction for $770 million. The only other bidder, state-owned Rosnefiyegaz, bid the minimum price ($515 million) before dropping out of the auction. Separately, Gazprom also paid TNK-BP almost $300 million for the pipelines leading from the field. The Kovktya gas field is situated in East Siberia and holds an estimated 2 trillion cubic metres of gas, enough to supply Russian gas to China at proposed levels for about 30 years.

In another major multi-billion dollar gas deal, Total, a energy giant, agreed with Russia’s second largest gas producer, Novatek, to develop the Yamal LNG project. The agreement, signed in the presence of Prime Minister Putin, will see Total buy a 12% stake of Novatek itself for $4 billion. Total will also gain 20% of the Yamal LNG project -the first.

2. OVERVIEW OF BILATERAL TRADE BETWEEN PAKISTAN - RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND PAKISTAN - BELARUS:

(i) Trade Figures between Russian Federation and Pakistan:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2006-07</th>
<th>2007-08</th>
<th>2008-09</th>
<th>2009-2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exports</td>
<td>83.397</td>
<td>275.874</td>
<td>98.626</td>
<td>105.575</td>
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<tr>
<td>Imports</td>
<td>257.74</td>
<td>345.803</td>
<td>600.722</td>
<td>119.200</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(ii) Trade Figures between Belarus and Pakistan:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2006-07</th>
<th>2007-08</th>
<th>2008-09</th>
<th>2009-2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exports</td>
<td>1.328</td>
<td>.294</td>
<td>.248</td>
<td>.122</td>
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<tr>
<td>Imports</td>
<td>83.780</td>
<td>74.174</td>
<td>37.183</td>
<td>94.254</td>
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3. MARKET SHARE OF TOP COMPETITORS FOR PRODUCTS IMPORTED FROM PAKISTAN:

CITRUS FRUIT, FRESH OR DRIED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>IMPORTED</th>
<th>SHARE IN RUSSIAN MARKET IN %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>1,018,463</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>266,040</td>
<td>26.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>191,083</td>
<td>18.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>110,840</td>
<td>10.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>109,387</td>
<td>10.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>89,116</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>39,722</td>
<td>3.9</td>
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EXPORT NEWS 09 to 11/2011

MEN'S SUITS, JACKETS, TROUSERS ETC & SHORTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPORTED</th>
<th>SHARE IN RUSSIAN MARKET IN %</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>37,386</td>
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<td>Turkey</td>
<td>30,657</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>28,872</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>2,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>12,702</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>8,465</td>
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WOVEN COTTON FABRICS. 85% OR MORE COTTON. WEIGHT LESS THAN 200 G/M2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPORTED</th>
<th>SHARE IN RUSSIAN MARKET IN %</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
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<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>21,382</td>
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<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>12,592</td>
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<tr>
<td>Republic of Korea</td>
<td>2,175</td>
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<tr>
<td>Republic of Moldova</td>
<td>1,788</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kazakhstan</td>
<td>1,451</td>
</tr>
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<td>Turkey</td>
<td>1,011</td>
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WOVEN FAB OF SYN. STAPL FIB « 85% OF SUCH FIBER). MIXED WITH COTTON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPORTED</th>
<th>SHARE IN RUSSIAN MARKET IN %</th>
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<td>World</td>
<td>23,301</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>11,899</td>
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<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>6,173</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>1,353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syrian Arab Republic</td>
<td>546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>472</td>
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</table>

RICE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>IMPORTED</th>
<th>SHARE IN RUSSIAN MARKET IN %</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>140,378</td>
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<td>Thailand</td>
<td>47,847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>42,628</td>
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<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>17,767</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>9,830</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uruguay</td>
<td>8,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>5,928</td>
</tr>
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</table>

4. LIST OF TOP TEN REASONS WHY COMPETITORS OF THESE PRODUCTS ARE ABLE TO SECURE LARGER MARKET SHARE THAN PAKISTAN

i. Improved market penetration strategy.
ii. Better delivery system.
iii. Better country image.
v. Better governmental involvement in development logistic centers to export national products.
vi. Frequent participation in exhibitions.
viii. Traditionally warm business relationship.
ix. Lower import duty or absence of it.
x. Better presence on Russian market by exported country's companies.

5. PRODUCTS SPECIFIC REASONS FOR BETTER EXPORT MARKET PERFORMANCE.
(i) **Citrus fruit, fresh or dried.**

The main problem Pakistani fruits exporters face is a the lead time as it takes about 26 days to 1 month to ship cargo from Karachi to Saint Petersburg (Russia) via sea. This is a great disadvantage for Pakistani perishable products.

(ii) **Woven fabrics of synthetic and natural fiber.**

Low price and good quality makes Pakistan one of the main player in Russian Federation, however, production on economy of scale and better market access places competitors like China and Turkey on an advantageous position.

The main Pakistani competitor in textiles is China. Being a neighboring country to Russia, China is effectively exploring Russian Northern and Eastern territories. Railway shipment of goods cuts time and expenses on delivery. Quick response to buyers provides competitive advantage for Chinese products in Russian Market. Many Chinese exports are being subsidized by Government and together with artificial devaluation of national currency has helped Chinese exporters to successfully penetrate in Russian Market.

**6. INQUIRIES:**

**Inquiries received during the month from Russian Entrepreneurs.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Companies</th>
<th>Products of interest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GC &quot;Cotton Club&quot;, Yuri Zaitsev</td>
<td>Import of Cotton combers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel: (495) 730-07-77</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: (495) 229-68-03</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mob: (926) 616-76-99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:u.zaytsev@cottonclub.ru">u.zaytsev@cottonclub.ru</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URL: <a href="http://www.cottonclub.ru/">http://www.cottonclub.ru/</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEO &quot;3D-M&quot; Ltd., Dmitry Pishchikov</td>
<td>Import of Socks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address: Moscow, Yaroslavskoe shosse, 21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel: +7149~ 530-16-78</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:3d-marketing@mail.ru">3d-marketing@mail.ru</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOILER EQUIPMENT PLANT OPEN JOINT STOCK COMPANY</td>
<td>Export Boilers to Pakistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Industrial Area, Town of Alekseevka,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgorod Region, 309855, RUSSIA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel/Fax (+7 47234) 4-48-43</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:export@oaozko.ru">export@oaozko.ru</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URL: <a href="http://www.oaozko.ru">www.oaozko.ru</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketin~ De2artment -Y.A. Erokhin</td>
<td>Import of Rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ODO &quot;Saturn-2&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Pavel Yaschanko, Manager, Import department</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel / Fax: +375 172076280</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mob +375 29 6185543</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e-mail: <a href="mailto:paul.y@saturn.by">paul.y@saturn.by</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e-mail2: <a href="mailto:6185543@amail.com">6185543@amail.com</a></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICQ: 612-831-068</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skype: paul_yaschenko</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34-52 Brestsk~a sir.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>220099 Minsk Belarus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+375 17 207 62 80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Platov Andrey Anatolevmch.</td>
<td>Import of fruits and vegetables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Purchasing Manager)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell: +7910-427-96-31</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:bastetan@vandex.ru">bastetan@vandex.ru</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE ORGANISATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE (OIC)

GUIDELINES FOR THE HALAL ACCREDITATION BODY ACCREDITING HALAL CERTIFICATION BODIES

FOREWORD

This guidelines set out the rules to be adhered by the organizations providing accreditation services for halal certification bodies which operate in OIC member countries or in those countries trading with OIC countries or in any other country in which there is a demand for halal certification.

These guidelines have been elaborated through the contributions of in particular Turkey, Malaysia, Indonesia, Pakistan and ICCI. They are based on internationally recognized ISO/IEC 17011 and the procedures prepared by Malaysia and the Turkish experiences and practices in the field of accreditation. In elaborating the guidelines, it is intended that the accreditation system planned to be developed under OIC or in the OIC member countries is not isolated from the world and disconnected from the practices under the Multilateral Recognition Agreements-MLA) of regional and international accreditation associations such as=EA, APLAC, and IAF, LAC. Therefore, it is targeted that this structure which will be established under the OIG will also be recognized by non-OIC member countries all over the world.

INTRODUCTION

These guidelines specify the general requirements for halal accreditation bodies (HABs) accrediting halal certification bodies (HCBs). Peer evaluation mechanisms have been formulated and targeted at regional and international levels in OIC frame, through which assurance is provided that HABs are operating in accordance with this guidelines. Those who have passed such an evaluation can become members of mutual recognition arrangements within OIC. Through regular re-evaluations, the continued adherence to this guidelines is assured. These mutual recognition arrangement members facilitate the one-stop process, through recognition, promotion and acceptance of each other's accredited conformity assessments for halal certification. This means that a halal certification body in an economy should not need to be accredited more than once for the same scope by different halal accreditation bodies.

It is not possible to run peer-evaluation process until the structure explained above has properly been introduced. However, in order for a halal accreditation body providing accreditation for halal certification bodies to be authorized by OIC, it shall satisfy the requirements specified in these guidelines.

The existing accreditation process recognized all over the world is structured as follows:

- **Halal Accreditation Body (HAB)**
  - Assess competence of HCB
  - HABs assess the competence of HCBs. They can facilitate trade by promoting global acceptance of conformity assessment results issued by accredited. HCBs. This is strengthened if they are peer-evaluated and are members of mutual recognition arrangements among the accreditation bodies of OIC member states.

- **Halal Certification Body (HCB)**
  - Assess conformity to OIC Halal Standards and Guidelines
  - HCBs assess conformity of products / services and suppliers to specifications / requirements and additional halal requirements.

- **Product/Services/Management Systems**
  - Consumers / customers / clients / purchasers acquire products / services that conform to specifications and additional halal requirements or buy supplier that conform to specific and halal requirements. Regulatory authorities may set additional Halal requirements for products / services and suppliers.
GUIDELINES FOR THE HALAL ACCREDITATION BODY
ACCREDITING HALAL CERTIFICATION BODIES

1 SCOPE

1.1 The guidelines prescribe general guidance and procedures for the halal accreditation body assessing and accrediting halal certification bodies (HCBs). It is also appropriate as a requirements document for the peer evaluation process for mutual recognition arrangements between halal accreditation bodies of OIC member states.

1.2 For the purpose of these guidelines, the halal certification bodies are organizations providing the following conformity assessment services: product, service and/or management system certification according to OIC halal standard.

1.3 The accreditation services for halal certification system shall include the necessary working documents for the purpose of assessment by the certification body e.g. standards/guidelines, evaluation reports, inspection plans, check lists, test reports.

2 NORMATIVE REFERENCES

2.1 The following reference documents are indispensable for the application of these guidelines. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

- ISO 9000, Quality management systems -Fundamentals and vocabulary,
- OIC......... 20XX, OIC General guidelines on halal food,
- OIC......... 20XX, OIC Guidelines for bodies providing halal certification,
- ISO/IEC 17000, Conformity assessment -Vocabulary and general principles,
- ISO/IEC 17011, Conformity assessment -General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies.

3 TERMS AND DEFINITIONS, AND ABBREVIATIONS

3.1 General

For the purposes of these guideline, the terms and definitions given in the OIC General guidelines on halal food, the OIC Guidelines for bodies providing halal certification, ISO/IEC 17000 and ISO/IEC 17011 and the followings apply. Where the terms and definitions are neither included in this document nor in the terms and definitions of ISO 9000 apply.

3.2 Lead assessor

Assessor who is given overall responsibility for specified accreditation assessment activities and assessment team.

Note - Lead assessors serve as the leader of a team made up of assessors, technical assessors, technical experts and/or case officers.

3.3 Assessor

Person assigned by a halal accreditation body to perform, alone or as part of an assessment team, an assessment of a halal certification body.

3.4 Technical assessor

An assessor who conducts the assessment of the halal technical competence of the halal certification body for specific area(s) of the desired scope of accreditation.

3.5 Case officer

Halal accreditation body person who provides advice on the policies, procedures and regulations of the halal accreditation body to assessments team and client a halal certification body.

3.6 Technical expert

A person assigned by a halal accreditation body to provide specific knowledge or expertise with respect to the scope of accreditation to be assessed.

3.7 Accreditation

Third-party attestation related to a conformity assessment body conveying formal demonstration of its competence to carry out specific conformity assessment tasks like halal certification.
3.8 Accreditation of halal product/service/management systems

Accreditation by the OIC halal accreditation body (third party) or OIC Member Country halal accreditation body that a halal product/service conformity assessment body fulfils specified requirements and is competent to carry out the related halal certification activities.

3.9 Halal accreditation body

Halal accreditation body by the OIC that performs accreditation for certification bodies involved in halal product/services certification.

3.10 Decision on accreditation

Decisions taken with regard to the initial accreditation of the halal product/service certification bodies applying for accreditation, and the maintenance, suspension, withdrawal, cancellation, scope changes or renewal of their accreditation (re-accreditation).

3.11 Mark of the halal accreditation body

Logo approved by the OIC and used by a halal accreditation body for its identification.

3.12 Halal accreditation symbol

Symbol issued by the halal accreditation body and used by accredited halal certification bodies to indicate their accredited status.

3.13 Halal accreditation certificate

Formal document or a set of documents, stating accreditation for halal certification bodies that has been granted for the defined scope.

3.14 Abbreviations

IAF- International Accreditation Forum
ILAC- International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation
EA- European Cooperation for Accreditation
APLAC- Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation
HCB- Halal Certification Body
HAB- Halal Accreditation Body

4. HALAL ACCREDITATION BODY

4.1 Islamic responsibility and integrity

The halal accreditation body shall have the responsibility to comply with all Islamic requirements.

4.2 Legal responsibility

The halal accreditation body shall be a registered legal entity by the member states of OIC.

NOTE- Governmental halal accreditation bodies are deemed to be legal entities on the basis of their governmental status. Where the governmental halal accreditation body is part of a larger governmental entity, the government is responsible for identifying the halal accreditation body in a way that no conflict of interest with governmental halal certification bodies occurs. This halal accreditation body is deemed to be the “registered legal entity” in the context of this guidelines.

4.3 Structure

4.3.1 All the requirements given in Clauses 4.2.1-4.2.4 and 4.2.7-4.2.8 of ISO/IEC 17011:2004 and the following apply.

4.3.2 The halal accreditation body shall identify the top management having overall authority and responsibility for each of the following:

a) Development of policies relating to the operation of the halal accreditation body;

b) Supervision of the implementation of the policies and procedures;

c) Supervision of the finances of the halal accreditation body;

d) Decisions on accreditation;

e) contractual arrangements;

f) Compliance with OIC regulations related to halal requirements and/or halal certification requirements,

g) Delegation of authority to committees or individuals, as required, to undertake defined activities on behalf of top management;

4.3.3 The halal accreditation body shall have access to necessary expertise including Islamic rules and halal requirements for advising the halal accreditation body on matters directly relating to halal certification accreditation.

NOTE - Access to the necessary expertise may be obtained through one or more advisory committees (either ad-hoc or permanent), each responsible within its scope.
4.4 Impartiality
All the requirements given in Clause 4.3 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 apply.

4.5 Confidentiality
All the requirements given in Clause 4.4 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 apply.

4.6 Liability and financing
All the requirements given in Clause 4.5 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 apply.

4.7 Accreditation activity
All the requirements given in Clause 4.6 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 and the following apply.

4.7.1 The structure and operation of a halal accreditation body shall be such as to give confidence in its Islamic responsibility and integrity. The halal accreditation body shall be organized and operated so as to safeguard Muslims to be served or from receiving non halal products or services.

4.7.2 For safeguarding Islamic integrity and credibility, the halal accreditation body shall have documented and implemented an Islamic value based structure to provide opportunity for effective implementation of the Islamic values for the benefit of all Muslims worldwide throughout its activities.

4.7.3 The halal accreditation body shall ensure that the activities of its related bodies do not compromise the Islamic integrity and credibility especially about its financial activities.

5 MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

5.1 General
All the requirements given in Clause 5.1 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 apply.

5.2 Management system
All the requirements given in Clause 5.2 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 apply.

5.3 Document control
All the requirements given in Clause 5.3 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 apply.

5.4 Records
All the requirements given in Clause 5.4 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 apply.

5.5 Nonconformities and corrective actions
All the requirements given in Clause 5.5 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 apply.

5.6 Preventive actions
All the requirements given in Clause 5.6 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 apply.

5.7 Internal audits
All the requirements given in Clause 5.7 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 apply.

5.8 Management reviews
All the requirements given in Clause 5.8 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 apply.

5.9 Complaints
All the requirements given in Clause 5.9 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 apply.

6 HUMAN RESOURCES

6.1 Personnel associated with the halal accreditation body

6.1.1 All the requirements given in Clause 6.1.2 and 6.1.3 of ISO/IEC 17011 2004 and the following apply.

6.1.2 The personnel of a halal accreditation body shall act with due regard to Islamic values.

6.1.3 The halal accreditation body shall have a sufficient number of competent Muslim personnel (internal, external, temporary, or permanent, full time or part time) having the education, training, technical knowledge, skills and experience necessary for handling the type, range and volume of work performed.

6.1.4 The halal accreditation body shall have access to a sufficient number of assessors, including lead assessors, technical assessors, and technical and Islamic affairs experts to cover all of its activities including halal requirements.

6.1.5 The halal accreditation body shall require all personnel to commit themselves formally by a signature or equivalent to comply with the rules defined by the halal accreditation body. The commitment shall consider aspects relating to confidentiality, allegiance to Islamic rules on halal certification requirements and to independence from commercial and other interests, and any
existing or prior association with the halal certification bodies to be assessed.

6.1.6 The halal accreditation body shall ensure that all personnel involved in the halal certification bodies assessments and halal accreditation activities are Muslims technically competent and ethically committed to Islamic values.

6.2 Personnel involved in the accreditation process

6.2.1 All the requirements given in Clause 6.2 of ISO/IEC 17011:2004 and Annex A, and the following apply. 6.2.2 The criteria shall include for members of the assessment team training on OIC related documents for halal accreditation and quality management system. Personnel to be assigned to take part in the accreditation of halal food certification bodies shall have adequate experience in food safety system and/or the requirements for bodies providing assessment and certification of food safety management systems.

6.3 Monitoring
All the requirements given in Clause 6.3 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 apply.

6.4 Personnel records
6.4.1 All the requirements given in Clause 6.4 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 apply.

6.4.2 The accreditation body shall maintain up-to-date records on assessors and experts consisting of training of the OIC General guidelines on halal food and related Islamic rules.

7 ACCREDITATION PROCESS

7.1 Accreditation criteria and information

7.1.1 The general criteria for accreditation of halal certification bodies shall be those set out in the relevant normative documents such as OIC standards and OIC guidelines for the operation of the halal certification bodies.

7.1.2 All the requirements given in Clause 7.1.2 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 apply.

7.2 Application for accreditation

7.2.1 The halal accreditation body shall require a duly authorized representative of the applicant halal certification body to make a formal application that includes the following:
a) general features of the halal certification body, including corporate entity, name, addresses, legal status and human and technical resources;
b) general information concerning the halal certification body such as its activities, its relationship in a larger corporate entity if any, and addresses of all its physical location(s) to be covered by the scope of accreditation;
c) a clearly defined, requested, scope of accreditation;
d) an agreement to fulfil the requirements for accreditation and the other obligations of the halal certification body, as described in Clause 8.1;
e) its published rules or terms and conditions governing the certification scheme operated by the halal certification body;
f) information that provides a description of the certification services it undertakes, methods or procedures for which it seeks accreditation including limits of capability, where applicable;
g) its quality manual and relevant associated documents and records;
h) evidence of its ability to fulfil the requirements of OIC Guidelines for bodies providing halal certification and/or other accreditation standards;
i) date of internal audit and management review meeting.

7.2.2 The halal accreditation body shall review for adequacy the information supplied by the halal certification body and for acceptance of its application.

7.2.3 The following are basic requirements for acceptance of application:
a) applicant is from a constituted body, legally identifiable;
b) the compliance of status and operation of the applying halal certification body with the nationally and internationally recognized policies and principles;
c) the ability of the applicant halal certification body to meet the accreditation
requirements; (including has certified several clients);

d) declaration of undertaking duly signed by authorized representative of halal certification body; e) information on its regional/branch offices, if any;

7.2.4 The application of halal certification body shall be accepted upon the payment of the specified fee and shall be accordingly registered.

7.3 Resource review
7.3.1 The halal accreditation body shall review its ability to carry out the assessment of the applicant halal certification body, in terms of its own policy, its competence and the availability of suitable assessors and experts (including Islamic affairs expert).

7.3.2 The review shall also include the ability of the halal accreditation body to carry out the initial assessment in a timely manner. In this frame halal accreditation body shall check its Islamic and technical expertise needs according to halal products/services types certified by the applicant halal certification body to be accreditation.

7.4 Outsourcing/subcontracting of the assessment
7.4.1 All the requirements given in Clause 7.4 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 and the following apply.

7.4.2 The halal accreditation body shall ensure that the body that provides outsourced services with which the halal accreditation body signed a contract assigns Muslim personnel to the assessments and complies with other Islamic rules with regard to halal issues set out in this guidelines.

7.4.3 The halal accreditation body shall not outsource activities to halal accreditation bodies from countries other than OIC member countries.

7.5 Preparation for assessment
7.5.1 All the requirements given in Clause 7.5 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 and the following apply.

7.5.2 The halal accreditation body shall ensure that team members have enough knowledge and experience in the field of halal certification body to be accredited. In particular;

a) related OIC halal standards and/or OIC guidelines requirements,
b) Islamic rules related to the products/services/management systems certified by halal certification body to be accredited.

7.5.3 The compliance assessment of the accreditation process shall not proceed until the halal certification body is in a position that will enable the halal accreditation body's assessors to evaluate the management of all the certification system components including halal certification body's auditors performing certification audits.

7.6 Document and record review
7.6.1 The assessment team shall review all relevant documents and records supplied by the halal certification body (as described in Clause 7.2.1) to evaluate its system, as documented, for conformity with the OIC Guidelines and relevant standard(s) and other requirements for accreditation.

7.6.2 The halal accreditation body may decide not to proceed with an on-site assessment based on the nonconformities found during document and record review. In such cases, the nonconformities shall be reported in writing to the halal certification body.

7.7 On-site assessment
7.7.1 The assessment team shall commence the on-site assessment with an opening meeting at which the purpose of the assessment and accreditation criteria are clearly defined, and the assessment schedule or programme as well as the scope for the assessment is confirmed.

7.7.2 The assessment team shall conduct the assessment of the conformity assessment services of the halal certification body at the premises of the halal certification body from which one or more key activities are performed and, where relevant, shall perform witnessing at other selected locations where the halal certification body operates, to gather objective evidence that the applicable scope the halal certification body is competent and conforms to the OIC Guidelines and relevant
standard(s) and other requirements for accreditation.

7.7.3 The assessment team shall witness the performance of a representative number of personnel involved in certification process of the halal certification body to provide assurance of the competence of the halal certification body across the scope of accreditation. To select the certification activities in certain scopes, Table A1 in the OIC Guidelines for bodies providing halal certification is used. According to this table, production based categories have priority to be witnessed.

7.7.4 Arrangement for witnessing halal certification body’s auditors in action should be planned ahead by the halal accreditation body, the halal certification body and the lead assessor during the drawing up of assessment programme. Whatever the case, the following arrangements are necessary;

a) the halal certification body to seek prior agreement of any client concerned and shall explain the reason for the presence of halal accreditation body assessors as observers in the audit, and assure that the team’s presence will have no bearing on the outcome of the halal certification body’s own audit,

b) once consent is given, the halal certification body shall communicate to its client together with a list of essential information required by the halal accreditation body assessment team.

c) Halal accreditation body shall require the applicant and/or accredited halal certification bodies have an enforceable arrangements i.e. certification contract with organizations to provide, on request, access to the halal accreditation body assessment teams to witness the halal certification body’s audit team performing an audit at the organization’s site.

7.8 Analysis of findings and assessment report

7.8.1 All the requirements given in Clause 7.8.1 to 7.8.5 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 and the following apply.

7.8.2 The information provided to the accreditation decision-maker(s) shall include the following, as a minimum:

a) unique identification of the halal certification body;

b) date(s) of the on-site assessment;

c) assessment plan including witnessed audits;

d) assessment proposal approved by halal certification body;

e) assessment contract signed by authorized representative of the halal certification body;

f) name(s) of the assessor(s) and/or experts and/or Islamic affairs expert involved in the assessment;

g) unique identification of all premises assessed;

h) proposed scope of accreditation that was assessed;

i) the assessment report;

j) a/ statement on the adequacy of the internal organization and procedures adopted by the halal certification body to give confidence in its competence, as determined through its fulfilment of the requirements for accreditation;

k) information on the resolution of all nonconformities and objective evidences of corrective actions for closing all nonconformities;

l) any further information that may assist in determining fulfilment of requirements and the competence of the halal certification body;

m) where appropriate, a recommendation as to granting, reducing or extending accreditation for the proposed scope (it may contain suspension or withdrawal according to procedures of the halal accreditation body where needed);

n) client file of the halal certification body prepared by assigned staff of the halal accreditation body (this file can contain all related documents and records that mentioned above items).
7.9 Decision-making and granting accreditation

7.9.1 The halal accreditation body shall appoint a person, or group of persons or committee, to make a decision and grant accreditation, are competent and independent of the assessment of halal certification body that processed. If halal accreditation body appoints group of persons or committee to conduct decision-making, then all decisions shall be taken by unanimously, not by majority of the votes.

7.9.2 The halal accreditation body shall, prior to making a decision, be satisfied that the information provided in 7.8.2 is adequate to decide that the requirements for accreditation have been fulfilled.

7.9.3 The halal accreditation body shall, without undue delay, make the decision on whether to grant or extend accreditation on the basis of an evaluation of all information received in Clause 7.8.2 and any other relevant information.

7.9.4 Where the halal accreditation body uses the results of an assessment already performed by another halal accreditation body, it shall have assurance that the other halal accreditation body was operating in accordance with the requirements of this OIC guidelines.

7.9.5 The halal accreditation body shall provide an accreditation certificate to the accredited halal certification body. This accreditation certificate shall identify (on the front page, if possible) the following:
   a) the identity and logo/mark of the halal accreditation body approved by the OIC;
   b) the unique identity of the accredited halal certification body;
   c) all premises from which one or more key activities are performed and which are covered by the accreditation;
   d) the unique accreditation number of the accredited halal certification body given by halal accreditation body;
   e) the effective date of granting of accreditation and, as applicable, the expiry date;
   f) a brief indication of, or reference to, the scope of accreditation;
   g) a statement of conformity and a reference to the standards or OIC guidelines or other normative document(s), including issue or revision used for assessment of the halal certification body.
   h) the standards or normative documents, or regulatory requirements or types thereof, to which products, personnel, services or management systems are certified, as applicable,
   i) industry sectors, where relevant,
   j) product categories, where relevant.

7.10 Appeals

7.10.1 The halal accreditation body shall establish procedures to address appeals by halal certification bodies.

7.10.2 The halal accreditation body;
   a) shall appoint a person or group of persons or committee to investigate the appeal who are competent and independent of the subject of the appeal, If halal accreditation body appoints group of persons to investigate and finalize the appeal, then all decisions shall be taken unanimously not majority of the votes.
   b) shall decide on the validity of the appeal,
   c) shall advise the halal certification body of the final decision(s) of the halal accreditation body, d) shall take follow-up action where required, and
   e) shall keep records of all appeals, of final decisions, and of follow-up actions taken.

7.11 Reassessment and surveillance

7.11.1 Reassessment is similar to an initial assessment as described in Clause 7.5 to 7.9, except that experience gained during previous assessments shall be taken into account. Surveillance on-site assessments are less comprehensive than reassessments.

7.11.2 The halal accreditation body shall establish procedures and plans for carrying out periodic surveillance onsite assessments, other surveillance activities and
reassessments at sufficiently close intervals to monitor the continued fulfilment by the accredited halal certification body of the requirements for accreditation.

7.11.3 The halal accreditation body shall design its plan for reassessment and surveillance of each accredited halal certification body so that representative samples of the scope of accreditation are assessed on a regular basis. The interval between on-site assessments, whether reassessment or surveillance, depends on the proven stability that the services of the halal certification body have reached.

7.11.4 Halal accreditation body shall rely on either reassessment alone or a combination of reassessment and surveillance, as follows:

a) if based on reassessment alone, then the reassessment shall take place at intervals not exceeding 2 years; or

b) if the combination of reassessment and surveillance is relied upon, then the halal accreditation body shall undertake a reassessment at least every five (5) years. However, the interval between the surveillance on-site assessments should not exceed two (2) years. It is, however, recommended that the first surveillance on-site assessment be carried out no later than twelve (12) months from the date of initial accreditation.

7.11.5 Surveillance on-site assessments shall be planned taking into account other surveillance activities.

7.11.6 When, during surveillance or reassessments, nonconformities are identified, the halal accreditation body shall define strict time limits for corrective actions to be implemented not longer than three (3) months.

7.11.7 The halal accreditation body shall confirm the continuation of accreditation, or decide on the renewal of accreditation, based on the results of surveillance and reassessments described above.

7.11.8 The halal accreditation body may conduct extraordinary assessments as a result of complaints or changes (see Clause 8.1.2), etc. The halal accreditation body shall advise halal certification bodies of this possibility.

7.12 Extending accreditation

All the requirements given in Clause 7.12 of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 apply.

7.13 Suspending, withdrawing or reducing accreditation

7.13.1 The halal accreditation body shall establish procedures for the suspension, withdrawal or reduction of the scope of accreditation. The suspension duration shall not be longer than six (6) months.

7.13.2 The halal accreditation body shall make decisions to suspend and/or withdraw accreditation when an accredited halal certification body has persistently failed to meet the requirements of accreditation or to abide by the OIC rules for accreditation.

7.13.3 The halal accreditation body shall make decisions to reduce the scope of accreditation of the halal certification body to exclude those parts where the halal certification body has persistently failed to meet the requirements for accreditation, including competence.

7.13.4 The halal certification body may ask for reduction of its scope of accreditation.

7.13.5 The halal certification body may ask for suspension or withdrawing or cancellation of its accreditation.

7.14 Records on the halal certification bodies

7.14.1 The halal accreditation body shall maintain records on halal certification bodies to demonstrate that requirements for accreditation, including competence, have been effectively fulfilled. These records shall be kept up to date.

7.14.2 The halal accreditation body shall keep the records on halal certification bodies secure to ensure confidentiality. The records on halal certification bodies shall be managed appropriately in a manner as described in Clause 5.4.

7.14.3 Records on halal certification bodies shall include;
a) relevant correspondence,
b) application records (application forms etc.)
c) assessment records and reports,
d) objective evidences related to conformity or nonconformity(-ies), if any;
e) corrections, corrective actions and/or preventive actions related records or evidences,
f) records of committee deliberations, if applicable, and accreditation decisions, and
g) copies of accreditation certificates if available.

8 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HALAL ACCREDITATION BODY AND THE HALAL CERTIFICATION BODY

8.1 Obligations of the halal certification bodies

8.1.1 The halal accreditation body shall require the halal certification body to conform to the following.

a) The halal certification body shall commit to fulfil continually the requirements for accreditation set by the halal accreditation body for the areas where accreditation is sought or granted, as set out in Clause 8.2.3.

b) When requested, the halal certification body shall afford such accommodation and cooperation as is necessary to enable the halal accreditation body to verify fulfilment of requirements for accreditation and shall provide access to information, documents and records as necessary. This applies to all premises where the conformity assessment services take place.

c) The halal certification body shall provide access to those documents that provide insight into the level of independence and impartiality of the halal certification body from its related bodies, where applicable.

d) The halal certification body shall claim accreditation only with respect to the scope for which it has been granted and shall not make any statement regarding its accreditation that is misleading or unauthorized and in such a manner as to bring the halal accreditation body into disrepute.

e) Upon suspension or withdrawal of its accreditation, the halal certification body shall discontinue its use of all advertising matter that contains any reference to its accredited status.

f) The contract signed between the halal accreditation body and the accredited halal certification body does not exempt the halal certification body from its legal responsibilities and liabilities to any third party.

g) The halal certification body shall arrange the witness audits to assess its audit team's performance when requested by the halal accreditation body.

h) The halal certification body shall hold all the legal, financial and technical liability towards third parties in relation with the use of halal certificate covered by the accreditation.

i) The halal certification body shall pay fees as shall be determined by the halal accreditation body.

8.1.2 The halal certification body shall inform the halal accreditation body without delay of significant changes relevant to its accreditation in any aspect of its status or operation relating to;

a) its legal, commercial, ownership or organizational status,
b) the owners/shareholders, top management and key personnel,
c) main policies,
d) resources and premises,
e) scope of accreditation, and
f) other such matters that may affect the ability of the halal certification body to fulfil requirements for accreditation.
8.2 Obligations of the halal accreditation body

8.2.1 The halal accreditation body shall make the concerned parties to have access to the following information about the halal certification bodies and regularly update such information.

8.2.2 The halal accreditation body shall, where applicable, provide information about international (i.e. from GIC) arrangements in which it is involved.

8.2.3 The halal accreditation body shall give due notice to the halal certification bodies of any changes to its or GIC’s requirements for the accreditation. It shall take account of views expressed by interested parties before deciding on the precise form and effective date of the changes. Following a decision on, and publication of, the changed requirements, it shall verify that each accredited body carries out any necessary adjustments within stipulated period.

8.3 Reference to accreditation and use of symbols

8.3.1 The halal accreditation body shall have a policy governing the protection and use of the halal accreditation mark that is intended for use by its accredited halal certification bodies. An accredited halal certification body is allowed to use this mark on its reports or certificates. The halal accreditation mark shall be used for premises of halal certification body that are included in the accreditation.

8.3.2 The halal accreditation body shall take effective measures to ensure that the accredited halal certification body;

a) fully conforms with the requirements of the halal accreditation body for claiming accreditation status, when making reference to its accreditation in communication media such as the Internet, documents, brochures, or advertising,

b) only uses the halal accreditation symbols for premises of the halal certification body that are specifically included in the accreditation,

c) does not make any statement regarding its accreditation that the halal accreditation body may consider misleading or unauthorized,

d) takes due care that no report or certificate nor any part thereof is used in a misleading manner,

e) upon suspension or withdrawal of its accreditation (however determined), discontinues its use of all advertising matter that contains any reference to an accredited status, and

f) does not allow the fact of its accreditation to be used to imply that a product, process, system or person is approved by the halal accreditation body.

8.3.3 The halal accreditation body shall take suitable action to deal with incorrect references to accreditation status, or misleading use of halal accreditation symbols found in advertisements, catalogues, etc.

8.3.4 Suitable actions include request for corrective action, withdrawal of accreditation, publication of the transgression and, if necessary, other legal action.

ANNEX - A

Qualifications and Competence of Assessors and Technical Experts

A.1 FUNCTIONS OF PERSONS INVOLVED IN ASSESSMENT

An assessment team needs to be comprised of individuals who have the necessary technical knowledge to cover the desired scope of accreditation, knowledge in applying the accreditation standard and good communications and interpersonal skills to competently perform an assessment.

Table A1 - Some functions of persons involved in assessments
## A.2 CRITERIA FOR ASSESSORS/LEAD ASSESSORS/TECHNICAL ASSESSORS

### A.2.1 Assessor attributes (based on ISO 19011)

**A.2.1.1** Assessors should be able to apply the attributes of Clause 6.2.1 in order to:

a) Obtain and assess objective evidence fairly;
b) Remain true to the purpose of the assessment without fear or favour;
c) Evaluate constantly the effects of assessment observations and personal interactions during an assessment;
d) Treat concerned personnel in a way that will best achieve the assessment objective;
e) React with sensitivity to the national conventions of the country in which the assessment is performed;
f) Perform the assessment process without deviating due to distractions;
g) Commit full attention and support to the assessment process;
h) React effectively in stressful situations;
i) Arrive at generally acceptable conclusions based on objective evidence collected during assessments;
j) Remain true to a conclusion despite pressure to change that is not based on objective evidence.

### A.2.2 Knowledge and skills

**A.2.2.1** Knowledge of and skills in applying accreditation criteria

a) Assessors and technical assessors should understand the criteria in the standard used in accreditation (i.e., DIG Guidelines for bodies providing halal certification, ISO/IEC 17021 and/or ISO/TS 22003 and/or ISO/IEC Guide 65) and the halal accreditation body’s policies applicable to the desired scope of accreditation;
b) Technical experts should understand the fundamental basis for the requirements in the standard used in accreditation (i.e., DIG Guidelines for bodies providing halal certification, ISO/IEC 17021 and/or ISO/TS 22003 and/or ISO/IEC Guide 65) and the halal accreditation body’s policies;
c) Assessors should also appropriately interpret and apply the criteria to actual assessment situations.

A.2.2.2 Knowledge of and skills in applying assessment and quality principles, practices and techniques

a) Assessors should possess the knowledge and skills to apply assessment principles, practices and techniques to actual assessment situations and apply them to different assessments and still ensure that the assessments are conducted in a consistent and systematic manner. This knowledge and these skills include all the steps in the assessment process including planning, preparing, performing, reporting, following up on issues, verifying closure of non compliances from previous assessments, and closing the assessment;

b) Assessors should be skilled in assessment performance techniques including interviewing, audit tracing or trailing, managing time, listening, audit sampling, communicating orally and in writing, collecting assessment evidence, and analyzing assessment observations and drawing appropriate conclusions while maintaining the confidentiality and security of assessment information;

c) Assessors should have a general knowledge of quality systems and processes typical of the halal certification body to be assessed. This may include, but not be limited to: historical data, quality policy and objectives, quality planning, quality control, quality assurance, corrective and preventive actions, and implementation of continuous improvement.

d) Assessors should be able to comprehend the organizational size, structure, functions and relationships of the body under assessment; its general business processes and related terminology; and the cultural and social customs of the its personnel;

e) Assessors and technical experts should have the appropriate technical skill and ability to determine that quality tools and processes used by the body under assessment are effectively implemented and utilized;

f) Lead assessors should have additional knowledge and skills including:

I. Assisting in the selection of team members, if relevant and applicable;

II. Preparing the assessment plan and making effective use of resources during the assessment;

III. Leading the assessment team;

IV. providing direction and guideline to assessors in training and technical experts.

V. Preventing and resolving conflicts;

VI. Making decisions relating to the assessment;

VII. Leading the assessment team to reach conclusions;

VIII. Representing the assessment team with the management of the laboratory or inspection body; and

IX. Drafting, coordinating and submitting the assessment report in such a way that it allows the halal accreditation body and the assessed organization to take actions and decisions.

A.2.2.3 Technical knowledge of specific certification body practices

a) knowledge of the specific management system standard or other normative documents

b) knowledge of the certification body's processes

c) knowledge of the specific products and processes and organizational structure of the client

d) knowledge of the cultural norms for the geographical location of the client

e) In addition to the competence requirements for the auditors and audit team leader, at least one of the audit team members (which may include a technical expert) shall have a detailed level of knowledge of the specific products and processes and organizational structure of the client in order to judge the effectiveness of the management system.
A.3  DEMONSTRATION OF ASSESSOR / LEAD ASSESSORS / TECHNICAL ASSESSORS COMPETENCE

A.3.1  General

Assessors need to be competent in order to effectively plan and conduct assessments and report assessment results. An assessor’s competence is based on the foundation provided by education, training and experience. Assessor competence IS measured by the demonstration of the application of specific assessor knowledge, skills and personal attributes, as described in Section A.2.

A.3.2  Methods of demonstration and evaluation of assessor competence

Various methods may be used by halal accreditation bodies to evaluate the competence of assessors. These methods should be used in an appropriate combination to give the required level of confidence in assessor competence. Demonstration and evaluation of assessor competence include, but are not limited to the following methods:

A.3.2.1  Examination/testing/training evaluation: Written or oral examination may be used to determine an assessor's knowledge and skills (Section A.2.2) as appropriate to the needs of the halal accreditation body.

A.3.2.2  Demonstration: The planned and formal witnessing of specific assessor skill performance, such as in role play situations.

A.3.2.3  Formal evaluation: The formal, planned and structured witnessing and evaluation of assessor performance during an actual assessment.

A.3.2.4  Casual observation: The unplanned or informal witnessing of limited assessor performance. This observation could take place in actual assessment or other situations in which assessment skills or personal attributes can be observed.

A.3.2.5  Documentation: Recorded information, such as resumes, assessment logs, training certificates, transcripts, certifications, and professional licenses.

A.3.2.6  Attestation: Oral or written statement; a testimonial. An attestation may give different levels of confidence depending on the credibility and independence of the provider.

A.3.2.7  Verification: An independent check or provision of additional objective evidence obtained to support other methods of evaluating competency, such as attestation and documentation.

A.3.2.8  Review of previous work: The review of assessor reports, completed checklists, assessment plans or other writing samples.

A.3.2.9  Interview: Interviews may involve one or more interviewers and the use of selection boards or evaluation panels. Interviews may also be used to verify evidence from other sources.

A.3.3  Competence with accreditation criteria and reference documents

Assessors and technical experts should demonstrate an awareness and understanding of accreditation criteria and appropriate reference documents, and the application of these requirements to assessment situations relevant to their assigned assessment functions. Assessors and technical experts should be able to:

a) Identify compliance to requirements;

b) Evaluate the adequacy and effectiveness of fulfilling these requirements, when appropriate; and

c) Relate any non-conformities found to the corresponding accreditation requirements.

Note - Examination, formal observation and demonstration are useful for determining competence in this area.

A.3.4  Competence with assessment principles, practices and techniques

Assessors should demonstrate knowledge and skills in using assessment principles, practices and techniques.

Note - Examination, formal observation and demonstration are useful for determining competence in this area.

A.4  SELECTION AND INITIAL QUALIFICATION

A.4.1  General

For each type of person involved in assessment, halal accreditation bodies should have documented procedures and criteria for selection and use of persons having suitable or sufficient skill, knowledge, and experience for their assigned assessment function(s).
A.4.2 Selection criteria The criteria used by halal accreditation bodies for selection of assessor candidates should be performance oriented and flexible enough so that assessor suitability is judged on a case-by-case basis taking into account factors such as education and demonstrated working knowledge, working experience, training, and assessment experience, communication/interpersonal skills and auditing skills. Halal accreditation bodies should use a combination of these factors in either ranking and/or establishing minimum qualification requirements for potential assessor candidates. The following sections present recommendations for minimum criteria.

A.4.2.1 Education: Halal accreditation bodies should require at least post-secondary qualification in a discipline in the same professional area with the activity to be witnessed. In some cases, extensive experience in the relevant fields of expertise may be substituted for formal qualification. Degree of technical knowledge and certification expertise should be established, if possible, through actual examination, demonstration and/or documentation. (See Section A.3.2) If this is not possible, then attestation from technical peers to confirm the relevance of their educational and "knowledge" credentials should be obtained.

A.4.2.2 Working experience: For lead assessors, halal accreditation bodies should require at least four years of experience in a technical field, two of which should be in quality management, quality assurance or quality system auditing related to certification activities. For technical assessors and technical expert for assessment of certification, halal accreditation bodies should require two years of work experience in the assigned field of assessment. Depending upon the complexity and sophistication of the field, these minimum numbers of years may need to be increased.

A.4.2.3 Training: For lead assessors of halal certification, halal accreditation bodies should require successful completion of a training course or a combination of training courses which covers the topics as specified in related DIG Guidelines.

For technical assessors, halal accreditation bodies should require successful completion of a training course or a combination of training courses which covers the topics as specified in related DIG Guidelines.

A.4.2.4 Assessment experience: For lead assessors, halal accreditation bodies should require sufficient assessment experience using relevant accreditation criteria such as OIC Guidelines for bodies providing halal certification, ISO/IEG 17021 and/or ISO/TS 22003 or ISO/IEG Guide 65 in the capacity of an assessor or have understudied five assessments using ISO/IEG 17021 and/or ISO/TS 22003 or ISO/IEG Guide 65 or equivalent criteria accompanied by a lead assessor. For technical assessors, halal accreditation bodies should require the equivalent of attendance at one or more assessments as trainee assessor.

A.4.2.5 Language proficiency: Assessors and technical experts should be proficient in both the spoken and written language of the halal accreditation body. Where an assessment takes place in which part or all of the assessment is conducted in a language other than that spoken and written by the assessor, an interpreter (provided independently from the body being assessed) should be used.

Note - Scoring systems: Halal accreditation bodies may find it useful to establish formal scoring systems which define minimum credits for a combination of education, experience and training in order to be considered as an assessor. After attaining the minimum credits, candidates are evaluated for suitability to conduct assessments using additional competency-based criteria.

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Acknowledgement of contributions:
This guidelines has been prepared by the representative of following OIC-SEG Member Countries and the OIC and its Organs

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| Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) | The SEG Secretariat |

ANNEX A
(Normative)

. Table 1 -Guideline parameters for electrical stunning

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<th>Type of animal</th>
<th>Current (Ampere)</th>
<th>Duration (Second)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicken</td>
<td>0.25-0.50</td>
<td>3.00-5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamb</td>
<td>0.50-0.90</td>
<td>2.00-3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goat</td>
<td>0.70-1.00</td>
<td>2.00-3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep</td>
<td>0.70-1.20</td>
<td>2.00-3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calf</td>
<td>0.50-1.50</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steer</td>
<td>1.50-2.50</td>
<td>2.00-3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cow</td>
<td>2.00-3.00</td>
<td>2.50-3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bull</td>
<td>2.50-3.50</td>
<td>3.00-4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo</td>
<td>2.50-3.50</td>
<td>3.010-4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ostrich</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Electrical current and duration shall be validated and determined by the organization, taking into account the type and weight of the animal and other varying factors.
### Major Russian Food Retail Chains

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Chain (Chains)</th>
<th>Specially</th>
<th>Number of Stores</th>
<th>Presence in the region</th>
<th>Contacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pyaterochka, Perekrestok, Mercado</td>
<td>Food products</td>
<td>853</td>
<td>Central, Northwestern, Urals, Siberian, and Volga Federal Districts</td>
<td>Address: 109029, Moscow, Central Kalitnikovskaya Str. H-28, 8-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Phone: (495) 662-88-88, (495) 789-95-95, ext. 51-111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@x5.ru">info@x5.ru</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.e5.ru">http://www.e5.ru</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metro Cash &amp; Carry, Real, Media Markt</td>
<td>Food products</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Moscow and Moscow Region, St. Petersburg, Ekaterinburg, Nizhny Novgorod, Volograd, Voronezh, Kazan, Krasnodar, Krasnoyarsk, Lipetsk, Naberezhnye Chelny, Novosibirsk, Omsk, Orenburg, Perm, Rostov-on-Don, Ryazan, Saratov, Stavropol, Tula, Tyumen, Ulyanovsk, Ufa, Chelyabinsk, Yaroslavl</td>
<td>+7 (495) 502-10-01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.metro-cc.ru">www.metro-cc.ru</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magnit</td>
<td>Food products</td>
<td>2197</td>
<td>Central, Northwestern, Southern, Volga, and Urals Federal Districts</td>
<td>Contacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Head Office:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Address: 350072, Krasnodar Str., Solnechnaya, 15/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tel/Fax: (861) 210-98-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hot Line 8-800-200-90-02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>e-mail: <a href="mailto:info@gw.tander.ru">info@gw.tander.ru</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://magnit-info.ru">http://magnit-info.ru</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Auchan,</td>
<td>Food products</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Moscow, Moscow Region, St. Petersburg, Samara, Ekaterinburg,</td>
<td>+7 (495) 644-25-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.auchan.ru">www.auchan.ru</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenta</td>
<td>Food products</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>St. Petersburg, Tyumen, Novosibirsk, Astrakhan, Volograd, Barnaul, Omsk, Tolyatti, Veliky Novgorod, Nizhny Novgorod, Petrozavodsk</td>
<td>Commercial Service, the direction of Food (Procurement issues of food)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>+7 (812) 380-61-64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Commercial.Department.Food @lenta.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Common Information Center: 8-800-700-41-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Zverkov Nicholas, Manager of wholesale sales: +7-921-330-74-18, <a href="mailto:nikolai.zverkov@lenta.com">nikolai.zverkov@lenta.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kopeika</td>
<td>Food products</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>23 regions</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kopeyka.ru/partners">http://www.kopeyka.ru/partners</a> (Working through bidding system)</td>
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</table>
**EXPORT NEWS 09 to 11/2011**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group/Dixy, Megamart, Minimart, Vimart</th>
<th>Food products</th>
<th>388</th>
<th>Central, Urals, and Northwestern Federal Districts</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sedmoi, Kontinent, Nash</td>
<td>Food products</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>Moscow, Moscow Region, Chelyabinsk, Ryazan, Perm, Kaliningrad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O'Kei</td>
<td>Food products</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>St. Petersburg, Tolyatti, Krasnodar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paterson</td>
<td>Food products</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>Moscow, Moscow Region, St. Petersburg, Tver, Samara, Kazan, Nizhnekamsk, Almetyevsk, Arkhangelsk, Penza, Vfa, Sochi, Stavropol, Kislovodsk, Chelyabinsk, Orenburg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monetka</td>
<td>Food products</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>Sverdlovsk Region, Chelyabinsk Region, Tyumen Region, Kurgan Region, Bashkiria, Moscow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karusel</td>
<td>Food products</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>St. Petersburg, Volgograd, Izhevsk, Dzerzhinsk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holiday Classic, Sibiriada Kora</td>
<td>Food products</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>Siberian and Urals Federal Districts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SOURCE:**
EMBASSY OF PAKISTAN
TRADE OFFICE
MOSCOW

**PROCEDURE FOR ‘EXPORT NEWS’ SUBSCRIPTION FOR NEW SUBSCRIBERS**

The Export News as you may have noticed is now not only promptly and regularly issued each week, but its contents are updated and are relevant to the needs of our exporting stakeholders.

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TDAP offers an excellent opportunity to showcase and develop business with international buyers through participation in this fair.

Int’l Home Furnishing Exhibition
High Point, North Carolina, USA

October 22-27, 2011

Product-in-Focus
Furniture – Home textile

Participation Fee Rs: 63,000/-

Participation will be subject to terms & conditions available on TDAP’s website: http://www.tdap.gov.pk

Last date to apply: June 25, 2011

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Trade Development Officer
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e-mail: naseer.ahmed@tdap.gov.pk

Muhammad Khan
Deputy Director (Americas)
Tel: 021-99206470
e-mail: muhammad.khan@tdap.gov.pk

Trade Development Authority of Pakistan
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE – GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
Block-A, 3rd Floor, Finance & Trade Centre,
Shahrah-e-Faisal, Karachi-75350
Fax: 021-99201527
e-mail: tdpaw@tdap.gov.pk
Discover Business Opportunities with Trade Development Authority of Pakistan

CeBIT, Hannover is the world’s largest trade fair for the IT industry. In the last edition, over 3,587 exhibitors from 73 countries showcased their products to over 334,000 international trade visitors from 83 countries. TDAP offers an excellent opportunity to showcase and develop business with international buyers through participation in this fair.

March 06-10, 2012

CeBIT

Hannover - Germany


Participation Fee Rs. 255,000/= Participation will be subject to terms & conditions available on TDAP’s webportal http://www.tdap.gov.pk

Naseer Mughal Trade Development Officer
Tel: 021-99207212 Cell: 0321-7220355
e-mail: naseer.ahmed@tdap.gov.pk

Trade Development Authority of Pakistan
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE-GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
Block-A, 3rd Floor, Finance & Trade Centre, Shahrah-e-Faisal, Karachi-75350 Fax: (021) 99201527 e-mail: tdap@tdap.gov.pk
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY / FIRM</th>
<th>TEL/FAX/E-MAIL</th>
<th>PRODUCTS / ITEMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>RUSSIA</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M/s. &quot;Razguliay&quot;</td>
<td>Tel: 510-17-21 E-mail: <a href="mailto:krupa@raz.ru">krupa@raz.ru</a>, <a href="mailto:denis.atyushev@raz.ru">denis.atyushev@raz.ru</a> Web-site: <a href="http://www.raz.ru">www.raz.ru</a></td>
<td>Rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zudin Maxim Yuryevich</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denis Atyushev</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riazansky pr-t, 61/4,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moscow, RF, 109428</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AGROALYANCE</strong></td>
<td>Tel: (812) 703-30-43/47 <a href="http://www.agral.ru">www.agral.ru</a></td>
<td>Rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elena Orlova</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kozyrev Viktor Alexeevich</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vasylevskiy ostrov, 14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>line, House 7, 5 floor,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>business center, Pveabrazhenskiy, St. Petersburg, Moscow</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MISTRAL</strong></td>
<td>Tel: (495) 741-7888 Fax: (495) 741-7774</td>
<td>Rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pudovkina street,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House # 4,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moscow</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>King Food</strong></td>
<td>Tel: +7 (495) 740-78-71 Fax: +7(495) 78023-25</td>
<td>Rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Miladji Waddah</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Moscow</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Agrointorg</strong></td>
<td>Tel: +7 (495) 290-45-54; Fax: +7 (495) 200-02-94; (495) 200-02-94 E-mail: <a href="mailto:vtdagro@oss.ru">vtdagro@oss.ru</a> www: <a href="http://www.oss.ru">http://www.oss.ru</a></td>
<td>Rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trading House</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Name: Skiba Ivan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivanovich</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skatertny per., 4, RF,</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>123995, Moscow</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agroprodtorg</strong></td>
<td>Tel:+7(3852) 249495; 309495 Fax: (3852) 24-94-95</td>
<td>Rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sichev Alexandr Nikolayevich</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pr-t Komsmolsky, 80,</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamaul city, RF, 656056</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moscow</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AgroProdTsentr</strong></td>
<td>Tel:(495)1909161,7856880 Fax: (495)1909161,785-68-80</td>
<td>Rice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zashitin Sergey Emihleevich</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>pr-d l-y Viazovskiy, vlad.4,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moscow, RF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>&quot;Impexs foods&quot;</strong></td>
<td>Tel: +7 (495) 7907603 URL: <a href="http://www.impexfoods.ru">www.impexfoods.ru</a></td>
<td>Rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michurinskiy prospect 51,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>119607 Moscow</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Embassy of Pakistan, Trade Office, Moscow

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Company Name  :
Contact Person  :
Address   :
Tel / Fax / Email  :
Subscriber for  :  Last 3 Years  5 Years  10 Years  More than 10 years
The bulletin Contents :  Very Helpful  Helpful  Normal  Not Helpful
to help increase exports :  Highly Effective  Effective  Not useful
Quality of Presentation :  Excellent  Good  Normal  Not good
Most Useful Part  :  Export News  Market Reports  Enquiries
Delivery Time  :
Comments / Suggestions  : Within 2 days  4 days  one week
for further improvement: (please do suggest)

I thank you for your support and help.

Anis Alam Saeed
Director (I&C)
Trade Development Authority of Pakistan

The form may be sent back through fax or mail at the following address:

Trade Development Authority of Pakistan
Block -A, 5th Floor,
Finance & Trade Center,
Karachi.
Tel: 99207214
Fax 99206474
Email: tdap@tdap.gov.pk
URL: http://www.tdap.gov.pk

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