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Federal Law No . (1) of 1972

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REGARDING MINISTRIES COMPETENCIES,
MINISTERS' POWERS AND **LAWs** AMENDING THERETO.

We, Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates

After perusal of Articles 47 (2), 54 (4), 58 and 110 (4) of the United Arab Emirates Provisional Constitution.

and according to approval by the **Federal** Cabinet and Ratification by Supreme Council resolved to promulgate the following **law**:

Chapter One

Ministries Powers

Article (1)

Each **Federal** Ministry shall exercise the jurisdiction conferred thereon by virtue of this **law** and other **Federal Laws** regulations and rules issued under the Constitution.

Article (2)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs jurisdiction shall be according to the **law** to be issued in respect thereof.

Article (3)

The Ministry of The Interior shall, in coordination and collaboration with the concerned authorities, carry out the following competencies:

1. Safeguard the Federation security against internal threats.
2. Set the general policy to fight the crime and supervise the implementation of such policy on the State level.
3. Create, organize and control the **Federal** Security Forces.
4. Coordinate and consolidate cooperation between police forces of the member Emirates in the Federation.
5. Supervise the allocation of funds provided in the Federation budget for internal security affairs, according to the urgent needs of some Emirates and in agreement with the authorities of the concerned Emirate.
6. Control the traffic in the **federal** roads considered as main roads by the Supreme Council.
7. Undertake all affairs pertaining to passports, immigration and residence and entry of foreigners.

8. Supervise the civil defence operations and take the protective procedures and necessary works to avoid the disasters and mitigate and remove the effects of such disasters.

9. Suggest the regulations related to the Ministry competencies.

10. Any other competencies entrusted to the Ministry by virtue of the **laws** and regulations and the Cabinet resolutions.

Article (4)

Ministry of Defense

Ministry of Defense shall be competent to:

- Organization of the **Federal** Armed Forces and supervise all that related thereto.
- Organize whatever pertinent to the military service general and partial mobilization with the aim to preserve the Federation Safety and Security in agreement with the U.A.E. concerned authorities.
- Coordinate co-operation between the **Federal** Armed Forces and individual Emirate Armed Forces to defend the country against any outside hostility according to Article 142 of the provisional constitution.
- Prepare draft **laws** for the import of arms and ammunitions which are not intended to be used by the Armed Forces or the security forces of each Emirate.
- Any other jurisdictions entrusted to the Ministry under another **law**.
- Construction, maintenance and refurbishment of buildings, utilities and roads of the Armed Forces

Article (5)

Ministry of Finance, Economy and Industry

Ministry of Finance, Economy and Industry shall be competent to:

- Prepare the Federation's general budget in cooperation with the other **Federal** Ministries, according to the **law**.
- Supervise over and control its implementation in terms of revenues and expenditures after enactment of the same.

* Added by **Law** No. (1) of 1994

* Amended by **Law** No. (1) of 1974

- Collect the public revenues of the Federation.
- Prepare drafts for the **Federal** financial **laws** and other **laws** related to **Federal laws** and supervise over the implementation thereof.
- Regulate **federal** accounting rules, issue necessary directions to that effect and control their implementation.
- Supervise the execution of financial obligations undertaken by the Federation.
- Organize and supervise the affairs pertaining to the Federation's purchases.
- Standardization and Industrial specifications.
- Administer the Federation's property matters and everything related thereto.
- Coordinate industrial development plans to ensure the Federation's desired industrial progress in agreement with the concerned Emirates.

- Implement the industrial development projects according to the general policy of the State.
- Lay down the rules organizing the financial affairs in the private sector .
- Prepare studies and researches regarding the development of the existing industries and establishment of new ones to achieve the best interests of the national economy.
- Prepare the studies and programs related to vocational training in various industrial activities and supervise implementation thereof.
- Other jurisdictions entrusted to the Ministry by virtue of another **law**.

Article (6)

Ministry of Justice

Ministry of Justice shall be competent to :

- Regulate and supervise the administrative and financial aspects of the **Federal** Courts Affairs.
- Drafting **laws** concerning **federal** judicial authorities, **federal** public prosecution and general amnesty in connection with judgments issued by the **Federal** Courts.
- Undertake studies, legal jurisprudence and all other legal matters required by the work needs in the various **Federal** Ministries, including drafting **laws**, bye - **laws** and regulations approved by such Ministries.
- Draft major legislations on real property, expropriation for public utility as well as penal **laws**, **laws** of civil and commercial transactions, companies and proceedings before civil and criminal courts and **laws** protecting literary, artistic and industrial property and authors rights as well as **laws** of extradition.

Article (7)

Ministry of Education

Ministry of Education shall be competent to:

- Perform all matters related to education and instruction in the Federation and supervise the means of promoting same in the best way.
- Provide and spread instruction to all nationals and make it compulsory in the elementary stage and free of charge in all the stages within the Federation.
- Draw up educational schemes and proper curricula, examination regulations and illiteracy eradication programs.
- Build and supervise schools and vocational, industrial agricultural and university institutions.
- Approve the establishment of schools, vocational, industrial, agricultural institutes and universities and supervise the same.
- Approve the establishment of private schools, control and guide the same.
- Delegate and supervise academic missions and grant scholarships.
- Other jurisdictions entrusted to the Ministry by virtue of another **law**.

Article (8)

The terms of reference of the Ministry of Health shall be determined as follows:

1. To set the medical and health policies and plans and monitors the implementation thereof.

2. To prepare and set the necessary mechanisms to coordinate among the different medical service providers in the State to ensure their integration and develop the provided medical services as well as supervising the implementation of such mechanisms.
3. To prepare the plans and policies related to the control of epidemics and disease in the State and supervise the implementation of such mechanisms.
4. To license the practice of the professions of medicine by persons and institutions in the State and control such practice in coordination with the related authorities.
5. To regulate, manage and supervise the **federal** medical insurance, control hereof with the related authorities and suggest the organizing regulations in the State.
6. To technically and administratively control all the medical establishments and pharmacies in the State in coordination with the related health authorities.
7. To set the necessary mechanisms to promote the medical and health studies and researches and transfer the medical technologies.
8. To suggest the health and medical regulations in the State, supervise their implementation and issue the necessary decisions in this regard.
9. To spread the health awareness in the State in collaboration with the related authorities.
10. To represent the State at the local, regional and international health organizations.
11. Any other competencies entrusted to the Ministry by virtue of the **laws** and regulations and the Cabinet resolutions.

Article (9)

Ministry of Public Works

Ministry of Public Works shall be competent to :

- Build, maintain and upgrade **federal** roads.
- Construct the Federation's buildings and public facilities except those belonging to the Armed Forces and supervise their maintenance.
- Construction of building and public utilities of the Federation with the exception of those related to the Armed Forces and supervise their maintenance
- Other jurisdictions entrusted to the Ministry by virtue of another **law**.

Article (10)

[Cancelled by Article 4 of **Federal law** (1) of 2006].

Article (11)

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs shall be competent to :

- Draft **federal laws** concerning:
 - a. Labour and workers.
 - b. Social security.
 - c. Control of unemployment and providing jobs for nationals.

d. Social services and family care.

e. Cooperative societies and encouragement of family savings.

- Provide technical and financial assistance to member Emirates to enable them implement the above legislations.

- Control the disbursement of funds allocated in the Federation's general budget for social affairs, according to the urgent need of some Emirates by agreement with the authorities of the concerned Emirate.

- Control foreign and international bodies and organizations which provide material or moral and work in or supervise social care and charity works, as well as supervising their registration, direct them and support their efforts to serve society.

- Other jurisdictions entrusted to the Ministry by virtue of another **law**.

Article (12)

Ministry of Information

Ministry of Information shall be competent to:

- Undertake all matters related to **federal** information including radio, television, press, printed material and **federal** bulletins.

- Coordinate the information policy between the Emirates in line with the Federation's general policy.

- Coordinate the close cooperation between member Emirates for prosperity and progress of tourism.

- Other jurisdictions entrusted to the Ministry by virtue of another **law**.

Article (13)

Ministry of Planning

Ministry of Planning shall be competent to:

- Draw up and supervise the execution of plans for projects to be carried out throughout the Federation.

- Direct the economic development through scientific planning and technical cooperation with specialized international organizations.

- Prepare economic studies and researches.

- Other jurisdictions entrusted to the Ministry by virtue of another **law**.

Article (14)

[Cancelled by Article 4 of **Federal Law** (1) of 2006].

Article (15)

Ministry of Youth and Sports

Ministry of Youth and Sports shall be competent to:

- Draw up the general policy on the care and guidance of youth to raise their standard and consolidate their patriotism.

- Propose plans, regulations and draft **laws** on youth care.

- Set up sports, social and cultural clubs, societies and associations and sports installations and encourage the youth to join therein.
- Organize the youth leisure times and lay down programs to achieve this goal.
- Enhance youth care activities in the Federation Emirates and provide them with the necessary financial assistance.
- Organize the participation in Arab and International Sports conferences and tournaments in agreement with the concerned authorities in the Emirates.
- All other jurisdictions entrusted to the Ministry by virtue of another **law** or regulation.

Article (16)

Ministry of Housing

Ministry of Housing shall be competent to :

- Study and prepare projects of town planning and housing of different kinds and levels.
- Design projects for construction of **federal** public buildings.
- Take the necessary measures pertaining to the maintenance of **federal** real property.
- Other jurisdictions entrusted to the Ministry by virtue of another **law** or regulation.

Article (17)

Ministry of Electricity

Ministry of Electricity shall be competent to:

- Propose the general plan for generation and distribution of electricity to be in line with the constructional development of the Country, the requirements of the economic development plans and provide for the needs of the people.
- Execute projects related to the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity for which credits are allocated by the Federation from its budget.
- Manage, operate and maintain power generation plants and transmit to the main grids for which funds are allocated by the Federation from its budget.
- Other jurisdictions entrusted to the Ministry by virtue of a **law** or regulation.

Article (18)

Each **federal** ministry shall prepare all the necessary draft **laws**, decrees, regulations and rules related to its affairs and present the same to the **Federal** Cabinet after being formulated by jurisprudence and legislations department.

Article (19)

Each of the **Federal** Ministries shall do whatever is required to handle any matters fall within its jurisdiction by contacting any State, Arab, foreign or international organization or agency and represent the Federation therewith and at all regional and international conferences provided that the same shall in co-ordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Article (20)

Each **Federal** Ministry shall exercise its jurisdictions according to the directions of the Cabinet and President of the Federation in accordance with the **federal laws** and general policy drawn up by the **Federal** Supreme Council.

Chapter Two

Powers of Ministers and Undersecretaries

Article (21)

Each **Federal** Minister shall exercise the following authority and powers within his Ministry:

- Propose the general policy of his ministry and supervise its implementation after approval.
- Control the work progress at his ministry and issue instructions necessary thereto.
- Implement the **federal** general budget within the credits allocated to his Ministry.
- Delegate certain powers to the Undersecretary, Directors General or senior staffs at his Ministry.
- Any other powers conferred thereon by the **Federal Laws**, rules, regulations and resolutions issued thereunder.

Article (22)

Each **federal** undersecretary with the Minister assistance shall assume the management of the Ministry departments and sections, run its affairs, implement the set policy, coordinate and organize the work among the departments reporting to him and shall be accountable for his activities to the Minister.

Article (23)

Federal ministers shall consult the competent authorities in the Emirates with respect of the powers and jurisdiction exercised by them when their exercising of such powers and jurisdiction has a direct relationship with a certain Emirate as regards the draft **laws** proposed by the **Federal** Ministries the concerned authorities in the Emirate shall be consulted before approving the same.

Article (24)

- The **Federal** competent authorities, under their control and agreement with the concerned authorities in the Emirate shall undertake the projects for which the Federation shall allocate funds from its revenues to spend thereon.
- However, the services and public utilities projects whether existing or to be established in future for which the Federation has not allocated funds from its revenues in the annual budget, each Emirate shall undertake the management of the same and cause to construct whatever deemed necessary through their respective executive authorities and from their own budgets.

Article (25)

The Cabinet shall issue the necessary resolutions for the approval of the organizational structure of each ministry .

Ministers each in his capacity shall enforce this **law** have the same published in the gazette and be enacted as of date of issue.

[Signed]

Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan

President of the United Arab Emirates

Issued at the Presidential Palace in Abu Dhabi

On Dhul Hajja 17, 1391 A.H.

Corresponding to February 2, 1972.