Directorate for Agriculture, Food and Rural Communities
Animal Health and Welfare Division

T: 0300-244 9240 F: 0300-244 9797
E: AnimalWelfareConsultations@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

To:

Members of the Muslim
& Jewish Communities

13 February 2012

Dear Sir/Madam

IMPLEMENTATION OF REGULATION 1099/2009 ON THE PROTECTION OF ANIMALS AT THE TIME OF KILLING
SLAUGHTER WITHOUT STUNNING STAKEHOLDER MEETING ON 12 MARCH 2012, IN SAUGHTON HOUSE, EDINBURGH

I am writing to inform you that Regulation 1099/2009 will replace Directive 93/119 "on the protection of animals at the time of slaughter or killing" from 1 January 2013. This Regulation will establish minimum welfare standards that will be directly applicable in every Member State.

Regulation 1099/2009 permits Member States to maintain stricter national rules aimed at ensuring greater protection of animals at the time of killing. These can be used to maintain higher standards of welfare protection contained in national legislation in force in September 2009 when Regulation 1099/2009 was agreed.

The Regulation also allows new, stricter national rules to be developed in relation to religious slaughter, slaughter outside a slaughterhouse and farmed game. Significant legislative changes involving possible repeal and replacement of the Welfare of Animals (Slaughter or Killing) Regulations 1995 will be necessary to give effect to these new arrangements.

The Scottish Government is planning to hold a meeting to discuss the implementation of Regulation 1099/2009 in relation to slaughter without stunning as prescribed by religious rites, in Scotland and it would be extremely useful if we could obtain the initial views of stakeholders at this venue. Consequently, if the new slaughter Regulation is relevant to your organisation, your representative is invited to attend the meeting to present your organisation's views and take part in any discussions. The information we obtain as a result will be used to shape the section on religious slaughter in the formal consultation paper which will issue in the Spring.

The meeting will be held on 12 March 2012 in Saughton House, Edinburgh (full address and contact details are below). **I would be grateful if anyone in your organisation wishing to attend could fill in the details requested on the last page of this letter and return it no later than 22 February 2012, preferably by email, or post to:**

Animal Health and Welfare Division
Animal Welfare Policy
Directorate for Agriculture, Food and Rural Communities
The Scottish Government
P Spur
Saughton House
Broomhouse Drive
Edinburgh
EH11 3XD

Email: AnimalWelfareConsultations@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Another letter and accompanying agenda will issue after 22 February to everyone who responds that they wish to attend the meeting.

A list of the organisations to which this letter has issued is attached. If you know of any other organisation which should have received a copy but which does not appear on the list, please either pass on a copy of the letter or let us know as soon as possible so that we may attend to the matter.

Thank you for your kind assistance.

Yours sincerely

Sheena Keith

Sheena Keith
Animal Welfare Policy

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LIST OF ORGANISATIONS CONTACTED:

Association of Non Stun Abattoirs
Glasgow Central Mosque Hall
Halal Chicken Services
Halal Food Authority
Halal Monitoring Committee
Halal Processors (Scotland) Ltd
Islamic Medical Association
National Halal Food Group
Scottish Council of Jewish Communities
Scottish Islamic Foundation
Shechita UK
The Board of Deputies of British Jews
The Islamic Cultural Centre
The Muslim Council of Britain
The Muslim Council of Scotland
UK Halal Corporation
Universal Halal Agency Ltd

IMPLEMENTATION OF REGULATION 1099/2009 ON THE PROTECTION OF ANIMALS AT THE TIME OF KILLING

RELIGIOUS SLAUGHTER STAKEHOLDER MEETING ON 12 MARCH 2012 IN SAUGHTON HOUSE, EDINBURGH

TITLE AND NAME OF ATTENDEE:

.....

NAME OF ORGANISATION:

.....

EMAIL ADDRESS:

.....

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

.....

ADDRESS OF ORGANISATION (INCLUDING POSTCODE):

.....

.....

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