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**Legislative Decree No. (21) of 1981 regarding the Approval of the Causeway Agreement between the Government of the State of Bahrain and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

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

Having reviewed the Constitution;

Emiri Order No. (4) of 1975;

And the Causeway Agreement between the Government of the State of Bahrain and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia signed on 8 July 1981;

Upon the submission of the Minister of Development and Industry,

And after the approval of the Council of Ministers,

**Hereby Decree the following Law:**

**Article One**

The Causeway Agreement between the Government of the State of Bahrain and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia signed in Manama on 7 Ramadan 1401 A.H. corresponding to 8 July 1981 attached to this Law, has been ratified.

**Article Two**

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: 1 Dhu Al-Hijjah 1401 A.H.

Corresponding to: 29 September 1981

**In the Name of God, the most Gracious and the most Merciful**

**Agreement Between:**

**Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

**Government of the State of Bahrain**

Desiring to strengthen the ties between their respective people, encourage social and economic connections and reaffirm the many shared factors that have united the people of the region throughout history in a common heritage and shared aspirations.

In line with the principle of cooperation between the two countries' populations within the framework of general regional cooperation, and recognizing that the construction of a maritime causeway connecting the territories of both countries is a practical application of their shared aspirations. The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, represented by His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed Aba Al Khail, Minister of Finance and National Economy. And the Government of the State of Bahrain, represented by His Excellency Mr. Yousif Ahmed Al Shirawi, the Minister of Development and Industry.

Have agreed as follows:

**First: Key Provisions:**

1- A maritime causeway shall be constructed, connecting the territories of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the State of Bahrain, according to the technical specifications that have been prepared for it, and using the selected method as specified therein.

2- A limited area of land and waters in each country shall be designated as the (Causeway Area) which shall be determined on-site and overseen by a legal independent entity established jointly by the governments of the two countries, named the (Saudi-Bahrain Causeway Authority).

3- The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia shall fund the construction of the causeway, and the causeway shall be considered as fixed assets owned by it.

4- Under normal circumstances, the government of each of the two countries shall assume responsibility for monitoring and protecting the portion of the causeway located within its territory and waters, in coordination with the Saudi-Bahrain Causeway Authority.

5- The two governments shall engage in consultations to establish the necessary security arrangements to be taken in exceptional circumstances to protect the causeway.

**Second: The General Causeway Institution:**

1- A public institution shall be established to manage, operate and maintain the causeway.

2- The headquarters of the institution shall be located in Dammam, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and it may hold some of its meetings in any other city within both countries.

3- The institution shall consist of a sufficient number of administrators and technicians required to manage the area, as well as a Board of Directors responsible for its affairs.

4- The governments of the two countries shall appoint the members of the institution, and the President of the Board of Directors shall be from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

5- The budget of the institution shall consist of revenue from tolls on the causeway and the commercial and tourist utilization of the area, as well as any measures agreed upon by the two governments to cover any deficit that may arise.

6- The authority shall be responsible for selecting the appropriate method of utilizing the area and determining the appropriate toll for crossing the causeway.

**Third: Services Area:**

1- An area called the (Services Area) shall be established between the two countries, with its location determined by mutual agreement in the causeway area.

2- Within the Services Area, government directorates for each country shall be established to implement the regulations related to security, health, customs and other necessary matters.

3- The specialized government directorates of both countries shall coordinate to implement their respective regulations and select the most suitable method to facilitate traffic between the two countries.

4- The competent government directorates of both countries shall coordinate and collaborate with the Causeway Institution to enable it to manage the area according to the appropriate approach for such a facility.

**Fourth: Final Provisions:**

1- If there arises a need to amend this agreement, the two governments shall take the necessary measures to prepare an annex to it.

2- In the event of a dispute regarding the implementation or interpretation of any of the provisions of this Agreement, the two governments shall engage in appropriate consultations to resolve the dispute. If a resolution cannot be reached, an Arbitral Tribunal consisting of three members shall be established. Each government shall select one member, who may be one of its nationals. The two selected members shall then choose a third member from a different country. The Arbitral Tribunal shall make a final decision on the dispute.

3- This agreement has been drawn up in the Arabic language in four original copies, with each government holding one copy and the third copy shall be deposited with the General Secretariat of the Arab League in accordance with Article Ten of the Charter of the League.  Additionally, the fourth copy shall be deposited with the Secretariat of the United Nations in application with paragraph (1) of Article (102) of its Charter.

4- Drawn up in the city of Manama in the State of Bahrain on the seventh day of the month of Ramadan, 1401 A.H., corresponding to the eighth day of July 1981 and it shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of instruments of ratification.

God is the Arbiter of success,,,

**On behalf of the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

**On behalf of the Government of the State of Bahrain**

**Minister of Finance and National Economy**

**Minister of Development and Industry**

**Mohammed Aba Al-Khail**

**Yousuf Ahmed Al-Shirawi**