



July 2026

Facts – Halal Certification for Export to Indonesia

What Nordic exporters need to know before October 2026

Executive summary

From 17 October 2026, halal certification becomes mandatory for a wide range of imported products sold in Indonesia — not only food and beverages, but also cosmetics, chemical products, clothing, and household goods. This is a market-access issue, not a niche compliance detail: Indonesia is the world's largest Muslim-majority market and one of Southeast Asia's largest economies, and halal certification sits within a global halal economy worth trillions of dollars. For Nordic exporters, the practical challenge is that no BPJPH-accredited certification body yet exists in Sweden, Finland, or Norway, and the certification process itself runs several months from readiness assessment to certificate issuance. Companies selling into Indonesia should treat this as a priority workstream now, not something to address closer to the deadline.

- **Deadline:** Mandatory halal certification for imported food, cosmetics, chemical products, clothing, and household goods takes effect 17 October 2026. Non-compliant products may still be sold but must be labelled non-halal. Pharmaceuticals and medical devices follow a longer phased timeline running to 2034.
- **Opportunity:** Indonesia's population of around 290 million is approximately 87% Muslim (around 251 million people) — the largest Muslim population of any country — within a global halal economy valued at USD 3.6 trillion in 2026, forecast to reach USD 7.1 trillion by 2035.
- **Scope:** Certification examines the entire supply chain — ingredients, processing, packaging, storage, and logistics — not just finished-product content, and it extends well beyond food into cosmetics, chemicals, clothing, and household goods.
- **Process and cost:** Formal BPJPH processing runs 28–47 working days once submitted, but realistic total lead time — including readiness assessment — is several months. Fees range from roughly IDR 2.2 million to IDR 47 million depending on company scale and facility location, or a flat IDR 800,000 per certificate when registering a foreign MRA-recognized certificate.
- **Nordic gap:** No BPJPH-accredited certification body currently exists in Sweden, Finland, or Norway (Denmark has one), meaning Indonesian auditors typically must travel for on-site inspection. A new Seven Stones International / IHPrime partnership offers a dedicated pathway for Finnish and Swedish exporters.

Section 12 of this fact sheet sets out practical next steps for exporters.

1. Why Indonesia matters

Indonesia is the world's fourth most populous country and Southeast Asia's largest economy (see Executive summary for population and Muslim-population figures). Annual food imports exceed USD 20 billion, driven by a growing middle class with rising demand for imported premium and branded products.



For Nordic exporters, Indonesia represents a genuine growth market — not just in food and beverages, but across a wide range of consumer goods. Halal certification is the gateway to that market, and beyond Indonesia it also opens access to a broader global halal economy spanning Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and Muslim-majority markets worldwide.

2. Understanding halal

Halal is an Arabic term meaning "permissible" under Islamic law. In a trade and regulatory context, it refers to a comprehensive set of requirements governing what products may be consumed, used, or come into contact with Muslim consumers — and how those products are produced, handled, and distributed.

The opposite of halal is haram ("forbidden"). Common haram elements in food and consumer goods include pork-derived ingredients, alcohol, blood, and certain animal by-products. But halal extends well beyond the avoidance of prohibited ingredients. It is a quality assurance framework covering the entire supply chain — from raw material sourcing through manufacturing, packaging, storage, logistics, and distribution.

This means a product can fail halal requirements not because of its ingredients, but because of how it was produced, what it was packaged in, or what it was stored next to.

Halal is often understood as a food-only concern. In practice, it functions as a supply chain integrity system applicable to almost everything that comes into contact with consumers.

3. The Indonesian regulatory framework

Indonesia's halal requirements are governed by the Halal Product Assurance Law (Undang-Undang Jaminan Produk Halal, or JPH Law No. 33/2014) and implemented by BPJPH — the Halal Product Assurance Organizing Agency (Badan Penyelenggara Jaminan Produk Halal), which sits under the Ministry of Religious Affairs.

BPJPH is a government agency responsible for the administration of Indonesia's halal assurance system and governs registering and accrediting Halal Inspection Bodies (Lembaga Pemeriksa Halal, or LPH), issuing halal certificates, and overseeing the certification process.

Fatwas (formal legal opinions) confirming halal status are issued by MUI — the Indonesian Council of Ulama (Majelis Ulama Indonesia) — as part of the certification process.

The framework rests on Law No. 33/2014 on Halal Product Assurance and Law No. 6/2023 (the Job Creation Law), implemented through Government Regulation No. 39/2021 and Government Regulation No. 42/2024, together with a series of Minister of Religious Affairs regulations (Nos. 748/2021, 944/2021, and 1360/2021) and BPJPH Head of Agency Regulation No. 20/2023. Companies should expect this body of implementing regulation to continue to evolve as the October 2026 deadline approaches.



The implementation timeline for mandatory halal certification has been phased by product category. The most significant deadline for food and consumer goods exporters is October 2026.

BPJPH regulations and implementation guidance are updated periodically. Companies should verify current requirements for their specific product categories directly with BPJPH or through an accredited Halal Inspection Body.

4. What changes in October 2026?

Halal requirements have applied to domestically produced products in Indonesia for some years. From October 2026, the obligation extends to imported products sold in the Indonesian market.

Non-halal products are not prohibited outright. They may still be imported and sold, but must be clearly labelled as non-halal. For most consumer goods companies, however, operating without halal certification significantly limits market access, distribution options, and retail placement.

Product category	Implementation deadline
Food and beverages	October 2026
Food ingredients and additives	October 2026
Traditional medicines and supplements	October 2026
Cosmetics	October 2026
Chemical products	October 2026
Clothing and wearable items	October 2026
Household and office products	October 2026
Pharmaceuticals and medical devices	Phased implementation to 2039

5. Halal is not only about food

A common misconception is that halal certification is relevant only to food and beverage companies. The October 2026 deadline makes clear that the scope is much broader.

Cosmetics, household chemicals, packaging, clothing — all are subject to halal requirements in Indonesia.

The practical implication is that any company selling consumer goods in Indonesia needs to assess its halal obligations, not only food manufacturers. The question is not whether your category is affected, but when and to what degree.

6. Halal certification as supply chain management

Obtaining halal certification is not a simple product test or a label on a package. It requires demonstrating control and integrity across the full production and logistics chain. The certification process examines:

- Raw materials — ingredient origins, sourcing, and supplier certification
- Additives, flavourings, and colourings — each must be individually verified
- Animal-derived ingredients — species, slaughter method, and processing
- Packaging and contact materials — must not introduce haram elements
- Manufacturing environment — segregation, cleaning protocols, cross-contamination prevention
- Warehousing, logistics, and distribution — temperature control, separation from non-halal goods

This means halal certification requires internal process changes, documentation systems, and ongoing management — not a one-time audit.

✓	Ingredient origins and sourcing documented
✓	Additives, flavourings, and colourings individually verified
✓	Animal-derived ingredients traceable to compliant source
✓	Packaging and contact materials assessed
✓	Cross-contamination prevention in place
✓	Full supply chain traceability maintained

7. Integrating halal into existing quality systems

For companies already operating under recognised food safety or quality management systems, halal requirements can largely be integrated into existing frameworks rather than built from scratch. Halal-compatible systems include:



- FSSC 22000 (Food Safety System Certification)
- HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points)
- ISO 22000 and related food safety standards

The additional elements that halal certification requires beyond these systems include:

- A formal halal policy
- Halal-specific risk assessment
- Halal committee or designated responsible personnel
- Internal halal audits
- Staff training on halal requirements
- Management review procedures

Companies with mature quality management systems will typically find the incremental effort for halal compliance manageable. The greater challenge is often in the supply chain — verifying that upstream suppliers and ingredients meet halal standards.

8. The certification process

For products manufactured outside Indonesia, halal compliance may be achieved either through certification by a BPJPH-recognized Foreign Halal Certification Body (LHLN) or through Indonesia's domestic halal certification system.

Products certified by a recognized LHLN must also be registered with BPJPH before they can be marketed as halal in Indonesia.

Halal certification for export to Indonesia is issued by BPJPH-accredited Halal Inspection Bodies (LPH). The process involves the following stages:

1. Pre-assessment and readiness review — the company's products, ingredients, and processes are reviewed before formal application
2. Application submission to BPJPH
3. Technical inspection by an accredited LPH — this may involve on-site audits at production facilities
4. Fatwa (halal determination) issued by MUI following the LPH inspection
5. Halal certificate issued by BPJPH
6. Halal label applied to the product

The pre-assessment stage is particularly important. Investing in readiness before formal application reduces the risk of costly delays or rejected applications.

BPJPH cites total processing times of around 28–42 working days for locally certified applications and up to 47 working days where the certification pathway involves an overseas company, from document submission through to certificate issuance. Where ingredients lack their own halal certification, BPJPH has indicated it will accept alternative supporting documentation — such as an ingredient flowchart, composition data, and a certificate of analysis — as a transitional simplification ahead of the October 2026 deadline. Exporters should

confirm current terms directly with BPJPH or their certification partner, as this concession has been described as time-limited.

Certificates issued through Indonesia's domestic halal certification system carry no expiry date and remain valid indefinitely, provided the certified product and its production process remain unchanged. This differs from some other jurisdictions, where local halal certificates may need renewal every one to a few years. Where certification is obtained via a foreign body under a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) with BPJPH, registration in Indonesia currently costs a nominal IDR 800,000 per certificate — though a single certificate can cover many products, so this is not a per-product fee. BPJPH has indicated it is considering introducing periodic renewal for foreign-registered certificates, but this remains a proposal rather than confirmed policy.

9. Registration of Foreign Halal Certificates (SHLN Registration)

One important aspect often overlooked by foreign exporters is that obtaining halal certification from a BPJPH-recognized Foreign Halal Certification Body (LHLN) is not the final step. Before halal products can be imported, distributed, and marketed in Indonesia, the foreign halal certificate must be registered with BPJPH through the Foreign Halal Certificate Registration (SHLN Registration) mechanism.

This process enables BPJPH to verify the validity of the certificate, the recognized certification body, and the product scope, ensuring that only compliant halal products enter the Indonesian market. For many foreign manufacturers, SHLN Registration will become a critical market-access requirement ahead of the mandatory halal implementation deadlines.

As of mid-2026, BPJPH accredits around 129 domestic Halal Inspection Bodies (LPH) and recognizes roughly 20 foreign halal certification bodies under MRA arrangements, out of some 114 foreign bodies registered in its system across around 30 countries. Coverage varies by product scope: a foreign body's MRA recognition may extend to food and beverages but not to cosmetics or chemical products, for example, so exporters should confirm that their chosen certification body's accredited scope matches their product category.

10. Nordic certification infrastructure

Where an Indonesia-accredited Halal Inspection Body exists in the exporter's home country, the audit and inspection process can be conducted locally, reducing cost and logistical complexity. The current status across the Nordic countries:

Country	Accreditation status
Denmark	Accredited certification body available

Sweden	Not yet accredited
Finland	No accredited certification body available
Norway	Not yet accredited

Where no locally accredited body exists, Indonesian auditors may need to travel to the exporter's country for the on-site inspection. This increases cost and lead time.

This gap is not unique to the Nordics. At a July 2026 BPJPH briefing for foreign chambers of commerce in Jakarta, a SwedCham representative raised the absence of any BPJPH-accredited certification body across the EU; BPJPH staff confirmed that fewer than half of EU member states currently have one, and did not indicate a specific timeline for closing the gap.

11. A new pathway for Swedish companies

A new certification service has been launched specifically to address the gap in Nordic halal infrastructure. Seven Stones International and International Halal Prime (IHPrime) announced a partnership in June 2026 offering a one-stop halal certification service for Finnish and Swedish companies.

Under the partnership:

- Seven Stones International manages client relations, initial training, and process preparation in Finland and Sweden
- IHPrime acts as the operational lead in Indonesia, managing technical implementation, coordination with BPJPH, and local certification bodies

The service is structured to begin with a readiness assessment and training programme before formal certification is initiated. According to the partners, this front-loaded approach is designed to ensure companies understand the requirements and that their products and processes are certification-ready before time and resources are committed to the formal process.

"Halal certification is not just a checklist; it is a comprehensive quality assurance system that covers the entire supply chain." — Mohammad Zen, Managing Director, IHPrime

This model — a Nordic market-entry partner combined with an Indonesia-based halal specialist — represents a practical route for companies in countries without locally accredited inspection bodies.

12. Practical steps for exporters

Companies considering Indonesia as a market should take the following steps, ideally well in advance of the October 2026 deadline:

1. Confirm whether Indonesia is a priority market and what your product category's halal obligations are
2. Conduct an internal review of ingredients, suppliers, additives, and packaging against halal requirements
3. Assess your current quality management system for gaps relative to halal standards
4. Identify an appropriate certification pathway — local accredited body where available, or a specialist service such as the Seven Stones / IHPrime model
5. Participate in a pre-assessment or readiness programme before formal application
6. Budget for audits, certification fees, potential reformulation or re-sourcing, and re-labelling
7. Plan for ongoing halal management — certificates issued in Indonesia do not expire but remain valid only while ingredients and processes are unchanged, so any reformulation or process change requires updating the certification, and continued compliance must be maintained

Frequently asked questions

Question	Answer
Is halal mandatory for all products?	Mandatory halal requirements apply to an extensive list of categories from October 2026, including food, cosmetics, household goods, and clothing. Non-halal products may still be sold if clearly labelled as such. Some categories such as pharmaceuticals have longer implementation timelines.
Can non-halal products still be sold?	Yes. Non-halal products are not prohibited but must be labelled as non-halal, with no separate fee charged for the non-halal label itself. In practice, this limits distribution and retail placement significantly. As of July 2026, BPJPH has stated that the detailed non-halal labelling regulation is still being finalized, with completion expected before the October 2026 deadline — exporters relying on the non-halal route should confirm the final requirements closer to that date.

How long does certification take?	Timelines vary depending on product complexity, the readiness of the company's processes, and which certification pathway is used. A realistic minimum is several months from initial readiness assessment to certificate issuance. BPJPH itself cites 28–42 working days of formal processing time for local applications and up to 47 working days for overseas companies once an application is submitted — excluding the pre-assessment and readiness work that typically precedes submission.
How much does it cost?	Costs depend on product range, production complexity, and the certification body used. Where on-site audits require inspectors to travel from Indonesia, travel costs are a significant variable. As an order-of-magnitude reference, BPJPH's published fee schedule shows total application-and-audit fees for a small illustrative case ranging from roughly IDR 2.2 million (micro/small scale, local facility) to roughly IDR 47 million (large scale, overseas facility) — actual costs scale with company size, product count, and facility location. Where certification instead comes via a foreign body under an MRA with BPJPH, registration in Indonesia costs a flat IDR 800,000 per certificate. Companies should request an indicative cost estimate from their chosen certification partner early in the process.
What if my product already has a halal certificate from another country?	Halal certificates issued by bodies not accredited by BPJPH are not automatically recognised. Recognition depends on whether a bilateral agreement exists between Indonesia and the issuing body's country. This should be verified case by case.
Which certification bodies are accepted by BPJPH?	BPJPH maintains a register of accredited Halal Inspection Bodies. Companies should confirm that their chosen certification body appears on the current BPJPH register before proceeding. Recognition depends on whether the Halal Certification Body (LHLN) has been recognized by BPJPH and operates



	under a valid Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) or Mutual Acceptance Agreement (MAA).
For how long time is my Halal certificate valid?	Halal certificates remain valid as long as the certified product and halal production process remain unchanged and compliance obligations are maintained.

Attribution

This fact sheet was developed by the Sweden Chamber of Commerce Indonesia (SwedCham) with input from member companies and external specialists.



Expert contributors have been Seven Stones International and IHPrime, originators of a one-stop halal certification service for Finnish and Swedish companies.

SwedCham Indonesia

The Sweden Chamber of Commerce Indonesia is a member-driven, non-profit organisation strengthening business, trade, and professional relations between Sweden and Indonesia.

SwedCham serves as a connector for Swedish companies operating in or entering the Indonesian market — linking members to relevant networks, insights, and partners across sectors.

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Appendix

Product Categories Affected by Indonesia's Halal Regulations

Indonesia's halal system is evolving from a consumer trust label into a market access requirement. Under Law No. 33/2014 on Halal Product Assurance (JPH) and its implementing regulations, notably Government Regulation No. 39/2021 and Government Regulation No. 42/2024, a widening range of consumer and industrial products must obtain halal certification in order to enter, circulate, or be traded in Indonesia.

Halal certification is no longer limited to the finished product itself. Authorities assess the entire supply chain, including raw materials, manufacturing processes, packaging, storage, transportation, and traceability systems.

For Swedish exporters, the principal challenge is therefore often not reformulating products, but ensuring sufficient documentation, supplier transparency, and supply chain traceability to demonstrate compliance with Indonesia's halal requirements.

At a Glance

Product category	Mandatory from
Traditional medicines & supplements	17 October 2026
Cosmetics	17 October 2026
Chemical products	17 October 2026
Clothing & wearable items	17 October 2026
Household & office products	17 October 2026
Pharmaceuticals & medical devices	2026 / 2029 / 2034 (staggered)
Herbal medicines and supplements:	17 October 2026
OTC: Over the Counter Medicines	17 October 2029
Rx, Prescription Medicines	17 October 2034

Deadlines are based on the BPJPH phased-obligation schedule and should be verified against the current timeline before publication.

1. Traditional Medicines and Supplements

Obat Tradisional dan Suplemen Kesehatan

Products consumed to maintain health that are not classified as prescription pharmaceuticals. The category spans traditional preparations and a broad range of dietary supplements, many of which are imported and contain animal- or marine-derived ingredients whose origin must be documented.

Examples

- Traditional medicines: jamu, herbal extracts, herbal capsules, herbal teas, herbal oils
- Health supplements: vitamins, minerals, omega-3 products, probiotics, protein and collagen supplements

Halal concerns

- Ingredients: gelatin capsules, animal-derived ingredients, enzymes, honey, flavourings, alcohol content, processing aids
- Manufacturing: cleaning procedures, segregation from non-halal products, supplier traceability

Note. Many imported supplements contain bovine, porcine, or marine ingredients whose origin must be documented.

2. Cosmetics

Kosmetika

One of the largest affected categories, covering personal care, skincare, hair care, and body care. Manufacturers must document every raw material and the full production flow, including packaging, storage, and transport.

Examples

- Personal care: makeup, lipsticks, foundations, powders, mascara
- Skincare: face creams, serums, sunscreens, cleansers, masks
- Hair care: shampoo, conditioner, hair dye, hair treatments
- Body care: soap, deodorant, perfume, body lotion

Halal concerns

- Glycerin sources, collagen, keratin, animal-derived fats, alcohol types, fragrances, processing ingredients

Note. Documentation requirements extend to supplier certificates, manufacturing flow, packaging materials, and storage and transport systems.

3. Chemical Products

Produk Kimia

The broadest and least clearly defined category. It mainly covers consumer-facing chemical products, though certain industrial chemicals may also fall within scope. Many products appear synthetic but contain animal-derived compounds several steps upstream in production.

Examples

- Personal and household: detergents, cleaning agents, air fresheners, fabric softeners, dishwashing liquids
- Industrial chemicals that may apply: adhesives, lubricants, coatings, printing inks, certain additives

Halal concerns

- Animal-derived fatty acids, alcohols, emulsifiers, surfactants, processing agents

Note. The principal difficulty is identifying animal-derived inputs that sit several steps upstream of an apparently synthetic product.

4. Clothing and Wearable Items

Barang Gunaan: Pakaian dan Aksesori

Often unexpected for foreign companies. The focus is materials that come into direct contact with the body, with the highest risk assessment for products containing animal-derived components. Not all textiles are necessarily in scope.

Examples

- Clothing: jackets, shirts, trousers, underwear, socks
- Accessories: hats, gloves, belts, wallets, handbags
- Religious items: prayer garments, hijabs

Halal concerns

- Animal-derived materials: leather, fur, wool, feathers
- Chemical treatments: dyes, finishing agents, adhesives

Note. Risk is concentrated in products containing animal-derived components.

5. Household and Office Products

Barang Gunaan Rumah Tangga dan Perkantoran

Everyday products used in homes and workplaces. Not every item automatically requires certification; the determining factors are whether the product falls under the official consumer goods category and whether it contains potentially non-halal materials.

Examples

- Household: kitchen utensils, plates, cups, food containers, sponges
- Office: pens, markers, paper products, adhesives, certain stationery
- Furniture and accessories: cushions, upholstery, decorative products

Halal concerns

- Glues, coatings, animal-derived materials, waxes, processing chemicals

Note. Scope depends on the official consumer goods classification and the presence of potentially non-halal materials.

6. Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices

Farmasi dan Alat Kesehatan

The category with the most complex implementation timeline, applied in stages by product type. It covers both pharmaceuticals and medical devices. Many devices have no obvious halal implication but still require assessment.

Examples

- Pharmaceuticals: prescription medicines, over-the-counter medicines, vaccines, biologics, injectables
- Medical devices: surgical gloves, catheters, bandages, dental products, orthopaedic implants, diagnostic kits, syringes

Halal concerns

- Pharmaceuticals: gelatin capsules, enzymes, vaccine stabilizers, cell culture media, alcohol content, animal-derived excipients
- Medical devices: animal-derived coatings, lubricants, collagen, bone graft materials, packaging materials

Note. Implementation is gradual, with herbal medicines and supplements first, followed by OTC and then prescription medicines.