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**Decree No. (37) of 2000 ratifying the Convention to Establish a Joint Higher Committee for between State of Bahrain and the Syrian Arab Republic**

We, Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, Emir of the State of Bahrain.

Having reviewed the Constitution;

And the Convention to Establish a Joint Higher Committee for between State of Bahrain and the Syrian Arab Republic, signed in Manama on 22 Jumada al-Akhir 1421 A.H., corresponding to 20 September 2000;

And upon the submission of the Prime Minister,

And after the approval of the Council of Ministers,

**Hereby Decree the following:**

**Article One**

The Convention to Establish a Joint Higher Committee for between State of Bahrain and the Syrian Arab Republic, signed in Manama on 22 Jumada al-Akhir 1421 A.H., corresponding to 20 September 2000, attached to this Decree, has been ratified.

**Article Two**

The Prime Minister shall implement this Decree, and it shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

**Emir of the State of Bahrain**

**Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa**

Issued at Riffa Palace:

On: 20 Rajab 1421 A.H.

Corresponding to: 18 October 2000

**Convention to Establish a Joint Higher Committee for between State of Bahrain and the Syrian Arab Republic**

The Government of the State of Bahrain,

And the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic,

Based on their desire to support and deepen fraternal ties and develop bilateral relations between them in all areas of economic, commercial, investment, technical, and other cooperation,

In order to achieve the common goals between the two brotherly countries.

**Have agreed on the following:**

**Article One:**

A joint higher committee will be established called the “Bahraini-Syrian Joint Higher Committee for the Growth and Development of Economic, Commercial, and Investment Relations between the Two Countries” and in various other fields in a way that serves the interests of the two brotherly peoples.

**Article Two:**

The Higher Joint Committee shall be formed under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister of the State of Bahrain and the Prime Minister of the Syrian Arab Republic, or their representative, and with the membership of representatives of the sectors concerned with cooperation between the two countries.

**Article Three:**

The tasks of the Joint Higher Committee include the following:

1- Laying down the necessary foundations and rules for developing relations between the two countries in various economic, commercial, investment, industrial, agricultural, tourism, cultural, scientific, and artistic fields, and in the fields of information, technology, media, and others, and working to develop them.

2- Follow up on the implementation of the agreements concluded between the two countries and find appropriate solutions to the difficulties that may result from their implementation.

3- Enhancing the exchange of information and experiences, and organising bilateral consultations that serve various areas of cooperation between the two countries.

4- Determine the areas of work of the specialised committees that are agreed upon to be established.

**Article Four:**

The Joint Higher Committee holds an ordinary meeting once a year, alternating in each of the two countries, and it may hold extraordinary meetings with the approval of both parties.

**Article Five:**

1- A preparatory committee shall be established at the expert level to prepare the meetings of the Joint Higher Committee and its agenda, and its meetings shall be a direct precedent to the meetings of the Joint Higher Committee.

2- The Joint Higher Committee shall form, when necessary, subcommittees to carry out some of the tasks determined by the committee, provided that its recommendations are presented to the Joint Higher Committee for consideration and approval.

**Article Six:**

The decisions of the Joint Higher Committee are recorded in the minutes of a meeting signed by the Prime Ministers of the two countries or their representatives. The Joint Higher Committee supervises the follow-up of the implementation of these decisions in the manner it deems appropriate.

**Article Seven:**

This Convention will be amended in consultation between the two parties at the time they deem appropriate, and whenever new circumstances require it.

**Article Eight:**

This Convention shall enter into force provisionally from the date of its signature, and permanently from the date of mutual notification of the completion of the ratification procedures in accordance with the legal system followed in both countries, and shall remain in force for an indefinite period unless one of the Parties notifies the other Party, in writing, of its intention to terminate it at least six months before the date fixed for termination.

This Convention was drawn up and signed in Manama on 22 Jumada al-Akhir 1421 A.H., corresponding to 20 September 2000, in two original copies in the Arabic language.

**Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa**

**Dr. Muhammad Mustafa Mero**

**Prime Minister of the State of Bahrain Prime Minister of the Syrian Arab Republic**