SSMP Halal Breakthrough in 2013

Mariam Abdul Latif

In Russia

With the objectives to create awareness and enhance knowledge about halal standards and certification among food industry players and to promote Universiti Malaysia Sabah in the world arena, Associate Professor Dr. Sharifudin Md. Shaarani, the Dean, and Associate Professor Hajah Mariam Abdul Latif of SSMP were in St. Petersburg, Russia attending the 1st Russian Halal Summit 2013 from 4 to 7 June 2013. They were invited by the Halal Certification Center Russia in cooperation with the Poultry Farm Association Russia. The objective of the Summit was to promote Russian halal meat and meat products to the world. Two senior officials from the OIC were also present: Mr. Haluk Dag, the Secretary General of the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) and Dr. EI Hassane Hzaine, Director General, Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT).

Other prominent figures were Dr. Abdolhossein Fakhari (Secretary General of Halalworld organization), Imam Najjar Thafier (Chairman of the World Halal Council), Hj. Dinar Sadykov (Director General of Halal Certification Center Russia), Dr. Aidaros from Office of International Epizootics (OIE), and His Excellency Mr. Nikolay Sleptsov, the Advisor to the Russian Government who officiated the occasion.

In Turkey

Associate Professor Dr. Sharifudin Md. Shaarani, the Dean, and Associate Professor Hajah Mariam Abdul Latif of SSMP were invited to attend the International Halal Accreditation Forum in Istanbul, Turkey from 25 to 26 October 2013. They were invited by the Turkish Accreditation Agency, Turkey (TURKAK) and Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) of OIC to promote halal standards, certification and accreditation of the OIC. It was a platform to launch the standards and introduce the proposal for a Halal Accreditation Body under the OIC. Hajah Mariam presented a paper entitled “Standard as a Foundation for Halal Industry Development”. The Forum was officiated by the Turkey Minister for EU Affairs and Chief Negotiator Egemen Bagis representing the President of Turkey. His Excellency highlighted that the forum is targeting non-stop trade through a unique standard, a certificate and a well-known accreditation for a halal life. The forum will be a milestone to activate certain mechanisms which will streamline the trade among the Islamic countries. Many experts and key people from Halal certification bodies and food industries from all over the world were present.
Dr. Sharifudin and Mr. Turker Yasar, an expert in Economics from Turkey.

Mariam with Mr. Isa Chao from Halal Certification Taiwan and officials from Turkey.

Dr. Sharifudin with Imam Mustafa Azra Jusufspahic (Muti of Serbia), Mr. Irfan (Switzerland Halal Certification Body) and Mr. Amir Sakic (Director of Bosnia Halal Quality Certification).