

HALAL PRODUCTS STANDARD CERTIFICATION PROCESS



OVERVIEW

Thailand is an open society, and a country which maintains stability and unity despite differences in belief and religion. His Majesty the King and the government uphold and support all religions and freedom of worship is allowed.

Muslims comprises Thailand's largest religious minority. They live throughout the whole Kingdom with more than half concentrated in the southern provinces. Muslims are from all walks of life, political, professional and commercial.

Over 3,000 mosques are located nationwide; more than 200 Muslims schools offer secular and religious education. Muslim organizations make the arrangements for believers to perform the Hajj, while other help young students to travel and further their studies abroad.

In this atmosphere of openness, Thai society remains Thai in its essence, one people living peacefully together with a common objective, no matter what religious beliefs they may hold.

MILESTONES OF THAILAND'S HALAL AFFAIRS

1948	Office of Sheikhul Islam conducted Halal certification to poultry abattoir
1998	Ministry of Industry adopted Codex Halal standard as Thailand's Halal standard as Thailand's Halal Standard
1999	ASEAN Nations setup a Halal food guidelines for the member countries
2001	The Central Islamic Committee of Thailand (CICOT) set up regulations for Halal certification / accreditation as common standard for the whole country
2002	Thai government proposed the strategy for strategy for establishing Halal Food Hub in Southern region
2003	<p>Thai government provided the financial support in initiating the development of Halal - HACCP system</p> <p>Thai government sponsored the establishment of The Halal Standard Institute of Thailand under the supervision of CICOT</p> <p>The Royal Thai Cabinet granted a budget for the establishment of the Central laboratory and Scientific Information Center for Halal Food Development so-called " Halal - CELSIC" at the Faculty of Allied Health Science, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok</p>

BACKGROUND

The Halal Standard Institute of Thailand, an exclusive statutory religious organization, governed by the Central Islamic Committee of Thailand (CICOT) was established on August 11, 2003 with an aim to legislate and administrate Islamic religious affairs in the Kingdom of Thailand. The statutes for the administration of organization of the Islamic Act (the "AOI" Act) were proclaimed by the Parliament and received a Royal approval on October 17, 1997

The CICOT has a Sheikul Islam , (Chularajmontri), Islamic spiritual leader, as chairman of the board, His Excellency , by virtue of his position, shares administrative power and delegates authority to the rest of chairmanship at the local level known as the Provincial Islamic Committee. The Provincial Islamic Committee exists in 36 of Thailand's 76 provinces and has its own administrative board. The 36 members are nominated to represent their constituents in the CICOT.

This Halal Standard Institute of Thailand has received budget support from Thai government with an aim to administrate Islamic affairs in the Kingdom of Thailand to comply with government policy to promote Thailand food industries as the **Kitchen of the World**. Thailand is one of the most important food production countries with high potential in production and exportation

The Thai government is working to establish the Halal products Industrial Estate in Pattani Province, in the southern region of Thailand, to promote Halal products or export, especially to Arab countries in the Middle East.

POLICY

-  The Halal Standard of Thailand (HIT) aims to develop the Halal products standards controlled by the Central Islamic Committee of Thailand (CICOT)
-  To develop the accreditation process and procedures for Halal products standard of Thailand as the sole standard
-  To coordinate and cooperate with concerned bodies in both the public and private sectors to develop Halal products of Thailand to meet the requirements of Halal products standards as well as coordinate with international Halal bodies and accredited Halal certifying organizations globally.

VISION

The Halal Standard of Thailand (HIT) is a national institute aimed to develop Halal products standard and conduct Halal product inspection in accordance with Islamic Law (Shariah) and parallel to internationally accepted and reliable standards for both domestic and foreign consumers.

MISSION

1. To study research, develop and establish Halal products standards in conformity with Islamic Law and parallel to International food standards.
2. To study and analyses problems with the barriers to the Halal products standard accreditation process and identify corrective actions, while developing acceptable and reliable procedures for food producers consumers and concerned bodies of both the public and private sectors internally and externally
3. To provide training in order to develop manpower related to Halal products standard activities to improve highly qualified personnel to support production and expand export opportunities.
4. To carry out inspections of Halal products sites upon food producers request, the results of which will forwarded to the executive committee for consideration.
5. To ensure traceability of already certified Halal products, raw materials, production processes in order to maintain quality and standard according to Halal products Standard requirements.
6. To coordinate and collaborate with public and private bodies in order to develop Thai Halal products to meet international Halal products standards and also coordinate with international Halal organizations and other Halal accreditation groups to increase reliability and acceptability of Thai Halal products standard.
7. To increase a wide range of knowledge and understanding of Halal products standard and Halal products standard accreditation to ensure more reliability and acceptability among concerned groups.
8. To disseminate information on accreditation and permission for using the Halal logo on certain products as well as revoking Halal accreditation and

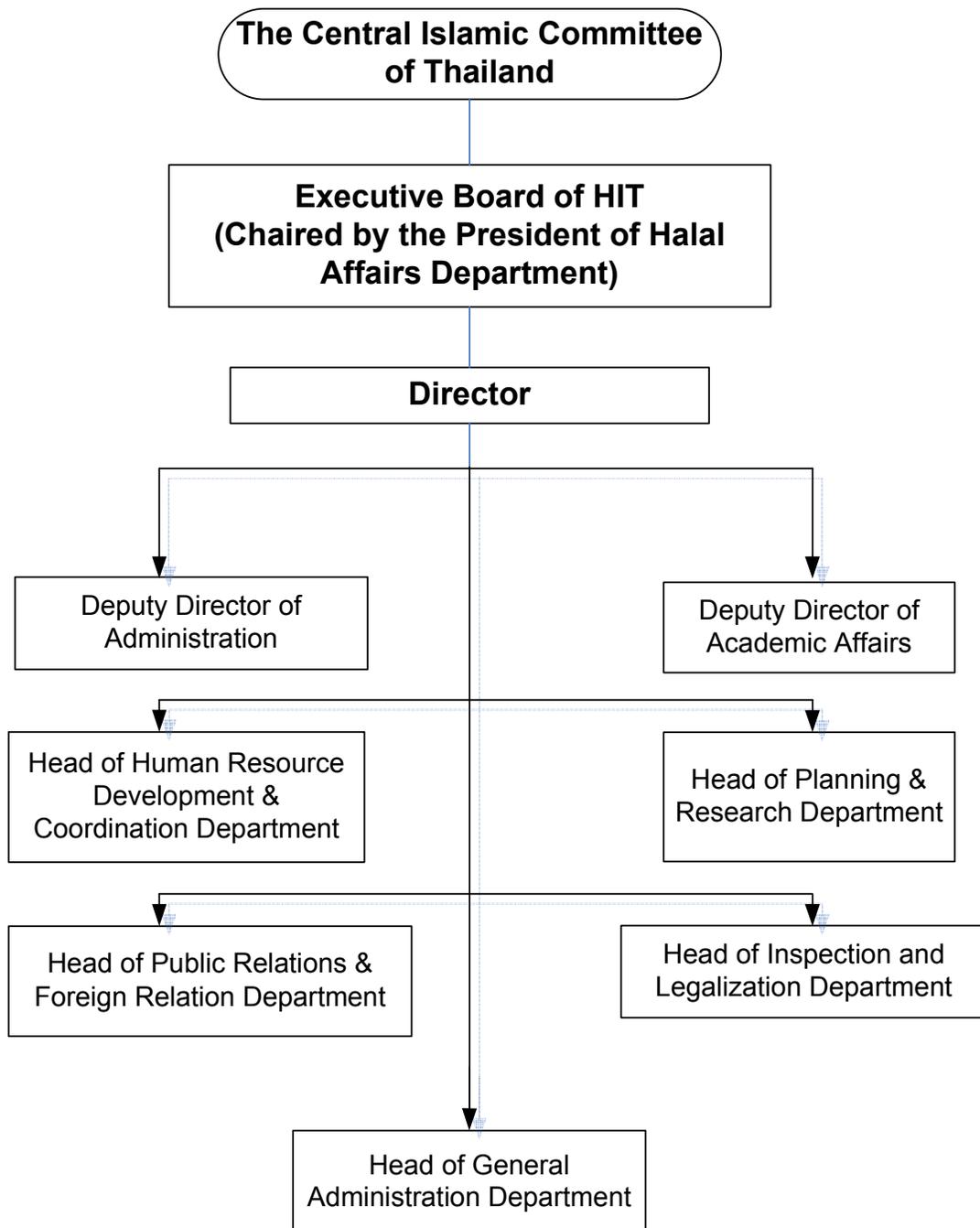
Halal Logo from food products not conforming to Islamic Law (Shariah) and international food standards.

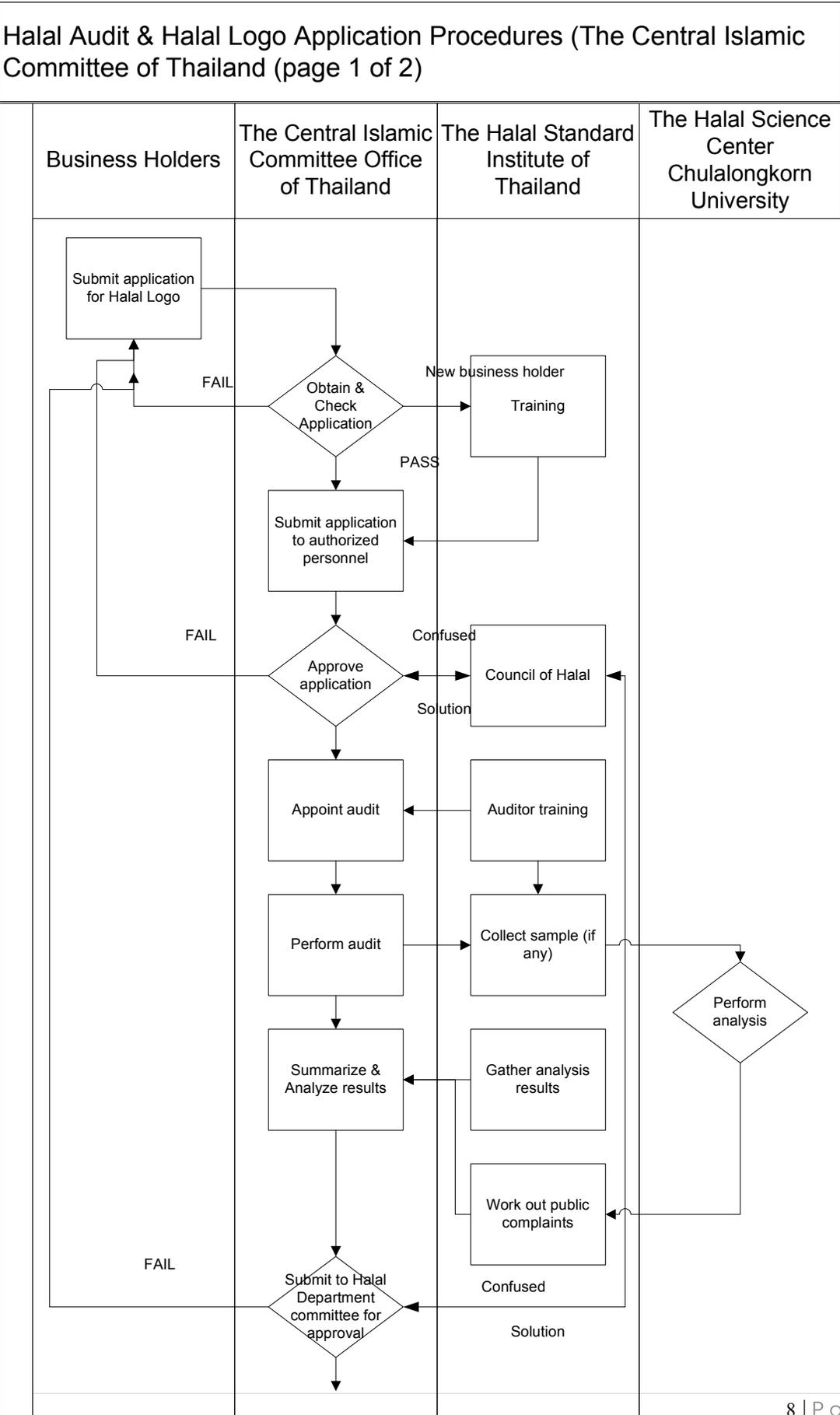
9. To carry out other obligations assigned by the Central Islamic Committee Thailand. (CICOT)

CORPORATE STRATEGY

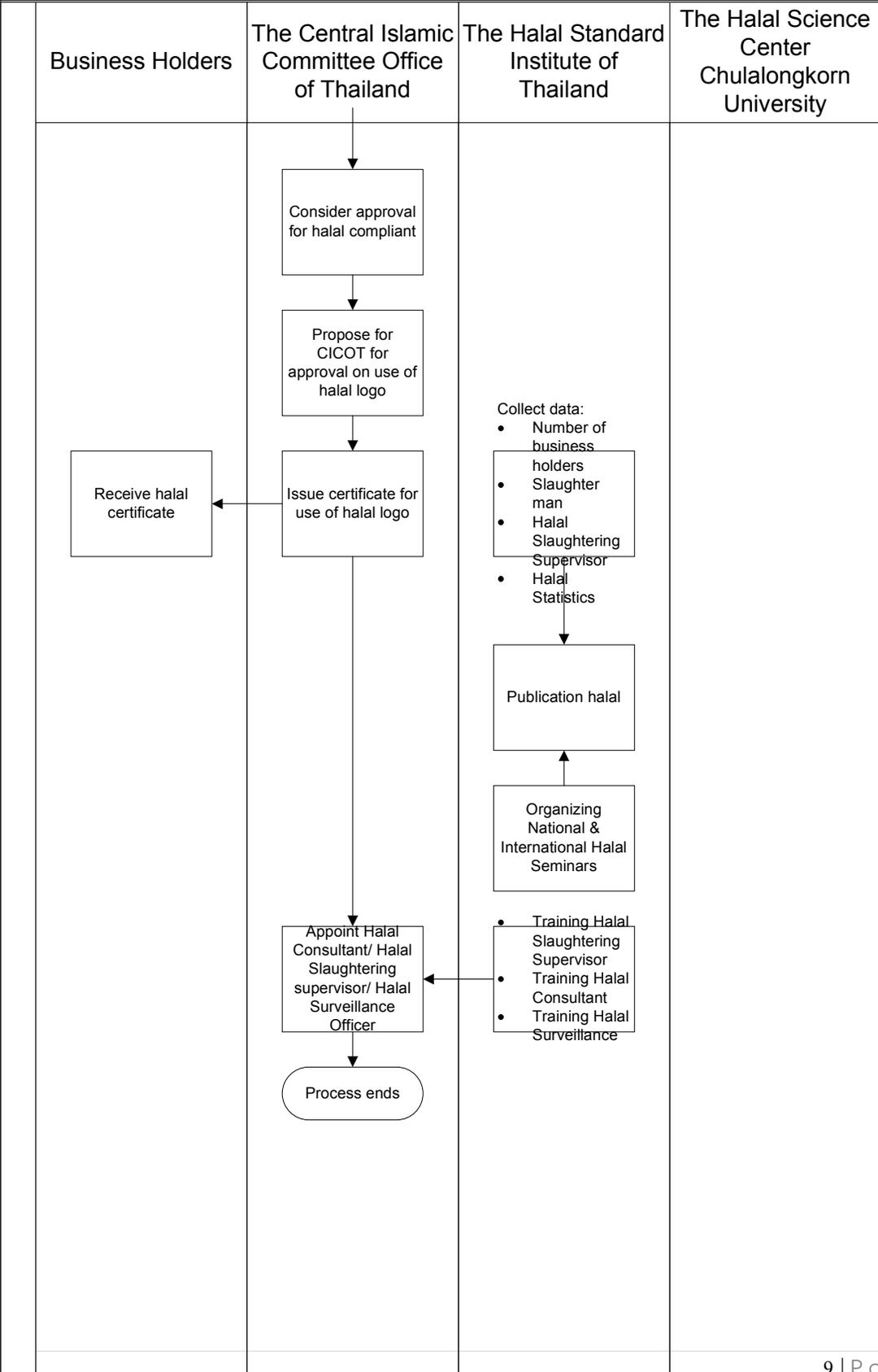
- ✚ Management on the basis of good governance
- ✚ Determine the context of standards and management of Halal products quality
- ✚ Build more reliability and acceptability of Halal products standard
- ✚ Promote and support Halal products for export

Organization Chart The Halal Standard Institute of Thailand (HIT)





Halal Audit & Halal Logo Application Procedures (The Central Islamic Committee of Thailand (page 2/2))



EXPLANATION OF HALAL STANDARD CERTIFICATION DIAGRAMME (THE CENTRAL ISLAMIC COMMITTEE OF THAILAND)

1. In any province without Provincial Islamic Committee, business holder seeking approval for use of Halal Logo is required to submit application to the Central Islamic Committee Office of Thailand.
2. Officer of the Central Islamic Committee Office of Thailand receives application and screen documents submitted.(In case of failure to pass document screen, business holder is required to correct problems and resubmit application.)
3. New business holder without previous Halal certification is required to attend Halal training jointly held by the Halal Standard Institute of Thailand.
4. After completion of training, the submitted application is further submitted to authorized person for consideration. (In case of the application fails, business holder is required to correct problems and resubmit application.)
5. After approval, the Central Islamic Committee Office of Thailand forms audit committee, which consists of Islamic academic, food scientist, industrial manufacturing specialist (specialists from Department of Livestock in case of slaughter house). Any how, if some new products attached for certification are still confused in Halal status this case must be transferred to the Council of Halal Scholars (Ulama) awaiting for solution.
6. On-site Audit Procedures: Before audit, officer in charge of audit coordinates with targeted business holder for audit arrangement on prescheduled date and time. Audit team performs audit on each step of entire manufacturing process and also issues audit report and evaluation report. Audit team also performs audit at all warehouses and raw material inventories.
7. Audit team collects sampled product and raw materials with nonconforming possibility. The collected samples are sent to the Halal Standard Institute of Thailand, which further forwarding the samples to the Halal Science Center at Chulalongkorn University for LAB analysis. Analysis results are returned to the Halal Standard Institute of Thailand, where officer in charge collects audit results and LAB analysis data for submission to the Halal Affairs Committee for approval. (In case of disapproval, business holder is required to correct problem and resubmit application within required period.)
8. After approval by the Halal Affairs Committee, the application is further submitted to the Central Islamic Committee of Thailand for final approval for

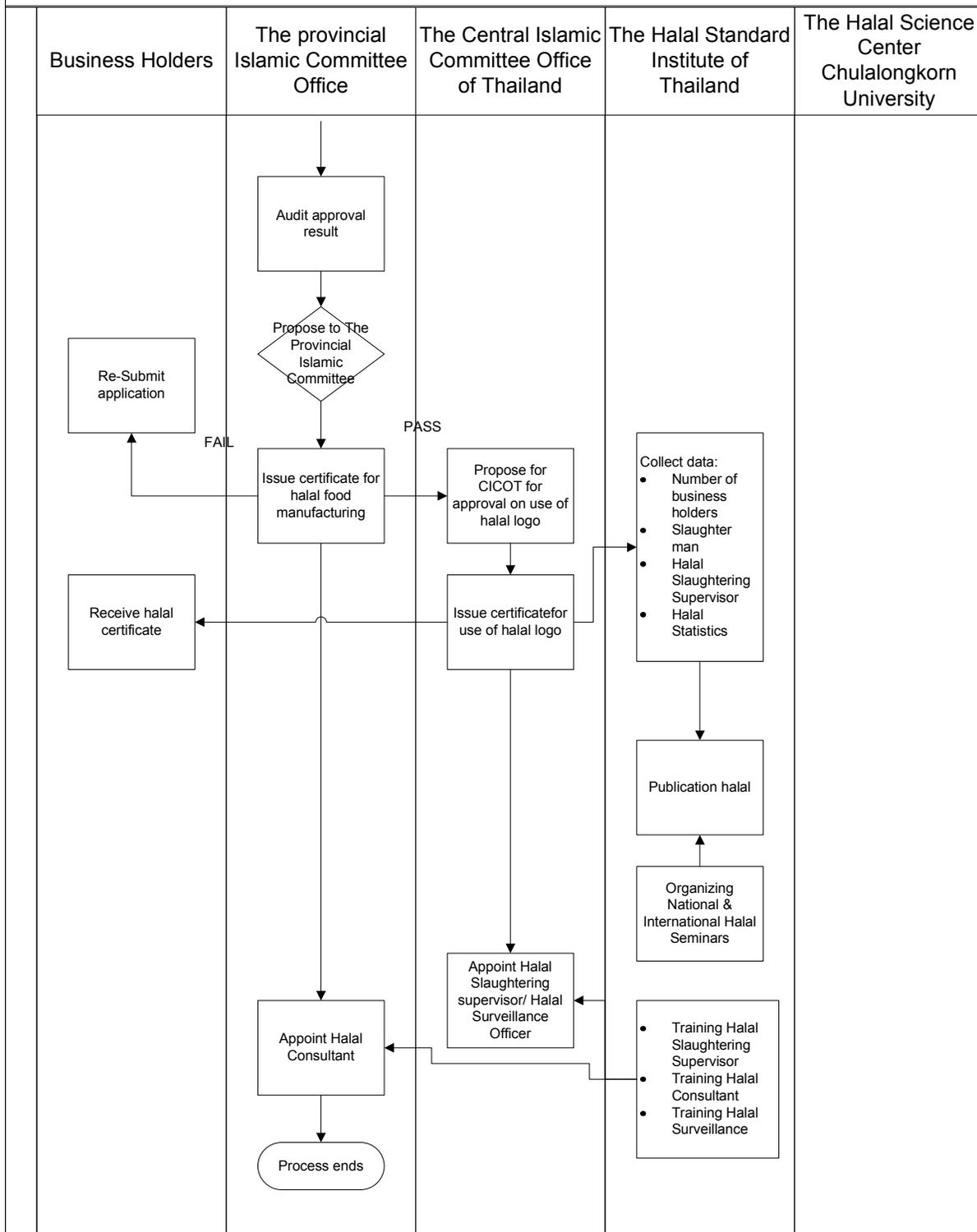
the use of Halal Logo. In case of arising controversies about ingredients or products' raw materials, the case must be transferred to the Council of Halal Scholars for decision.

9. Business Holders is to be informed if the final approval for the use of Halal Logo has been granted. Then, business holder will receive Halal Certificate and enter into Halal use contract.
10. In the stage of Halal Certificate issue, officer in charge also gives business operator specific code for business operator. The Halal Certificate is signed by Sheikhul Islam in his capacity as President of the Central Islamic Committee of Thailand, who is considered as the highest-ranking authorized person, or signed by other suitable authorized person in case of President's unavailability.
11. After certification, the following steps are registration and data collection by the Halal Standard Institute of Thailand such as the number of business operators / Halal slaughtering supervisor / slaughter statistics / slaughter man / including Halal Surveillance Officer / Halal consultant.
12. The Central Islamic Committee Office of Thailand appoints Halal Surveillance Officer to oversee the use of Halal Logo and violation. Concurrently, the Central Islamic Committee Office of Thailand also appoints Halal consultant for business holder to improve understanding on Halal food manufacturing / and consultant for Halal slaughtering supervisor in case of slaughter house attached to the Central Islamic Committee Office of Thailand.

Additional functions of the institute are:-

- ✚ Organizing national and international Halal seminars of conference periodically.
- ✚ Working out all public complaints about misuse of Halal products and or Halal logo in the markets by using appropriate law and / or regulation concerned.
- ✚ Publication of Halal information and issue.

Halal Audit & Halal Logo Application Procedures (The Provincial Islamic Committee (page 2/2))



EXPLANATION OF HALAL STANDARD CERTIFICATION DIAGRAMME (THE PROVINCIAL ISLAMIC COMMITTEE)

1. Business holder seeking approval for use of Halal Logo is required to submit application to the Provincial Islamic Committee in case such business holder is located in any province under authority of the Provincial Islamic Committee.
2. Officer of the Provincial Islamic Committee Office receives application and screen submitted documents. (In case of failure to pass document screen, business holder is required to correct problems and resubmit application.)
3. New business holder without previous Halal certification is required to attend Halal training jointly held by the Halal Standard Institute of Thailand.
4. After completion of training, the submitted application is further submitted to authorized person for consideration.(In case of the application fails, business holder is required to correct problems and resubmit application.)
5. After approval, the Provincial Islamic Committee Office forms audit committee, which consists of Islamic academic, food scientist, industrial manufacturing specialist (specialists from Department of Livestock in case of slaughter house). Any how, if some new products attached for certification are still confused in Halal status this case must be transferred to the Council of Halal Scholars (Ulama) awaiting for solution.
6. On-site Audit Procedures: Before audit, officer in charge of audit coordinates with targeted business holder for audit arrangement on prescheduled date and time. Audit team performs audit on each step of entire manufacturing process and also issues audit report and evaluation report. Audit team also performs audit at all warehouses and raw material inventories.
7. Audit team collects sampled product and raw materials with nonconforming possibility. The collected samples are sent to the Halal Standard Institute of Thailand, which further forwarding the samples to the Halal Science Center at Chulalongkorn University for LAB analysis. Analysis results are returned to the Halal Standard Institute of Thailand, where officer in charge collects audit results and LAB analysis data for submission to the Halal Affairs Committee for approval. (In case of disapproval, business holder is required to correct problem and resubmit application.)
8. After approval by the Halal Affairs Committee (attached to the Provincial Islamic Committee Office), further approval for Halal food manufacturing is sought from the Provincial Islamic Committee Office. The Provincial Islamic

Committee Office considers granting to business holder Certificate for Halal Food Manufacturing and appointing Halal consultant for improved understanding of Halal food manufacturing. (In case of the application fails, business holder is required to correct problems and resubmit application within required period and In case of arising controversies about ingredients or products' raw materials, the case must be transferred to the Council of Halal Scholars for decision.)

9. Approval document and Certificate for Halal Food Manufacturing are submitted to the Central Islamic Committee Office of Thailand to seek further approval for the use of Halal Logo.
10. In the stage of Halal Certificate issue, officer in charge also gives business holder specific code for business holder. The Halal Certificate is signed by Sheikhul Islam in his capacity as President of the Central Islamic Committee of Thailand, who is considered as the highest-ranking authorized person, or signed by other suitable authorized person in case of President's unavailability.
11. After certification, the following steps are registration and data collection by the Halal Standard Institute of Thailand. Such as the number of business holders / Halal slaughtering supervisor / slaughtering statistics / slaughter man / including Halal Surveillance Officer / Halal consultant.
12. The Central Islamic Committee Office of Thailand appoints Halal surveillance officer to oversee the use of Halal Logo and violation and Halal slaughtering supervisor in slaughter house attached to the Central Islamic Committee Office of Thailand.

Additional functions of the institute are:-

- ✚ Organizing national and international Halal seminars of conference periodically.
- ✚ Working out all public complaints about misuse of Halal products and or Halal logo in the markets by using appropriate law and / or regulation concerned.
- ✚ Publication of Halal information and issue.



Remarks:

- ✚ If none of the Provincial Islamic Committee in the area where the factory is Located the Central Islamic Committee of Thailand (CICOT) **takes** all charges instead.
- ✚ Authorized Halal consultant registered by the Central Islamic Committee of Thailand, the Central Islamic Committee of Thailand is assigned to supervise the Enterprise, or the factory where Halal products or Halal slaughtering respectively concerned.
- ✚ Islamic Food Laws (Shariah) is obligatory practiced paralleled to other international Food Standard e.g. Codex
- ✚ The Halal Emblem /Logo are the copyright of the Central Islamic Committee of Thailand (CICOT) and protected by Law.
- ✚ Halal Slaughtering Supervisor perform supervisory duties in slaughter house by inspecting the entire slaughtering procedures and ensure compliance with Islamic Laws / Regulation of the Central Islamic Committee of Thailand Governing Halal products Standard Certification and the Use of Halal Logo B.E. 2548 and Halal Food Regulation on traing Country.

HALAL CERTIFICATION

The Halal certification system applied in Thailand accounts for the slaughtering houses, processed foods and services. The area of processed food is subject to the following certification guidelines:

- ✚ Laboratory testing of a food sample presented by the manufacturer, the tests being conducted in appointed universities in Thailand.
- ✚ Upon approval of the lab test, the manufacturer applies to the Central Islamic Committee of Thailand for plant inspection.
- ✚ Halal certification is issued only after every step of the manufacturing process has been approved.

The service sector plays a major role in providing Halal products and services to the Muslim consumer market. The process of preparing and delivering the product or service must strictly follow the requirements for Halal certification.
