

**THE EMIRATE OF ABU DHABI**  
ABU DHABI FOOD CONTROL AUTHORITY

**Regulation Number 2 for the year 2008**

**RISK-BASED APPROACH FOR  
THE CONTROL OF IMPORTED FOODS**  
via borders of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi





جهاز أبوظبي للرقابة الغذائية  
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The Chairman of Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority

- Having perused Law no. (2) for the year 2005 pertaining to the Establishment of Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority.
- And Law no. (2) for the year 2008 pertaining to Food in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

We decided the issuance of the following regulation with respect to the risk-based approach for the control of imported foods:

**Article (1)**

In this Regulation, the terms and expressions of Law No. (02) for the year 2008 shall apply.

**Article (2)**

Risk based system concentrates on classifying food products based on the risk(s) associated with human health, where they are arranged based on the purpose of use and hence allows for effective resources allocation and formulate building block in enhancing consumer confidence and attain the appropriate health protection on a national level, whilst, facilitating trade with regional and international partners.

**Article (3)**

The system focuses on foods associated with high risk on human health based on science-based known risks, whereas, allows for predetermined automated control on foods with low risk on human health.

#### Article (4)

Food products are categorized in three groups based on their risk(s) on human health:

a- High risk food products:

- Meat, Chicken and Seafood
- Milk, Yogurt and Cheeses
- Ice-cream
- Eggs and butter
- Pastries; frozen
- Bakery products containing milk & eggs
- Baby & Infant foods, foods for special dietary use
- Nuts, Coconut; Flaked & Dried
- Sesame, Tahineh and Peanut butter
- Raw Vegetables; Pre-cut, Packaged
- Low acid foods; Retorted

b- Medium risk food products:

- Bottled Water, Carbonated Beverages
- Juices & its Concentrates
- Fruits; fresh & packaged
- Vegetables & Fruits; frozen
- Cocoa and Chocolates
- Biscuits and sugar Candies
- Spices and dried Soups
- Yeast and bacterial cultures
- Coffee whiteners, whips and creams
- Jams and Jellies
- Rice
- Flour and Starch
- Chips and Breakfast cereals
- Acidic foods such as Ketchup and Mustard

## c- Low risk food products:

- Coffee and Tea
- Sugar, Syrups and Honey
- Carbonated beverages concentrates
- Food Additives and Flavor extracts
- Oils, Fats, Margarine
- Fruits; dried and Vegetables; packaged
- Grains and Beans
- Pasta, spaghetti and couscous
- Dried Herbs
- Salt and Vinegar
- Alcoholic drinks and Distilled Liquors

**Article (5)**

Risk based system encompasses the Channeling concept where each channel represents set of health related procedures in the following manner:

- a- Green Channel: Health Documentation Review.
- b- Yellow Channel: Health Documentation Review and Cargo Examination.
- c- Red Channel: Health Documentation Review, Cargo Examination, Samples collection and laboratory analysis.

**Article (6)**

Food categories classified according to health risks and health channeling procedures are merged in order to define the level and frequency of food consignment inspection according to the matrix shown below:

Selectivity Criteria	Red Channel	Yellow Channel	Green Channel
High Risk foods	80-100%	0-10%	0-10%
Medium Risk foods	15-25%	15-25%	50-70%
Low Risk foods	5-10%	0-5%	85-90%

**Article (7)**

In case where five successive shipments for the same food item classified in either category and obtained from the same manufacturer/source have proven compliancy with health and safety requirements following inspection and laboratory analysis, then sample collection for laboratory analysis purposes will be carried out only on one consignment out of four consignments which have been inspected. Same food item obtained from same manufacturer/source shall be given such benefit as long as it complies with health & safety requirements.

### **Article (8)**

In case where consignment classified in either category was found not in compliance with health and safety requirements, then benefits given shall be withdrawn until evidence of compliance is proved for the next successive five shipments.

### **Article (9)**

An additional 10% of all food consignments shall be subject to random inspection, whereby sample collection for laboratory analysis is conducted regardless of food category.

### **Article (10)**

Food products that have been officially declared prohibited to enter borders will not be inspected and shall be re-exported to the country of origin.

### **Article (11)**

Foods shall be automatically detained when entering the Emirate for the first time or rejected have been notified upon by other countries or related international organizations or rejected from other countries.

### **Article (12)**

This Regulation shall come into force directly after its promulgation in the Official Gazette.

**Mansour Bin Zayed Al Nahyan**

The Chairman

Issued in Abu Dhabi on:

Date: 26 August 2008

Corresponding to: 25 Sha'ban 1429 Hijri