



AGREED MINUTES

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

15 JULY 2009

AMARI WATERGATE HOTEL, BANGKOK, THAILAND

INTRODUCTION

1. The Third Meeting of the Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT) Working Group on Halal Products and Services (WG-HAPAS) was held at Amari Watergate Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand on 15 July 2009.
2. The Thai Delegation was headed by Dr. Porametee Vimolsiri, Senior Advisor on Policy and Plan, the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB), Thailand. The Indonesian Delegation was led by Dr. Nyoman Oka Tridjaja, Director of Quality Assurance and Standardization, Ministry of Agriculture, Indonesia. The Malaysian Delegation was led by Mr. Mohd Noor Rashid B. Mat Taharim, Deputy Undersecretary, International Section, Strategic Planning and International Division, Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry, Malaysia.
3. List of Delegates appears as **Annex I**.

AGENDA 1: WELCOMING REMARKS AND OPENING STATEMENTS

4. Dr. Porametee Vimolsiri, on behalf of the Thai Delegation welcomed all delegates to the Third HAPAS Meeting, stated that the value of Halal products and services had been rising each year. The objective of the WG-HAPAS is to promote Halal products for member countries and provide a platform to strengthen the potential of Halal products by planning as well as implementation of various programmes and projects.

The full text of his opening remarks appears as **Annex II**

5. The Head of the Indonesian Delegation, Dr. Nyoman Oka Tridjaja, expressed his appreciation to the Thai Delegation for the excellent preparation of the meeting. He mentioned that Halal food was not only concerned with the cleanliness and hygiene but also the ingredients must be in compliance with Islamic law. The Halalness of products has been misunderstood as a complicated process. It is our responsibility to correct this perception. Indonesia has laws and regulations on consumer protection and regulations of food safety that are being enforced. It is a big challenge for IMT-GT to play a role in developing Halal foods as well as some other Halal products such as cosmetics to serve the needs of all consumers.

The full text of his opening remarks appears as **Annex III**

6. In his opening remarks, Mr. Mohd Noor Rashid B. Mat Taharim, the Head of the Malaysian Delegation appreciated the efforts of the Thai Delegation for arranging the meeting and providing all facilities for this meeting. It is vital that this meeting should discuss and share information and expertise pertaining to all viable programmes/ projects/ activities that could spur and generate investments and development in the IMT-GT subregion. Accordingly, effective collaboration, cooperation and understanding were imperative in forming a stronger IMT-GT networking and strategic linkages with a view to meeting IMT-GT Halal objectives and responsibilities for the benefit of the ASEAN nations and global market at large.

The full text of his opening remarks which appears as **Annex IV**

AGENDA 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

7. The Meeting adopted the Agenda which appears as **Annex V**

AGENDA 3: BUSINESS ARRANGEMENT

Election of Chairperson of the Meeting

8. The Meeting unanimously elected Dr. Poramettee Vimolsiri, Head of Thai Delegation as Chairperson of the 3rd Meeting of IMT-GT HAPAS.

Election of Members of the Drafting Committee

9. The Meeting appointed members from delegation of each member country to serve in the Drafting Committee, as follows:

Indonesia: Dr.Nyoman Oka Tridjaja

Malaysia: Mr. Dzulkifly Mat Hashim
Mr. Norazizul Abdul Aziz

Thailand: Assoc.Prof.Dr.Ekarin Saifah
Asst. Prof. Dr.Tipayanate Ariyapitipun

AGENDA 4: PROGRESS REPORT AND UPDATE OF THE ONGOING AND COMPLETED PROJECTS

10. a) Dr.Nyoman Oka Tridjaja on behalf of the Indonesian Delegation reported the progress of Halal Science Centre at Bogor Agricultural University (Institut Pertanian Bogor briefly called IPB). Activities included laboratory analysis and standardization for supporting Halal certification and Islamic organizations, establishing collaborative networking, Halal/Haram database development, facilitating academic activities in Halal studies for students and communities, providing academic assistance (workshop/course/training) in the implementation of Halal quality assurance (Halal-GMP/HrACCP) along with other organizations. His presentation appears in **Annex VI**.
- b) Mr. Dzulkifly Mat Hashim, Head of Laboratory of Product and Process Innovation at UPM, Malaysia updated the meeting on the accomplishment of the International Halal Science Symposium 2008 organized by Halal Science Centre, IPB which was held on 1 December 2008 at International Convention Centre, IPB.

The Meeting took note of the progress made and appreciated the accomplishment of the Indonesian programme.

11. a) Mr. Norazizul Bin Abdul Aziz, Manager of Stakeholder Management, Halal Industry Development Corporation (HDC), Malaysia briefed the meeting on the achievement of International Halal Science Symposium – World Halal Research Summit 2009 (WHR'09) which was held on 7-8 May 2009. The 2nd International Conference in research advances related to Halal was successfully organized. The two-day conference which was held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC) has provided valuable insight on the latest development of strategies, technologies, emerging trends, product innovation and most importantly advance researches imperative to the growth of Halal industry. WHR' 09 was officiated by the Prime Minister of Malaysia, His Excellency Dato' Sri Najib Tun Abdul Razak.

Themed as “Creating Opportunities Through Science”, the conference had proceeded with interesting discussions, especially on new product innovations such as alternative ingredients, lubricants, pharmaceuticals and medical technologies. Eight conference papers were presented by renowned speakers from both international and local organizations such as Cornell University, Texas A&M University and Shell Switzerland. More than 500 participants, coming from 165 organizations in 22 countries attended the conference, which tripled the number of attendees in 1st conference held in 2007.

For the conference resolution, it was proposed by the participants that in the next conference, there should be a focus on advance researches in Genetically Modified Food (GMF), Biotechnology in Halal industry and alternative ingredients.

- b) Mr. Rafaiq Bakri Bin Zakaria, Director of Strategic Management Division, Department of Standards, Ministry of Science, Technology & Innovation, Malaysia reported on the completion of Awareness Programme on Halal Products Standard and Conformance Structure. A total of 35 participants including 3 Indonesians and 4 Thais attended the programme which was organized by Department of Standards, Malaysia and SIRIM Berhad on 19-21 March 2009.

The Meeting took note of the progress made and appreciated the accomplishment of the Malaysian programme.

12. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Winai Dahlan updated the meeting on the activities of WG HAPAS under the responsibility of the Halal Science Center, Chulalongkorn University (HSC-CU), Thailand. The report included the IMT-GT Phuket Halal Expo which was held on 29 April to 3 May 2009 at Sapanhin, Phuket. Among the activities held during the expo were Muslim cultural shows and business matching for entrepreneurs.
13. The IMT-GT World of Halal Science Industry and Business International Conference 2009 (WHASIB 2009) was held with the theme ‘Halal Science-Thailand Signature’ on 1-2 May 2009 at Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort and Spa in Phuket. The event which was officiated by Dr. Virachai Veeramethekul, Minister attached to the Thai Prime Minister’s Office as representative of Prime Minister of Thailand, attracted a total of 267 participants from 12 countries. A Memorandum of Understanding on the establishment of Global Halal Forensic Laboratory Network among renowned institutions from 6 countries was also signed.

14. Halal SMEs Workshop on Restaurant, Hotel and Tourism was also organized on 3 May 2009 back to back to WHASIB 2009 at the same venue. The event attended by 225 participants was officiated by Dr. Khunying Kallaya Soponpanich, Minister of Science and Technology.
15. The International Halal Forensic Laboratory Training was organized by HSC-CU on 17-24 August 2008 under the sponsorship of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand. Participants included scientists from IMT-GT member countries as well as 12 trainees from 4 countries including 3 from Malaysia, 4 from Indonesia, 4 from Philippines and 1 from Republic of South Africa. Four scientific laboratory methodologies were covered during the course.
16. The meeting was updated that the Government of Thailand had approved the budget for IMT-GT ICT Superhighway for Halal Logistics and Traceability. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Winai Dahlan reported the progress of this project including the recruitment of 24 food factories, 2 abattoirs, 1 transportation firm as well as the development of ICT system for tracing and tracking the Halal integrity of products during management of logistics. The project attracted delegation of both Indonesia and Malaysia for future collaboration.
17. Dr. Winai Dahlan reported that IMT-GT Bahrain Halal Exhibition was held on 29 June-1 July 2009 at Ritz Carlton Hotel in Manama, Bahrain. This event was sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand and officiated by the Prime Minister of Bahrain. In the spirit of IMT-GT, food products from Indonesia and Malaysia were also exhibited alongside with those from Thailand.
18. Dr. Winai Dahlan also informed the meeting that HSC-CU would organize the conference on Halal Science and Technology at ANUGA, the world's biggest food exposition, on 11 October 2009 in Cologne, Germany and extended the invitation to member countries.

The Meeting took note of the progress made and appreciated the accomplishment of the Thailand programme.

The full presentation appears as **Annex VII.**

19. a) Dato' Hj. Faudzi Naim Hj. Noh, Chairman of JBC Malaysia, highlighted that Halal superhighway was a very interesting project and had common interest among member countries. However, activities implemented by IMT-GT member countries should have close collaboration and technology sharing in order to attract Halal business in the region and in order to bring maximum benefits to the members.
- b) Asst. Prof. Dr. Akkharawit Kanjana-opas, Deputy Director for Special Affairs, Prince of Songkhla University, Hatyai representing the JBC Thailand, supported the idea of harmonization and maximization of Halal activities especially in the area of Halal standard recognition.
- c) Dr. Hassan Ibrahim requested that every new activity being planned should be promptly informed to CIMT in order that the activities could be included in the Calendar of Event in IMT-GT website.
- d) Ms. Salmah Aspari, General Manager of PIHH Development Sdn. Bhd., Malaysia proposed the concept of the IMT-GT region Halal hub which will establish IMT-GT subregion as a hub of agro-based Halal raw materials and ingredients as well as a

transition hub to link Halal industries. This Halal hub also can serve as a Centre of Excellence and Advancement in Halal Sciences, Technology and Innovation to develop Halal K-workers and professionals for the Halal industry at large.

The presentation appears as **Annex VIII.**

AGENDA 5: NEW PROJECT AND PROPOSAL FROM MEMBER COUNTRIES

20. Mr. Norazizul Abdul Aziz proposed a list of new initiative as follows;

- (a) World Halal Research Summit 2010, Malaysia International Halal Showcase (MIHAS) 2010 and World Halal Forum;
- (b) Halal Training Workshop to be conducted back to back with World Halal Research Summit 2010 in May 2010;
- (c) Halal consultancy services to companies from IMT-GT member countries who are interested in producing Halal products and acquiring Malaysian Halal certification;
- (d) Training for Halal Awareness Programme (HAP) and Halal Industry Programme (HIP) for IMT-GT member countries. The details appear as **Annex IX.**

21. The Head of the Malaysian Delegation informed the meeting that MIHAS 2010 would be held from 23 - 27 July 2010. The dates for WHR Summit 2010 and World Halal Forum will be informed accordingly.

22. Mr. Dzulkifly Mat Hashim presented a proposal on IMT-GT Halal Science and Management Symposium with the theme *Upholding the Sanctity of Halal* tentatively planned to be held on 15 -16 December 2009 at Pan Pacific Hotel, Kuala Lumpur International Airport. The details appear as **Annex X.**

The Meeting expressed its support for the proposed activities and requested for a special rate imposed on participants from IMT-GT member countries.

23. Following the decision made during the 3rd IMT-GT Planning Meeting in Pekanbaru, Riau, Indonesia, the meeting endorsed the setting up of a task force to harmonize standards and certification of Halal products among the IMT-GT member countries. Malaysia agreed to host the first meeting of the task force in Kuala Lumpur. The Department of Standards, Malaysia and HSC-CU had been tasked to discuss the details.

24. The Head of the Indonesian Delegation highlighted that the decision to set up the task force was discussed and agreed in the Indonesian in-country IMT-GT Mid Term Review Consultation held on 9 – 10 July 2009 in Batam, Riau Island, Indonesia. In that meeting JBC Indonesia also requested the assistance of SOM in harmonizing the certification of Halal products among IMT-GT member countries.

AGENDA 6: OTHER MATTERS

25. As an overall improvement of the organizing of the Working Group meetings and SOM, Dr. Hassan Ibrahim proposed the following:

- (a) The main report (in MS Word) of the WG accomplishment from the previous to the current SOM;
- (b) The presentation (in MS Powerpoint) to be presented by the Country Chairman of the WG; and

- (c) The executive summary of the main report to be inserted in the Senior Officials' Meeting Agreed Minutes.

This proposal is to harmonize the format of reports for the Working Group to be submitted to SOM. He reminded the WG to forward the requested reports to CIMT within three weeks of the WG meetings. The samples of reports and presentation appear as **Annex XI**.

The Meeting supported the proposal and committed to respond within the time frame given.

26. The meeting agreed on the proposal by the Head of Malaysian Delegation for the IMT-GT HAPAS to develop a directory comprising experts pertaining on Halal areas at large.
27. Ms. Ramrada Ninnad, the representative of Mae Fah Luang Foundation under Royal Patronage (MFLF) of Thailand briefed the Meeting on the progress of MFLF's ongoing sustainable alternative livelihood development project in Aceh, Indonesia. This programme was initiated on the invitation of the Indonesian Government and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and supported by the Thai Government. The MFLF has been assisting in the establishment of an 'Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Centre' in Aceh Besar District, Aceh comprising holistic activities, encompassing irrigation, agriculture, livestock, poultry, and public health. This Centre has become a learning centre on integrated sustainable development for Aceh, and contributed to the vision of the Government of Aceh to raise per capita income from 1 USD to 2 USD per day for its impoverished population of over 1.5 million people. This programme included an integrated goat development component to improve local goat production through cross breeding. This programme provides a good model of cooperation among IMT-GT member countries through provision of expertise from Thailand, resources from Indonesia, and capitals from Malaysia.

The Meeting supported the activity.

AGENDA 7: DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF IMT-GT HAPAS

28. The Meeting was informed by the Head of Malaysian Delegation that Malaysia would host the 4th Meeting of IMT-GT HAPAS in 2010. The date and venue would be informed accordingly.

AGENDA 8: ADOPTION OF THE AGREED MINUTES OF THE MEETING

29. The minutes of the Meeting was adopted and signed by the Heads of IMT-GT Delegation.

Done at Bangkok, Thailand, on 15th July 2009

(DR. NYOMAN OKA TRIDJAJA)

Director of Quality and Standardization
Directorate General of Processing and Marketing of Agricultural Products
Ministry of Agriculture
Head of Indonesia Delegation

(MOHD NOOR RASHID B. MAT TAHARIM)

Deputy Undersecretary
International Section
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The National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB).
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