



MARKET ACCESS ADVICE

Reference Number: MAA 2017 – 01
Date of Issue: 9 January 2017
Date of Effect: Immediate

Kuwait & Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Delay in Application of Gulf Cooperation Council Imported Food Guide Certification.

Attention	Industries	Seafood
	Department of Agriculture	Central and Regional offices
Affected Markets		Kuwait, Kindom of Saudi Arabia
Further Information		Please contact exports@agriculture.gov.au if you have any queries.

This Market Access Advice is further to MAA201611 circulated on 14 November 2016 and MAA201613 circulated on 24 November 2016 regarding possible changes to export certification requirements for Kuwait.

Kuwait previously advised of an intention to implement new export certification requirements in line with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Guide for the Control of Imported Foods (the Guide) by 15 December 2016.

Further to meetings with Kuwaiti officials, Kuwait Municipality has released a circular advising that implementation of the new certification requirements will not begin until 1 April 2017 and suggests there will be a transitional period until 1 October 2017. The department is aware Saudi Arabia has also provided a formal notification though the World Trade Organisation which has advised of a similar implementation timeline.

The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources continues to seek the earliest opportunity to progress negotiations on new certification, which address the Guide's requirements. The department is also seeking confirmation that any transition arrangement will ensure existing certification continues to be accepted by Kuwaiti and Saudi officials until revised certification can be agreed and implemented.

The department will provide an update to this market access advice as soon as further information is available. This advice has been prepared in consultation with industry.

If you are an export registered establishment and wish to update your email address, please send an email to exportestablishmentregistration@agriculture.gov.au. Please note, it is important to consider who in your business are the appropriate person/s to receive notifications as the Department can keep two email contacts on file.

If you are an exporter, or an approved export permit issuer, and wish to update your email address, please send an email to EXDOC.HelpDesk@agriculture.gov.au.

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