



هيئة أبوظبي للزراعة والسلامة الغذائية
ABU DHABI AGRICULTURE AND FOOD
SAFETY AUTHORITY

Guideline No. (1) of 2024
on Food Importers and Exporters in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi

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Introduction:

The Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority (ADAFSA) implements control systems based on international best practices, facilitating trade and commerce. The risk-based control system identifies health risks associated with food, classifying them according to their intended use. This approach directs resources based on priorities, enhances consumer confidence, maintains health protection standards. Simultaneously, the system simplifies import and export procedures and requirements, ensuring necessary protection levels while avoiding unjustified trade restrictions that are not based on risk assessment.

Purpose:

This guideline outlines the requirements for importing and exporting food within the risk-based control framework and procedures in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. It aims to facilitate the clearance of Consignments through the emirate's border points, ensuring smooth and timely transactions while avoiding rejections or delays due to lack of awareness or non-compliance with these requirements and procedures.

Scope:

This guideline is intended for use by food importers and exporters operating through Abu Dhabi's ports. It provides guidance on applying essential requirements and procedures to ensure the safety and suitability of food, as mandated for importers and exporters.

The guideline applies to all food consignments, including those transferred to and from other emirates and transit consignments.

It also specifies requirements for accompanying certificates, documents, transportation, storage, and food labeling.

Related Documents:

This guideline considers all relevant obligations, laws, regulations, and agreements. The following legislation and guidelines serve as additional sources of information:

- Federal Law No. (10) of 2015 on Food Safety;
- Law No. (2) of 2008 on Food in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi;
- Ministerial Resolution No. (14) of 2016 on the Regulation of Imported Food for Non-Commercial Purposes.
- Ministerial Resolution No. (239) of 2018 on National Food Accreditation and Registration System.
- Ministerial Resolution No. (389) of 2022 Regarding the Unified National Guide for Control and Inspection Procedures for Imported Food Consignments Through State Ports.
- Regulation No. (3) of 2008 on Food Traceability and Recall.
- Regulation No. (5) of 2010 on the Sampling of Food for Official Control Purposes in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.
- Resolution No. (2) of 2020 on the Regulation of Imported Food in Abu Dhabi Emirate.
- Resolution No. (6) of 2020 on Food Safety Across the Food Chain.
- Decision No. (17) of 2020 on Classification of Imported Food by Health Risk Level.
- Code of practice No. (4) of 2011 on Food Traceability and Recall.
- Code of practice No. (5) of 2019 on General Food Labeling Requirements.

Definitions:

For the purposes of this guideline, the following words and terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them, unless the context requires otherwise:

Emirate	Emirate of Abu Dhabi
ADAFSA	Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority
Stakeholders	The relevant federal and local entities
Consumer	Person using the food to meet his/her personal needs or those of others.
Sample	Any number of food sample units which are used for inspection, the sample comprises all the containers or sample units drawn for inspection or testing purposes, from a particular batch.
Batch	A specific amount of food produced under the same operational conditions.
Consignment	Specific quantity of food, contains one batch or more, involved in the same certificate and other documents.
Transferred Consignment	The consignment that is imported through one of the ports of the state and is officially transferred by the regulatory authority at the port of entry to the competent authority in another emirate to complete the control procedures.
Transited Consignments (Transit)	Goods or consignments not destined to be within the state but are transferred within the territory of the country to settle in another country.
National system for food accreditation and registration (ZAD)	A national system for the accreditation and registration of food according to the requirements and procedures contained in the annex of Ministerial decree No. 239 of 2018 regarding the national system for the accreditation and registration of food
Advanced Trade and Logistics Platform (ATLP)	A single window for importers and exporters to submit and track orders, in addition to facilitating procedures for imported and exported food products.
Unprocessed genetically modified agricultural products	Genetically modified agricultural products that can be used directly as human food (such as maize), animal feed (such as soybeans), or for cultivation (such as seeds)
Genetically modified processed food	Processed food containing, consisting of or produced from GMOs (i.e., potato and tomato)

Halal Certificate: A document that endorses the identified product, service or systems conform to the requirements of Halal as per Islamic rules, such as: Halal slaughtering certificates, Halal certificates for facilities, farms, slaughterhouses and accompanying facilities classified as "Halal", and certificates of the components of primary products, additives and ingredients that are incorporated in the composition of meat derivatives and extracts, rennet, gelatine, fats, animal oils and their derivatives.

Chapter One: General Requirements for Imported Consignments

- 1- All certificates, documents, and detailed records related to food consignment must be attached in Arabic or English through the ATLP platform. This platform is essential for implementing regulatory systems and facilitating compliance procedures. Importers must ensure the accuracy and validity of all certificates accompanying the food consignment.
- 2- Records and documents must be retained for the period specified by the authority and relevant entities.
- 3- All necessary requirements for transportation, storage, and temperature control must be met, as detailed in Appendix No. (2).

The following registration procedures shall be adhered to:

1. Importer Registration

The importing company must register through the Abu Dhabi Advanced Trade and Logistics Platform (ATLP) to create a dedicated account. The company must be among the authorized importers to benefit from and utilize the electronic services related to food consignments.

2. Food Product Registration

Food products must be registered in the following electronic systems:

- 2.1 The Food Registration System (ZAD) <https://zad.gov.ae/>; Approval is granted through the competent local authority upon verifying compliance with the approval requirements outlined in Annex No. 1 for the first-time importation of the food product into UAE markets.

2.2 Abu Dhabi Advanced Trade and Logistics Platform (ATLP) <https://www.atlp.ae/en>

By selecting the service

"New Food Product Registration"

First: Food Registration Requirements:

The food establishment must provide the following:

- a. A detailed, clear, and legible copy of the food product's label in both Arabic and English.
- b. A copy of the product in its final form to illustrate the type of food packaging.

Second: Food Registration Procedures:

1. Food establishments must submit electronic registration requests for each food product, including the following information:

- International Barcode.
- Country of origin.
- Package type.
- Weight or volume.
- Unit of weight or volume.
- Brand Name
- Product-Specific Claims, if applicable.
- Manufacturer's name and address.
- Product trade name.
- Food additives included in the ingredients.
- Storage temperature.
- Ingredients.

2. Supporting certificates for claims on the food label (if applicable).

- 3. After filling the application data and sending it through the system, the applicant receives a reference number from the ATLP platform**
- 4. The competent employee reviews the application to verify compliance with registration requirements and ensure the product has not been previously registered (i.e., not listed in the system's database).**
- 5. If the request is approved, the registration process continues based on an electronic model comprising four parts:**
 - Detailed product-specific information.
 - Product classification and assignment of the appropriate scientific name.
 - Determination of the product's risk level.
 - Setting standards and types of laboratory tests, including microbiological and chemical tests, in accordance with the latest approved technical regulations and standards.
- 6. The applicant is notified through the ATLP platform of the registration result, whether by acceptance or rejection, and may obtain a registration certificate for the product if approved.**
- 7. Registered products are included in ATLP's comprehensive database, enabling food establishments to submit import and export requests while allowing ADAFSA to manage and monitor these products.**

Chapter Two: Food Consignment Clearance Procedures

ADAFSA provides a range of electronic services to facilitate the clearance of imported food consignments through the Abu Dhabi Advanced Trade and Logistics Platform (ATLP). Importers must complete their registration on the platform to benefit from the following food consignment clearance services:

1. Request for Issuance of a Disclosure File/Customs Declaration

The importer must submit a request to issue a declaration documenting all details of the consignment contents for each food item individually, classified according to the Harmonized System (HS) code. The importer must electronically link the declaration file to the import request.

2. Import Request: All products listed in the request must be registered and have an AD barcode as described in the general requirements.

To submit an import request, the importer must:

2.1 Add the required data about the consignment and its contents.

2.2 Attach the following documents and certificates:

- Customs declaration from the competent authority at the exit point (for land ports).
- Import permit/license (from the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment) if required for the food product.
- Health certificate for food products.
- phytosanitary certificate for agricultural products.
- Halal certificate for products requiring a halal certificate, in accordance with the UAE Halal Products System issued under Cabinet Decision No. (10) of 2014.
- Kosher certificate for foods intended for the Jewish community.
- Nutritional claims approval document, which provides evidence supporting the claims made on the food label (nutritional or other claims), if applicable.
- Additional documents or certifications based on food safety updates.
- Packing list specifying consignment contents.

- Temperature reading logs during transportation, if required.

Additionally, electronic health certificates and documents may be accepted as an alternative to paper documents based on circulars issued by the relevant authorities and entities.

Submitting an import request may result in one of the following actions:

- Approval of the request and completion of procedures.
- request for information, with reasons provided.
- Rejection of the request, with reasons provided.

3. Request to Transfer a Consignment from Another Emirate to Abu Dhabi:

3.1 Request for Transfer of a consignment from Another Emirate to Abu Dhabi:

3.2 Payment of Fees.

3.3 Scheduling a suitable inspection date for the consignment.

3.4 An ADAFSA inspector will conduct an inspection of the facility where the consignment is stored to verify compliance with regulations. Based on the inspection results, the inspector may take one of the following actions:

1. Release of compliant consignments.

2. Rejection of non-compliant consignments.

3. Sampling for laboratory testing to determine compliance with regulations. Based on the laboratory test results, the following actions will be taken:

- 1) Release of consignment that comply with the laboratory test results.
- 2) Rejection of consignment that fail to comply with the laboratory test results.
- 3) Request for reanalysis: The importer has the right to request a reanalysis of a non-compliant product by following these steps:

1 Selecting the reanalysis request service.

2 Providing details of the product to be reanalyzed.

3 Submit the application

4 Payment of applicable fees (if the request is approved).

5 Scheduling a date for sample collection.

6 Sample collection by the inspector and submission to the laboratory for testing.

6.1 Release of consignments that comply with the laboratory test results.

6.2 Rejection of consignments that fail to comply with the laboratory test results.

4. Export Request:

The exporter must submit an export request for a commercial or non-commercial food consignment via the ATLP system or the TAMM system in the following cases:

4.1 Exporting Food Products to GCC Countries: If the product is locally produced (UAE origin), a health certificate for food export to GCC countries will be issued.

4.2 Exporting Food Products Outside the GCC: The exporter submits the request with supporting documents. Based on the review, one of the following actions will be taken:

- Approval of the request, followed by payment of fees to issue a food export suitability certificate.
- request for information, with reasons provided.
- Rejection of the request, with reasons provided.

4.3 Exporting a food consignment for non-commercial purposes (individuals): The request is submitted, and the fees are paid to issue a Food Export Validity Certificate.

**Figure (1): Flowchart of Health Clearance Procedures
Related to Food Consignments Imported into the Emirate of Abu Dhabi**

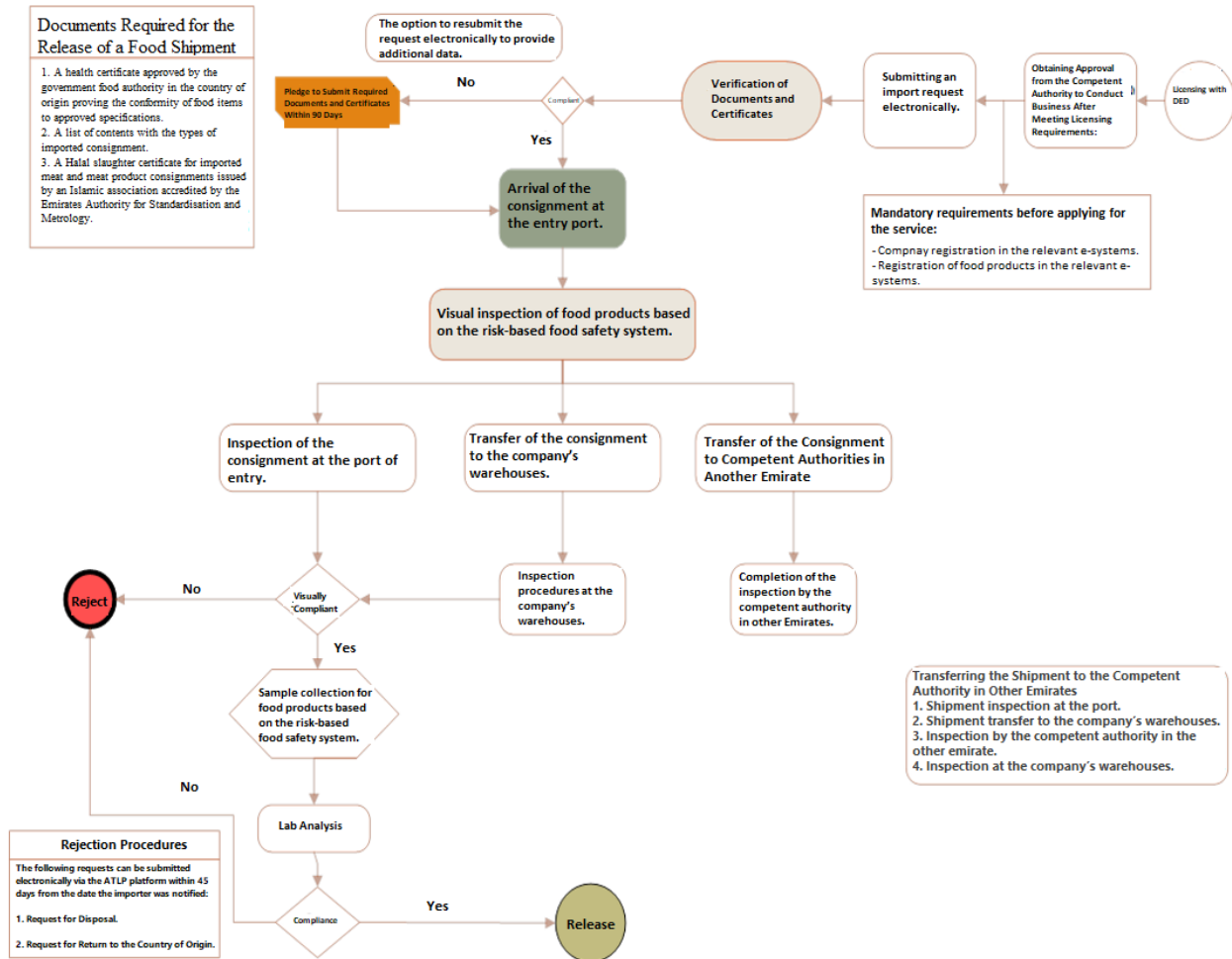


Figure (2) below illustrates the appropriate level of inspection based on the risk profile of the food product, the manufacturer, or the country of origin, in accordance with the applicable legislative requirements, as follows:



Figure (2): Control Procedures on Imported Food Consignments

Chapter Three: Requirements for Certificates and Documents Related to Food Consignments

Referring to Figure (1), and after submitting the import request electronically, the importer shall provide the certificates and documents related to the consignment, which are as follows:

1. Original certificates of Health/Phytosanitary issued by a competent governmental authority responsible for food safety in the country of origin/export or an authorized entity. They must include statements certifying that the consignment contents comply with the UAE's import requirements.
2. Halal certificate for products requiring Halal certificate in accordance with the UAE System for Halal Products issued by Cabinet Resolution No. (10) of 2014.
3. Packing List: Issued by the producer, detailing the food container's packing date, item types, quantities, and production/expiry dates for each item or batch.
4. Bill of Lading.
5. If the food label contains a nutritional or health claim, supporting documents validating the claim must be provided per UAE regulations.
6. If the consignment includes processed genetically modified food products, unprocessed genetically modified agricultural products, or products listed under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), certified and attested documents from an accredited official body must be provided. Compliance with the specific requirements outlined in approved UAE technical regulations must also be ensured.
7. Temperature Logs: Temperature readings during transport for chilled and frozen consignments, if required.
8. Any additional documents or certificates that may be requested based on international developments or food safety alerts.

Chapter Four: Procedures for Transferred and Transit Food Consignments

With reference to Figure (1), the transfer of a food consignment is conducted based on the importer's request as follows:

1. Transfer of Food Consignments from Abu Dhabi to Other Emirates:

1. The importer must hold a license from the receiving emirate.
2. Submit the consignment transfer request electronically via the "ATLP" platform.
3. Submit the transfer request electronically through the ZAD system to the receiving emirate.
4. Obtain approval from the relevant authorities from receiving emirate electronically through the ZAD food registration system.
5. The consignment will be transferred under the responsibility of the relevant authorities in the receiving emirate upon approval via the ZAD system.

Clarification One

- a) Food consignments that fully meet the requirements will be cleared directly without being transferred to the relevant authorities in the receiving emirate.
- b) Consignments will be transferred for supervision by the relevant authorities in the receiving emirate if they do not comply with certain non-food safety-related standards (e.g., food labeling violations) or for sampling purposes.

2. Transferring a Food Consignment from Other Emirates to Abu Dhabi:

1. The importer must hold a license from the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.
2. Submit a transfer request through the electronic food registration system "ZAD."
3. Submit the consignment transfer request electronically via the "ATLP" platform.
4. Review the request and verify attached documents.
5. Upon approval by ADAFSA's relevant department, pay the transfer fees and schedule an inspection of the consignment at the facility's warehouse.
6. Complete procedures as outlined in Chapter Four, Figure 2 (Type of Control Procedures on Imported Food Consignments).

3. Transited Consignments (Transit):

Consignments passing through Abu Dhabi Emirate to destinations outside the UAE, including free zones, are subject to ADAFSA's control. If they do not comply with the requirements, they cannot be unloaded or divided within the Emirate. The consignment must exit the Emirate, and measures must be taken to ensure that the consignment leaves the country.

Chapter Five: Release of Imported Food Consignments

With reference to Figure (1), the release of a food consignment is conducted as follows:

1. Direct release

ADAFSA's designated employee at the border point clears the imported food consignment directly if, after document verification and visual inspection, the consignment meets all technical requirements, including UAE standards for food labelling and shelf life.

Clarification Two

The importer must ensure that all food items included in the consignment comply with the labelling requirements and conditions specified in Appendix (3) regarding pre-packaged food labelling.

2. Conditional release: Release is granted with an undertaking in the following cases:

- Non-compliance with health certificates and required documents.
- Submission of a copy of the health certificate without providing the original.
- Consignments issued with a return-to-sender or destruction order.
- Holding the consignment pending laboratory test results.
- Consignments imported for non-commercial purposes.
- Consignments requiring amendments to the food label.
- Absence of an import/trading activity in the commercial license (for the first imported consignment).
- Holding the consignment pending further inspection at the importer's warehouse.
- Undertaking to meet the required conditions for subsequent consignments.

Chapter Six: Detention and Rejection of Imported Food Consignments

With reference to Figure (1), the food consignment is rejected and not released as follows:

1. Automatic Rejection

Commercial food consignments are automatically rejected without inspection if prohibited by any government food control authority.

Clarification Three

The food consignment will be detained if it is entering the Emirate of Abu Dhabi for the first time or if it has been subject to a warning or ban by any country, international organisation, or regional organisation.

2. Rejection of Non-Compliant Consignments in the Following Cases:

- The consignment is proven unfit for human consumption.
- The health certificate date is found to precede the production date of the food or postdate the consignment's shipping date to the UAE.
- The production date precedes the Halal slaughter date indicated on the certificate or related documents.
- The original Halal certificate is missing for imported meat or poultry consignments.
- The health certificate or a copy of it is missing for imported food consignments.
- Non-compliance of the food label.
- The food items listed in the health certificate do not match those in the consignment.
- Inspection reveals that the food does not conform to approved regulations.
- The establishment's trade license does not include an import or general trade activity, despite a prior undertaking to add such an activity.

Clarification Four

If laboratory test results confirm the non-compliance of samples from the imported food consignment, the non-compliant products within the consignment will be rejected, and a notification detailing the reasons for rejection will be issued. The importer, subject to ADAFSA's official approval, may request any of the options listed below within a timeframe determined by ADAFSA, bearing full administrative and financial costs associated with the selected option:

1. Provide additional information from the manufacturer/supplier or official entities in the country of origin to prove food compliance.
2. Request reanalysis of the non-compliant sample, as per applicable regulations.
3. Request reconditioning of the consignment to bring it into compliance with health and technical food regulations.
4. Request re-export of the consignment to the country of origin or another country, excluding GCC states.
5. Request destruction of the consignment under the supervision of ADAFSA.

Chapter Seven: Destruction Procedures

With reference to Figure (1), the importer must take the following steps to destroy rejected imported food consignments that were not cleared by ADAFSA's designated staff:

1. Obtain a copy of the final inspection report through ADAFSA's approved electronic system and proceed to complete the destruction process with the Center of Waste Management – Abu Dhabi (Tadweer Group).
2. After completing the destruction process and receiving a destruction report from the Center of Waste Management – Abu Dhabi (Tadweer Group), submit a request for food destruction through ADAFSA's approved electronic system.
3. The designated ADAFSA staff member will review the submitted request. If the data is verified and compliant, the request will be approved, and the case will be closed.

References:

01. UAE Technical Regulation No. 9 (latest edition) on the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods.
02. GCC Guide for the Control of Imported Foods and its Implementation Mechanisms, issued by the General Secretariat of GCC States.
03. Dubai Municipality Guidelines and Specifications for Food Import and Export.
04. Codex Alimentarius.
05. Food import and export inspection and certification systems third edition codex Alimentarius
06. The New Zealand Food Safety Authority (NZFSA).
07. Food (Importer General Requirements) Standard 2008. New Zealand Food Safety Authority
08. European Commission.
09. COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 669/2009. European Commission
10. European Commission.
11. (EU) COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION No 323/2014.

Appendix 1: Requirements of the national system of accreditation and registration for food items -E-system for food item registration(Zad program).

Section One

Provisions Relating to Registration

- 1- Food whether imported or locally produced must be registered in the electronic system (ZAD) before being handled in the markets of UAE.
- 2- All food establishments licensed in the country shall ensure the registration of their food items in particular the following cases:
 - Foods intended for import into the UAE.
 - Foods manufactured or produced in the UAE.
 - Foods with modified labels, ingredients, or composition.
- 3- Registration of food product is considered a requirement and not accreditation.

Section Two

Conditions and Procedures for Food Registration and certification:

First: Food Registration Requirements:

The food establishment must provide the following:

- a. A detailed, clear, and legible copy of the food product's label to be evaluated and/or registered in both Arabic and English.
- b. A picture of the product in its final form to clarify the type of food package.
- c. For products with nutritional or health claims, an official certificate from the competent authority in the country of origin must be provided to substantiate the claims.

Second: Food Registration Procedures:

1. Food establishments must submit electronic registration requests for each food product, including the following information:
 - Barcode number.
 - Country of origin.
 - Package type.
 - Weight or size.
 - Unit of weight or volume.
 - Brand.
 - Manufacturer's name and address.
 - Product trade name.
 - Food additives included in the ingredients.
 - Storage temperature
 - Ingredients
2. Supporting certificates for claims on the food label (if applicable).
3. Upon submission, the applicant receives a reference number from the "ZAD" system.
4. The local competent authority receives and reviews the request, verifies compliance, and ensures that the product is not already registered in the national food registry.
5. If the request is approved, the registration process continues based on an electronic model comprising four parts:
 - Detailed product information.
 - Product classification and assignment of the appropriate scientific name.
 - Determination of the initial risk level of the product.
 - Establishment of laboratory testing standards, including microbiological and chemical tests, in accordance with the latest approved technical regulations and standards.
6. The applicant is notified of the registration result via the "ZAD" system and may obtain a registration certificate if approved.

7. Registered products are included in the comprehensive database within the ZAD system, enabling food establishments to submit import/export requests and allowing local authorities to monitor these products.

Third: Food Accreditation Conditions:

The competent local authority shall accredit the food items according to the following requirements:

1. Compliance with relevant legislation and health, animal, and plant safety measures in the UAE, as well as technical regulations and any applicable agreements with the exporting country.
2. Ensuring the product is not sourced from entities banned due to health or safety concerns.
3. Compliance with applicable technical regulations and standards, such as labeling, product specifications, shelf life, and microbiological standards... Etc.
4. Laboratory test results meeting approved standard specifications.
5. Products of animal origin must be sourced from facilities approved for export to the UAE, as per applicable legislation.
6. Adherence to mandatory technical regulations related to Halal food.

Section Three

Exemptions from Registration:

The following food items are exempt from registration:

1. Foods imported for personal use.
2. Food samples imported for research and studies, not intended for human consumption.
3. Food samples for promotional and market research purposes, not for sale, including free samples distributed to consumers and those required for conformity testing labeled "free sample."

4. Food samples used in exhibitions and festivals, not intended for sale.
5. Foods prepared in restaurants.
6. Any food item exempted by a decision from the Minister of Climate Change and Environment in coordination with relevant authorities.

Appendix 2: Requirements for Transportation and Temperature Control

The provisions of Resolution No. (6) of 2020 issuing the Food Health System throughout the food chain stages, including the clauses related to temperature control and food transportation, shall apply, taking into account the following main requirements:

Food establishments must comply with the Unified Food Transportation Guide, available at:

<https://www.moccae.gov.ae/assets/download/ffde7461/M577-13.pdf.aspx?view=true>



1. Food must be transported at appropriate temperatures and in a manner that prevents contamination and preserves its safety and cleanliness. The interior of the transport means must be insulated, smooth-surfaced, cleanable, and waterproof.
2. Food must be separated from non-food materials, and unpackaged food must be transported using means designated for this purpose.
3. Food must be preserved within the following temperatures:
 - a Chilled foods: (-5°C).
 - b Frozen food: (-18°C) or less.
 - c Other foods, including long shelf-life foods, at appropriate temperatures that prevent any risks to human health, in accordance with the appropriate temperature for each type of food.
4. Food transport vehicles must be capable of maintaining the required temperature, allowing for temperature monitoring and recording throughout transportation, with records retained for one year.
5. Vehicles transporting frozen foods must ensure optimal conditions, with the return air temperature complying with specific temperature control standards.
6. Temperature readings are checked on the thermograph of the food transport on the last day of loading the food at the border port of export country and up to the date of check at the border port of entry country.
7. For chilled food transport vehicles:

- a A power outage period of up to two hours is permissible, provided that the return air temperature readings immediately before and after the outage remain below 5C.
- b In case of failure to maintain proper temperatures, the following actions must be taken:
 - a Restore the temperature to below 5 C as quickly as possible if the food temperature is between 5°C and 8°C.
 - b For food temperatures above 8°C: The food must be immediately disposed of unless ADAFSA is provided with scientifically substantiated evidence demonstrating the safety and suitability of the food.

8. For frozen food transport vehicles:

- a A power outage period of up to 24 hours is permissible, provided that the return air temperature immediately before and after the outage is 18°C or lower, except during defrosting cycles, for containers compliant with international standards.
- b A power outage period of up to 7 hours is permissible, provided that the return air temperature immediately before and after the outage is 18°C or lower, except during defrosting periods, for containers that do not comply with international standards.
- c In case of failure to maintain proper temperatures, the following actions must be taken:
 - 1 Restore the temperature to -18°C or lower as quickly as possible if the food temperature is between -15°C and -18°C.
 - 2 Conduct virtual inspections and laboratory tests if the food temperature is above (-15°C) and below (-10°C).
 - 3 For food temperatures above 8°C: The food must be immediately disposed of unless ADAFSA is provided with scientifically substantiated evidence demonstrating the safety and suitability of the food.

Appendix 3: Requirements and Conditions for Pre-packaged Food Labels

The requirements issued by the competent federal authorities and contained in the UAE standard UAE S.9: 2017 “Labelling for Pre-packaged Food Stuffs” shall apply, taking into account the mandatory explanatory data on food packages:

- 1- Food labels must be in Arabic and may include other languages
- 2- Product Name: The name must accurately reflect the true nature of the food. If no common name exists, a descriptive name that does not mislead consumers must be used.
- 3- List of Ingredients: Ingredients must be listed in descending order by proportion, including the names of any additives or their international codes, and highlighting any allergens present.
- 4- Nutritional Information: They must be included on food labels in accordance with the relevant Gulf Standard Specification.
- 5- Net contents: The net contents must be stated in volume for liquid foods, weight for solid foods, or weight or volume for semi-solid or viscous foods, in addition to the liquidated weight of the pre-packaged food.
- 6- Name and Address: The name and address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor, importer, exporter, or seller must be provided.
- 7- Country of Origin: The country of origin must be stated on food packages. If the food undergoes processing in another country that alters its original nature, that country is considered the country of origin.
- 8- Batch Production Number: Include the production batch (lot) number.
- 9- Date: The date must be indicated as day-month-year for foods with a shelf life of less than 3 months and month-year for foods with a shelf life of more than 3 months.

Note: The requirements issued by the competent federal authorities must comply with the UAE.S 150-1on the shelf life of pre-packaged food products.

- 10- Storage and Usage Instructions: Include any special storage conditions if the expiry date depends on them, along with usage instructions, including re-preparation guidelines if required for proper use.
- 11- Irradiated Foods: This must be clearly indicated in writing near the product name. Any ingredients exposed to irradiation must also be specified in the ingredients list.
- 12- Additional Label Stickers: Must be resistant to removal under normal handling conditions, must not obscure required information, and must not contain information conflicting with the original label.



Appendix 4: Requirements for Sample Collection

The provisions of Regulation No. (5) of 2010 regarding the Sampling of Food for Official Control Purposes shall apply, taking into account the following key requirements:

- 1 Samples for official food safety control of red-channel food consignments are taken by authorized inspectors at border crossings. These samples are considered representative of the food category.
- 2 Samples are taken from a single food item, regardless of size, if produced under the same conditions (batch or production date). Each sample is assigned a reference number for identification and tracking.
- 3 Sample size must allow for repeated laboratory testing and comply with ADAFSA 's sampling size table. Samples must be transported using the specialized sample transport vehicles designated by ADAFSA.



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