



AGREED MINUTES

THE FIRST MEETING OF IMT-GT WORKING GROUP ON HALAL PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

2-3 SEPTEMBER 2007

SONGKHLA, THAILAND

INTRODUCTION

1. The First Meeting of the Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT) Working Group on Halal Products and Services (WG-HAPAS) was held in Songkhla, Thailand on 2-3 September 2007.
2. The Thai Delegation was headed by Dr. Porametee Vimolsiri, Senior Advisor on Policy and Plan, Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB). The Indonesian Delegation was led by Ms. Jogarini Pramati, Head, Subdivision of Estate Crop and Husbandry, Directorate of Domestic Marketing, Ministry of Agriculture. The Malaysian Delegation was led by Mrs Rosita Rahim, Deputy Undersecretary, Strategic Planning and International Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry.
3. List of Delegates appears as Annex I.

WELCOMING REMARKS AND OPENING STATEMENTS

4. Dr. Porametee Vimolsiri, on behalf of the Thai delegation welcomed all delegates to the First HAPAS meeting, regarding it as the continuity of the previous Halal subgroup under IMT-GT ITG on Development of Hinterland and Intratrade. He pointed out the potential of IMT-GT region which should never be overlooked. He expressed his appreciation on the generosity of Indonesia as the world biggest Muslim nation and Malaysia as a modern Muslim country to entrust Thailand as the lead country for the HAPAS working group. He wished that all three Member countries in HAPAS would achieve all aims deeming tighter collaboration, and closer relationship.

The full text of his opening remarks appears as Annex II

5. The head of the Indonesian Delegation, Mrs. Jogarini Pramati, expressed her appreciation to the Thai Delegation for the excellent preparation for this meeting. She mentioned that the Road Map IMT-GT was adopted at the Second IMT-GT Summit Meeting in Cebu, the Philippines on January 12, 2007. The new IMT-GT Working Group on Halal Products and Services was introduced and adopted at that meeting. This Meeting was a great opportunity for all of the member countries to discuss important matters that needed further action outlined in the Roadmap. She believed all member countries has an important role to play in ensuring the IMT-GT Roadmap for development of 2007-2011 is fully implemented. She insisted that Indonesia looked

forward to our three countries continuing to draw inspiration and built a future of shared prosperity and dynamic cooperation on Halal aspect.

The full text of her opening remarks appears as Annex III

6. In her opening remarks, Mrs. Rosita Rahim, the Head of the Malaysian Delegation appreciated the efforts of the Thai Delegation for arranging the meeting and providing all facilities for this meeting. She mentioned that this meeting was a good forum to pursue matters relating to IMT-GT on a long term basis. Halal training and other cooperation required long term projects to accomplish. However, there was a need to look into greater details on all issues that are related to the activities pertaining to Halal matters. She hoped that our presence could assist establishing further rapport for a long-term relationship to pursue common agendas under the IMT-GT.

The full text of her opening remarks appears as Annex IV

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON OF THE MEETING

7. The Meeting unanimously elected Dr. Poramete Vimolsiri, Head of the Thai Delegation as Chairperson of the First Meeting of WG-HAPAS of the IMT-GT.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE

8. The Meeting appointed two members from each delegation to serve in the Drafting Committee, as follows:

Indonesia: Ms. Jogarini Pramati
Prof. Dr. Anas Fauzi

Malaysia: Mr. Dzulkifly Mat Hashim
Mr. Kamaruddin Baharom

Thailand: Assoc. Prof. Jongjit Angkatavanich
Asst. Prof. Dr. Tipyanate Ariyapitipun

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

9. The Meeting adopted the Agenda appears as Annex V

STRUCTURE OF THE WORKING GROUP ON HALAL PRODUCTS AND SERVICES (HAPAS)

10. The Thailand delegation by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Winai Dahlan presented the background on the structure and rationale of IMT-GT WG-HAPAS. It pre-existed as a Subgroup on Halal Food under the ITG on Development of Hinterland and Intra-Trade during 2002-2006. After the restructuring and new roadmap drafting the new working group was formed during SOM and MM and established with Thailand as the lead country of WG-HAPAS during ISOM and reported by SOM and MM to the Leader's Summit in January 2007. He gave the information on the past and ongoing activities of HAPAS, the brief progress of activities of Halal Science Center, Chulalongkorn University e.g. the 1st International Halal Science Symposium, the IMT-GT Halal Expo in conjunction with the Maolid Nabi Celebration and the magazine, Halal Insight, dedicated for disseminating IMT-GT accomplishments. He also pointed out the significance of IMT-GT potentials

and of the interesting Halal trade figures of 1.8 billion US \$ spreading over 148 countries make food consumption up to 590 billions US \$.

The full text of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Winai Dahlan's presentation appears as Annex VI

11. Regarding the proposed IMT-GT structure of WG-HAPAS, which was noted in the IMT-GT Planning meeting in Kota Kinabalu during 31 January to 1 February 2007, it is drafted as 3 subgroups (1) Subgroup on Halal Science, Education and Culture (HASEC), (2) Subgroup on Halal Trade (HATRADE), and (3) Subgroup on Halal Verification and Accreditation (HAVAC). Each one should be led by each Member Country. After exchange views on this agenda, the meeting considered that at this stage HAPAS should be treated as a Working Group encompassing all activities without subgroups to allow for closer consideration in each aspect notified by the Malaysian Delegation and practicality and convenience in participation as pointed by Indonesian Delegation. The terms of reference of WG-HAPAS should be further discussed and adopted by Member Countries before new activities can be implemented.

Malaysian delegation added that elements related to Halal matters like certification and regulation should involve religious authorities from each country who will lay down the general guiding principles.

The Meeting agreed to focus on delivering its plan and activities and convey to the next SOM and MM for progress report.

The Meeting took note of the suggestion of JBC Thailand, Mr. Somkiat Anurat that the Meeting should consider subgroup for products and for services as HAPAS's name signified.

PRESENTATION OF THE ONGOING PROJECTS AND THOSE ACCOMPLISHED

12. Thailand Delegation by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Winai Dahlan presented the ongoing activities of HAPAS which is also mentioned in the first part of the previous agenda. He reported on the progress of IMT-GT Halal Laboratory Network which was formed during the Laboratory Networking Meeting on 27 October 2005 at Halal Science Center, Chulalongkorn University (CU), Thailand involving 3 core institutions namely CU (Thailand), Institut Pertanian Bogor (Indonesia), and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) of Malaysia. He congratulated UPM for having government budget to deliver more progress and IPB for initiating Halal Science Center in Indonesia. He informed the meeting that training courses in Halal Laboratory Network will be initiated in 2008. He also introduced to the meeting the Institute of Halal Food Research and Development, Prince of Songkhla University, as one of the key institutions in the IMT-GT region.
13. As for the activity on organizing the International Halal Science Symposium (IHSS) he reported on its continuity. Malaysia will host the 2nd IHSS in Kuala Lumpur in November 2007 and IPB will organize the 3rd IHSS in 2008.
14. Regarding the IMT-GT Halal Expo in conjunction with the Maolid Nabi Celebration held in Krabi, Thailand during 23-25 February 2007, he reported that approximately 200,000 people participated and hundreds of SME contribution in the Halal Expo. He thanked Dato Faudzi Naim Hj. Noh representing JBC Malaysia in actively participated in the event and rendered commitment to involve in the next annual Halal Expo in 2008.

The Meeting acknowledged all the progress made with appreciation in the accomplishment Thailand reported.

15. The Indonesian Delegation by Prof. Dr. Anas Fauzi informed the Meeting about the establishment of Halal Science Center, Bogor Agricultural University (Institut Pertanian Bogor briefly called IPB) in 2006. It is organized as an Integrated Laboratory. The missions of this Center were to conduct research on scientific methods for authentication of materials related to halalness, supporting the implementation of Islamic Law for the purpose of halalness through scientific analysis and training, enhancing the national capacity in halalness, establishing Halal-GMP/HACCP for food, drug and cosmetics, and developing halal science laboratory networking national/worldwide. He also informed that the HSC has cooperated with the Halal Science Center of Chulalongkorn University, Thailand and anticipated more collaboration on laboratory training in 2008. He also proposed the agenda for HSC-IPB 2008 including a round-table discussion for strengthening the national networks and understanding, the roadmap and database development, and the arrangement of the 3rd International Conference on Halal Science. He also informed of the general guidelines of Halal certification conducted by religious authorities of Indonesia.

The full text of Prof. Dr. Anas Fauzi's presentation appeared as Annex VII

The Meeting acknowledged all the progress made with appreciation in the accomplishment Indonesian delegation reported.

16. The Malaysian Delegation by Prof. Dr. Yaakob Che Man reported the Meeting on the IMT-GT ongoing project on halal scientific, academic networking, and exchange proposed at the 4th meeting of Sub-ITG on Halal Foods on September 2006 by the Halal Products Research Institute (HPRI) of Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM). This project has applied for an annual budget from the Economic Planning Unit (EPU) of the Prime Minister's Department starting from 2007 to 2011. Three institutions involved in this project including IPB's Halal Science Center, the HPRI-UPM of Malaysia, and the Halal Science Center at Chulalongkorn University of Thailand.

Short-Term Program involved working visits and meetings of directors and head of laboratories of each institution in order to share information on facilities and chart the course of action for the execution of R&D programs in each of the Member Countries.

Long-Term Program involved the training attachment of scientists from each institution at their counterpart location, developed the research methodologies, specific techniques for the detection and quantification of doubtful ingredients with the state-of-the-art analytical instruments, and developed database for halal traceability.

Finally, he proposed a tentative meeting of networking partners to be held before the end of 2007.

The full text of Prof. Dr. Yaakob Che Man's presentation appears as Annex VIII and IX

The Meeting acknowledged all the progress made with appreciation in the accomplishment Malaysian delegation reported.

SUGGESTED PROJECTS

17. The Thailand Delegation by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Winai Dahlan presented Halal Insight Magazine project. This publication is initiated by the Halal Science Center with an aim to inform the progress of the WG-HAPAS activities performed by the Halal Science Center and to publicize its activities worldwide.

The Meeting appreciated this activity and recognized the Halal Insight Magazine as the Halal Science Center's effort to promote IMT-GT WG-HAPAS.

18. The Andaman Halal Industry Group of Thailand which represented the SMEs on Halal business network in the Andaman region of Thailand informed the meeting on the initiation of IMT-GT Halal minimart project in the south of Thailand to provide Halal products for consumers. This will create franchise of Halal minimart business. The project was successfully operated in Satoon and expected to be launched in several branches in other southern provinces of Thailand.
19. Two representatives from Century Logistics, Penang, Malaysia: presented a project on Penang Halal logistics hub. They reflected the significance of logistics to facilitate trade within IMT-GT. By far, IMT-GT may leverage on the Malaysian leadership in Halal compliance certification and infrastructure. Century has proposed to support the logistics needs of halal manufacture, retailers and consumers through its hub in Penang,

The full text of this project appears as Annex X

In addition JBC Thailand by Mr.Anirut Samutkochorn provided comments that the logistics system will have an impact on cost reduction. Such hub in either Penang or other places like Klang, Songkhla, Ranong will thus show the strength of IMT-GT in Halal trade.

In order to promote such strength, Dato Faudzi Naim Hj. Noh, JBC Malaysia commented that not only logistics hub played role but also the SMEs activity like business incubator on Halal products and services (BIHAPS) initiated by Halal Science Center.

The Meeting took note of 3 suggested projects.

OTHER MATTERS

20. The Head of the Indonesia Delegation informed that the future activities of Indonesia on the IMT-GT on Halal Products and Services for 2008 had been planned. Those activities included the annual IMT-GT Halal Food & Products Expo, International Halal Science Symposium, Halal Scientific and Academic Networking, and Website of Halal Products.

The full text of Indonesian delegation presentation appears as Annex XI

21. Assoc.Prof. Dr.Winai Dahlan invited all delegations to the Informal Meeting (IM) of IMT-GT HAPAS at IMPACT Convention Center, Muang Thong Thani, Bangkok 7-9 September 2007 whereas the accommodation and local transportation will be provided for delegations by the Organizing Committee of World of Muslim Event 2007.

ADOPTION OF THE AGREED MINUTES OF THE MEETING

22. The minutes of the Meeting was adopted.

Done at Songkhla, Thailand, on 3rd September 2007

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Head, Subdivision Estate Crop and Husbandry
Directorate of Domestic Marketing
Ministry of Agriculture
Head of Indonesian Delegation

(MRS. ROSITA RAHIM)
Deputy Undersecretary
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