

**THE AUTHORITY OF INDONESIAN ULAMA COUNCIL
(MUI) IN EXAMINING AND VERIFYING
HALAL PRODUCTS IN INDONESIA**

DR. HM. Jamil, MA

(State Islamic University of North Sumatera)

Presented in University of Fukuoka, Japan

17th July 2018

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Fukuoka University
Research Center of Composite Material, Faculty of Engineering,
8-19-1 Nanakuma, Jonan-ku, Fukuoka 814-0180, JAPAN

Phone: +81-92-871-6631
Ext. 6428, 6449
Fax: +81-92-865-6031
E-mail: mishima@fukuoka-u.ac.jp

**INVITATION LETTER FOR SPEAKER ON WORKSHOP ON
INTEGRATION BETWEEN APPLIED SCIENCE AND SOCIAL
AND RELIGIOUS FIELD**

24th May 2018

Dear Dr. H. M. Jamil

This is the invitation letter for our guest speaker from Faculty of Science and Technology, State Islamic University (UIN) Sumatera Utara Medan (Dr. H. M. Jamil)-Indonesia on Workshop meeting.

The Workshop will be held at Fukuoka University Japan on Tuesday, 17th July 2018. The topic is about :

Authority of Indonesian Ulama Council (MUI) in Examining and Verifying Halal Products in Indonesia.

We are very happy and many thanks for your chance and your time to joint in that meeting.

See you at Fukuoka soon.

Sincerely,
Committee

Kenji Mishima
(Signature here)

Prof. Kenji Mishima

Department of Chemical Engineering
Faculty of Engineering Fukuoka University
8-19-1 Nanakuma, Jonan-ku, Fukuoka, 814-0180, Japan

THE AUTHORITY OF INDONESIAN ULAMA COUNCIL (MUI) IN EXAMINING AND VERIFYING HALAL PRODUCTS IN INDONESIA

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Introduction

It is undeniable that Islam is one of the largest religions in the world. In Indonesia, Muslims are the largest population. The number of Muslims in this country reaches 222 million peoples. The majority of Indonesian Muslims adhere to Sunni schools. Muslims in this country are affiliated with certain Islamic organizations, including Nahdlatul Ulama, Al Washliyah and Tarbiyah unity, Islamiyah Ittihadiyah and Al Ittihadiyah from traditionalist groups or the elderly (Ja'far: 2011, 2018, Bush: 2009, and Siddik& Ja ' far: 2017), as well as the Muhammadiyah and Islamic Unity (Persis) of the modernist camp of Muhammadiyah (Azra: 1994; Burhani: 2018) and Islamic Unity or Persis (Minhaji: 2000). There are also Muslims who are followers of the Ahmadiyyah group (Ropi: 2010) and Syiah (Siradj: 2013; Iqbal &Ja'far: 2019). Even though Muslims are spread in various Islamic organizations and have a difference understanding and cultures, they are followers of the Islamic religion which makes the Qur'an and hadith as the main source of teachings.

Indeed, Indonesia is not an Islamic country, but a state in the form of a republic based on Pancasila. However, Muslims as the largest population in Indonesia still maintain and practice the teachings of Islam. In fact, Muslims consider the importance of the existence of Islamic institutions as a means for them to be able to facilitate the implementation of their religious teachings. Perhaps, the Indonesian Council of Ulama (MUI) is one of the most important institutions in Indonesia that is expected to be a guardian of the religion and able to fulfill the needs of Muslims about their religion (Mudzhar: 1993).

One issue that continues to concern Muslims in Indonesia is the issue of halal food. Indonesian Muslims are still fanatical about halal food, where they will only consume halal food and refuse to produce moreover to consume illicit food. In order to fulfill the needs of Muslims

for halal food, the MUI established the Food and Drug Research Institute for Cosmetics (LPPOM) since 1989. Then, the Indonesian government also has the same concern so that the Indonesian government establishes the Halal Product Safety Assurance Agency (BPJPH) in accordance with the Law No. 33/2014 concerning Guaranteed Halal Products (Hidayat&Siradj: 2015). Indeed, this fact raises a problem that halal certification authorities is no longer done by the Indonesian Council of Ulama (MUI), which for 25 years has issued halal certification, and now taken over by the Ministry of Religious Affairs. This study will review halal certification by these two institutions.

LPPOM MUI

The Indonesian Council of Ulama (MUI) was established in Jakarta 1975 when Suharto was in the second period of his presidency. Since the formation of this country the position of ulama of Indonesian has been and is very important. Suharto considered the group of ulama as the source of justification for his power not only at the early stage, but also at the middle and, to a some extent, at the latest stage of his power. However, not all Indonesian ulama agreed to the presence of the MUI. Through a persuasive approach, although the support of NU was not there, Suharto was ultimately successful in persuading other ulama from other Muslim organizations to establish the MUI. Later, MUI increasingly been more received in the state and society. It is evident in many public and legal discourses that consider the fatwa MUI as inspiration for law-making and public morality. MUI is a forum for gathering traditionalist and modernist ulama (Hosen: 2004).

One of the roles of the MUI for Muslims in Indonesia is to provide halal certificates for a product to ensure halal food for Muslims. LPPOM MUI was founded on the government to help alleviate the case of lard in Indonesia that occurred in 1988. Finally, on January 6, 1989, LPPOM MUI was officially established. LPPOM MUI then collaborated with the Ministry of Religion and the Ministry of Health to strengthen its position to run halal certification. The purpose of the MUI halal certificate is "a written fatwa by the Indonesian Council of Ulama which states the halal nature of a product in accordance with Islamic shari'a. This MUI Halal Certificate is a requirement to obtain a permit for the inclusion of halal labels on product packaging from authorized government agencies. "While halal MUI certification objectives is" to provide certainty of halal status, so it can reassure consumers in consuming it. The sustainability of the halal production process is guaranteed by producers by implementing the Halal Guarantee System "(Atmadi: 2013).

The Companies that want their products to get halal labels from MUI must follow certain procedures and submit them to LPPOM MUI. There are several steps that must be passed by companies that want their products to get halal certificates (MUI: 2019):

1. Understand the requirements for halal certification and attend SJH training;
2. Implementing Sistem Jaminan Halal (SJH) a Halal Assurance System;
3. Prepare a halal certification document;
4. Register halal certification;
5. Monitoring pre-audit and payment of certification agreements;
6. Audit implementation;
7. Perform post-audit monitoring.

LPPOM MUI carries the mission "To be a trusted halal certification institution in Indonesia and the world to provide peace for Muslims and to become the world's halal center that provides information, solutions and halal standards that are recognized nationally and internationally." Then, the mission of certification halal MUI agency's is to set and develop halal standards and standards for halal audits, certify food, drug and cosmetics products that are circulated and consumed by the public, conduct halal education and foster public awareness to always consume halal products, and provide information about halal products from various aspects as a whole (MUI : 2019).

Halal Certification Post Law No. 33/2014

After Law No. 33/2014 concerning Guaranteed Halal Products is ratified, the halal certification authority is no longer done by the Indonesian Council Ulama (MUI), even though this institution has conducted halal certification for 25 years. Enactment of Law No. 33/2014 concerning Guaranteed Halal Products is "division of authority". "Division of authority" regarding halal certification is carried out in connection with the enactment of Law No. 33/2014 concerning Halal Product Guarantee which requires all products to be used in 2019 to have halal certificates. Badan Penyelenggara Jaminan Produk Halal (BPJPR) The Halal Product Guarantee Agency has the authority to register halal products at domestic and abroad, revoke halal labels, check LPH accreditation, and seek law enforcement in case of violations related to halal products (Aminuddin: 2016; Faid: 2017; Sayekti: 2014)

The institution that receives the registration and receive the registration fee and have the budget or manages the budget is the Ministry of Religious Affairs, in this case, BPJPH. This institution has the authority to perform administrative selection on the proposal of employers to obtain certification. If the proposal submitted fulfills the requirements, then by BPJPH, the document will be sent to LPH (Halal Inspection Agency). After LPH analyzes the product contents, the documents and reports are sent back to the agency, which then sends them to the MUI. Later, the MUI through its fatwa session will determine whether the product will receive a fatwa of halal. If halal, the agency will issue a halal certificate based on the decision of the MUI

fatwa. Thus, the MUI has the authority to create or formulate or declare written fatwa in accordance with the authority granted by the body to the MUI.

This law has the principle of protection, covering three aspects. First, protect the community with guarantee of halal products that are marketed domestically. Second, protecting our domestic market from the invasion of imported products that are not clear whether the product is halal or not. Third, has the principle of justice for all parties related to this matter.

The Guarantee of halal products becomes the "country domain" because "it concerns the trade aspects of G to G (government to government) issues, related to exports and imports so that the state must be present in that regard. This division of halal certification authority is part of the developed bureaucratic reforms related to transparency and accountability. This is not due to allegations that transparency in the management of halal certification funds MUI is not transparent, but because BPJPH is part of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, as a government agency, BPJPH will be audited by the inspectorate, BPK, BPKP, and even the Ombudsman. Law Number 33 the Year 2014 regulates how long the registration period is, how long the application for certification is in BPJPH, in the LPH and how long the application is in MUI.

Regarding the use of funds from halal certification, BPJPH will get government funding through the APBN, in addition to funds from companies and entrepreneurs who apply halal certification. The agency will also use a portion of the state budget funds as well as "possibility of CSR funds we work with companies" to provide cross subsidies for halal certification financing for small and medium-size businesses. This (financial) scheme is a mainstay for halal certification, if there are socialization programs, periodic inspections or controls on companies or entrepreneurs who have obtained halal certificates, these include the things we will program (in the use of funds).

Actually, there is a mechanism for proposing halal certification. The Business actor shall apply for a Halal Certificate in writing to BPJPH. Business actors are authorized to choose LPH to inspect and / or test halal their products. LPH can be established by the Government and / or the community. The LPH chosen by the business actors will be determined by BPJPH. Determination of LPH, maximum of five days from complete application documents. Then, check the product. The examination is conducted by Halal Auditor of LPH which has been determined by BPJPH. This halal examination and/ or testing product is performed at the business location during the production process and/ or in the laboratory. Testing in the laboratory can be done if in examination of products there is material that is doubtful halal. Then, the results of the inspection and/ or Product halal test is then submitted to BPJPH. Then, BPJPH conveys the result of the examination and/ or Product halal test conducted by LPH to MUI to obtain Halal Products determination. Then, MUI stipulates the Halal Products through Halal Fatwa trial. Then, the Halal Fatwa session shall be held no later than 30 (thirty) working days

after the MUI receives the examination result and / or product testing from BPJPH. Products declared halal by the MUI fatwa, followed by BPJPH to issue halal certificate. The Issuance of halal certificate is no later than 7 days after the decision of halal products received from MUI are received. The Business actor must install a halal label with the registration number on their business products. BPJPH will also publish the issuance of Halal Certificate of each Product. For products declared to be unlawful, BPJPH shall return the application of Halal Certificate to Business Actor accompanied by the reason. All rules for the halal certification process will be regulated in the Regulation of Minister of Religion.

In the case of halal certification, the government can conduct international cooperation in the field of JPH in accordance with statutory provisions. The Halal products imported into Indonesia are subject to the provisions of this Law. Halal products, as referred to in this law, do not need to be submitted for Halal Certificates as long as Halal Certificates are issued by overseas halal institutions that have cooperated with mutual recognition. Halal Certificates must be registered by BPJPH before Products are circulated in Indonesia.

The existence of BPJPH triggers a revival of halal product industry in the country that led to the improvement of people's welfare. The target of Indonesia to be included in the top 10 producers of the halal products in the world as said by the minister of religious affairs. In other fields related to JPH, the Global Islamic Economy Indicator 2017 also released that Indonesia come into the top 10 largest halal industrial consumer countries in the world. Indonesia ranks number one in the world of halal food shopping. In the halal tourism sector, Indonesia is ranked number five in the world. As for halal medicines and cosmetics and Islamic finance, Indonesia is ranked tenth in the world.

Conclusion

The study above confirms that the attention of Muslims in Indonesia is very intense towards the issue of halal food as a form of evidence that they are very fanatical about their religious teachings. Initially, halal certification of a product was carried out by the Indonesian Ulama Council through LPPOM. Then, since 2004, the government on the mandate of the law through the Ministry of Religious Affairs formed the BPJPR, so that the halal certification authority was taken over by the government through the Ministry of Religious Affairs. Regardless of the issue of institutions authorized to manage halal certification, the attention of Muslims and the government towards halal food issues is increasingly advancing. The issue of halal certification is not only a means for Muslims to obtain halal food, but also can trigger the rise of the halal product industry in Indonesia, and will automatically be able to improve the welfare of the Indonesian people. []

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AND DEAN FORUM OF FST STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF PTKIN

Workshop on Integration Between Applied Science, Social, And Religious Field

July 17th to 20th July, 2018

Certificate Tend To :
DR. H.M. Jamil. MA

As

Speaker

(Topic: THE AUTHORITY OF MUJ IN HALAL CERTIFICATION)

Acknowledged by,
Head of Research of Chemical Engineering
Fukuoka University



Kenji Mishima
Prof. Kenji Mishima