



EXPORTER GUIDE TO QATAR

**QATAR FOOD
PROGRAMME**

Qatar Food Programme

Cotecna Inspection, in partnership with Process Dynamic Laboratories (Qatar), is approved by Qatar's Ministry of Public Health – Food Safety Department (MoPH-FSD) as a Notified Body under the Food Certificate of Conformity (CoC) Program.

To ensure the safety and quality of food products entering the Qatar market, the Ministry of Public Health - Food Safety Department (MoPH-FSD) of Qatar implemented the Certificate of Conformity (CoC) program.

Cotecna issues the Certificate of Conformity (CoC) following a rigorous process of document verification, physical inspection, and testing according to the GSO/Qatari Standards guide for technical regulations. This certificate is essential for smooth clearance at various Qatar customs points.

Regulated Product Categories:

The regulated product categories, along with geographic location-specific limitations, are outlined below.



Meat & Meat Products



Dairy Products (Milk & Its Products)



Table Eggs & Their Products



Aquatic Organisms Suitable for Human Consumption & Their Products



Raw Plant Products (including Fruits & Vegetables)



Honey & Bee Products



Processed Food



Assorted Food Products

Cotecna's Geographical Scope:

Cotecna is authorized to issue CoC for the following countries/offices:

1. UAE
2. India
3. Saudi Arabia
4. Thailand
5. USA
6. Romania
7. Brazil
8. Argentina
9. France
10. Egypt
11. China
12. Turkey
13. Sri Lanka

PROHIBITED/BANNED PRODUCTS

No certificates should be issued for shipments of prohibited products to Qatar.

- > [HS Code Identification Based on Qatar Customs – Link](#)
- > [Restricted Products HS Codes – Link](#)
- > [Forbidden/Prohibited Products HS Codes – Link](#)
- > [Exempted Products HS Codes – Link](#)

Qatar also regularly publishes updates, recalls, and bans on food products and geographical restrictions. Refer to the [Qatar MoPH website](#).

CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The conformity assessment program is designed to ensure the safety and security of food and feed, guarantee the safety of pesticides, and facilitate the smooth flow of commercial trade. Its goal is to maintain food safety while reinforcing consumer and client confidence in the food control authority.

Importer responsibilities : Registration

- > Open an account with WATHEQ.
- > All food products to be imported must be registered on the WATHEQ platform.
- > Ensure a valid Registration Number (QFR – Qatar Food Register) is generated.

[WATHEQ Registration Process Link](#)

Note: If you require assistance with registering your product/company with the respective authorities, additional services can be offered. Please [contact](#) your local office for assistance.

Step-by-Step Process

1. Submit the Request for Certification (RFC): The exporter/importer must complete and submit the Request for Certification form.

2. Review of Your Request: Once your request is received, a dedicated local coordinator will review it thoroughly.

3. Documentation Check and Service Definition: The coordinator will verify all required documentation and define the scope of services based on the provided details.

4. Compliance and Verification: To meet Qatar Food's regulations, the coordinator will guide you through the necessary verifications, including scheduling testing of samples and conducting inspections.

General Labeling requirements:

- > Name of the product.
- > List of ingredients.
- > Nutritional labeling.
- > Net weight and drained weight.
- > Name and address of manufacturer or packer.
- > Country of origin.
- > Expiration dates and instructions of storage and use.
- > Lot identification.
- > Irradiated foods indications.



WHY COTECNA?

Cotecna is a leading provider of testing, inspection, and certification services. We offer solutions to facilitate trade and make supply chains safer and more efficient for our clients. Founded in Switzerland in 1974, Cotecna started as a family business and has grown into a global network of over 6200 employees. Cotecna has close to 150 offices and certified laboratories in over 50 countries. To date, we have partnered with many governments to help protect their people, environments, and wealth from unsafe and sub-standard products.

For more information, exporters can contact their nearest [Cotecna office](#).

Cotecna is currently offering VOC services in the following countries:

Africa:

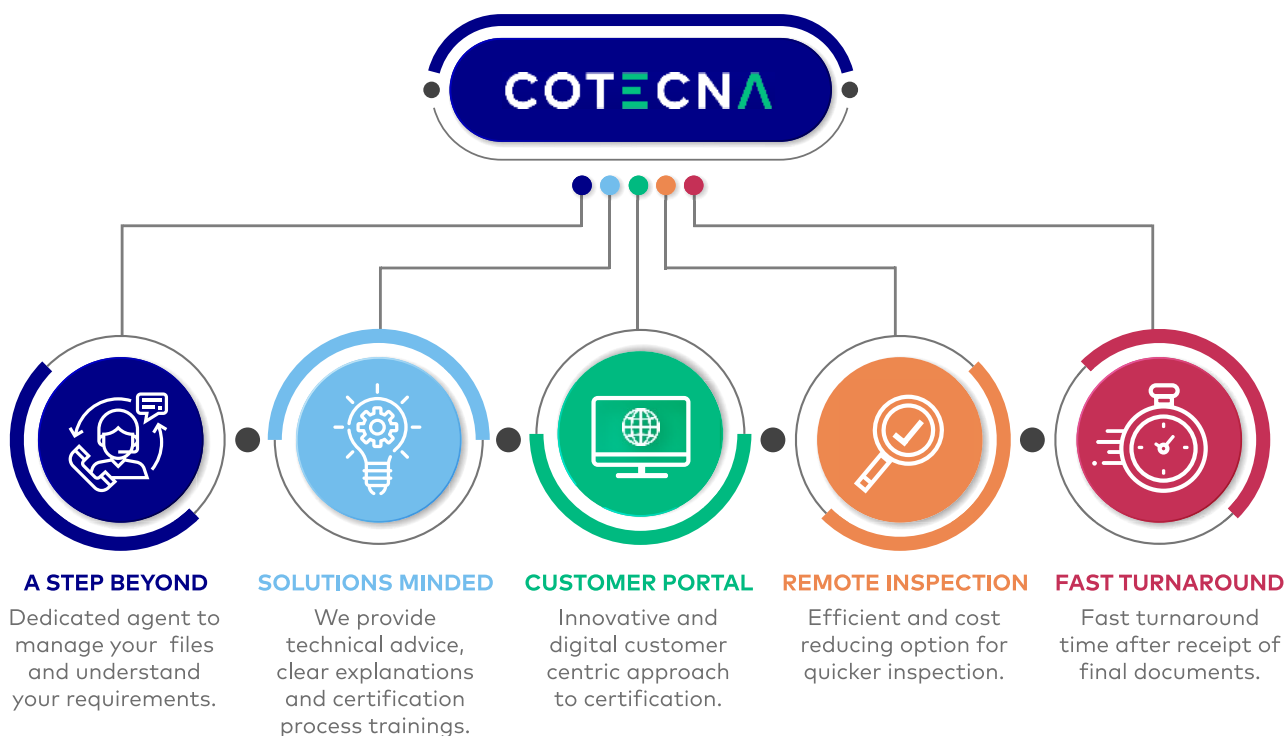
- > Algeria
- > Côte d'Ivoire
- > Congo Brazzaville
- > Egypt
- > Ethiopia
- > Gabon
- > Nigeria
- > Somaliland
- > Sudan
- > Zimbabwe

Middle East:

- > Oman
- > Bahrain
- > Saudi Arabia
- > United Arab Emirates



What We Offer



CONTACT INFORMATION & USEFUL DETAILS

Cotecna Contract Management

COTECNA INSPECTION S.A. (DUBAI BRANCH)

Office no. 208, Block A, Al Hudaiba Awards Bldg. Opp. Etihad Museum, 2nd December Street Dubai – U.A.E.

For more information, kindly visit:



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