

MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND CIVIL SOCIETY
CONTROLS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
SUPPORTING CIVIL SOCIETY IN LIBYA

The Ministry of Culture and Civil Society is keen to spread and foster a culture of civil society in light of the political, social and cultural changes in the country since the eruption of the 17th of February Revolution. The Ministry is keen to allow foreign organizations to participate in programs related to developing civil society organizations, building their skills, and increasing their knowledge. To avoid any misunderstanding that may result from the activities of these [foreign] organizations in Libya, the Ministry has adopted a number of organizational rules that must be observed by these [foreign] organizations as long as they operate on Libyan territories.

Registration Procedures:

Any foreign organization wishing to support civil society in Libya shall register with the Foreign Organizations Registry at the Civil Society Support Center in Benghazi or Tripoli (hereinafter referred to as the "Center"). In order to register an organization, the following conditions shall be fulfilled:

1. The organization shall be duly registered under the laws of its country of origin.
2. A translation of its Articles of Association endorsed by the Libyan Embassy or Mission in the concerned country shall be presented.
3. A complete file containing information about its activities, areas of work, biographical information about its Chairman and members of its Board of Directors, its contact information, and its website shall be presented.
4. The organization shall submit an application stating the types of activities it desires to pursue in Libya, its plan of work and programs, and the time period required for completion of these programs.

5. The origin or the headquarters of the organization shall not be located in a country in a state of war with Libya or in a country boycotted by Libya.
6. The organization shall submit a proof of its financial and technical capacities to implement its planned activities in Libya and shall state the sources of these resources.
7. The organization shall undertake to implement its programs in cooperation with at least one national organization.
8. The organization shall submit a quarterly report to the Center about its activities in Libya.
9. The organization shall maintain records of accounts showing its revenues and expenditures following sound accounting principles.
10. The organization shall undertake not to provide any cash grants to local organizations. Any potential support [to local organizations] shall be restricted to specific projects according to the controls set out below.

Granting of Registration Certificates:

1. The Center shall grant a Registration Certificate for every foreign organization fulfilling the above conditions. The Certificate shall be valid for one year.
2. The Registration Certificate shall be granted within one month of the date of submitting a valid registration application.

Renewal of License:

The license of each organization must be renewed on an annual basis.

Exemption from Licensing:

The United Nations and its agencies and the International Committee of the Red Cross shall be exempted from registration requirements.

Cancellation of Registration:

The Center may cancel the registration of a foreign organization after conducting an investigation and making one of the following findings:

- That registration was obtained by fraud, forgery or submission of incorrect information.
- That the organization has violated Libyan law, the registration conditions, or the commitments of the organization; or in case of attempting to carry out activities that jeopardize national sovereignty or security or provoking discord among Libyans.
- The failure of the concerned organization, without acceptable justifications, to implement its plan of activities for one full year.

Any foreign organization whose registration is cancelled may appeal to the Minister of Culture and Civil Society within thirty days of the date of issuance of the cancellation resolution. If the Ministry does not reply to the appeal within one month or if the appeal is rejected, the organization may appeal the decision before a competent court.

Permitted Activities:

After completion of registration procedures, international organizations are allowed to practice the activities licensed to them upon registration. They shall have freedom of movement and may conduct meetings with local organizations and cooperate with them to provide training, technical advice, and implement joint activities and projects in line with the activities of the local organizations and to enhance the culture of civil society consistent with applicable laws.

Controls for Support:

1. The recipient national organization shall be registered with the Center.
2. The support program and budget shall be submitted to the Center.

3. The support program shall be advertised for three days in newspapers to be defined by the Center.

Date of Effectiveness:

These controls are effective as of June 1, 2010.

Ministry of Culture and Civil Society