

**Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.**

**Trader Notice MPD 002/2016**

**To: All Food Business Operators intending to export Dairy Products.**

**Subject: Changes to Health Certificate Requirements for export to the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC)**

Dear Trader,

We wish to inform you that there is now a new health certificate available on the application system, in line with new requirements as laid out in the GCC's guide for controls of Imported Foods 2016. This certificate supersedes previous health certificates for export of dairy products to the Gulf Cooperation Council states, namely:

1. Bahrain - or Kingdom of Bahrain,
2. Kuwait
3. Oman - or Sultanate of Oman
4. Qatar
5. Saudi Arabia - or Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)
6. UAE - United Arab Emirates

The new health certificate is appended below. The key change relates to the provision of information on Halal certification for Dairy products where applicable. The Guidelines define Halal certification as follows:

“Certificate issued by the country of origin or country of exportation by an accredited (GCC) Islamic agency (society), attesting that: the product (such as meat, fat, gelatin, rennet, the broth) has been prepared , produced and circulated in accordance with the rules of Islamic Sharia law; or the food which contains animal products or by-products is halal and has been produced in accordance with the rules of Islamic Sharia law; and that the food has been handled with equipment and instruments which are not against the teachings of Islamic Sharia law and in accordance with the GCC technical regulations. “

This health certificate will be required for all consignments received in **Kuwait** from **December 17<sup>th</sup> 2016** for all GCC other countries for consignments received from 01/01/2017.

**Milk Policy Section**  
**November 2016**