

Annex No. (1)

Attached to Cabinet Resolution No. (52) of 2020

Regarding Emirates Sustainable Agriculture Label System

Standard	Principles	Indicators	Mandatory Requirements
<p style="text-align: center;">1. Planning and Management System</p>	<p>1-1 Operational Management Maintaining or enhancing the social, economic, and environmental viability of the operation.</p>	<p>a. Business Management The Operator shall maintain a business strategy aligned with financial planning, and social and environmental responsibilities.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The existence of a valid plan that considers supply, demand, and price fluctuations. 2. The Operator or Supplier shall identify potential commercial and/or financial risks. 3. The existence of a plan to manage commercial and/or financial risks.
		<p>b. Farm Management To meet sustainable supply and demand, the Operator shall improve the utilization and exploitation of land, and the management of animal and plant production, and natural resources, where applicable.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The existence of a plan for the utilization and exploitation of land, the management of animal and plant production, and the rational management of natural resources. 2. The Farm Management Plan shall be aligned with local and federal requirements (particularly the legislative and regulatory framework) for water, soil, waste, and biodiversity conservation. 3. Periodic assessment of the land's production potential and resource management shall be conducted at least once a year to determine whether improvements can be made

			<p>to production and resource management.</p> <p>4. The Operator shall continuously assess potential sustainable improvements for the utilization of land, animal and plant production, and resource management.</p> <p>5. The Operator shall comply with the applicable Sustainable Agriculture practices.</p>
		<p>c. Site Selection Communities near the site of the Establishment shall not be adversely affected by agricultural activities, and the site shall not be located near any hazards that cannot be eliminated or mitigated.</p>	<p>6. The Operator shall adhere to a mechanism designed to prevent any adverse impacts of agricultural activities on local communities.</p>
	<p>1-2 Trade Enhancement Conducting the procurement of raw materials, equipment, and services, and the</p>	<p>a. Business Conduct Trade in Products shall be carried out in a fair and honest manner that fosters trust among stakeholders (including consumers).</p>	<p>1. No judicial rulings shall have been issued against the Operator in the past (3) three years in connection with fraud, unethical conduct, or other illicit business practices.</p> <p>2. Sales of the Product shall not exceed the volume of the harvested crop.</p> <p>3. The Operator shall conduct an annual review (or more frequently if</p>

	lawful sale of Products.		necessary) to monitor and improve business practices.
		<p>b. Inventory Management</p> <p>The inventory of inputs, equipment, and production tools shall be monitored.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An active inventory management system shall be available. 2. A mechanism shall be available to monitor production requirements, storage risks, cash flow, stock availability, cost of ordering individual items, delay costs, and holding costs when setting ordering cycles. 3. Stock levels of inputs shall be sufficient to meet the needs of the operation until the next ordering cycle. 4. Stock levels of inputs shall not exceed the operational requirements until the subsequent ordering cycle.
	<p>1-3 Creating direct and indirect job opportunities</p> <p>Promoting economic and social stability in the State by supporting local</p>	<p>a. Emiratization</p> <p>At least (50%) of the production cost shall be incurred in the State. This includes, for example, but not limited to: labor, input, equipment, logistical services, and marketing.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Availability of a procurement statement. 6. Availability of employee records.

	<p>companies and the workforce.</p>		
	<p>1-4 Legal Compliance The Operator and the Supplier shall comply with all relevant local and international laws and regulations.</p>	<p>a. The Operator and the Supplier shall demonstrate compliance with all relevant legal requirements related to agriculture and food safety.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Operator's understanding of and compliance with all relevant laws regarding agricultural production and food safety. 2. The Operator's retention of all relevant documents detailing compliance with the legislation. 3. Obtaining the necessary permits and licenses. 4. No judicial violations against the Operator and the Supplier in the past (3) three years.
	<p>1-5 Sustainable System Governance Verifying the integrity of the Sustainable Production System by maintaining accurate and comprehensive records.</p>	<p>a. The Operator shall maintain records related to employees, cultivated crops, crop yields, production processes, inputs, equipment, and all other areas necessary to prove compliance with this standard.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The existence of a clear mechanism for traceability of operations. 2. Maintaining records for at least two years.

<p style="text-align: center;">2. Environmental Management</p>	<p>2-1 Environmental Systems</p> <p>Maintaining and protecting the quality of existing ecological systems through Sustainable Agriculture.</p>	<p>a. Ecological System Management</p> <p>Maintaining and enhancing existing ecological systems through Sustainable Agriculture.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Operator shall identify the impacts of agricultural activities on existing natural ecological systems. 2. The Operator shall minimize the impacts of agricultural activities on existing natural ecological systems to the greatest extent possible. 3. The Operator shall conduct an environmental impact assessment when cultivating virgin lands. 4. The Operator shall comply with national environmental law and biodiversity management. 5. The Operator shall annually review the impacts of agricultural activities on existing natural ecological systems. 6. No land clearance or topsoil removal during the past five years. 7. No land clearance for production or agricultural activities involving the burning of plants or crop residues.
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		<p>c. Invasive and Alien Plant Species</p> <p>The existence of measures to control or eradicate the spread of invasive and alien plant species.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Identification of alien plant species present in the operation in terms of classification, name, density, characteristics, potential risks, and the required procedure. 5. Eradication of invasive and alien plant species (or control thereof as appropriate) using suitable methods for the specific species concerned and the environment in which they grow. 6. No importation of invasive and alien plant species shall be permitted

			unless evidence of a legal justification for doing so is provided.
		<p>d. Threatened and Endangered Wildlife</p> <p>Taking measures to protect threatened and endangered wildlife, and identifying wildlife species that are threatened and endangered with extinction within the operation and listed in the (protected area).</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identification of wildlife species threatened with extinction. 2. Protection of wildlife and species threatened with extinction using appropriate methods suitable to the specific species concerned and the environment in which they live. 3. No threatening, hunting, accessing, trading, dealing in, exporting, killing, capturing, possessing in captivity, physically controlling, transporting, breeding, poisoning, or exposing wildlife and species threatened with extinction to any other illegal activity, and the establishment of deterrent legislation to prevent such acts.
		<p>e. Protecting wildlife corridors</p> <p>Protecting and maintaining wildlife corridors.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identification of wildlife corridors. 2. Protection of existing wildlife corridors. 3. Creation or rehabilitation of wildlife corridors when necessary to facilitate wildlife movement. 4. Verification of the effectiveness of wildlife corridors in facilitating wildlife movement. 5. No use of wildlife corridors for economic activities, except for

			ecotourism when a valid permit is obtained.
		<p>f. Buffer Zones</p> <p>Buffer zones shall be established and maintained to prevent or reduce potential contamination of crops pollutants, and to protect areas of high conservation value.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protection of buffer zones on a continuous basis. 2. Establishment of new buffer zones and restoration of existing ones when necessary. 3. Verification of the effectiveness of buffer zones in mitigating the adverse impacts of production activities. 4. No use of buffer zones for economic activities.
		<p>g. Land Conservation</p> <p>Land shall be conserved and rehabilitated when necessary.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Surveying the land at least annually to identify areas of degradation. 2. Developing a remedial action plan.
	<p>2-2 Biodiversity</p> <p>Sustainable Agriculture practices shall be applied to support the survival of diverse populations of species.</p>	<p>a. Conservation of the existing natural ecosystem.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Operator shall take measures to promote biodiversity through the conservation of the existing natural ecosystem, the restoration of degraded lands, the preservation of natural grasses, the practice of conservation tillage, and effective soil management. 2. The existence of sustainable measures to reduce the adverse impacts of fires when burning is necessary.

<p>2-3 Soil Sustainable Agricultural methods for the conservation and improvement of soil.</p>	<p>a. Soil Management Soil quality shall be maintained and enhanced.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assessment of soil condition at least once per season, in terms of its ability to retain water, store and preserve minerals, facilitate the natural flow and infiltration of water, and resist erosion. 2. No hazardous or illegal substances shall have been added to the soil during the past five years. 3. Analysis of nutrient content and pH level shall be conducted at least once every five years, or when changes occur in crop types or general conditions, to assess the need to adjust the quantity, levels, and composition of fertilizer and/or manure.
	<p>b. Soil Erosion Operators shall take effective and appropriate measures to prevent soil erosion and reduce topsoil loss.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Operator shall identify areas of fragile soil. 2. The Operator shall identify factors contributing to soil erosion, such as: livestock grazing and movement, strong winds, heavy rainfall, water runoff, soil composition, and land slope. 3. Assessment of soil condition on a continuous basis. 4. Adoption of proactive measures to ensure soil conservation, especially when it is fragile.

	<p>2-4 Climate Change Sustainable agricultural methods are characterized by resilience to the effects of climate change.</p>	<p>a. The operator shall address and adapt to potential climatic changes that may affect production by enhancing resilience and reducing exposure to climate change.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identification of climate change and potential risks. 2. Existence of plans to adapt to any environmental changes arising from climate change risks that may affect production. 3. Review of climate change-related plans annually.
	<p>2-5 Water Water is recognized as a priceless resource on which all life depends.</p>	<p>a. Water Rights The water rights of local and indigenous communities shall be respected.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water sharing management. 2. Ongoing assessment of water supplies for the local community. 3. Taking measures to mitigate any negative impacts of production activities on the water supplies of the local community.
		<p>b. Water Quality Managing water resources to conserve or improve water quality.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water shall be suitable for its intended use. 2. The amount of Escherichia coli (E. coli) in water used for irrigation shall be (undetectable or zero), and the level of thermotolerant fecal coliform bacteria in water shall not exceed (10/100 ml). 3. Water shall be tested by an accredited laboratory for microbial and chemical pollutants within the past 12 months.

			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Taking corrective measures whenever a contaminated water source is identified, to adjust the water quality to make it suitable for the intended use. 5. Treatment of wastewater and/or surface runoff containing chemical or metallic pollutants, recycling, or proper disposal thereof. 6. Farm waste shall not be discharged into water courses. 7. Water shall not be contaminated with raw sewage, treated, or recycled wastewater. 8. Developing plans to treat water pollution during emergencies. 9. In the case of animal enclosures, rainwater runoff shall not be directed from the enclosures to water sources. 10. In the case of animal enclosures, rainwater runoff shall be directed from the enclosures to the liquid waste management system.
		<p>c. Water Consumption Efficiency Water resources shall be managed to maintain optimal water reserves.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identifying and monitoring water resources (including surface and groundwater). 2. The operator shall improve water efficiency over time through specific measures.

			<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Obtaining valid licenses and/or permits for water extraction when necessary.4. Proper management of local rainfall, storage, distribution, and treatment conditions.5. Water resources (including surface and groundwater) shall not be exploited or depleted without rationalization.6. Detecting and mitigating the impacts of water extraction where possible.7. Existence of measures to protect water courses.8. Waterways shall not be obstructed.9. The natural flow of the watercourse shall not be altered.10. Taking measures to preserve and/or restore appropriate riparian buffer zones.11. Irrigation systems shall be maintained and periodically inspected to ensure that their operations align with design specifications and to prevent or repair leaks.12. The operator shall not dredge, dig, submerge, or remove soil, sand, or
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			rocks exceeding (5) cubic meters from the waterway.
2-6 Energy Rationalizing the use of non-renewable energy and promoting the use of renewable energy resources.	a. The operator shall ensure the implementation of energy efficiency practices at all stages of the production process, and shall monitor energy consumption.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identifying methods to reduce non-renewable energy consumption. 2. Implementing energy efficiency practices where possible. 3. Reviewing energy efficiency practices and introducing the necessary improvements to increase efficiency. 4. Using renewable energy resources in production stages. 	
2-7 Waste Waste resulting from sustainable agricultural activities shall be managed in a sound and responsible manner.	a. A comprehensive waste management plan shall be in operation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Existence of an active waste management plan (sources, handling, reuse, recycling, and storage). 	

	<p>2-8 Greenhouse Gas Emissions</p> <p>Greenhouse gas emissions resulting from agricultural practices shall be reduced to the maximum extent possible.</p>	<p>a. The operator shall adopt measures to proactively reduce nitrous oxide, methane, and carbon dioxide emissions.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reducing nitrous oxide emissions through the effective management of fertilizer application: optimal timing and application of fertilizers on humid days. 2. Measuring carbon dioxide emissions. 3. Reducing carbon dioxide emissions from all activities.
	<p>2-9 Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)</p> <p>GMOs shall be managed in a responsible manner so as to minimize possible harm to the environment or human and animal health.</p>	<p>a. GMOs shall be managed in a responsible manner.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Identifying the sources of GMOs and monitoring the sources of foreign genes introduced into the genetic composition of the GMOs. 5. Analyzing the risks of foreign genes introduced into the genetic composition of the GMOs and verifying that no potential mutations are expected to occur as a result of the genetic modification of the organisms. 6. Purchasing GMO products from a supplier holding a valid, accredited permit. 7. Mitigating or eliminating the use of GMOs where harmful effects have been identified.

			8. Availability of established procedures for the safe management of the use of GMO products.
3. Improving Livelihoods and human well-being.	3-1 Work Human Rights and Social Justice shall be integral components of sustainable agriculture.	a. Legal Compliance The operator shall demonstrate compliance with all legal requirements related to employees and contractors.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implementing the relevant social justice requirements in respect of all employees and contractors working in production units. 2. No judicial judgments shall have been issued against the operator regarding violations of fundamental human rights, nor shall there be any clear cases of social injustice during the preceding three years. 3. The operator's knowledge, awareness, and compliance with the provisions and fundamental conditions of the labor law. 4. Having an effective employment policy that demonstrates full compliance with the requirements of this section of the scheme. 5. Maintaining up-to-date employment records for employees. 6. Employees shall have access to their respective employment records. 7. Employee's employment records shall be accurate, appropriate, and protected from improper disclosure. 8. The operator shall respect the employees' right to privacy and

			maintain the confidentiality of their personal information, including medical records.
		<p>b. Equality</p> <p>The operator shall conduct relations with workers in a manner that ensures equality and fairness at all levels and among all parties concerned.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The operator shall not engage in forced or involuntary labor, including child labor, or exert any form of pressure on workers by, for example, retaining a portion of their wages, possessions, or documents. 2. The operator shall provide equal opportunities, working conditions, wages, and treatment for workers and contractors, regardless of race, color, gender, or social or ethnic origin.
		<p>c. Employment Conditions</p> <p>Worker employment conditions shall be documented according to laws.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Providing employment contracts in accordance with the law, which shall be clear and, in a language, understood by the worker, and shall be fully implemented for both permanent and temporary workers.
		<p>d. Child Labor</p> <p>The operator shall not exploit children.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The operator shall not employ children under the age of (15) years.
		<p>e. Subcontracting</p> <p>Human and labor rights shall apply equally when contracting with workers through third parties.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Written contracts shall be prepared with third-party contractors. 3. Continuous updating of the operator's records for workers

			employed through external contractors.
		<p>f. Forced or Servitude Labor</p> <p>The operator shall not employ forced labor, servitude, or trafficked persons.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The operator shall not participate in, or support forced or compulsory labor, servitude, trafficking, or involuntary labor. 2. Allowing workers to leave their work after notifying them in accordance with their specific contract terms.
		<p>g. Health and Safety</p> <p>The workplace shall be safe for workers.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishing a health and safety policy, including strategies for prevention and emergency response, and ensuring their implementation. 2. Records of worker and contractor training on health and safety shall be available. 3. Providing training to workers and contractors on emergency situations. 4. Taking all reasonable steps to remove or mitigate any actual or potential risk to the safety of workers, contractors, or their health and safety before resorting to protective equipment. 5. Sufficient equipment shall be available for workers and contractors to provide protection

			<p>from noise, dust, light, and other risks, and from exposure to chemical substances within acceptable limits.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">6. Availability of fire extinguishers that are easily accessible and maintained.7. Availability of first aid equipment that is easily accessible, properly stored, and well-maintained.8. Work shall be conducted under the general supervision of a person trained to understand the risks associated with the work, and who has the authority to ensure the implementation of necessary protective measures.9. Workers and contractors shall have sufficient skills to perform their assigned duties.10. Workers and contractors shall be aware of their right to refuse work that is harmful to human health or the environment, and shall be aware of the risks.11. The vehicles used to transport workers shall be safe and suitable for this purpose.12. Workers and contractors shall be informed of any potential health or safety risks that may occur while
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			<p>performing their duties, to the extent that is practically reasonable.</p> <p>13. Tasks that are potentially hazardous shall not be carried out except by competent and experienced persons who are not exposed to specific unjustifiable health risks.</p>
	<p>3-2 Local Communities</p> <p>The impact of agricultural activities on local communities shall be studied and assessed to mitigate any adverse effects and to enhance mutual cooperation.</p>	<p>a. The operator shall identify and assess the impact of agricultural activities on local communities and take steps to reduce any adverse effects. The operator shall also employ local labor where possible.</p>	<p>1. The operator shall consult proactively with local communities, either independently or through a local council, to identify the community's needs and aspirations, and shall work to achieve agreed objectives to ensure mutual benefit for all participating parties.</p> <p>2. The operator shall document all complaints, comments, and responses related to the activities.</p> <p>3. The operator shall have the right to use and possess the land, in accordance with the appropriate official documents provided thereby.</p>

Annex No. (2)

Attached to Cabinet Decision No. (52) of 2020

Regarding the Emirates Sustainable Agriculture Label System

Design of the Emirates Sustainable Agriculture Label

