

Managing Quality in the Republic of Azerbaijan

A directory of services for SMEs



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About the paper

This quality management directory for Azerbaijan helps its small firms connect to national institutions that can help them navigate standards, conformity assessment procedures and services, while meeting the safety and technical standards for foreign markets.

It provides an overview of the national quality, standardization and conformity assessment system, including food safety and animal and plant health. It also has contact details of service providers.

It is a companion guide to *Export Quality Management: A guide for SMEs*, available at www.intracen.org/publications.

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Correction to *Managing Quality in the Republic of Azerbaijan: A directory of services for SMEs* (2021).

In the above-mentioned publication, please note that the information in this paper captures data collected and reviewed nationally up to **May 2021**. It describes the different institutions that constituted the quality infrastructure in the Republic of Azerbaijan, including those forming the sanitary and phytosanitary system at that time.

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For more information on export quality management services at ITC, see: www.intracen.org

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Foreword by Azerbaijan Standardization Institute (AZSTAND)

Standards, technical regulations and quality infrastructure play an important role in the strengthening and competitiveness of the national economy, particularly in the context of global trade.

Quality infrastructure – which includes the national quality policy, organizations for its implementation, regulatory framework, quality service providers, enterprises and consumers – serves as an important basis for ensuring the competitiveness of goods and services produced in Azerbaijan and facilitating their access to foreign markets. Azerbaijan is strengthening the quality of its national infrastructure as an important step towards building a thriving economy, which is the basis for citizens' prosperity, health and well-being.

The export of Azerbaijani products is greatly influenced by national organizations responsible for the quality and safety of products. These include the Ministry of Economy, State Service for Antimonopoly and Consumer Market Control, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Development Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan Standardization Institute, Azerbaijan Accreditation Centre and Azerbaijan Institute of Metrology. The efficiency of these structures has a positive effect on promoting national exports and facilitating cross-border trade.

We believe that this guide will be a useful source for Azerbaijani companies and their foreign partners and will serve to improve and expand trade.



Namig Tagiyev

Director General

Azerbaijan Standardization Institute

Foreword by ITC

Today's competitive global trade environment demands that small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) invest in productivity and quality. Having goods and services that can compete in international markets requires attention to standards and meeting the technical requirements behind these standards. For many SMEs, however, this can be a challenge – especially in view of the growing number of these standards, both public and private.

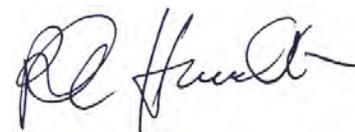
Governments impose a range of legitimate technical requirements to protect the health and safety of their citizens and to safeguard plant and animal life and the environment. Industry associations, multinationals and retailers also develop a range of 'voluntary' private standards to meet the increasingly discerning demands of consumers.

ITC surveys of businesses in more than 30 countries have shown that exporters and importers face many challenges related to non-tariff measures. Quality-related technical regulations, sanitary and phytosanitary measures and related conformity assessment procedures are among the most significant challenges. This is especially the case for smaller businesses, which struggle with the cost of compliance and lack of transparency of both regulations and related procedures.

To ensure their competitiveness and participation in value chains, SMEs need up-to-date information about applicable technical requirements (i.e. related to quality, or sanitary and phytosanitary measures, or certification) in target markets. Then, SMEs must adapt their products and processes to satisfy market requirements and demonstrate compliance with these regulations. They must also check whether recognized conformity assessment services are available in their country, or whether they must turn to recognized but more costly foreign certification bodies. Gathering such information is expensive and burdensome for small businesses.

Given this context, ITC joined forces with the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan to help SMEs gain wider access to relevant quality management information. This work has been undertaken under the project 'Eastern Partnership: Ready to Trade – an EU4Business Initiative', implemented by ITC and funded by the European Union.

I am confident that this guide will be a useful resource and practical tool for SMEs in Azerbaijan in their efforts to improve competitiveness and increase their participation in international trade.



Pamela Coke-Hamilton
Executive Director
International Trade Centre

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The guide was drafted by Gunel Mammadova, ITC National Consultant in Quality Management under technical supervision and review of Ludovica Ghizzoni, ITC Adviser on Export Quality Management. The guide follows the structure developed by ITC. Natalie Domeisen and Anne Griffin (both ITC), who oversaw the editing and production process; Janet Hill, who edited the report; Franco Iacovino (ITC), who provided the graphic design and Serge Adeagbo (ITC), who provided graphic and printing support. Thanks also to Marnie McDonald, who assisted in the preliminary editing.

The guide was reviewed nationally by the different institutions that constitute the quality infrastructure in the Republic of Azerbaijan, including those forming the sanitary and phytosanitary system.

We express our special thanks to the team members of AZSTAND and the Azerbaijan Food Safety Agency, to whom we extend our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation as they contributed content, advice and peer reviews and, in particular, to Namiq Tagiyev, Director General of AZSTAND.

Thanks to the ITC publication team for production management and quality control.

This national directory of quality management services constitutes the companion to the guide *Export Quality Management: A Guide for Small and Medium-sized Exporters*, which was published jointly by ITC and the German national metrology institute, Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt.

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Acronyms and abbreviations

Unless otherwise specified, all references to dollars (\$) are to United States dollars, and all references to tons are to metric tons.

The term 'product' ('products') is used to mean both goods and services wherever appropriate and particularly in the chapters on product certification, quality management and ISO 9000.

AAS	Agency for Agrarian Services
AHPEA	Azerbaijan Hazelnut Producers and Exporters Association
AWPEA	Azerbaijan Wine Producers and Exporters Association
AZAK	Azerbaijan Accreditation Centre
AzMI	Azerbaijan Institute of Metrology
AZN	Azerbaijan Manat (local currency)
AZPROMO	Azerbaijan Export and Investment Promotion Foundation
AZSTAND	Azerbaijan Standardization Institute
AZS	Azerbaijan National Conformity Mark
COOMET	Euro-Asian Cooperation of National Metrological Institutions
EA	European co-operation for Accreditation
EU	European Union
FSA	Food Safety Agency
GOST	A set of technical standards maintained by the Euro-Asian Council for Standardization, Metrology and Certification and used in the Commonwealth of Independent States
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ITC	International Trade Centre
LLC	Limited Liability Company
OHSAS	Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series
OJSC	Open Joint-Stock Company
SGS	Société Générale de Surveillance
SMEs	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary
WTO	World Trade Organization

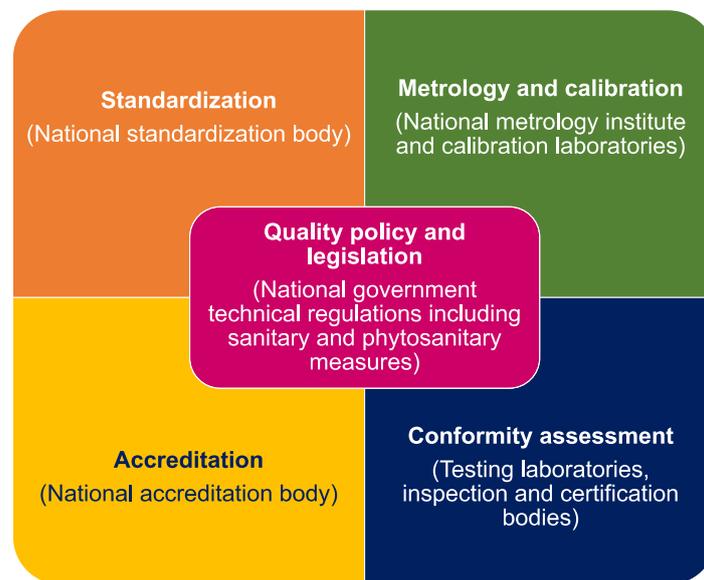
Chapter 1

Introduction to Export Quality Management in Azerbaijan

A properly functioning quality infrastructure is not only important for domestic market operations; when aligned with national trade development priorities, it can also lever improved competitiveness and foreign market access towards social and environmental well-being.

Quality infrastructure is the ecosystem of public and private institutions, along with the policies, legal and regulatory frameworks, and practices needed to support the quality, safety and environmental soundness of goods, services and processes. Quality infrastructure relies on standardization, metrology, conformity assessment (testing, inspection, certification, market surveillance) and accreditation.

Figure 1 Main elements of national quality infrastructure



Source: ITC

A **standard** is a document that pins down the characteristics of a product or a service. These characteristics may cover design, weight, size, performance, environmental requirements, interoperability, materials, production process or service delivery, or even the protocols that allow computers or mobile phones to connect to each other. The standard may include or deal exclusively with terminology, symbols, packaging, marking or labelling requirements as they apply to a product, process or production method. Standards are considered voluntary in principle, i.e. suppliers can choose to implement them. In contrast, technical regulations are mandatory in nature, i.e. everybody must comply with them by law.

A **technical regulation** is a document or legislation that lays down product characteristics or their related processes and production methods. A technical regulation may include or deal exclusively with terminology, symbols, packaging, marking or labelling requirements as they apply to a product, process or production method. In all cases, a technical regulation would include the administrative measures required to implement it. For example, it can identify the regulatory authority, list the conformity assessment requirements and provide for market surveillance responsibilities and the implementation of sanctions in case of non-compliance. When a technical regulation refers to a particular standard, that standard becomes mandatory by virtue of its reference in the technical regulation.

Sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures are requirements imposed on goods by governments to control certain risks to human, animal or plant life and health. Most SPS measures focus on maintaining food safety and protecting animals and plants against pests and disease. Sanitary measures seek to protect the life or health of humans or animals, while phytosanitary measures aim at protecting the life or health of plants.

Conformity assessment is a collective term covering the many elements required to show that a product or a service complies with technical and other requirements. In general, testing, inspection and certification are considered the core conformity assessment services. Metrology and calibration support testing, inspection and certification to ensure the validity of measurements. Accreditation ensures the technical competency of the conformity assessment service providers. Conformity assessment can be performed on products, services, processes, systems and even people.

Metrology is a technical term for all activities and procedures related to measurements and is defined as the science of measurement and its application. There are three types of metrology: scientific, industrial and legal. In general, regular calibrations ensure the accuracy of measuring instruments.

Calibration involves comparing a measuring instrument with a more accurate measurement standard. National measurement standards, which usually provide the most accurate measurements in a country, are compared with international or other national standards to ensure the correct dissemination of units worldwide. If an unbroken chain of documented calibrations exists from the highest standard down to ordinary measuring instruments, the measurements achieved are called 'traceable'.

Accreditation is a formal recognition of competence to carry out specific conformity assessment tasks. Accreditation provides confidence in the competence, integrity and impartiality of the conformity assessment body.

The quality and SPS measures infrastructures of Azerbaijan comprise both public and private institutions. Azerbaijan is strengthening the quality of its national infrastructure as an important step towards building a thriving economy, which is the basis for citizens' prosperity, health and well-being.

In the country, standardization activities are overseen by the Azerbaijan Standardization Institute (AZSTAND) and metrology activities by the Azerbaijan Institute of Metrology (AzMI). Accreditation activities are overseen by the Azerbaijan Accreditation Centre (AZAK). Conformity assessment activities (testing, certification and inspection) are covered by public and private organizations.

Several governmental organizations are responsible for the management of SPS measures. The Food Safety Agency (FSA) is responsible for the safety and the import/export control of food. The Agency for Agrarian Services (AAS) under the Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for animal health and plant health services. According to the Presidential Decree on 'Additional measures to improve management in the agrarian sphere' of 14 January 2019, AAS was established based on four Ministry of Agriculture bodies. These are the State Phytosanitary Control Service, State Veterinary Control Service, State Service for the Registration of Plant Varieties and Seed Control, and State Technical Inspection Service.

The entire quality management infrastructure needs to be developed to obtain international recognition for conformity assessment, testing and metrology. This will help exporters overcome challenges in accessing foreign markets, especially in European Union (EU) countries.

The State Agency for Control of the Antimonopoly and Consumer Market under the Ministry of Economy implements state policy and control in the field of antimonopoly (competition), public procurement, advertising and consumer protection. The Agency aims to prevent unfair competition and eliminate the violation of consumers' rights and interests.

The Ministry of Economy is responsible for developing economic policies and economic and social forecasts for Azerbaijan. It is also responsible for the development and innovation of various economic sectors.

In addition, it promotes and supports:

- Communal services policies and regulations
- Consumer rights
- Domestic and international trade
- Entrepreneurship
- Housing
- Investment activity
- Protection of competition
- Procurement of goods
- Socioeconomic development of regions

Chapter 2

National technical quality infrastructure in Azerbaijan

National quality policies

No quality management policy sets out the roles and responsibilities of all organizations in the field of quality infrastructure in Azerbaijan. However, the core functions of the national quality infrastructure are defined by Azerbaijani legislation (e.g. laws on standardization, phytosanitary control, veterinary standards). They include the responsibilities for standardization, technical regulations, metrology, conformity assessment, market surveillance, accreditation and SPS management.

A Strategic Road Map on National Economy and Key Sectors of the Economy of Azerbaijan was approved by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 6 December 2016. It was designed to ensure the economy's competitiveness and inclusion, and improve social welfare and sustainable economic development. According to the road map, several activities were planned between 2016 and 2020 to support the establishment of a technical regulation and national standardization system in line with international requirements and their application for the business sector.

A new five-year funded programme, 'Harmonization of the national standardization system to international requirements', covers the development of the standardization system and provides support to develop the core services of a national quality infrastructure.

Standardization

AZSTAND is the national standardization body of Azerbaijan, and was established by Presidential Decree 1234 on 10 February 2017. As a public law entity, it has financial autonomy. Its key national laws in the field of standardization can be found in Appendix II.

AZSTAND operates under the Law on Standardization 1587-VQ of 17 May 2019. The main purpose of the law is to integrate the country into the global economy and the international system as an equal partner. The law makes provisions to allow standards to be voluntary, increase private-sector participation in the standardization process and encourage entrepreneurial activities. It defines the goals and principles of standardization; the preparation, adoption and application of normative documents in the field of standardization; financing of standardization activities; and other issues.

Fourteen technical committees are responsible for standards development. Some 818 national standards have been developed and, at the time of writing, all are voluntary.

Azerbaijan created a new law on technical regulations based on EU regulations. Its main purpose is to protect the life and health of the population, as well as the environment, and both the property and the interests of the state. It has provisions to create and enforce regulations for the safety of non-food products. It aims to increase the competitiveness of manufactured goods and ensure effective use of natural and energy resources. The principles and requirements of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and related agreements are also taken into account.

The law will be applied to:

- Products approved by the relevant executive authority;
- Related processes and methods of production;
- Assessment of compliance of non-food products and their manufacturing processes with the requirements;
- Assessment of compliance with obligations regarding terminology, symbols, packaging, labels, storage, transport and recycling.

Fourteen regulations have been adopted to date and the government is working to adopt a number of EU directives. Standards and technical regulations have been developed based on GOST standards (a set of technical standards maintained by the Euro-Asian Council for Standardization, Metrology and Certification and used in the Commonwealth of Independent States).

The government recognizes the importance of slowly moving away from GOST standards and adopting international and European standards. A plan to adopt more than 5,000 European standards in the next few years is being supported by a state programme.

The law on technical regulations also stipulates setting up a data centre to provide notifications and information in the field of technical regulations. The data centre is mandated to provide:

- Information to the relevant authorities of foreign countries of draft technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures, and proposed changes to technical regulations;
- Comment on draft technical regulations;
- Information on regional standardization organizations, international technical regulations, conformity assessment procedures and international agreements to which Azerbaijan is a party for standardization, conformity assessment and accreditation.

Assessment of compliance with the requirements of technical regulations is provided by a certificate of compliance or a declaration of compliance. Only accredited certification bodies are authorized to issue the certificate or declaration. Information on certification bodies is given in the next section of this chapter.

According to the law, only high-risk products are subject to mandatory certification, for which a certificate of compliance is issued. For medium- and low-risk products, a declaration of compliance is issued. However, at the time of writing, the Cabinet of Ministers had not yet released lists detailing which products fall into which categories.

In summary, AZSTAND provides the following main services:

- Development and adoption of standards through technical committees;
- Provision of promotional activities and training on standards and management systems;
- Promotion of use of international and European standards by the private sector, as many enterprises are still working with the GOST standards;
- Management of the State Fund for Technical Normative Documents and the Registry of Regulatory Documents;
- Management of the National Enquiry Point on technical barriers to trade, although Azerbaijan is not a member of WTO;
- Provision of conformity assessment services (personnel certification, product certification, management systems certification, testing of non-food products, etc.).¹

Management of standardization processes

Management of the standardization process involves preparing and applying normative documentation on standardization; developing the standardization system; identifying the rules to apply international standards; and developing the requirements of the standards. It also involves the preparation of specialists in the field of standardization and improvement of their level of qualification.

¹ These services are described in the sections on conformity assessment and training, consulting and advisory services.

The State Fund for Technical Normative Documents and the Registry of Regulatory Documents have created a single electronic system for the issuance of normative documents. It provides access to normative technical documents to all interested parties and updated, accurate and comprehensive information.

The State Fund contains more than 22,000 documents, including:

- National standards;
- Technical regulations;
- Industry standards;
- Technical, economic and social classifications;
- International and regional standards;
- National standards of foreign countries;
- Intergovernmental treaties on standardization.

There are 956 national standards, of which 40% have been adapted to international standards. National standards cover conformity assessment and management systems; the petrochemical industry; textiles; the agrarian, agricultural and food industries; construction materials; services and other fields. The *Standards Catalogue of Azerbaijan* can be found on the AZSTAND website (<http://azstand.gov.az/upload/files/katalog.pdf>). Official copies of the normative documents are in digital and paper form and can be purchased from the Fund.

Technical committees are established, registered and coordinated by AZSTAND on the request of stakeholders, such as state bodies, individuals and legal entities. The technical committee may include representatives of state bodies, science and education institutions, manufacturing companies, public associations, consumers and technical standardization experts in relevant fields.

The 11 Technical Committees on Standardization operating in different industry fields are:

- 06: Tourism and displacement services
- 08: Conformity assessment
- 10: Building materials, products and constructions
- 20: Oil, gas and related products and materials
- 22: Viticulture and wine products
- 23: Pesticides, biologicals and agrochemicals
- 24: Livestock, poultry, beekeeping, cocoons and fodder
- 25: Fruit growing, subtropical plants and products
- 26: Vegetable seeds – planting materials, production, processing, storage and transport of grown products
- 27: Seeds and planting materials
- 28: Tobacco products

According to the Law on Standardization, the planning of national standards is carried out in the form of a three-year national standardization programme that is developed, approved and published by AZSTAND. The process of national standards development is as follows.

- The initial draft of the state standard can be prepared by state bodies, legal entities or individuals and should be submitted to the relevant technical committee; the developers of the draft state standard should justify the necessity of its adoption;
- The procedures to develop state standards are carried out through technical committees on standardization;

- A notification of the development of state standards as well as the draft state standards are posted on the official website of the national standardization body;
- Public discussions of draft state standards are held on the AZSTAND website within 60 days; received comments/opinions are submitted to the relevant technical committee and reviewed within one month; if no comments are received, the author of the opinion shall be reasonably informed;
- The technical committee shall adopt state standards based on consensus;
- Once all stakeholders have agreed on the draft standard, the relevant technical committee must submit the national standard to the national standardization body;
- AZSTAND reviews the draft standard in terms of compliance with the requirements of the Law on Standardization, adopts it and incorporates it into the State Register; the state standard is also included in the State Standardization Fund;
- Adopted state standards are officially published and their effective date is specified within the standards.

Application of interstate standards (GOST)

In accordance with GOST 1.2–2009 in Azerbaijan, interstate standards are applied directly, without re-registration through the enactment of regulatory and administrative documents by AZSTAND.

Membership of regional and international standardization bodies

AZSTAND has been a full member of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) since 2017. Its experts participate as observers and full members of 14 ISO technical committees. Azerbaijan has been an associate member of the European Committee for Standardization since 2011, and has been represented on this committee as a Companion Standardization Body since April 2018.

Since 2017, Azerbaijan has participated in the Affiliate Countries Programme established by the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) for developing countries. The programme aims to involve all countries in international standardization activities without any financial commitment. This representation provides access to European standards and harmonization of national standards with European standards. It also allows local experts to participate in the work of the technical committees of the organization as observers.

The Euro-Asian Interstate Council for Standardization, Metrology and Certification is an intergovernmental organization that implements policies on standardization, metrology and certification of the Commonwealth Independent States. ISO recognizes the council as a regional standardization body (ISO Council Decision 26/1996) and AZSTAND regularly participates in their annual meetings of working groups. In recent years, up to 20 intergovernmental agreements targeting scientific–technical cooperation in the fields of standardization and conformity assessment have been signed.

AZSTAND is a member of the Standards and Metrology Institute for the Islamic Countries, and has signed a memorandum of understanding on technical cooperation with the GCC Standardization Organization, the standards organization for member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

AZSTAND has bilateral cooperation agreements in place with a variety of actors, including:

- ASTM International;
- German Institute for Standardization;
- AFNOR Russia;
- Russian Scientific and Technical Centre for Information on Standardization, Metrology and Conformity Assessment;
- Ukrainian Scientific Research and Training Centre for Standardization, Certification and Quality Problems;
- Kazakhstan Institute of Standardization and Certification;
- Turkish Standards Institution.

Every year, AZSTAND celebrates World Standards Day on 14 October and organizes workshops and seminars to create awareness among industries and consumers.

Conformity assessment

Testing

Testing services in the country are provided by both public institutions and private companies. AZAK is the responsible body for accrediting testing laboratories. Some laboratories are accredited by internationally recognized foreign accreditation bodies. Accredited testing laboratories comply with the requirements of the Azerbaijan National Conformity Mark (AZS) ISO/IEC 17025:2009 standard. There are approximately 218 laboratories accredited by AZAK.

Table 1 provides an illustrative list of government and private food testing laboratories accredited by AZAK as of May 2019. Since the status of the accredited laboratories is subject to change, please visit the AZAK website (<https://www.accreditation.gov.az/az>) for the latest information.

Table 1 AZAK accredited food testing laboratories

No.	Laboratory name	Accreditation scope	Government/ private
1	Testing Laboratory of Gilan Gabala Canning Factory	Non-alcoholic beverages, fruit juices and chips testing	Private
2	Production Testing Laboratory of Babak Wine-2 open joint-stock company (OJSC)	Alcoholic beverages testing	Private
3	Production Testing Laboratory of Hajigabul Poultry Company LLC	Poultry and eggs testing	Private
4	Société Générale de Surveillance Azeri Ltd (SGS Azeri Ltd) Testing Laboratory	Grain products testing	Private
5	Chemical–Microbiology Laboratory of Camal Ltd	Meat and dairy products testing	Private
6	Ministry of Health Test Laboratory of Republican Sanitary-Quarantine Inspection	Food and non-food products testing	Government
7	Testing Laboratory of Sun Tea Azerbaijan	Tea testing	Private
8	Production Testing Laboratory of Baku Champagne Wines OJSC	Alcoholic beverages testing	Private
9	Testing Laboratory of Crystall Plus closed joint-stock company	Alcoholic beverages testing	Private
10	Testing Laboratory of Coca-Cola Bottlers Ltd	Non-alcoholic beverages testing	Private
11	Testing Laboratory of BEST Private Firm	Alcoholic beverages testing	Private
12	Sabail District Hygiene and Epidemiology Centre Sanitary–Hygiene and Bacteriological Laboratory	Non-alcoholic still and sparkling drinks, mineral water, drinking water testing	Government
13	Testing Laboratory of Corn Processing Company LLC	Corn starch, glucose and fructose syrup testing	Private
14	State Customs Committee, Testing Laboratory of Central Customs Examination Department	Food products testing	Government
15	Testing Laboratory of Azdelikates Alfa LLC	Snails and wild fungi testing	Private
16	Testing Laboratory of Ovchular Meat Products LLC	Meat and sausage products testing	Private
17	Azerbaijan Sugar Production Association LLC Production Testing Laboratory	Sugar testing	Private

No.	Laboratory name	Accreditation scope	Government/ private
18	AZSTAND Testing Laboratory of food and agricultural products, Salyan	Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, food and agricultural products testing	Government
19	Testing Laboratory of AZERI LTD	Alcoholic beverages testing	Private
20	Testing Laboratory of European Tobacco Baku OJSC	Physical-mechanical tests of fermented tobacco and cigarettes	Private
21	Production Testing Laboratory of the enterprise belonging to Tahirov Malik Agashirin Ogly	Determination of quality indicators of meat and sausage products	Private
22	Food Testing Laboratory of Ganja-Gazakh Regional Division of Consumer Goods Expertise Centre LLC	Physical-chemical and microbiological testing of food products	Private
23	Food Testing Laboratory of Shaki-Zaqatala Regional Division of Consumer Goods Expertise Centre LLC	Physical-chemical testing of food products	Private
24	Testing Laboratory of Jalilabad Wine-2 OJSC	Physical and chemical tests of alcoholic beverages, drinking water and grape juice	Private
25	Orkhan-SS Production Commercial Company Production Testing Laboratory	Meat and sausage products testing	Private
26	Water and Food Testing Laboratory of Intertek Azeri Ltd	Drinking water, industrial waters, wastewater and food products testing	Private
27	Testing Laboratory of Gilazi Poultry Company Ltd	Serological and microbiological tests on the flesh of birds, blood and eggs	Private
28	Testing Laboratory of Shamkir Agropark Ltd	Physical, chemical and microbiological tests of water, soil and fruits and vegetables	Private
29	Production Testing Laboratory of Shirvan Wines LLC	Wine and wine materials testing	Private
30	Analytical Testing Laboratory of Ganja Wine-2 OJSC	Testing of physical and chemical properties of alcoholic beverages	Private
31	Araz Imishlinsky Factory of Canned Juices and Cognac LLC Production Testing Laboratory	Physical-chemical testing of food products	Private
32	Central Laboratory of Agrochemical Azerbaijan LLC	Plant protection products (pesticides) testing	Private
33	Testing Laboratory of Carlsberg Azerbaijan LLC	Physical-chemical and microbiological testing of beer and drinking water	Private
34	Agro-Complex Laboratory	Physical and chemical, toxicological and microbiological tests of food and non-food products	Government
35	Testing Laboratory of Ismayilli Wine-1 OJSC	Rectified ethyl alcohol and 95% drinking ethyl alcohol, cognac spirits and vodka testing	Private
36	Testing Laboratory of Aznar closed joint-stock company	Natural fruit and berry juices, condensed fruit and berry juices, fruit and berry compotes, pomegranate butter testing	Private
37	Production Testing Laboratory of Sahliyali	Physical-chemical and microbiological testing of food products	Private

No.	Laboratory name	Accreditation scope	Government/ private
38	Production Testing Laboratory of the Goygol Wine Plant OJSC	Physical chemistry and microbiological testing of alcoholic beverages, and still and sparkling drinks	Private
39	Veterinary-sanitary Control Laboratory of Al-Sana LLC	Physical-chemical and microbiological tests of meat, sausages and drinking water	Private
40	Production Testing Laboratory of PalFood LLC	Physical, chemical and microbiological testing of milk and dairy products	Private
41	Aspi Agro LLC Production Testing Laboratory	Physical and chemical testing of alcoholic beverages	Private
42	Production Testing Laboratory of Hakan Foods Azerbaijan Trading Co. Ltd	Meat, sausage products and drinking water testing	Private
43	Bilasuvar Agro LLC Production Testing Laboratory	Milk and dairy products, and drinking water testing	Private
44	Food Safety Institute Branch 1 of the National Reference Laboratory	Physical, chemical, microbiological and toxicological testing of food products	Government
45	Production Testing Laboratory of TAC LLC	Drinking water and non-alcoholic beverages testing	Private
46	Testing Laboratory of Biyan Products LLC	Liquorice root, concentrated liquorice extract, plant-based syrups and drinking water testing	Private
47	Testing Laboratory of GP Stock Feed LLC	Cereal plants, vegetable oils, mixed feeds for livestock and poultry, and drinking water testing	Private

Source: <https://www.accreditation.gov.az/az>

Government testing laboratories

All accredited state laboratories have financial, administrative and technical independence. More than 27 government laboratories are accredited by AZAK.

Those accredited laboratories operate under ministries and institutions such as:

- State Customs Committee
- National Academy of Sciences
- AZSTAND
- FSA
- State Oil Fund
- Baku Metropolitan
- Ministry of Transport, Communications and High Technologies
- State Oil Company
- Azersu
- AAS
- Ministry of Healthcare

The scope of these laboratories includes testing of food products, oil, gas, water, lubricants, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, agricultural products, light industrial products, communication and telecommunication facilities, construction materials and medicines.

Some governmental laboratories are not accredited yet. Most accredited laboratories have modern infrastructure and technological capacity to conduct certain types of testing. Because some laboratories face challenges related to staff lacking expertise and competence, they invite foreign experts to conduct training and/or organize staff training abroad.

More specific information related to laboratories providing services in support of food safety are described in the section on food safety; plant health control under the Chapter 3 section on plant health; and calibration services in the section on metrology.

AZSTAND provides testing services in different areas in respect of international standards. These laboratories conduct physical-mechanical and physical-chemical tests of various products. They use international and local methods that are appropriate for their field of accreditation, register test results officially and publish testing protocols.

The scope of accreditation of AZSTAND testing laboratories is:

- Mobile Asphalt Concrete Test Laboratory;
- Ganja Building Materials Test Laboratory;
- Light Industry Products Test Laboratory;
- Oil and Gas and Petrochemical Products Test Laboratory;
- Imishli Building Materials Test Laboratory.

More information about laboratories can be found on the AZSTAND website (<http://azstand.gov.az/az/page/39>).

Private testing laboratories

More than 160 privately owned laboratories accredited by AZAK provide testing services in fields including construction, mechanical, physical, chemical, agricultural, metallurgy, water, environmental and microbiology. A list of private laboratories, including their accreditation scope and contact details, can be found on the AZAK website (<https://www.accreditation.gov.az/az>).

Certification

Product certification

AZAK has accredited 10 government and private product certification bodies, as indicated in Table 3. Implementation of product certification services in the country is carried out in accordance with the requirements set out in RS-003-93, the 'Similar products certification system' of the AZS National Certification System; and certification schemes set out in annex 5 to AZS 498-2010, the 'Certification system of the homogeneous products' (see Table 2).

Product certification in Azerbaijan is voluntary. According to the Law on Standardization, conformity assessment bodies conduct assessment of product quality according to the requirements of relevant national and international standards or technical regulations, which lay out technical specifications, rules on service, regulations prohibiting the manufacture, importation and marketing of certain products, etc.

A certificate of conformity is granted to a specific product (service) based on the certification scheme, positive results of product testing, and the availability of different certificates (i.e. hygiene, origin, quality management system certificates). Certificates are issued for products produced within the country as well as import and export products. The duration of the certificates is determined by the certification scheme and the nature of the product

Table 2 Certification scheme

Certification	Mandatory elements of certification				Types of inspection control			Notes
	Testing of samples	Certification of quality systems or certification of production	Testing		Point of sale	From manufacturers	Periodic review of quality system elements	
			Parts	Every product	Periodic tests of samples			
Scheme 1	X							The certificate is given for the tested samples or the experimental test batch
Scheme 2	X				X			All products are marked
Scheme 3	X					X		—
Scheme 4					X	X		—
Schemes 5, 6 and 7	X	X			X	X	X	All products are marked and a certificate of conformity is issued for production and quality systems
Schemes 8, 9 and 10		X						All products are marked. A certificate of conformity is issued for quality systems
Scheme 11			X					A certificate is issued to each tested product
Scheme 12				X				A certificate is issued to each tested product

Note: Certification schemes set out in annex 5 of AZS 498-2010, Certification system of the homogeneous products

Government certification bodies

The Product and Services Certification Division of the Conformity Assessment Department of AZSTAND has been accredited since June 2017 as a certification body in accordance with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17065. The division certifies products (non-food), processes and services.

Detailed information about the scope of the certification can be obtained from AZSTAND. In addition, AZSTAND has four regional offices that provide regional certification services.

The certification process in the Product and Services Certification Division is divided into several stages:

- Submission of the application for the purpose of certification;
- Conclusion of a contract/agreement;
- Delivery of documents related to production and processing;
- Laboratory test report;
- Certification decision – whether or not to issue a conformity certificate;
- Annual surveillance.

Documents required from customers for recognition of foreign compliance certificates:

- Application letter;
- Name and other relevant information of the company;
- Copy of the service contract;
- The original certificate of conformity or a notarized copy;
- Normative documents certified on the basis of certification;
- Certification test protocols (if necessary), provided that the parties have agreed on mutual recognition of certificates;
- Manufacturer's quality certificate.

All documents in foreign languages should be translated into Azerbaijani and notarized.

Certification of imported products

According to the Resolution 343 of the Cabinet of Ministers 'On the phased application of product certification (processes, services)' dated 1 July 1993, the certification of imported products is carried out as follows:

- In the case of products imported for direct use in Azerbaijan, the contract's terms should include the origin certification of the product and name of the certificate issued by the national certification authority;
- The given national certificate of conformity or recognized foreign certificates and marks shall be submitted to the customs control body along with the cargo customs declaration and shall be considered necessary to obtain a permit for the import of the product to the territory of Azerbaijan.

The documents required from customers to conduct certification of imported and exported products are:

- Application;
- Name and other relevant information of the company;
- Contract/agreement with the certification body;
- Normative, design and technological documentation of the product;
- Quality management system certification (if any);
- Laboratory testing protocols for the product (if necessary).

Imported products can be certified by governmental or private certification bodies as listed in Table 3 (in accordance with the accreditation scope). A list of product (service, process) certification bodies accredited by AZAK according to ISO 17065:2013 is included in Table 3.

Table 3 Accredited product (process, service) certification bodies

No.	Name of certification body	Status	Certification scope	International accreditation
1	AZGİDASERT	Private	Agricultural products and food products	Latvian National Accreditation Bureau LVS ISO/IEC 17065:2013
2	AZSTAND	Government	Non-food products, processes and services	—
3	State Customs Committee Examination of the Central Customs Department	Government	Compliance of motor vehicles and their type	Latvian National Accreditation Bureau ISO/IEC 17025/2005
4	AzeSERT HALAL LLC	Private	Halal products	—
5	Ministry of Transport, Communications and High Technologies AzInTelecom LLC	Government	Communications and telecommunications facilities	—
6	Texnosert LLC	Private	Mechanical engineering and medical products	—
7	AZSERTCENTER LLC	Private	Light industry products, home appliances, communication equipment and woodworking materials	—
8	AGROSERT LLC	Private	Consumer goods and services	—
9	AzeTest Testing LLC	Private	Oil, gas and petrochemical products	—
10	AzSertServis LLC	Private	Building materials	—

Source: <https://www.accreditation.gov.az/az>

Updated information about the above-mentioned private product certification bodies recognized by AZAK can be found at <https://www.accreditation.gov.az/az>.

A list of conformity certificates (name of the companies, identification code of certificate, issue and expiry dates, name of the product/service, name of the relevant standard/directive) can be found at <https://www.accreditation.gov.az/az>.

Halal standards in Azerbaijan

Given that 95% of the Azerbaijan population is Muslim and thus requires halal products, demand for halal food in Azerbaijan is increasing. AZSTAND developed and published the first three state halal standards, which came into effect on 1 August 2012.

These standards define the general requirements for the production, transport, storage and sale of halal meat products as well as the general rules for the use of the term 'halal' and the general requirements for halal food. Compliance with the requirements of all three standards is mandatory.

The three standards are:

- AZS 731-2012: General guidelines on halal food;
- AZS 731-1-2015: Organization of Islamic Cooperation/Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries 1:2011 Halal food general guidelines;
- AZS 731-2-2015: Organization of Islamic Cooperation/Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries 1:2011 Guidelines for organizations carrying out halal certification.

The national standard AZS 731-2012 was developed based on the requirements of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation/Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries 1:2011 General Guidelines on Halal Food. Halal certification is the recognition that the products are permissible under Islamic law.

This halal food quality standard for Azerbaijan sets requirements for special packaging, marking, export and import of halal products. The new standard is expected to boost halal products in the market. AzeSert Halal LLC is the only Azerbaijan certification body accredited to certify halal products. A list of the certification bodies that conduct general certification of foods can be found at <https://www.accreditation.gov.az/az>.

Azerbaijan national conformity mark

AZS is granted based on a product's compliance with the relevant national standard. The presence of the mark on a product means that the product has been inspected and tested, and its conformity with relevant national standards is assured. The mark is printed on the product itself or the label, packaging or accompanying documents. AZSTAND and private accredited bodies (by AZAK) issue certificates with the AZS mark. Using the AZS mark is voluntary.

Figure 2 Example of the Azerbaijan national conformity mark



System certification

Few private or public certification bodies in the country provide management system certification and are accredited according to ISO 17021 by AZAK or other internationally recognized accreditation bodies. According to a 2018 ISO survey,² certifications for ISO 9001 (quality management system), ISO 14001 (environmental management system) and ISO 22000 (food safety management system) are in the highest demand in Azerbaijan.

The Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series (OHSAS) 18001 is the most implemented standard in the country. Companies that are certified for OHSAS 18001 are transitioning their occupational management system to ISO 45001. The number of certificates for ISO management system standards and the number of companies certified for the requirements by different industrial sectors is reported in Figure 3 and Table 4, respectively.

² Trends of management system certificates issued in Azerbaijan can be observed from the ISO survey on the ISO website: www.iso.org/iso/iso-survey.

Figure 3 Number of certificates for ISO management system standards, 2010-2018


Source: ISO Survey, see <https://isotc.iso.org/livelink/livelink?func=ll&objId=18808772&objAction=browse&viewType=1>

Table 4 Number of companies certified in management systems standards, by sector

Sector name	ISO 9001	ISO 14001	ISO 27001	ISO 45001	ISO 22000-1	ISO 37001
Mining and quarrying	1	2	-	-	-	-
Food products, beverages and tobacco	6	1	-	-	-	-
Publishing companies	1	-	-	-	-	-
Printing companies	1	-	-	-	-	-
Chemicals, chemical products and fibres	5	2	-	-	-	-
Rubber and plastic products	2	-	-	-	-	-
Non-metallic mineral products	1	-	-	-	-	-
Concrete, cement, lime, plaster, etc.	3	1	-	-	-	-
Basic metal and fabricated metal products	3	3	-	-	-	-
Machinery and equipment	12	-	-	-	-	-
Electrical and optical equipment	4	1	-	-	-	-
Recycling	2	2	-	-	-	-
Electricity supply	1	-	-	-	-	-
Gas supply	1	1	-	-	-	-
Construction	11	4	-	-	-	-
Wholesale and retail trade, repairs of motor vehicles, motorcycles, and personal and household goods	11	4	-	-	-	-
Hotels and restaurants	-	1	-	-	-	-
Transport, storage and communication	12	2	-	-	-	-
Information technology	7	-	-	-	-	-
Engineering services	9	4	-	-	-	-
Other services	3	-	-	-	-	-
Public administration	8	1	-	-	-	-
Education	7	-	-	-	-	-
Health and social work	1	-	-	-	-	-
Other social services	1	2	-	-	-	-
Sector unknown	59	13	1	2	1	1

Source: ISO website, see <https://isotc.iso.org/livelink/livelink?func=ll&objId=18808772&objAction=browse&viewType=1>

Government certification body

The Management System Certification Division of AZSTAND is the only available public certification, and is accredited according to ISO 17021 by the Turkish Accreditation Agency and AZAK for ISO 9001 and OHSAS 18001 system certification.

The process of certification consists of the following stages:

- Acceptance and analysis of orders;
- Preparation for certification audit;
- Conducting a Phase I certification audit;
- Conducting a Phase II certification audit;
- Decision on issuance (or refusal) of the certificate;
- Annual surveillance of the management system;
- Recertification.

There are eight companies that are certified for ISO 9001:2015 and one company certified according to OHSAS 18001:2007 by AZSTAND. Detailed information and the list of companies certified by AZSTAND can be found on their website at [http://azstand.gov.az/upload/files/sifarislerin%20qeydiyyati\(1\).pdf](http://azstand.gov.az/upload/files/sifarislerin%20qeydiyyati(1).pdf).

Private certification bodies

The main private certification bodies in the country accredited by AZAK are SGS Azeri Ltd, DNV GL AS, DQS Azerbaijan, and Bureau Veritas Azeri LLC. Table 5 lists these bodies and the services they provide, although the list is not exhaustive. More information about management system certification bodies accredited by AZAK can be found at <https://www.accreditation.gov.az/az> and their contact details are in Appendix I.

Table 5 Private certification bodies of different management systems

Name of certification body	Certification	Accreditation body	Other related services
SGS Azeri Ltd	ISO 9001 OHSAS 18001 ISO 22000 ISO 14001	United Kingdom Accreditation Service, AZAK	Lead audit training; internal auditor training on different management systems and other training courses and certification services. For more information: www.sgs.com/en/office-directory
DNV GL AS	ISO 9001 OHSAS 18001 ISO 22000 ISO 27001 ISO 37001	AZAK and international accreditation	Certification services. For more information: www.dnvgl.com
DQS Azerbaijan	ISO 9001 ISO 22000 ISO 14001	Deutsche Akkreditierungsstelle GmbH, United Kingdom Accreditation Service, American National Standards Institute National Accreditation Board, VDA Quality Management Centre, European Rail Supply Industry Association and AZAK	Certification services. For more information: www.dqs-holding.com
Bureau Veritas Azeri LLC	ISO 9001 ISO 14001 OHSAS 18001 ISO 22000	AZAK and international accreditation	Lead audit training, internal auditor training on different management systems and other training courses and certification services. For more information: www.bureauveritas.com

Inspection services

Public sector

Inspection of a process includes personnel, equipment, technology and methodology. Inspection bodies mean any body that performs inspection activities. Inspection bodies are to be accredited to meet the requirements of AZS ISO 17020:2008.

Food products are inspected by the Food Safety Agency, and inspection of plants and animals is conducted by the Agrarian Services Agency. More information on inspection related to sanitary and phytosanitary measures is included in Chapter 3.

Environmental inspections are conducted by the Ministry of Ecology, while inspection of telecommunication products is done by the Ministry of Transport, Communications and High Technologies, and inspection of drug products is conducted by the Ministry of Health. All government bodies perform inspections in accordance with the law. However, most of them are not accredited to ISO 17020.

Private inspection bodies

A few foreign certification bodies such as Intertek Ltd, SGS, DNV GL AS, Bureau Veritas, Weldspec Glasgow Limited, Rigmarine Europe Limited, and TUV provide inspection services in Azerbaijan. The contact details of these inspection bodies and the scope of their services are in Appendix I. Table 6 provides an illustrative list of the main private and national inspection bodies.

Table 6 Private and national inspection bodies in Azerbaijan

Name of the inspection body	Field of inspection
Caspian Engineering Solutions LLC	Diagnosis and inspection of equipment and technical facilities used at hazardous facilities
ArchiCO LLC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspection of construction • Paint layer thickness inspection • Screw tightness inspection • Concrete durability and protective covering inspection
Veus Holding LLC	Inspection of oil and gas industry pipelines used in drilling rigs
ARPA Consulting LLC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buildings of various use • Manufacturing facilities • Concrete structures • Steel structures • Steel products • Mechanical, electrical and plumbing • Process equipment • Process units • Pressure equipment • Storage tanks • Sewerage treatment facilities • Pipelines • Fire protection systems • Medical devices
Caspian Inspection Company LLC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power systems • Fire safety devices • Lifts and machinery • Boilers and heaters • Electrical inspection (low and high voltage)

Name of the inspection body	Field of inspection
MAQ-Pi Kompleks LLC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-destructive testing • Integrity and corrosion monitoring • Pre/post heat treatment services • Mobile hardness testing • Ferrite testing • Dimensional inspection • Painting/welding inspection • Rope access
Central Customs Office of the State Customs Committee	Inspection of vehicles imported into the territory of Azerbaijan
MQS LLC	Inspection services with non-destructive testing
UIS AZ LLC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Onshore and offshore lifting equipment and accessories • Welding inspection • Strip-down inspection and testing of crane blocks • Inspection services with non-destructive testing

Source: <https://www.accreditation.gov.az/az>

More information about the private and public inspection bodies accredited by AZAK can be found at <https://www.accreditation.gov.az/az>.

Metrology

AzMI, the sole national metrology body in the country, was established in accordance with Presidential Decree 1234 on 10 February 2017, 'About the additional measures connected with enhancement of management in the sphere of standardization, metrology, accreditation and protection of subjects of the patent law'.

AzMI performs the following activities:

- Provides, protects, compares and transfers state reference measurement units;
- Provides harmonization of measurements;
- Calibrates and certifies measuring instruments and working measurement standards;
- Provides comparative analysis and certification of measuring instruments that belong to different government-regulated fields;
- Provides metrological examination of documents submitted for the recognition of conformity of the type of measuring instruments imported into the country;
- Forms and develops a state standards base;
- Registers and tests measuring instruments to ensure they conform to the standard for their type;
- Provides attestation of measurement methods;
- Participates in international and regional organizations in intercomparison of national measurement standards;
- Is represented in international and regional metrology organizations.

Law No. 686-IVQ 'About ensuring unity of measurements' (dated 13 June 2013, Law No. 686-IVQ), established the legal and organizational basis for providing unity of measurements in Azerbaijan. This Law aims to prevent any negative effects of inaccurate measurements, and. It also aims to meet the needs of society and the state in obtaining objective, reliable and comparable results of measurements in order to protect human life and health, as well as the environment, flora and fauna.

State regulation of the uniformity of measurement applies to measurements carried out in several areas, including:

- Veterinary
- Banking, tax and customs operations
- Plant protection and quarantine
- Aid services
- Environmental protection
- Packaging and measurement of goods
- Trade operations
- Agrochemical measures
- Accounting for water, gas, electricity and heating energy
- Healthcare
- Occupational protection

State regulation in the field of measurement uniformity is carried out in the following forms:

- Conformity of the type of measuring instruments;
- Verification of measuring instruments;
- Metrological examination;
- Metrological supervision;
- Attestation of measurement methods;
- Accreditation on performance of processes and/or services in the field of unity of measurements.

Nomenclature and the audit periodicity of measuring and testing tools to be submitted for inspection can be found at:

<http://metrology.az/en/images/%C3%96l%C3%A7m%C9%99%20v%C9%99%20s%C4%B1naq%20vasit%C9%99l%C9%99rinin%20nomenklatur%20siyah%C4%B1s%C4%B1.pdf>.

There are five AzMI regional territorial offices. In addition, AzMI has eight laboratories where national standards are preserved and nine laboratories that carry out inspection and calibration of measuring tools. AzMI is the holder of Azerbaijan national standards related to metrology. Along with transmitting the measurement of quantitative units from the primary state standards to working standards, it checks and calibrates of all types of measuring tools. The Legislative Metrology Department of AzMI is responsible for approving types of measuring tools and recognizing types that are approved abroad in Azerbaijan, as well as conducting state registration of measuring tools.

In 2017, international experts from the Euro-Asian Cooperation of National Metrological Institutions (COOMET) Regional Metrology Organization evaluated the compliance of AzMI's quality management system with the requirements of the ISO/IEC 17025 international standard. According to the audit results, by the Decision of the 24th meeting of COOMET's Technical Committee of Quality Forum on 31 January 2018, AzMI was awarded a Certificate of Recognition (QSF-R53) that its system conforms with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025. This certificate is valid until 31 January 2023.

Industrial metrology

As of 2019, there were 35 private calibration laboratories accredited by AZAK according to ISO/IEC 17025 requirements. An updated list of accredited laboratories is available at <https://www.accreditation.gov.az/az>.

Calibration

AzMI is responsible for supervising the calibration of measuring instruments, including issuing calibration certificates and establishing the rules governing the right to display a sign that equipment has been calibrated and the requirements for performing calibration. The list of state national standards (including their range and accuracy class) on metrology can be found on the AzMI website at www.metrology.az/en/index.php/state-standards/state-standards-of-temperature-units.

Table 7 Laboratories under AzMI

National standards laboratories	Measuring and calibration laboratories
1. Temperature Laboratory of National Standards	9. Pressure, force and volume labs
2. Mass Laboratory of National Standards	10. Electrical and radiotechnical
3. Electricity Quantities Laboratory of National Standards	11. Mass, geometric and mechanical labs
4. Time and Frequency Laboratory of National Standards	12. Temperature measuring instruments labs
5. Pressure Laboratory of National Standards	13. Physicochemical and optical-physical measuring instruments labs
6. Ionizing Radiation Laboratory of National Standards	14. Ionizing radiation and radioactivity measurement labs
7. Density Laboratory of National Standards	
8. Viscosity Laboratory of National Standards	

Membership of regional and international bodies

AzMI represents Azerbaijan in two international and three regional metrology organizations:

- General Conference on Weights and Measures
- International Organization of Legal Metrology
- COOMET
- Euro-Asian Council for Standardization, Metrology and Certification
- Standards and Metrology Institute for the Islamic Countries

Azerbaijan became an Associate of the General Conference on Weights and Measures on 1 January 2015. On 28 January 2015, AzMI signed an international agreement ‘On mutual recognition of measurement and calibration certificates issued by National Standards and National Metrology Institutions’ (CIPM Mutual Recognition Arrangement).

AzMI (previously the State Committee for Standardization, Metrology and Patents) has been a corresponding member of the International Organization of Legal Metrology since January 2015. Participating in the organization’s work allows members to receive up-to-date information from other participants concerning new technologies, ways to assess the conformity of instruments, solutions found in other countries to answer specific problems, good practices in legal metrology, experience in the organization of legal metrology activities in different countries, etc.

Azerbaijan has cooperated closely with the Interstate Council since the 1990s and participates actively in annual meetings and working group meetings.

Accreditation

AZAK is the sole national accreditation body of Azerbaijan recognized by the state to perform the accreditation activities of a conformity assessment body. AZAK grants accreditation as an official recognition that accredited bodies offering testing, calibration, certification (product, system and personnel) and inspection services have the technical competence and impartiality to check the conformity of products and services with relevant national and international standards.

Accreditation is performed by the Laboratory Accreditation Department and the Certification and Inspection Bodies Accreditation Department. AZAK accredits conformity assessment bodies in the voluntary area as well as in the regulated area.

Accreditation in Azerbaijan is regulated by the ‘Law on accreditation in the field of conformity assessment’ dated 30 May 2014. This law established the legal and organizational basis for the accreditation of bodies

performing the conformity assessment activities of testing (ISO 17025), calibration (ISO 17025), certification (for management systems ISO 17021, for product certification ISO 17065) and inspection (ISO 17020).³

The accreditation process is as follows:

- Application for accreditation (application form placed on the AZAK website);
- Submission of the set of documents required for the accreditation process;
- Expert group sets up the accreditation procedures and carries them out in accordance with the accreditation rules;
- After completing all stages, the results are submitted to an expert commission that will have been created for decision-making in the product field of accreditation;
- Accreditation certificate issued if the assessment is positive and there is full compliance with all accreditation requirements; the accreditation certificate is valid for three years from the date of issue.

AZAK also offers training services to companies from various industries to improve their awareness of certification, accreditation rules and processes, and the application of several ISO standards. In 2018, more than 242 accredited conformity assessment bodies were established in Azerbaijan, all of which are accredited by AZAK; some also have international accreditation. The list is provided in Table 8.

Table 8 Conformity assessment bodies accredited by AZAK

Type of bodies	Number of accredited bodies	Accreditation scope
Testing and calibration laboratories	193	Food products Light industry products Oil, gas and petrochemical products Construction and building materials Calibration of measuring instruments Cosmetic, hygienic and synthetic detergents Electrical equipment Other relevant services (see Appendix I)
Inspection bodies	20	Oil, gas and petrochemical products Non-destructive testing services Other relevant services
System certification bodies	8	Management system certification (ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO 22001, ISO 27001)
Product certification bodies	12	Agricultural and food products Halal products Vehicles Communication and telecommunication means Mechanical and medical products Light industry products Construction and building materials Food and food products Oil, gas and petrochemical products
Certification of persons	9	Certification of personnel working at high altitude Dermatological and cosmetological services Other relevant services

³ The law is undergoing revision to align with European Regulation 765/2008 on setting out the requirements for accreditation related to the marketing of products. In the regulated area, the law requires accreditation for those bodies that qualify certain categories of products and services (e.g. products with the CE mark such as toys, lifts, food products with protected or guaranteed origin, etc.) that can be put on the market only after undergoing conformity assessment against the applicable standards. In the voluntary area, where there is no specific legislation, companies seek accreditation to provide the market with an impartial attestation of their competence in guaranteeing products' and services' quality, safety, security, etc.

Accredited bodies and their scope of accreditation are listed on the AZAK website (<http://accreditation.gov.az>):

- Testing and calibration
- Quality systems certification to ISO/IEC 17021
- Product certification according to ISO/IEC 17065
- Inspection bodies according to ISO/IEC 17020
- Personal certification to ISO/IEC 17024

AZAK applies ISO/IEC 17011; it was an affiliate member of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation between 2012 and 2018, and has been an associate member since 7 March 2018.

AZAK fulfilled the requirements for and was approved as an associate Member of the European co-operation for Accreditation (EA) in 2017. AZAK's associate membership in EA was unanimously approved by the EA General Assembly in November 2017.

The accreditation services provided by AZAK help increase the quality of production and exports, and reduce external dependence of producers, consumers and other stakeholders in the field of conformity assessment.

Chapter 3

National quality infrastructure – sanitary and phytosanitary measures

Sanitary and phytosanitary policy or strategy

Article 41 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan provides that all persons have the right to a healthy life and that the government shall ensure their sanitary–epidemiological well-being. To implement this provision and establish a legal basis for sanitary and phytosanitary measures, the Parliament of Azerbaijan approved several laws and ratified international agreements. The list of primary legislative acts regulating food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary matters can be found in Appendix III.

State policy on food safety is formulated by the State Programme on Ensuring Food Safety, Plant and Animal Health in the Republic of Azerbaijan (2019–2025).

Twelve priority areas have been identified for implementing the State Programme:

1. Improving the legal framework for food safety, considering international best practices;
2. Improving food safety infrastructure;
3. Strengthening scientific support and capacity-building in the field of food safety;
4. Forming a risk analysis system based on scientific evidence;
5. Improving the registration, verification and certification system for food safety to meet international standards;
6. Forming a risk-based state control system for food safety;
7. Establishing an effective and up-to-date system for animal health control;
8. Establishing an effective and up-to-date system for plant health control;
9. Developing public-private partnerships to ensure food security;
10. Applying modern technologies and innovative solutions in the field of food safety;
11. Fostering international cooperation on food security;
12. Raising awareness on food safety, promoting healthy nutrition and protecting consumer rights.

By Presidential Decree, phytosanitary and veterinary controls are assigned to FSA, and phytosanitary and veterinary services to AAS under the Ministry of Agriculture.

FSA is responsible for the safety and import/export control of food. It is in charge of food import, export and re-export control; issuing food safety, phytosanitary and veterinary certificates; import quarantine permits; protection of phytosanitary and veterinary status in the country; and observance of phytosanitary and veterinary obligations between countries. FSA is responsible for making relevant decisions (i.e. authorization, restriction, neutralization, application of quarantine regime) on phytosanitary and veterinary quarantine-controlled materials, such as plants and plant products, animals and animal origin products.

AAS under the Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for animal health and plant health services through the State Phytosanitary Service, State Veterinary Service, State Service for Registration of Plant Seeds and Seed Control and State Technical Inspection Service. AAS organizes veterinary and phytosanitary services, and coordinates the activities of State Agrarian Development Centres in this area. These centres are responsible for providing veterinary and phytosanitary services in the regions of Azerbaijan. They are a subordinate institution of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Food safety

FSA is a central executive authority, established by the Presidential Decree ‘On Additional Measures to Improve the Food Security System in the Republic of Azerbaijan’ dated 10 February 2017 and operational since 1 January 2018.

FSA provides the following services:

- State supervision of food safety;
- Implementing sanitary and phytosanitary regulations;
- Conducting state registration of food business operators;
- Issuing food safety certificates as well as veterinary and phytosanitary certificates;
- Conducting surveillance of food safety at all stages of the food chain, including production, storage, packaging, transport and turnover (including export–import operations);
- Organizing the examination of product safety criteria and infrastructure for entities engaged in the production, manufacturing and processing of imported foodstuffs;
- Registering and maintaining the State Registry of entities issuing food safety certificates to imported foodstuffs;
- Implementing the import requirements of importing countries, including the EU, for exports of foodstuffs.

The Agency targets the establishment of a food safety system based on an analytical approach of the risks and covering all stages of the value chain. Azerbaijan has been a member of Codex Alimentarius since 2011 and FSA is the national Codex Contact Point.

Law No. 759-IG ‘on foodstuffs’

This law defines the legal basis for the organization of food products regarding minimum quality and safety control, production and marketing in Azerbaijan, ensuring the food security of the population. It covers the production, procurement, packaging, storage, transport, purchase, sale and import–export operation requirements for food products.

Ministerial Decree 302 ‘on food safety certificates’

This decree sets the procedures for and principles on expertise, sampling, quality control and certification of foodstuffs. FSA is mandated to issue food safety certificates according to the hygiene, phytosanitary, veterinary and ecological requirements for national and international trade. This decree underlines that food safety certificates shall not be issued for foodstuffs that include genetically modified plant materials or biologically active food additives.

Presidential Decree 3596 ‘on additional measures to strengthen the structure of the Food Safety Agency’

According to this decree, certain laboratories are assigned under the responsibility of FSA for effective control. They are:

- Laboratories for quality control of food and non-food products under the Ministry of Economy.
- Laboratories for veterinary, phytosanitary, toxicology and quality control under the Ministry of Agriculture.
- Laboratories for food hygiene under the Ministry of Health.

The Azerbaijan Food Safety Institute is a legal entity under FSA, established under Presidential Decree 1681 on 13 November 2017, ‘On Providing Activity of the Food Safety Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan’.

The institute provides the following services:

- Carries out scientific–practical research in the field of food safety.
- Assesses risk based on scientific principles.
- Prepares draft technical normative legal acts in the field of food safety.
- Oversees voluntary application of other international food safety requirements by producers of food products.
- Provides research services on food safety indicators.
- Provides laboratory analysis, expertise and research services on food safety and minimum quality indicators.

- Trains specialists in the field of food safety.
- Organizes conferences, symposiums, seminars and meetings.
- Implements awareness-raising activities to inform the population about food safety.

Table 9 Laboratories assigned to the Food Safety Institute

Laboratories in Baku	Laboratories in the regions
National Reference Laboratory	Absheron Regional Testing Laboratory
Central Veterinary Laboratory	Sumgait Regional Testing Laboratory
Central Phytosanitary Laboratory	Shamakhi Regional Testing Laboratory
Complex Examination Laboratory	Quba Regional Testing Laboratory
	Qakh Regional Testing Laboratory
	Khachmaz Regional Testing Laboratory
	Goygol Regional Testing Laboratory
	Barda Regional Testing Laboratory
	Tovuz Regional Testing Laboratory
	Lankaran Regional Testing Laboratory
	Sabirabad Regional Testing Laboratory
	Ganja Regional Testing Laboratory

Among these laboratories, two – the National Reference Laboratory and the Central Veterinary Laboratory – are accredited with ISO/IEC 17025 by AZAK.

Health certificate

The composition of foodstuffs produced in or imported into Azerbaijan is issued by FSA and is subject to expertise related to chemical, biological, toxicological and radiological indicators. These products are registered in the hygiene State Register. After registration, a hygiene certificate is issued for the concerned food products. A fee is paid for the issuance of a health certificate.

Table 10 Information about health certificates for the import of foodstuffs

Category	Product safety assessment
The number of days required to grant a permit	Seven days
List of documents required to grant a permit	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Copy of extract from the State Register of Legal Entities if the applicant is a legal entity, branch or representative office of a foreign legal entity; 2. Copy of the identity card if the applicant is an individual entrepreneur; 3. Copy of the applicant's registration certificate as a taxpayer; 4. Power of attorney of any authorized representative, issued in accordance with the legislation of Azerbaijan; 5. Certificate of origin of the food for import; 6. Notarized translation of the contract of sale; 7. Invoice for the food to be imported; 8. A document confirming the safety of food products issued by the competent authority of the exporting country, depending on its type.
Name of the executive authority issuing authorization	FSA

Animal and plant health

AAS under the Ministry of Agriculture

AAS is responsible for organizing public services in the country on animal and plant health, plant cross-breeding and hybridization services, and services and state control in the fields of seed production and agricultural machinery.

The main duties of AAS are:

- Organization, management and quality control of veterinary and phytosanitary services;
- Registration of agricultural machinery, technical supervision activities and public services in this field;
- Carry out control over the organization and provision of services in agrochemical, seed and biological laboratories, sorting points and seed certification centres.

ASA provides 70 services to farmers and entrepreneurs on different types of activities. These include:

- 10 veterinary services:
 1. Treating non-communicable diseases;
 2. Treating and preventing infectious diseases;
 3. Applying preventive disinfection, and disinfectant and deratization measures;
 4. Carrying out preventive work to destroy blood parasitic diseases and helminths;
 5. Sampling pathological materials from dead animals;
 6. Providing recommendations for increasing production and productivity in livestock;
 7. Taking preventive measures against epizootic diseases;
 8. Sampling and examining for diagnostic purposes;
 9. Providing education on the use of biological, chemical and other veterinary preparations for animal health, and prevention and treatment of animal diseases;
 10. Consulting legal experts and physical persons in the field of veterinary medicine on preventing environmental pollution.
- 10 phytosanitary services:
 1. Identifying harmful organisms and diseases in plants;
 2. Conducting agrochemical analysis of soil and making recommendations;
 3. Conducting agrochemical analysis of irrigation water and making recommendations;
 4. Disposing of useless and prohibited pesticides, biological preparations and containers;
 5. Conducting phytosanitary inspection of territories and objects;
 6. Implementing measures to combat and quarantine especially dangerous or harmful organisms at the expense of the state budget;
 7. Raising awareness and providing advice on phytosanitary services;
 8. Decontaminating quarantine-controlled materials (fumigation);
 9. Carrying out biological control of plant diseases and pests;
 10. Preparing cartograms for agricultural land and issuance of agrochemical passports.

Additionally, ASA provides 10 plant cross-breeding services, nine services in seed production and 14 services on technical control. Azerbaijan is a member of the World Organisation for Animal Health (Office International des Epizooties) and has cooperated closely with it since joining in 1995.

FSA

FSA is the competent authority for exports of food of animal origin to other countries. The agency:

- Organizes examination of infrastructure and product safety criteria for subjects engaged in primary production, and in the manufacturing and processing of imported foodstuffs;
- Registers and maintains the State Registry of these subjects in accordance with the test results;
- Issues food safety certificates;
- Implements the import requirements of importing countries, including the EU, regarding the export of foodstuffs.

The duties of FSA in the field of animal health include:

- Determining the rules for implementing preventive quarantine, special veterinary measures and other measures in the case of especially dangerous animal diseases, including:
 - Identifying restrictive and preventive measures in zones of danger;
 - Stopping or destroying animals;
 - Making mandatory instructions on the disposal or use of animal-origin raw materials, veterinary preparations, feed and feed additives.
- Exercising control over observance of veterinary legislation of Azerbaijan by animal, livestock product and raw material owners;
- Exercising control over the safety, production, preservation, breeding and veterinary use, and trafficking of biological stimulants and hormones that speed up the growth of livestock, as well as veterinary preparations, vitamins and feed supplements;
- Preparing and approving epizootic action plans;
- Carrying out measures related to veterinary control over cargo (goods, products) transported by customs through customs border checkpoints;
- Taking action to comply with requirements and regulations in accordance with those of the World Organisation for Animal Health and other international organizations;
- Providing accounting and reporting in the field of veterinary services, as well as conducting statistical recording of quarantined animals;
- Providing approval, examination, testing and state registration; and maintaining the State Register of veterinary preparations, as well as providing an opinion on approvals;
- Providing veterinary certificates.

The duties of FSA in the field of plant protection include:

- Arranging and carrying out laboratory tests and registration of plant protection products and agrochemicals;
- Investigating the phytosanitary situation in the country and carrying out plant protection measures;
- Controlling the entry of plant pests, diseases and herbicides that are subject to quarantine in the territory of Azerbaijan;
- Proposing to the Cabinet of Ministers the declaration of quarantine in the territory of Azerbaijan for the purpose of combating the presence of harmful organisms;
- Exercising control over the production, storage, sale, import and export of pesticides, biological preparations, agrochemicals and other herbal remedies, as well as all kinds of plant products, feeds, feed additives and the amount of residue in soil;
- Registering legal entities and individuals engaged in the import, export, manufacture, storage and sale of pesticides, biological preparations, agrochemicals and other herbal remedies according to information received from the Ministry of Taxes;
- Taking appropriate measures to detect, prevent, neutralize, recycle or destroy hazardous organisms in a timely manner by segregating the materials as a result of product research of the plants, plant products, pesticides, biological preparations, agrochemicals and other herbal supplements in phytosanitary controlled quarantine facilities.

Law No. 922-IIQ on veterinary activities

This law, dated 31 May 2005, establishes legal and organizational bases for veterinary activities in Azerbaijan. It also governs relations between the subjects ensuring the veterinary (veterinary and sanitary) well-being of the country; the safety of cargo loads that are under state veterinary supervision; and protection of the population against diseases, generally for persons and animals.

According to this law, the following are subject to state veterinary control:

- Animals and their genetic materials;
- Products and raw materials of animal origin, veterinary preparations, feed and feed additives and specimens thereof brought for veterinary examination, as well as specimens of water, air, soil and plants;
- Transport facilities, all types of containers, packaging materials, inventory, care products, etc., which can cause the entry of infectious diseases;
- Venues of legal entities and persons where veterinary activity is being conducted;
- Venues and fields for the production, processing, storage, supply and sale or use of products and raw materials of animal origin.

The list of goods subject to veterinary control was adopted through Resolution 231 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 17 June 2016. The list includes live animals, poultry and fish, chilled or frozen animal meat, feeding additives, etc.

Law No. 102-IIIQ on phytosanitary control

This law, dated 12 May 2016, determines the legal basis for organizing and exercising phytosanitary control in the territory of Azerbaijan and regulates relations between subjects acting in the field of plant protection and plant quarantine.

According to this law, the following are subject to state phytosanitary control:

- Collection of live fungi, bacteria, viruses, nematodes, ticks, insects and plant pathogens, samples of plants damaged by them, as well as plant herbaria and collections;
- Agricultural machines and tools, means of transport, containers, all types of tares and packaging materials, industrial consumer goods and products made from plants and plant materials, peat, compost, other organic fertilizers, soil and soil monoliths and samples that may be carriers of pests;
- Venues of production, processing, procurement, storage and sale of plants and plant growing products, agricultural lands and woodlands, courtyards and gardens, and non-agricultural lands.

Azerbaijan joined the International Plant Protection Convention on 14 March 2000 and FSA, which joined on 29 June 2018, is now the focal point for all matters related to the convention. FSA is also the focal point for the World Organisation for Animal Health and ensures Azerbaijan's compliance with the obligations and regulations set by this and other international organizations.

Chapter 4

Trade promotion organizations, sector associations and quality-related associations in Azerbaijan

Trade promotion organizations and sector associations

The establishment of trade laws has provided opportunities to extend trade cooperation in Azerbaijan. Several laws and normative legal acts were adopted for the purpose of regulating interstate trade relations.⁴ Some of the main associations active in Azerbaijan are introduced below.

Azerbaijan Export and Investment Promotion Foundation (AZPROMO)

AZPROMO is a public-private initiative established by the Ministry of Economy in 2003 with the aim of contributing to economic development by attracting foreign investment and stimulating exports in the non-oil sector. It has a large international network and is a member of the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies. There are international offices in Georgia, Austria, Italy and China that coordinate with AZPROMO. AZPROMO has signed memoranda of cooperation and partnership with more than 80 organizations from 37 countries.

AZPROMO has two main arms: investment and export promotion. In the area of investment promotion, it provides information; legal, organizational and marketing support; and business set-up (matchmaking and networking, and mediation between the public and private sectors).

In the area of export promotion, AZPROMO provides:

- Information
- Market assistance
 - Market browsing
 - Research and analysis
 - National and international customs duties
 - Logistics and transport
 - Certification
 - International standards
 - Legal requirements
 - Labelling and packaging
- Organizational support for companies
 - Training and seminars
 - Export missions
 - Exhibitions and fairs in Azerbaijan and abroad
 - Product promotion
 - Export promotion

⁴ These include Law 1064 'on customs tariff' of 20 June 1995; Presidential Decree 609 'on further liberalization of foreign trade in the Republic of Azerbaijan' of 24 June 1999; Presidential Decree 616 'on approval of the Customs Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan' of 25 July 1997; Ministerial Decree 20 'on excise duties of excised products imported to the Republic of Azerbaijan' of 19 January 2001; Ministerial Decree 80 'on custom duties and custom clearance fees in export-import operations of the Republic of Azerbaijan' of 12 April 2001; and Ministerial Decree 190 'on approval of rules of determination of countries of origin' of 29 November 2007.

- International potential customer and distributor detection

Azerbaijan Beekeepers Association

In 2015, beekeepers signed a protocol of intent to bring together all the beekeepers and organizations operating in the beekeeping sector. The Azerbaijan Beekeepers Association Public Union was established in 2016 and the Extended Management Board and Inspection Commission were created at the first general meeting of the Association in 2016.

The purpose of the association is to develop the beekeeping sector in the country, help solve beekeepers' problems, promote beekeeping to raise its profile in the county's economy, increase the position of Azerbaijan's beekeeping in the world, develop a common concept of beekeeping; and resolve other issues related to the field.

The association has 29 branches in regions across Azerbaijan where beekeepers live. Its membership consists of more than 2,000 beekeepers and entrepreneurs operating in beekeeping in 52 regions of the Republic.

Azerbaijan Hazelnut Producers and Exporters Association (AHPEA)

AHPEA was registered with the Ministry of Justice in 2016, and comprises 52 members. The first meeting of the association was held on 4 February 2017. Its main objective is to assist in the development of hazelnut production. AHPEA supports the development of a culture of production and efficiency, application of new production and processing technologies and rational use of natural resources, while raising awareness of hazelnut production.

Fruit and Vegetable Producers and Exporters Association

The Fruit and Vegetable Producers and Exporters Association of Azerbaijan was established in 2016 to coordinate the activities of entrepreneurs involved in the production and export of fruit and vegetables in the country, expand cooperation among them, increase the general production of fruit and vegetables, and expand the country's export opportunities. Currently, the association has 60 members.

Pomegranate Producers and Exporters Association of Azerbaijan

The Pomegranate Producers and Exporters Association of Azerbaijan was registered with the Ministry of Justice in 2016, and comprises more than 20 labourers, farmers and entrepreneurs. It aims to serve farmers interested in pomegranate cultivation and support promotion of the 'Made in Azerbaijan' pomegranate brand abroad. The association helps supply Azerbaijan's pomegranates to local and international markets, assists in the application of advanced technologies in production, helps supply high-quality raw materials, and raises awareness about and experience of production and processing.

Azerbaijan Wine Producers and Exporters Association (AWPEA)

AWPEA was registered with the Ministry of Justice in 2016. Its first meeting was held on 6 April 2017, with the participation of the heads of enterprises engaged in the production and export of ethyl (food) spirits and alcoholic beverages (wine, brandy, vodka, liqueurs, spirits, cognac, etc.) in Azerbaijan. By taking advantage of international experience, AWPEA aims to hold wide-ranging and regular discussions with relevant authorities and organizations to solve problems faced by producers and exporters. It also aims to take the necessary measures to eliminate technical, technological and marketing problems, and promote local products at the international level.

'Made in Azerbaijan'

On 5 October 2016, the President of Azerbaijan signed a decree on large-scale promotion of local non-oil products in foreign markets as 'Made in Azerbaijan'. The decree contains 10 support mechanisms to stimulate exports and promote the 'Made in Azerbaijan' brand abroad. Depending on the support mechanisms, the costs relating to their realization are fully or partially covered by the state budget. Every exporter engaged in exporting local non-oil products has the right to apply for this support.

Promotion of 'Made in Azerbaijan' by state-owned legal entities is organized with the purpose of large-scale introduction and representation of local non-oil products in foreign countries using a single name. Such promotion is carried out by the representations and branches of these entities located in foreign countries. The list of the entities is determined by the Ministry of Economy.

Republic of Azerbaijan Chamber of Commerce and Industry

The Republic of Azerbaijan Chamber of Commerce and Industry is an independent, non-governmental, non-profit public organization established in 1922 with the intention to develop the interests of local companies and businesses in Azerbaijan. Members are international and local operating companies, including lawyers, property developers, tourism companies, airlines, manufacturing companies, import and export businesses, banks, finance companies, legal advisers, information technology and electronics manufacturers.

The chamber's main activities are related to:

- Organizing international exhibitions and fairs
- Information and consulting services
- Advertising services
- Arbitration court of the chamber
- Patent services
- Translation from/into foreign languages
- Holding of trade and economic missions
- Certification of foreign documents

Training, consulting and advisory services

Several private companies provide training, consultancy and advisory services to existing and potential small and medium-sized companies. The Training Centre–Management Systems and Personnel Certification Division under AZSTAND is the only governmental entity that provides appropriate training on international standards for:

- ISO 9001:2015 – Quality management systems – requirements
- ISO/IEC 17025:2017 – General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories
- ISO 14001:2015 – Environmental management systems – requirements with guidance for use;
- ISO/IEC 27001:2013 – Information technology – security techniques; Information security management systems – requirements
- ISO/IEC 17065:2012 – Conformity assessment – requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services
- ISO 22000:2018 – Food safety management system
- ISO 45001:2018 – Occupational health and safety management systems

The centre issues training certificates that are registered from the Chartered Quality Institute/International Register of Certified Auditors. The Training Centre is certified by AZAK for ISO 17024 Conformity assessment – General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons.

Information on standards, technical regulations, and sanitary and phytosanitary measures

WTO enquiry point for technical barriers to trade

Azerbaijan is an observer country of WTO and AZSTAND is the national enquiry point for technical barriers to trade. The Working Party on Azerbaijan was established on 16 July 1997. FSA has been the sanitary and phytosanitary enquiry point since 2018.

To accelerate the process of WTO membership, the Commission on preparation of Azerbaijan's accession to WTO was established on the basis of Order 175s of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 22 August 2003. The Cabinet of Ministers approved the new members of the Commission through Order 187s on 9 March 2017.

The objectives of the Government of Azerbaijan are as follows:

- Provision of assistance and support to developing countries (animal and plant health standards, technical standards, telecommunications);
- Setting the limit of subsidization (de minimis) in agriculture at the level of 10% determined for developing countries (5% for developed countries);
- Recognition of the importance of the special needs of developing countries in the process of preparation and implementation of technical regulations, standards, quality assessment procedures and sanitary and phytosanitary measures in accordance with WTO technical barriers to trade and sanitary and phytosanitary agreements;
- Technical support to developing countries defined in WTO agreements on sanitary and phytosanitary measures and technical barriers to trade, the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and other agreements, etc.

Chapter 5

Major developments and technical assistance programmes on quality and sanitary and phytosanitary measures

State programmes

Food Safety in Azerbaijan programme	
Purpose	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Harmonizing norms and standards in the field of food safety with international requirements; 2. Improving the population's safe and quality food supply, thereby significantly reducing the risk of foodborne illnesses; 3. Taking appropriate measures to increase food security and quality to increase competitiveness and export potential; 4. Enhancing control measures for agrochemicals, plant protection products and veterinary preparations used in agriculture, and conducting awareness-raising activities; 5. Providing animal and plant health in the country in line with advanced international practice; 6. Supporting the formation of a favourable and healthy business environment for businesses in the food industry.
Tasks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improving the national regulatory framework for food safety; 2. Improving infrastructure; 3. Strengthening scientific support and human resources in the field of food safety; 4. Forming a risk analysis system based on scientific evidence and meeting international requirements in the field of food safety; 5. Establishing a registration, approval and certification system meeting international standards and applying a single window principle; 6. Establishing a system that meets effective and international standards for animal and plant health control.
Duration	2019–2025
Legal basis	Approved by Order 1143 of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, dated 29 April 2019
Financial sources	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State budget 2. Extrabudgetary funds 3. Domestic and foreign investments 4. Financial resources of international organizations 5. Other sources not prohibited by law

Strategic Road Map for the National Economy and Key Sectors of the Economy of Azerbaijan programme	
Purpose	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensuring the economy's competitiveness, inclusion and increased social welfare based on sustainable economic development; 2. Mobilizing investments to meet global challenges; 3. Creating an environment that fosters free competition; 4. Improving market access and human capital development to strengthen Azerbaijan's position in the global economy.
Tasks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthening fiscal sustainability and adopting a sustainable monetary policy; 2. Implementing reforms related to privatization and state-owned enterprises; 3. Developing human capital; 4. Developing a favourable business environment.
Duration	Covers short-, medium- and long-term horizons. It comprises an economic development concept and action plan for 2016–2020, a long-term outlook to 2025 and a target outlook for the period after 2025.

Legal basis	Approved by Decree 1138 of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, dated 6 December 2016. The Strategic Road Map covers national economic perspectives and, together with strategic road maps on 11 economic sectors, comprises 12 documents.
Financial sources	<p>It is anticipated that investment of \$16 billion (27 billion AZN) will be required to achieve defined strategic targets. Implementation of the measures envisaged in the Strategic Road Map will be financed from the following sources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State budget 2. Extrabudgetary funds 3. National Fund for Entrepreneurship Support 4. Local budgets 5. Funds of local authorities, enterprises and organizations irrespective of the form of ownership 6. Direct foreign investment 7. The country's banking system loans and grants 8. Loans, technical and financial assistance from international organizations and foreign governments 9. Other sources not prohibited by law

Viticulture Development for 2012–2020 programme	
Purpose	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Providing the population with a better supply of fresh and quality grapes and grape products; 2. Improving the raw material supply of wine and grape processing facilities; 3. Stimulating the development of viticulture in the country to increase the export of wine and grape products.
Tasks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expanding planting areas of table and technical grape varieties (including raisins), laying new vineyards; 2. Supporting the creation of seedlings; 3. Supporting the production of essential and auxiliary materials for viticulture; 4. Improving viticulture infrastructure; 5. Strengthening scientific support to and the staffing capacity of viticulture and winemaking; 6. Promoting the application of innovative technologies in the production and processing of grapes; 7. Restoring grape and wine processing enterprises and stimulating creation of new enterprises; 8. Stimulating grape harvesting through a scheme for vineyards to sell grapes and grape products directly to consumers; 9. Supporting the construction of warehousing networks and storage cells to ensure longer shelf life; 10. Stimulating exports of grape and wine products; 11. Supporting the development of grape and wine-making products.
Duration	2012–2020
Legal basis	Order of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan 'on Approval of the State Programme on the Development of Vine-Growing in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2012–2020'
Financial sources	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State budget 2. Extrabudgetary funds 3. National Fund for Entrepreneurship Support, Azerbaijan Investment Company OJSC, Agrarian Credit and Development Agency under the Ministry of Agriculture 4. Domestic and foreign private direct investment

Development of Industry 2015–2020 programme	
Purpose	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expanding support to industrial production; 2. Strengthening the potential of traditional production fields; 3. Supporting inclusion of available natural and economic resources in economic turnover; 4. Improving the infrastructure basis of industry; 5. Stimulating attraction of local and foreign investment into non-oil industries; 6. Carrying out activities aimed at advanced technology transfer and assimilation; 7. Promoting modern management and corporate management principles among industrial enterprises; 8. Promoting standardization and certification of industrial enterprises; 9. Supporting the branding, marketing and advertising activities of industrial enterprises; 10. Creating healthy and safe jobs at industrial enterprises; 11. Building production chains up to production of end products with participation of the private sector; 12. Supporting establishment of new industrial fields; 13. Strengthening the industrial capacity of the country's regions; 14. Establishing new regional development centres, special economic zones, production clusters and industrial enterprises in priority fields based on local raw materials and considering the competitive advantages of each area and economic region; 15. Establishing industrial and technology parks and industrial sites (estates); 16. Strengthening cooperation between the state and private sector for the purpose of developing non-oil exports; 17. Supporting creation of enterprises with energy-saving, low-waste or wasteless technologies, effectively using natural resources, and protecting the environment with the goal of neutralization and recycling of waste; 18. Strengthening government support to innovation activity; 19. Stimulating application of innovative technologies at industrial enterprises.
Tasks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increasing industry competitiveness and capacity-building; 2. Providing support for industrial enterprises; 3. Constructing industrial zones and clusters; 4. Strengthening the human resources and scientific potential of industry; 5. Improving legislation.
Duration	2015–2020
Legal basis	Approved by Decree 964 of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, dated 26 December 2014
Financial sources	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State budget 2. Extrabudgetary funds 3. National Fund for Entrepreneurship Support 4. Azerbaijan Investment Company OJSC 5. Local budgets 6. Local private and foreign direct investment 7. Loans and grants 8. Financial and technical assistance from international and foreign organizations 9. Other sources not prohibited by law

Development of Citrus Fruit Growing for 2018–2025 programme	
Purpose	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stimulating the development of citrus fruits to meet the demand for citrus fruits in the country; 2. Increasing exports of produced products; 3. Increasing employment level and financial well-being of the rural population.
Tasks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implementing institutional measures for the development of citrus fruits; 2. Improving standards in the citrus industry and adapting to international requirements; 3. Strengthening scientific support and staffing potential in the field of citrus fruits; 4. Improving the infrastructure for citrus fruits; 5. Supporting the application of innovative technologies in the field of citrus fruits; 6. Promoting local and foreign investment in citrus fruits; 7. Increasing import substitution for citrus fruits; 8. Supporting and promoting exports of citrus fruit products; 9. Promoting small-scale family farming and smallholder farms based on volunteerism in the field of citrus fruits.
Duration	2018–2025
Legal basis	Order 3668 of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, dated 13 February 2018
Financial sources	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State budget 2. Extrabudgetary funds 3. National Fund for Entrepreneurship Support 4. Azerbaijan Investment Company OJSC 5. Agrarian Credit and Development Agency 6. Domestic and foreign investment 7. Other sources not prohibited by law

Development of Tea Industry for 2018–2027 programme	
Purpose	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stimulating the development of tea in the country, mainly due to domestic demand for dry tea; 2. Improving the raw material supply of tea processing enterprises; 3. Improving the processing industry; 4. Increasing exports of tea products; 5. Raising the rural employment level.
Tasks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expanding tea plantations and increasing tea production through intensive cultivation technologies; 2. Supporting the creation of seed and fertilizer farms and strengthening the material and technical base; 3. Improving basic and auxiliary materials and other infrastructure for tea-growing farms; 4. Improving the provision of modern techniques of cultivation in tea-growing areas; 5. Promoting existing tea processing facilities, and modernizing and promoting new tea processing facilities based on advanced technology; 6. Increasing import substitution of tea products.
Duration	2018–2027
Legal basis	Order 3660 of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, dated 12 February 2018
Financial sources	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State budget 2. Extrabudgetary funds 3. National Fund for Entrepreneurship Support 4. Azerbaijan Investment Company OJSC 5. Agrarian Credit and Development Agency 6. Domestic and foreign investment 7. Other sources not prohibited by law

A State Programme on food security for 2019–2025 is being developed. It will implement state control over food security, veterinary and phytosanitary matters in Azerbaijan for seven years. Under this programme, the Republic of Azerbaijan will determine a Strategic Road Map for Food Safety.

Strengthening the National Accreditation System of the Republic of Azerbaijan – Twinning Project AZ/13/ENI/TR/02/16 (AZ/46)	
Purpose	Strengthening the capacity of AZAK in line with the requirements of International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation, the International Accreditation Forum and EA
Duration	1 July 2017 to 1 July 2019
Implementer	A consortium comprising the German accreditation agency DAkkS, the Italian accreditation body Accredia and the Latvian National Accreditation Bureau
Budget	\$1.2 million (€1,000,000)
Expectations	The project aims to ensure access to the world market through an accreditation system that meets the economic development needs of Azerbaijan and the requirements of Europe. The project will boost the quality of products and services in Azerbaijan and enable them to compete in the European market.

Single window system

A single window system was developed based on a Presidential Decree issued on 30 April 2007. This system allows registration of business entities. Based on this principle, an e-government portal was created and the system implemented starting in 2009.

Appendices

Appendix I Contact details of relevant organizations in Azerbaijan

Organization category	Organization	Membership/services
National standards body	<p>Name: AZSTAND Address: Elchin Isagzadeh 7, AZ1029 Baku Phone number: +99412 514 9308 Email: office@azstand.gov.az Website: http://www.azstand.gov.az</p>	<p>Membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Member of ISO • Participant in the IEC Affiliate Country Programme • Correspondent member of the European Committee for Standardization <p>Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation, adoption and abolition of standards • Management of the State Standards Fund • Coordinating the activities of technical committees • Encouraging standardization and conformity assessment activities • Product certification • Management system certification • Training on ISO standards • Testing services for non-food products
Technical barrier to trade national enquiry point	<p>Name: AZSTAND Address: Elchin Isagzadeh 7, AZ1029 Baku Phone number: +99412 514 9308 Email: office@azstand.gov.az Website: http://www.azstand.gov.az</p>	<p>Serves as a referral service focal point for trade information and information about standards, standards-related documentation, technical regulations/rules, and conformity assessment procedures</p>
Conformity assessment	<p>Name: DNV GL AS Address: 507-511 Ismayil bey Qutqashinli str. Altes Plaza, Building A, 3rd Floor, AZ1073 Baku Phone number: +99412 447 4340 Email: baku@dnvgl.com Website: www.dnvgl.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management system certification • Inspection
	<p>Name: DQS Azerbaijan LLC Address: B. Nuriyev Street 79, Apartment 32 AZ1119 Baku Phone number: +99450 357 4178 Email: office@dqs.az Website: www.dqs-az.com</p>	<p>Management system certification</p>
	<p>Name: SGS Azeri Ltd Address: 3001, Tbilisi Prospect, Moscow Avenue, AZ1102 Baku Phone number: +99412 430 3380 Email: sgs.azeri@sgs.com Website: www.sgs.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management system certification • Product certification • Inspection • Training
	<p>Name: Bureau Veritas Azeri LLC Address: Bayil Plaza, 29 Neftchi Gurban Abbasov Street, AZ1003 Phone number: +99412 310 0052 Email: office@bureauveritas.com.az Website: bureauveritas.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management system certification • Training
	<p>Name: Intertek Azeri Ltd LLC Address: Block 2236, Mirza Davud Street, AZ 1026 Phone number: +99412 448 0627 Email: cb-baku@intertek.com Website: intertek.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management system certification • Inspection • Training

Organization category	Organization	Membership/services
National Metrology Institute, National Weights and Measures Organization	<p>Name: AzMI Address: Baku City, Elchin Isagzadeh 7, AZ1029 Phone number: +99412 514 9605 Email: office@metrology.gov.az Website: www.metrology.gov.az</p>	<p>Membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Conference on Weights and Measures • International Organization of Legal Metrology • COOMET • Euro-Asian Council for Standardization, Metrology and Certification • Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries <p>Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metrological examination • Metrological supervision • Attestation of measurement methods • Conformity of the type of measurement instruments • National standards laboratories • Measuring and calibration laboratories • Legal metrology
National accreditation body	<p>Name: AZAK Address: Baku City, Nasimi District, Basti Baghirova Street 12 Phone number: +99412 436 7523 Email: azak@accreditation.gov.az Website: www.accreditation.gov.az</p>	<p>Membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Associate Member of International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation • Associate Member of EA <p>Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accreditation of testing laboratories, inspection bodies, products (services, processes), management systems, personnel certification bodies and reference material producers • Training on awareness of accreditation, certification and ISO standards
National Food Safety Authority	<p>Name: Azerbaijan FSA Address: Baku City, Haydar Aliyev Avenue 152, AZ1029 Phone number: +99412 377 0077 (hotline 1003) Email: info@afsa.gov.az Website: www.afsa.gov.az</p>	<p>Membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Codex Point of Codex Alimentarius • World Organization for Animal Health • Focal point for the International Plant Protection Convention <p>Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal regulation of food safety standards • State registration of entities dealing with food security • Issuing food safety, SPS and veterinary certificates • Surveillance of food security at all stages of the food chain
SPS Enquiry point	<p>Name: Azerbaijan Food Safety Institute Address: Baku City, Suleyman Sani Akhundov 73 C Phone number: +99412 377 0077 Email: info@afsa.gov.az Website: www.afsa.gov.az</p>	<p>Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific processes on food safety • Research activities • Testing • Conducting training, seminars and workshops • Consultation
Veterinary and phytosanitary services	<p>Name: AAS Address: Baku City, Najaf Narimanov Street 7A Phone number: +99412 562 8693 Email: info@axa.gov.az Website: www.axa.gov.az</p>	<p>Phytosanitary services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying phytosanitary quarantine regimes • Fumigation measures • Quarantine inspection • Laboratory expertise • Toxicological analysis <p>Veterinary services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arranges the work of breeding • Protection and treatment of all kinds of animals • Diagnostic processes • Diagnostic sampling and animal checkpoints

Organization category	Organization	Membership/services
Food testing laboratories	Name: Testing Laboratory of Gilan Gabala Canning Factory Address: Gabala City, E. Kerimov Street 34 Phone number: +99412 511 6716 Email: mail@qebele-ih.gov.az	Non-alcoholic beverages, fruit juices and chips
	Name: Production Testing Laboratory of Baku Wine-2 OJSC Address: Baku City, Narimanov district, A. Hajiyev Street 4 Phone number: +99412 514 0062	Alcoholic beverages
	Name: Production Testing Laboratory of Hajigabul Poultry Company LLC Address: Aghqanli Village, Hajigabul District Phone number: +99412 505 5000 Email: jmammadov@garantagro.az	Poultry and egg testing
	Name: SGS Azeri Ltd Testing Laboratory of Grain Products Address: Baku City, Moscow Avenue 3001 Phone number: +99412 430 3380 Email: sgs.azeri@sgs.com	Grain products
	Name: Chemical–Microbiology Laboratory of Camal Ltd Address: Baku City, Sulu-Tepe Settlement, R. Allahverdiyev Street 4/21 Phone number: +99412 310 1040 Email: iceland@iceland.az	Meat and dairy products testing
	Name: Testing Laboratory of Az-Granata LLC Address: Aghsu City, Pirhasanli Village Production Testing Laboratory of Baku Champagne Wines OJSC Baku City, M. Narimanov Street, 2058 District Phone number: +99412 465 4787 Email: info@azgranata.az	Testing of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages
	Name: Testing Laboratory of the enterprise owned by Rustamov Sahib Bahram Oglu Address: Tovuz district, Alibeyli Village	Alcoholic beverages and water testing
	Name: Testing Laboratory of Crystall Plus closed joint-stock company Address: Baku City, Binagadi District, Nakhchivani Street 55 Phone number: +99412 447 1077 Email: office@kristallplus.az	Alcoholic beverages
	Name: Testing Laboratory of Coca-Cola Bottlers Ltd Address: Baku City, Binagadi District, Sulutapa Village Phone number: +99412 346 1800 Email: office@cci.com.az	Non-alcoholic beverages
	Name: Testing Laboratory of BEST Private Firm Address: Baku City, Sabunchu Settlement, I. Aslanov street 10	Alcoholic beverages
	Name: Sabail District Hygiene and Epidemiology Centre Sanitary–Hygiene and Bacteriological Laboratory Address: Baku City, S. Vurghun Street 8 Phone number: +99412 493 6943	Non-alcoholic still and sparkling drinks, mineral water, drinking water testing
	Name: Testing Laboratory of Corn Processing Company LLC Address: Oguz City, A. Asgarov Street 4 Phone number: +99412 505 7600 Email: info@cpccom.az	Corn starch, glucose and fructose syrup
	Name: Ministry of Health Test Laboratory of Republican Sanitary-Quarantine Inspection Address: Baku City, Zergerpalan Street, 121 Phone number: +99412 441 2603	Food and non-food products testing
	Name: State Customs Committee Testing Laboratory of Central Customs Examination Department Address: Baku City, Salyan Highway 14 th km, Silk Road Terminal Phone number: +99412 404 2200 Email: international@customs.gov.az	Food products

Organization category	Organization	Membership/services
	Name: Testing Laboratory of Azdelikates Alfa LLC Address: Khirdalan City, 16 th km of Shamakhi Highway	Snails and wild fungi
	Name: Testing Laboratory of Ovchular Meat and Meat Products LLC Address: Baku City, Nizami District, Babek Avenue 40 Phone number: +99412 511 5120 Email: info@aquachem.az	Meat and sausage products
	Name: Azerbaijan Sugar Production Association LLC Production Testing Laboratory Address: Imishli City, S. Fataliyev Street 45	Testing of sugar
	Name: AZSTAND Testing Laboratory of Food and Agricultural Products, Salyan Address: Salyan City, Boyukaga Talibli Street 9c Phone number: +99450 233 6335 Email: office@azstand.gov.az	Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, food and agricultural products
	Name: Testing Laboratory of Azeri Ltd Address: Baku, Khatai district 12 th	Alcoholic beverages
	Name: Testing Laboratory of European Tobacco Baku OJSC Address: Baku, Nizami District, Keshle Settlement, 1 st Kondelen Street 21	Physical-mechanical tests of fermented tobacco and cigarettes
	Name: Production Testing Laboratory of the enterprise belonging to Tahirov Malik Agashirin Ogly Address: Baku, Khatai District, Ahmadli Highway 2245	Determination of quality indicators of meat and sausage products
	Name: Food Testing Laboratory of Ganja-Gazakh Regional Division of Consumer Goods Expertise Centre LLC Address: Ganja City, Kapaz District, M. Khalafov Street 18 Phone number: +99422 265 0320	Physical-chemical and microbiological testing of food products
	Name: Food Testing Laboratory of Shaki-Zaqatala Regional Division of Consumer Goods Expertise Centre LLC Address: Shaki City, A. Mammadov 43 Phone number: +99424 244 3852	Physical-chemical testing of food products
	Name: Testing Laboratory of Jalilabad Wine-2 OJSC Address: Jalilabad District, Garazanjir Village Phone number: +99412 510 4024 Email: callilabadsharab2@mail.ru	Physical and chemical tests of alcoholic beverages, drinking water and grape juice
	Name: Orkhan-SS Production Commercial Company Production Testing Laboratory Address: Baku City, Suleyman Ahmadov Street, 2B Phone number: +99412 424 6169	Testing of meat and sausage products
	Name: Water and Food Testing Laboratory of Intertek Azeri Ltd Address: Baku, M. Davud Street, 2236 Phone number: +99412 488 6424 Email: cb-baku@intertek.com	Drinking water, industrial waters, wastewater and food products testing
	Name: Testing Laboratory of Gilazi Poultry Company Ltd Address: Baku City, Absheron District, Sumgayit Highway 7 th km, Absheron Youth Centre 59, apartment 31	Serological and microbiological tests of the flesh of birds, blood and eggs
	Name: Testing Laboratory of Shamkir Agropark Ltd Address: Shamkir Region, Ganja-Shamkir Highway, 12 th km Phone number: +99455 215 5135 Email: ruslan.rustamov@shamkiragropark.az	Physical, chemical and microbiological tests of water, soil and fruits and vegetables
	Name: Production Testing Laboratory of Shirvan Wines LLC Address: Shamakhi District, Meyseri Village Phone number: +99412 565 0040 Email: info@shirvanwines.az	Wine and wine materials testing

Organization category	Organization	Membership/services
	Name: Analytical Testing Laboratory of Ganja Wine-2 OJSC Address: Ganja City, Kenar Street 3 Phone number: +99422 265 0400	Testing of physical and chemical properties of alcoholic beverages
	Name: Araz Imishlinsky Factory of Canned Juices and Cognac LLC Production Testing Laboratory Address: Imishli City, Sheikh Khiyabani Street 1 Phone number: +99421 246 6046 Email: arazsok@rambler.ru	Physical-chemical testing of food products
	Name: Central Laboratory of Agrochemical Azerbaijan LLC Address: Sumgayit City, Sumgayit Chemical Industrial Park, Samad Vurgun Street, 1183	Plant protection products (pesticides) testing
	Name: Testing Laboratory of Carlsberg Azerbaijan LLC Address: Absheron District, Khirdalan City, Baku Shamakhi Highway 1 Phone number: +99412 342 0900 Email: reception@carlsberg.az	Physical-chemical and microbiological testing of beer and drinking water
	Name: Laboratory of Agro-complex Address: Baku City, Hovsan SSR, ZykH Highway	Physical and chemical, toxicological and microbiological tests of food and non-food products
	Name: Testing Laboratory of Ismayilli Wine-1 OJSC Address: Ismayilli District, Kurdmashi Village Phone number: +99451 700 3222	Testing of rectified ethyl alcohol and 95% drinking ethyl alcohol, cognac spirits and vodka
	Name: Testing Laboratory of Aznar closed joint-stock company Address: Goychay City, Natavan Street, 12 Phone number: +99420 274 3503 Email: Aznar-factory@aznar.az	Natural fruit and berry juices, condensed fruit and berry juices, fruit and berry compotes, pomegranate butter
	Name: Production Testing Laboratory of Sahliyali Address: Khirdalan City, Qushchuluq Settlement 18 th Phone number: +99412 448 1958 Email: info@sahliyali.com	Physical-chemical and microbiological testing of food products
	Name: Production Testing Laboratory of the Goygol Wine Factory OJSC Address: Goygol City, H. Aliyev Avenue, 2 Phone number: +994 12 404 14 18 Email: info@xan.az	Physical chemistry and microbiological testing of alcoholic beverages, still and sparkling drinks
	Name: Veterinary-sanitary Control Laboratory of Al-Sana LLC Address: Baku City, Nizami District, Keshle Settlement, Sabir Street, 8a Phone number: +99412 514 6943 Email: info@payim.az	Physical, chemical and microbiological tests of meat, sausages and drinking water
	Name: Production Testing Laboratory of Palfood LLC Address: Lankaran City, Baku-Astara Highway Phone number: +99425 254 0922 Email: info@nursud.az	Physical, chemical and microbiological testing of milk and dairy products
	Name: Aspi Agro LLC Production Testing Laboratory Address: Gabala City, Z. Aliyeva Street, 10 Phone number: +99412 595 1130 Email: office@aspiwinery.az	Physical and chemical testing of alcoholic beverages
	Name: Testing Laboratory of Azeri Company Address: Baku City, Nizami District, O. Valiyev Street, 2360	Beer and drinking water testing
	Name: Production Testing Laboratory of Hakan Foods Azerbaijan Trading Co. Ltd Address: Baku City, Babek Avenue 53 Phone number: +99412 498 9882 Email: office@hakanfoods.az	Meat, sausage products and drinking water test
	Name: Bilasuvar Agro LLC Production Testing Laboratory Address: Bilasuvar City, H. Aliyev Avenue 1 Phone number: +99412 448 1601 Email: info@saba.az	Milk, dairy products and drinking water testing

Organization category	Organization	Membership/services
	Name: Food Safety Institute, Branch 1 of the National Reference Laboratory Address: Baku City, Narimanov District, E. Isagzade Settlement, 7 th corner Phone number: +99412 377 0077 Email: info@afsa.gov.az	Physical, chemical, microbiological and toxicological testing of food products
	Name: Production Testing Laboratory of TAC LLC Address: Baku City, Sulutepe Settlement, Shamakhi Highway, 5 Phone number: +99412 447 2991 Email: office@tajbev.com	Drinking water and non-alcoholic beverages testing
	Name: Testing Laboratory of Biyan Products LLC Address: Aghdash District, Shikhli Village Phone number: +99450 290 0127	Liquorice root, concentrated liquorice extract, plant-based syrups and drinking water testing
	Name: Testing Laboratory of GP Stock Feed LLC Address: Aghdash District, Laki Settlement, Binalar Village Phone number: +99412 310 3030 Email: info@gilanholding.com	Cereal plants, vegetable oils, mixed feeds for livestock and poultry, and drinking water testing
Trade promotion organization	Name: AZPROMO Address: Baku City, Baku Business Centre, Neftchilar Avenue 32, AZ1000 Phone number: +99412 598 0147 Email: office@azpromo.az Website: www.azpromo.az	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information supply • Matchmaking and networking • Mediation between the public and private sectors • Market browsing • Research and analysis • National and international customs duties • Logistics and transport • Certification • Organizational support • Training, seminars • Exhibition and fairs • Product promotion • Distributor detection for companies
Sector associations	Name: Azerbaijan Beekeepers Association Phone number: +99450 369 0859, +99455 369 0859, +99470 369 0859 Email: office@baa.az Website: www.baa.az	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting and developing beekeeping • Promoting Azerbaijan in international markets
	Name: AHPEA Phone number: +99450 273 1891 Email: info@afiia.az Website: www.afiia.az	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting and developing hazelnut production • Promoting Azerbaijan in international markets • Raising awareness of hazelnut production
	Name: Fruit and Vegetable Producers and Exporters Association of Azerbaijan Phone number: +99412 499 8545 Email: info@afiia.az Website: www.afiia.az	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinating the activities of entrepreneurs • Expanding cooperation • Helping increase production of fruits and vegetables
	Name: Azerbaijan Pomegranate Producers and Exporters Association Address: Baku City, Narimanov Avenue 205 Phone number: +99412 510 2929 Email: info@pomegranate.az Website: www.pomegranate.az	Supporting promotion of pomegranates in the world
	Name: Azerbaijan Wine Producers and Exporters Association Phone number: +99412 347 8201 Email: ilham_idayatov@mail.ru	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote local products on an international scale • Solve problems faced by producers and exporters

Appendix II Key national legislation on standardization in Azerbaijan

Laws	On Standardization, 1587-VQ, 17 May 2019
	On Accreditation in the field of conformity assessment, 965-IVQ, 30 May 2014
	On Technical Regulation, 1669-VQ, 30 September 2019
Presidential decrees	On the approval of rules for recognition and application of international (regional) and interstate standards, norms, rules and recommendations in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan, 22 November 1998
	On the additional measures for management improvement in the spheres of standardization, metrology, accreditation and protection of patent law objects, 10 February 2017
	On the measures for management improvement in the sphere of consumer market surveillance, standardization, metrology and protection of intellectual property rights, 20 April 2018
Resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers	On the phased application of product certification (processes, services), 343, 1 July 1993
	On the rules of creation, maintenance and sale of the special State Register and catalogue of the current state standards of the Republic of Azerbaijan, other standardization documents, as well as international (regional), interstate standards, norms, rules and recommendations and national standards of foreign countries, 20 October 1997
	On the establishment of the state fund of official information on standards, technical specifications, field standards, as well as regulations on their application and normative documents on standardization, 28 March 1997
	On the approval of the procedure for the coordination of activities of state parties, as well as national bodies of other states, as well as other international organizations in the field of standardization and certification in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan, 8 July 2011
Legal documents (secondary legislation) under development according to the Law on Standardization	Rules of preparation, expertise, acceptance, entering into the State Register and State Standards Fund, amendments, and publication of normative documents in the field of standardization
	Rules for the establishment of and the implementation of changes in the National Standardization Programme
	Rules for the verification of normative documents in the field of standardization
	Rules for the form of conformity certificates, the use and delivery of a compliance mark
	Procedure for the organization, storage, actualization and protection of the State Fund for Standardization
	Rules for the establishment and the functioning of technical committees on standardization
	Rules for the application of international, regional, interstate and foreign states' standards in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Appendix III List of primary legislative acts regulating food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary matters in Azerbaijan

1. Law No. 102 'On Phytosanitary Control' adopted on 12 May 2006
2. Law No. 922 'On Veterinary' adopted on 31 May 2015
3. Law No. 759 'On Foodstuffs' adopted on 18 November 1999
4. Law No. 714-IVQ 'On regulation of the inspections which are carried out in the field of entrepreneurship and protection of the rights of entrepreneurs' adopted on 2 June 2013
5. Law No. 371 'On Sanitary-Epidemiological Safety' adopted on 10 November 1992
6. Law No. 60 'On Standardization' adopted on 16 April 1996
7. Law No. 360 'On Health Protection of Population' adopted on 26 June 1997
8. Law No. 526 'On protection of consumer rights' adopted on 4 March 1993
9. Law No. 176 'On licences and permissions' adopted on 25 March 2016
10. Law No. 208 'On viticulture and wine-making' adopted on 19 October 2001
11. Law No. 475 'On breastfeeding and infant food' adopted on 17 June 2003
12. Law No. 138 'On tobacco and tobacco products' adopted on 8 June 2001. The law regulates the production, trade, import, export and consumption of tobacco and tobacco products and establishes the legal basis for these activities
13. Law No. 257 'On seed-growing' adopted on 11 March 1997. The law defines the legal basis of seed production, procurement and use
14. Law No. 294 'On pesticides and agrochemicals' adopted on 6 May 1997
15. Law No. 1012 'On cotton growing' adopted on 11 May 2010
16. Law No. 273 'On conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources of cultivated plants' adopted on 13 December 2011
17. Law No. 402 'On tea growing' adopted on 17 December 2002
18. Law No. 457 'On fishery' adopted on 27 March 1998
19. Law No. 516 'On cattle breeding' adopted on 18 December 2007
20. Law No. 765 'On beekeeping' adopted on 2 February 2009
21. Law No. 898 'On grain' adopted on 16 May 2000
22. Presidential Decree 218 'On regulation of food products export from the Republic of Azerbaijan to EU Countries' adopted on 1 April 2005
23. Presidential Order 'On regulation of the activities on the slaughter of animals' adopted on 11 June 2018
24. Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers 231 'On Adoption of a Unified List of Goods Falling Under Veterinary, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Control' adopted on 17 June 2016
25. Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers 302 'On rules of issuance and form of food safety certificates for food products' adopted on 16 July 2018
26. Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers 303 'On rules of registration of food security of the subjects of the food industry and maintaining registration' adopted on 16 July 2018
27. Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers 94 'On rules of trade, public catering, household and other services in the Republic of Azerbaijan' adopted on 3 April 2014
28. Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers 154 'On rules of state control over observance of standards and requirements in the field of quality and safety of food products' adopted on 16 August 2015
29. Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers 263 'On rules for declaring goods and means of transport across the customs border' adopted on 22 July 2014
30. Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers 66 'On rules of organization of state veterinary control over imported products, including imported and exported goods, import and export of goods under the state veterinary control in the Republic of Azerbaijan' adopted on 21 April 2009
31. Law No. 926-IIIQD 'On Amendments and Changes to Certain Legislative Acts with regard to the application of 'Single Window' while Inspection of Goods and Transportation Facilities at the Checkpoints on the State Borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan' adopted on 4 December 2009

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