



# F09/20: Authentication of documents for GCC markets

## Food Products

31 March 2020

### 1 Authentication of export documentation via the Embassy of the State of Kuwait in Wellington

- (1) Several markets in the GCC, including Kuwait, require New Zealand exporters' export documentation to be authenticated before the goods are permitted into their countries. The Embassy of the State of Kuwait in Wellington provides this consular authentication service on behalf of the other GCC countries.
- (2) Exporters are facing uncertainty about whether their goods, some of which are on the water, will be permitted into Kuwait and other Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries because their export documentation has not yet been authenticated by the Embassy of the State of Kuwait in Wellington.
- (3) (MFAT, MPI and NZTE, both in New Zealand and in the GCC area, are pursuing other channels to try to ensure the affected exporters' goods do not encounter any issues, and to obtain a waiver from the need to authenticate documents. We will use this temporary waiver as an opportunity to engage the GCC countries on whether the need for consular authentication can be removed in the long term
- (4) We have obtained verbal confirmation from Qatar and Oman that they are willing to accept New Zealand goods without consular authentication. We also believe Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates will accept goods without this step.
- (5) Until we receive confirmation of a waiver the Embassy of the State of Kuwait has advised a strategy to resume document authentication as follows: All documents are to be temporarily couriered to the following address:  
98 Copeland Street  
Epuni  
Lower Hutt 5011  
Attn: Consular Legalization
- (6) The Embassy advise that some documents delivered to their building earlier this week may be returned as our building management has closed the building to the public (including courier drivers) during the lock-down. Once these are received they should be redirected to the address above.
- (7) MPI are seeking confirmation as which countries require authentication of export documentation. Any information and updates on clearance of goods should be sent to [market.access@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:market.access@mpi.govt.nz)

### Contact for further information

Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI)  
Policy and Trade Branch  
Market Access Directorate  
PO Box 2526

Wellington 6140

Email: [market.access@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:market.access@mpi.govt.nz)

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