

## IMPARTIALITY POLICY & PUBLIC STATEMENT

International Halal Certification is the legal entity responsible for certification activities; reference to IHC in this Policy and Public Statement refers to these legal entities.

International Halal Certification Top Management, Managers and Staff fully understand the importance of impartiality in undertaking its Certification Activities. IHC will therefore ensure that in all its dealings with clients or potential clients all employees or other personnel are and shall remain impartial and shall not allow commercial, financial or other pressures to compromise impartiality, this will also remain under their contracts and appointment letters. To ensure that impartiality is both maintained and can be demonstrated the following principles have been established.

- IHC's top management always shows commitment to impartiality.
- All the personnel of IHC (either permanent or contractual) or committees who could influence the certification activities shall act impartially.
- IHC Certificates are only issued following a review by an independent authorized and impartial competent members' committee to ensure that no interest shall predominate.
- IHC does not certify another certification body for its management system certification activities.
- IHC shall not offer (and has never offered) management system consultancy or any other form of consultancy to companies or individuals.
- IHC shall never offer (and has never offered) an internal audit service to companies or individuals.
- IHC does not own or have any interest (financial or otherwise) in any other company that offers certification, management system consultancy or internal audit services.
- IHC shall not outsource audits to a management system consultancy organization, as this poses an unacceptable threat to the impartiality of the certification body.
- IHC and or any part of the same legal entity under its organizational control shall not:
  - a) Be the designer, manufacturer, installer, distributor or maintainer of the certified product/s;

## IMPARTIALITY POLICY & PUBLIC STATEMENT

- b) Be the designer, implementer, operator or maintainer of the certified process/es;
  - c) Be the designer, implementer, provider, or maintainer of the certified service.
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- IHC identifies all the risks to its impartiality on an ongoing basis through past records of their personnel e.g. their experience letters etc. This includes those risks that arise from its certification activities, from its relationships with any company, or from the relationships of its personnel with the clients. Any proposed risks associated with IHC will undergo a risk assessment by the Committee for impartiality prior to that relationship being formalized.
  - IHC does not have (and shall not form) any relationships with companies who offer consultancy, internal audit services or other services that can be construed as having an impact on the certification services provided by IHC. Any proposed relationship between IHC and any other company will undergo a risk assessment by the Committee for Impartiality prior to that relationship being formalized.
  - Any current relationships with companies, organizations and individuals will be assessed for risks on a regular basis to ensure that the relationship does not impact upon the impartiality of the certification process. The risk assessment will be undertaken by the committee for impartiality.
  - Individuals employed by or otherwise contracted to IHC are required to document and record their current and past relationships with all companies. Any situation past or present which may present a potential conflict of interest is required by IHC to be declared. IHC will use the information to identify any threats to impartiality and will not use that individual in any capacity unless they can demonstrate that there is no conflict of interest. The risk assessment will be undertaken by the committee for impartiality.
  - IHC does not allocate a member of staff or subcontractor to a management system audit, review and or certification decision where any past relationship has existed. Exceptionally and at the discretion of the Operations Manager or Top Management an individual or subcontractor may be allocated to a management system audit where a past relationship has existed but there has been no relationship for a minimum of 2 years. The risk assessment will be reviewed by the committee for impartiality.
  - IHC ensures that activities of separate legal entities, with which the certification body or the legal entity of which it forms a part has relationships, do not compromise the impartiality of its certification activities.

## IMPARTIALITY POLICY & PUBLIC STATEMENT

- When a separate legal entity offers or produces the certified product (including products to be certified) or offers or provides consultancy, IHC's management personnel and personnel in the review and certification decision-making process do not involve in the activities of the separate legal entity. The personnel of the separate legal entity do not involve in the management of IHC, the review, or the certification decision.
- IHC does not market or offers its activities as linked with the activities of an organization that provides consultancy. IHC does not state or imply that certification would be simpler, easier, faster or less expensive if a specified consultancy organization were used and will take appropriate legal action should any such link be identified.
- IHC takes appropriate legal action to respond to any risks to its impartiality, arising from the actions of other persons, bodies, or organizations, of which it becomes aware.



Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mufti Zeeshan Abdul Aziz**  
**CEO**

**International Halal Certification**  
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