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**Legislative Decree No. (15) 1986 regarding the Regulation of Tourism**

We, Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, Emir of the State of Bahrain.

Having reviewed the Constitution;

Emiri Order No. (4) of 1975;

Decree No. (1) of 1961 establishing the Commercial Register as amended by Legislative Decree No. (34) of 1976 and Legislative Decree No. (12) of 1987;

And the Emiri Decree No. (1) of 1985 establishing the Supreme Council of Tourism;

Upon the submission of the Minister of Information;

And after the approval of the Council of Ministers,

**Hereby Decree the following Law:**

**Chapter One**

**Regarding tourism service and tourism sites**

**Article -1-**

(a) The term tourism services in the application of the provisions of this law refers to the following:

- Hotels, inns, and resorts.

- Restaurants dedicated to tourism services.

- Furnished apartments for daily or weekly rent.

- Tourism, travel, and tourism transport offices and companies.

- Shops selling traditional local products.

- Tourist information and tour guides.

(b) Any other activity may be added to tourism services by the Minister of Information after approval by the Council of Ministers.

The term tourism sites, as used in applying the provisions of this Law, shall refer to the lands, waters, and buildings specified by a decision of the Minister of Information based on a proposal from the Supreme Council of Tourism and after approval by the Council of Ministers.

**Chapter Two**

**Regarding tourism licenses**

**Article -2-**

The practice of tourism service activities is not permitted without a license from the Ministry of Information.

The conditions and procedures for licensing and renewal shall be determined by a decision of the Minister of Information.

**Article -3-**

The Ministry of Information oversees tourism sites, and no tourism site may be utilized in any way without a license from the Minister of Information.

The Minister of Information shall, by a decision from him, regulate the granting of licenses, their conditions, and procedures.

**Article -4-**

The Minister of Information, based on a recommendation from the Director of the Tourism Directorate, may decide to suspend the operation of any tourism service license or refuse its renewal for a specified period not exceeding three months if it is proven that the service provider has violated their obligations towards their clients, tourists, or other providers of tourism services in a manner that harms the interests or reputation of the profession or engages in an act that jeopardizes the national tourism interest.

The license shall be revoked if any of the violations referred to in the preceding paragraph are repeated more than twice.

The suspension of the license or its refusal for a specific period or its revocation shall not preclude the imposition of penalties stipulated in this Law.

The Tourism Directorate shall have the right to notify the authorities competent in the field of tourism locally and internationally of the suspension of any tourism license or its refusal for renewal or its revocation.

**Article -5-**

The concerned party shall have the right to appeal before the High Civil Court against a decision to refuse the renewal of a license for any tourism service or the utilization of any tourism site.  They may also appeal a decision to suspend or revoke a license for any tourism service or the utilization of any tourism site.

The appeal mentioned shall be made within sixty days from the date of receipt of a registered letter notifying them of the decision to refuse the renewal of the license or the decision of suspension or revocation, or within sixty days from the date they become aware of the decision if they were not notified of it.

**Article -6-**

The lawsuits related to tourism shall be considered on an urgent basis by the competent court.

**Article -7-**

The Ministry of Information shall establish one or more committees as required by the tourism activity, by a decision of the Minister of Information, and they shall operate under the supervision of the Director of the Tourism Directorate.

The decision to establish the committee shall specify its work system, scope of authority, number of members, and membership duration. The committee shall include representatives from other ministries.

**Chapter Three**

**Regarding Penalties and Final Provisions**

**Article -8-**

Whoever violates Articles (2), (3), (4) of this Law or the implementing decisions of the provisions of these Articles shall be punished by imprisonment for a period not exceeding three months and a fine not exceeding five hundred dinars, or by one of these penalties, in addition to the possibility of ruling the closure or removal of the establishment.

**Article -9-**

Employees of the Tourism Directorate appointed by the Minister of Information shall have the authority to verify the implementation of the provisions of this Law or its implementing decisions. They shall have the right to access tourism establishments and issue reports for violators of the law's provisions and refer them to the public prosecution.

**Article -10-**

Those concerned in the field of tourism services shall adjust their status in accordance with the provisions of this Law within six months from the date of the entry into force of the governing regulations governing.

**Article -11-**

In addition to the decisions provided for in the preceding articles, the Minister of Information shall issue the necessary decisions in the following matters:

1. Classification of tourism services.

2. Determination of fees for granting licenses for tourism services and sites as well as their renewal fees.

3. Determination of prices and fees for tourism services.

The approval of the Council of Ministers is required for the decisions of the Minister of Information regarding the fees mentioned in Clause (2).

**Article -12-**

The Ministers - each within his jurisdiction - shall implement this Law and it shall come into force upon its publication in the Official Gazette.

**Emir of the State of Bahrain**

**Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa**

Issued at Riffa Palace

On 9 Dhu Al-Hijjah 1406 A.H.

Corresponding to 14 August 1986