

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

BETWEEN



**NATIONAL INDEPENDENT HALAAL TRUST
(NIHT)**

AND



**MUSLIM PROFESSIONAL JAPAN ASSOCIATION
(MPJA)**

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
(MOU)**

**NATIONAL INDEPENDENT HALAAL TRUST
(NIHT)**

A duly recognized halal certification authority/body established under the laws of South Africa,
with its principal address at:

195 Rose Avenue, Extension 3, Lenasia, Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa.
(hereinafter referred to as “**NIHT**”)

And

**Muslim Professional Japan Association
(MPJA)**

A duly recognized halal certification body established under the laws of Japan, with its principal
address at:

Yoshioka Building 3F, 4-32-1 Yotsuya, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160-0004, Japan.
(hereinafter referred to as “**MPJA**”)

NIHT and **MPJA** are hereafter collectively referred to as “the Parties” and individually as “the
Party”.

ARTICLE 1: OBJECTIVE

- 1.1 The Parties, subject to the terms of this MOU and the laws, rules, regulations and national policies from time to time in force in each party's country, shall endeavour to strengthen, promote and develop collaboration between the Parties on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.
- 1.2 The objectives are as follows:
- a) To promote and improve halal certification standards and practices.
 - b) To facilitate the exchange of knowledge, expertise, and best practices in halal certification.
 - c) To collaborate on joint initiatives, training programs, and research in the field of halal certification.
 - d) To support and enhance halal certification processes and ensure compliance with international standards.
 - e) To enhance efficiency and reducing barriers for business seeking halal certification for international trade.
 - f) To facilitate the acceptance of halal certified products across regions where each Party operates.
 - g) To promote halal integrity and consumer confidence in certified products and services.
 - h) To strengthen the credibility and integrity of halal certification globally.

ARTICLE 2: AREAS OF COOPERATION

- 2.1 Both parties agree to encourage the following activities in the following areas:
- a) Recognition of halal logo and halal certificate.
 - i. The parties mutually agree that their respective logos, and any associated export certificates, shall be recognized and treated as relevant identifiers and documentation within the context of this collaboration, subject to compliance with agreed standards.
 - ii. The Parties may mutually display each other's logos on relevant materials, including but not limited to official websites, certificates, brochures, and other approved promotional mediums.
 - b) Promotion of halal trade.
 - i. The Parties may mutually promote halal-certified products endorsed by both Parties at trade fairs, exhibitions, conferences, retail outlets, or other agreed-upon commercial platforms.
 - ii. The Parties agree to mutually exchange information pertaining to market access opportunities, share relevant market intelligence, including but

not limited to trade regulations, import/export policies, and commercial opportunities in their respective territories, to support certified businesses in compliance with applicable laws.

- iii. The Parties agree to mutually facilitate introductions and provide recommendations to relevant stakeholders and clients within their respective jurisdictions who require Halal certification services.

c) Exchange of information and expertise.

- i. Share relevant information regarding halal standards, guidelines, certification procedures, and regulatory requirements in their respective regions.
- ii. Facilitate the exchange of technical expertise, best practices, and research findings related to halal certification.

d) Training and capacity building.

- i. The Parties agree to jointly develop and implement training programmes designed to enhance the professional competencies and technical expertise of their respective personnel.
- ii. The Parties agree to jointly develop and implement strategic capacity-building programmes aimed at enhancing Halal industry competitiveness, including workforce training and skills development, institutional strengthening of halal certification bodies, and market access facilitation for Halal industry stakeholders.
- iii. The Parties acknowledge their respective training programmes and recognize the "Halal Leader" credentials issued under such programs as qualifying under this collaboration's approved standards.

e) Joint initiatives and projects.

- i. The Parties agree to collaborate on joint research and development initiatives aimed at advancing halal certification methodologies, technologies, and standards.
- ii. The Parties agree to undertake cooperative efforts to develop and implement halal awareness programs, educational campaigns, and public outreach initiatives.
- iii. The Parties agree to promote each other's initiatives, relevant information and activities within the scope of this MOU through their respective marketing channels and materials, subject to prior written approval.

- iv. The Parties agree to provide reasonable support, where appropriate, in promoting each other's affiliated mosques through mutually agreed-upon means.
- f) Regulatory and standards development.
 - i. The Parties agree to collaborate in the development, enhancement, and review of halal certification standards and guidelines to ensure their continued relevance and effectiveness.
 - ii. The Parties agree to provide mutual assistance in understanding and complying with applicable regulatory frameworks governing halal certification in their respective jurisdictions.

ARTICLE 3: FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- 3.1 This MOU does not create, and shall not be construed as creating, any legally binding financial obligations between the Parties.
- 3.2 Each Party shall be solely responsible for all costs, expenses, and expenditures incurred in connection with its participation in and implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.

ARTICLE 4: EFFECT OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This MOU reflects the Parties' mutual expressions of intent; and does not create legally binding obligations, whether express, implied, contractual, or otherwise under any jurisdiction's laws.

ARTICLE 5: CONFIDENTIALITY (NO AGENCY)

- 5.1 Nothing contained herein is to be construed so as to constitute a joint venture partnership or formal business organisation of any kind between the Parties or so to constitute either party as the agent of the other.
- 5.2 The Parties agree to maintain the confidentiality of any proprietary or sensitive information shared in the course of this collaboration. Information shall not be disclosed to third parties without prior written consent from the disclosing party.

ARTICLE 6: TERM AND TERMINATION

- 6.1 This MOU shall become effective upon execution by both Parties, with the Effective Date being the later of the date of the first Party's signature or the date of the second Party's signature.
- 6.2 The term of this MOU shall commence on the Effective Date and continue for a period of three (3) years.
- 6.3 This MOU shall automatically renew for successive three (3) years terms.

- 6.4 This MOU may be amended by a written instrument duly executed by authorized representatives of both Parties.
- 6.5 This MOU may be terminated by either party with a minimum of thirty (30) days written notice. Activities in progress at the time of termination of this MOU shall be permitted to conclude as planned unless otherwise agreed.

ARTICLE 7: MISCELLANEOUS

- 7.1 The Parties agree to explore further opportunities for cooperation in other relevant fields, subject to mutual written agreement specifying the terms and scope of such collaboration.
- 7.2 The Parties shall resolve any matters not expressly governed by this MOU or arising from its interpretation through good faith negotiations.
- 7.3 Neither Party may assign this MOU without prior consent.
- 7.4 This MOU is executed in two (2) original counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original. Both Parties shall retain one (1) original copy each.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this MOU on the dates indicated below.

National Independent Halaal Trust (NIHT)	
Representative	Witness
	
Name: Abdul Wahab Wookay	Name: Adnaan Gabru
Designation: CEO	Designation: Applications Manager
Date: 21 May 2025	Date: 21 May 2025

Muslim Professional Japan Association (MPJA)	
	
Name: Akmal Abu Hassan	Name: Muhammad Basir
Designation: President	Designation: Auditor
Date: 20/5/2025	Date: 20/5/2025