

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **1<sup>st</sup> MONGOLIA HALAL BUSINESS FORUM ORGANISED MONGOLIAN HALAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (MHDA) AND MONGOLIA NATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (MNCCI)**

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolian Halal Development Association (MHDA) and Mongolia National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MNCCI), proudly organised the 1<sup>st</sup> MONGOLIAN HALAL BUSINESS FORUM on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2023, with the sponsorship from International Financial Corporation (IFC), Putra Star Investment Holdings Pte Ltd, Metaluzion Pte Ltd, MHC Group from Thailand and Malaysia, Lifestyle Ventures Sdn Bhd, Symphony Confection Sdn Bhd, YPI Water Pte Ltd, with the support and partnership of Badan Penyelenggara Jaminan Produk Halal Kementerian Agama RI (BPJPH) (Indonesia Halal Authority), Halal Development Corporation Berhad (HDC) and The Halal Science Centre of Chulalongkorn University (THAILAND).

MHDA was established with the sole intention and purpose to create awareness on HALAL and to promote and establish a robust and resilient HALAL ecosystem in Mongolia. Thus, this forum will be the first of many activities that MHDA will be organising in Mongolia

The forum was organized under the theme "EXPLORING THE HALAL LIFESTYLE" and MHDA invited key eminent speakers, Mr Mohammad Zen (BPJPH Indonesia), Chief Commercial Officer, Mr Hj Adly Mohamed (HDC Malaysia), Mr Keith Woo (METALUZION SINGAPORE), Assist Prof Dr Srawut Aree (The Halal Science Centre of Chulalongkorn University Thailand) who spoke on the different aspects of a HALAL ECOSYSTEM, from the view point of HALAL Assurance, to the benefits to the economy and social development, to HALAL TESTING and even covering the digitalization of HALAL TRACK, TRACE and RECALL of HALAL PRODUCTS. The aim of all these initiatives is to enable Mongolia to be part of the global HALAL market in ASIA Pacific which has a market worth USD 3 trillion.

The opening remarks of the forum was made by Mr B Namjilsuren (MNCCI) who highlighted that Mongolia lacks a proper HALAL system and the forum provided an opportunity to raise awareness on establishing a Halal Ecosystem and give assurance to both domestic and international exporters that the meat from Mongolia is HALAL thus this forum is very timely as MHDA and MNCCI has developed a system that is comprehensive and systematic to firmly establish the HALAL economy in Mongolia. The forum was also attended by the Deputy Minister of Digital Development and Communication, who supported the system to enhance food safety and security as well as to protect the trademark of business in Mongolia. Mr Erdenesaikhan Y from Small and Medium Enterprises Agency, spoke about how this forum can aid the SME in Mongolia in understanding that HALAL is not only meant for Meat, but for many other business sectors. Mr Bakyeyi from Mongolian University of Life Sciences spoke about the need and preparedness of exporting Halal meat to the world.

Part of the event was the Award Ceremony which 21 trainees were certified as HALAL Inspectors and 8 were given Certificate of Attendance as part of the weekend training held on

26<sup>th</sup> August, MHDA together with their partner BPJPH (the Indonesian HALAL authority) conducted their 1<sup>st</sup> HALAL Training for HALAL Certifications in HALAL processes and slaughtering. During the classroom training, the trainees were taught that the HALAL slaughtering process starts with the welfare of the animal at the holding bay right up to the slaughtering, the cleaning and preparation for packaging.

MHDA and BPJPH will be establishing the Mongolia Certification Body or Authority which will be the one stop centre to assist all other recognised Islamic HALAL certification body in Mongolia. This is to ensure that only legitimate HALAL certification bodies are accepted in Mongolia. As a partner with MHDA, BPJPH will assist to ensure that MHDA HALAL certification is recognised as *the* certifying body of Mongolia.

MHDA, MNCCI, IFC, BPJPH and HDC will be working together to organise the 1<sup>st</sup> Mongolia HALAL Trade Fair in April 2024 to establish and actively promote the ever growing Global Halal Economy.