



**Federal Law No. (23 ) of the year 1999 regarding  
the Exploitation, Protection and Development of the  
Living Aquatic Resources In the  
waters of the state of the United Arab Emirates**

We, Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates,  
After taking cognizance of the Constitution,

1. The federal Law No. (1) of 1972, regarding the ministries jurisdictions, and the powers of the ministers and the laws made in amendment thereof,
2. The federal law number ( 17) of the year 1972 concerning the nationality and passports and the laws made in amendment thereof,
3. The federal Law No. (13) of 1976 regarding cooperative societies,
4. The federal Law No. (6) of 1979, regarding the veterinary quarantine and the laws made in amendment thereof,
5. The federal Law No. (8) of 1980, as amended, regarding the regulation of labour relations and the laws made in amendment thereof,
6. The federal Law no (26) of 1981, as amended, regarding the marine commercial law and the laws made in amendment thereof,
7. The federal Law No (3) of 1987, in issuance of the Penal Law,
8. Federal Law No (35) of 1992, in issuance of Disciplinary Procedure Code,
9. Federal Law No (7) of 1993 for Establishing the Federal Environment Foundation,
10. Federal Law No (19) of the year 1993 regarding Demarcation of the Marine Zones of the state of the United Arab Emirates,

And On the basis of the submission by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the approval of the cabinet and federal National Council and ratification of the Supreme Federal Council of the federation:



Have issued the following Law:

**Article (1)**  
**Definitions**

In implementing the provisions of this law, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings assigned against each of them unless the context

requires otherwise: -

- The State: the state of the United Arab Emirates.
- The Ministry: the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.
- The Minister: the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.
- The Competent Authority: the competent authority in the concerned emirate.

The Committee: The Fishing regulation Committee in the concerned emirate.

The living Aquatic Wealth: All aquatic living plant, animal, micro, macro, migratory and habitant creatures or which visit these waters such as birds, turtles and other crustaceans and testacies livings .They also include livings which have been fossilized at a late stage of their age.

- Fishing: Extraction of the Aquatic Wealth from their natural habitat.
- The Fishing gear and Equipment: the gear and equipment used in fishing which include nets, traps (qraqueer), drawing lines and hooks etc.
- The Boat Crew: All persons working on the Fishing Boat.
- The Fisherman: Every one who practices the fishing trade.
- The Fishing Waters: The internal waters including islands, coasts creeks and state's coasts .  
regional waters and the waters of the state's whole Economic Zone.
- The Fishing License: The license issued by the Competent Authority in each emirate to the Fisherman which allows him to practice Fishing in the fishing Waters of that emirate .
- The Exporter Card: The card issued by the Ministry to whoever the activity of which is fish export.
- The Boat License: The written license issued by the Ministry to the Fishing Boat .



The Register: The general register at the Ministry for those who practice the fishing trade.

## **Chapter One** **Organization of the Fishing Trade**

### **Article (2)**

Any person may not practice the fishing trade in the fishing waters unless licensed by the Competent Authority and his name entered into the Register. The conditions and procedures of the fishing license will be determined with a decision by the competent authority.

### **Article (3)**

A general register will be established at the Ministry for enrollment of the fishing trade practitioners and their fishing boats in the state, and the executive by-laws will determine the form of such register and data that must be inserted in it.

### **Article (4)**

Whoever has his name entered into the register shall meet the following:

- 1- Be a citizen, or from the corporate bodies owned by citizens.
- 2- Be licensed for practicing the fishing trade by the Competent Authority.
- 3- Be less than (18) eighteen calendar years of age.
- 4- Be of good reputation and conduct.
- 5- The fishing boat he desires to register should have a book's license from the ministry by the ministry.



**Chapter Two**  
**Procedures of entering into the register**  
**Article (5)**

There shall be established Under a decision by the Minister a committee in each emirate called the fishing regulation Committee. The decision determines the chairman and members of the committee among whom there will be a representative for each of the Ministry ,The ministry of Communications, the Competent Authority , the Coast and Border Guards and the fishermen's cooperative in each emirate. The Committee may seek necessary technical expertise for technical examination and viewing of the boat.

**Article (6)**

The committee will have the following jurisdictions:

- 1- Ascertaining the conformity of the particulars in the application for entering into the Register and comparing them with the required documents.
- 2- Examining and viewing the boat owned by the applicant for registering and writing down its own particulars which include measurement of length, width and depth by foot . It also includes year of manufacturing and its material , type and power of the engine , the boat's load limit , its name, number, kind and number of fishing equipments on board of the boat and the navigation and safety equipments.

**Article (7)**

The Applications for enrollment in the register will be submitted to the Committee on the prepared form supported with the following documents:

- 1- photocopy of the fisherman's passport, his identity card or his summary of the family's entries ,and With respect to the corporate bodies a copy of the memorandum of association will be submitted.
- 2- personal photograph of the Fisherman.
- 3- certificate of good conduct and reputation.



- 4- copy of the fishing License issued by the Competent Authority.
- 5- copy of the Boat License issued by the Ministry.

### **Article (8)**

The committee shall decide on the application for entering into the Register within fifteen days as from the date of submission; and In case of approval the Fisherman will be given a certificate approved by the Chairman of the Committee, including the examination result, under which the Fisherman will be entered into the Register.

The Committee shall have the right to summon the applicant for enrollment to rectify his particulars and give him a grace period to do so; and The application for enrollment in the Register will be reconsidered within fifteen days, as from the date of correcting the particulars. The same procedures will be followed on applying for registering the boat and its specifications.

### **Article (9)**

The Fishermen, Fishing Boats, number and types of the Fishing equipments will be entered into the register subject to a certificate approved by the Committee and attached with documents supporting hereto.

### **Article (10)**

The fisherman may on having the committee rejected his application for registration registration or his boat's registration in the register complain to the Minister about it's decision within fifteen days as from the date on which he was notified or in receipt of the decision of the Committee. The Minister shall decide on the complaint within fifteen days as from the date of submitting the complaint and the Minister's decision in this regard will be conclusive .

### **Article (11)**

The Ministry in case the application for registration is accepted may enter the particulars of the examination certificate into the Register and hand over the Fisherman a certificate of his registration specifying his name, address, nationality, and number and date of registration, and the name, type , number and date of registration of the boat and the type and number of the Fishing Equipments. Entering the register will be for a -two-year period with effect as from the date of



the Committee's decision of approving the registration of the Fisherman's name. Renewal of registration will be according to an application submitted to the ministry according to the conditions and cases stipulated in the executive by-laws provided for in the executive by-laws.

### **Article (12)**

The Fishing gear and Equipments licensed for use on the licensed Fishing Boat shall bear numbers that are unified, clear and conforming to the number of the boat as to be specified by the by-laws.

### **Article (13)**

Practitioners of the fishing trade entered into the Register shall notify the Ministry of any amendment or change occurring in the particulars of the application of registration or the documents attached thereto within a month of such amendment or change . And the notification will be made to the ministry subject to a signed application in accordance with the conditions and circumstances as provided for in the by-laws.

## **Chapter Three** **Licenses of fishing boats** **Article (14)**

Any Registered fisherman already entered in the register may not use a fishing boat unless the boat is registered and has obtained a fishing boat license from the ministry.

### **Article (15)**

The Ministry, in coordination with the Competent Authority, will determine the number of the Fishing Boats permitted to fishing as well as the method of fishing.

### **Article (16)**

The boat's License and the Fishing License will be valid for a-two-year



period and renewed within a period not exceeding sixty days as from the date of their expiry.

### **Article (17)**

The boat's License shall include the following particulars in addition to any others to be Determined by the Ministry:

- 1- Name of the owner.
- 2- Specifications of the boat and power and type of the engine.
- 3- Maximum limit of the number of labor and Fishermen permitted to practice fishing trade by the boat.
- 4- Result of the boat technical examination.
- 5- Any other particulars to be determined by the by-laws.

### **Article (18)**

The boat's License and the Fishing License will be always kept on boat to be produced on demand.

### **Article (19)**

The Boats License and A Fishing License may be granted in lieu of loss or damage against the prescribed fees provided that the damaged license or a proof of the loss of the original license shall be attached with the application.

### **Article(20)**

The Application for renewal of the Boat's License will be submitted by it's owner and the application for renewal of the Fisherman License by it's holder. Renewal may be only after payment of fees and the adjudged fines for any violations of the provisions hereby, here will the bylaws or other regulating decisions. For renewal of the license the specified procedures of the application for license will be followed up.

### **Article (21)**

The national fisherman who is running his own fishing boat by himself shall have the right to fish in any fishing ground in the country.



**Chapter Four**  
**Protection and Development**  
**Article (22)**

It is impermissible to anchor or sail the fishing boat in the prohibited fishing grounds except in compelling cases resulting from weather conditions, a breakdown therein or for rescuing souls or properties.

**Article (23)**

It is impermissible to practice Fishing using absolutely banned Fishing gear or Equipments which are prohibited either in specific times or grounds or according to some particular specifications or with respect to specific species of the live Aquatic Wealth.

The executive by-laws will specify the gear and the equipments which are used in fishing and the gear and equipment the use of which is restricted or banned.

**Article (24)**

Fishing is impermissible during fertilization or reproduction seasons or in the grounds where fishing is banned temporarily or permanently.

Catching small size aquatics below the permitted length is also impermissible. The ministry will, in cooperation with the Competent Authority in each emirate, determine these seasons, species and sizes and announce the same in the mass media and through the Ministry's offices in the regions as well as through the fishermen's cooperatives.

**Article (25)**

The following activities may not be carried out unless after obtaining a special written permission from the Competent Authority:

- 1- Diving For catching ornamental fish.
  - 2- Carrying on marine sports for fishing competitions and using marine wealth - related sports gear.
  - 3- Establishing farms of aquatic organisms and investing the.
- The By-laws will specify the term and conditions of the permit.





### **Article (26)**

Fishing with trawling nets , bottom setting nets, nets made of nylon material (nylon nets) or drift nets (Al Hayyal) regardless of the type, size or length of the nets used thereon is also prohibited.

The executive by-laws will specify the methods and specifications of the fishing means.

### **Article (27)**

Artificial coral reefs may not be set up unless for scientific research purposes or for developing certain species of the living Aquatic Wealth and after obtaining a license from the Ministry and the Competent Authority.

### **Article (28)**

It is impermissible to capture sea turtles of all species sizes and ages, or collecting their eggs or tampering with their habitat and reproduction places in the Fishing Waters. It is also impermissible to fish for whales, sea cows (Alatwam) and other sea mammals of all species and sizes or extraction of oysters, sponges or coral reefs except for purposes of scientific research and after obtaining a written permission from the Ministry and the Competent Authority.

### **Article (29)**

The Minister will determine the species of fish and marine creatures the catch of which is prohibited for the purpose of extracting their eggs, skins or fins, or for any other purposes.

### **Article (30)**

It is impermissible to import, possess , sell and circulate nets, gear or equipments which are unauthorized or banned for fishing and which the executive bylaws will specify.

**Article (31)**

The Fishing Boat may not sail out without its owner or whoever acts on behalf of him from the UAE citizens, and in case of death or entire disability of the boat's owner, his successors, who depend on the Fishing Trade as a basic source of sustenance, may authorize a Fisherman to manage and operate the fishing boat.

**Article (32)**

All workers on board of the boat shall be under the sponsorship of its owner subject to the observed laws of the country.

**Article (33)**

A decision by the Committee will be issued to determine the number of laborers needed for each boat as per its size, power and the conditions of its use.

**Article (34)**

Fishing may not be with explosives, crackers, or materials that are harmful, toxic or anesthetic to aquatics.

**Article (35)**

Body Remains of whales and fish may not be dumped in the fishing waters.

**Chapter Five**  
**Circulation processing and Marketing**  
**Article (36)**

It is impermissible to Circulate sell, market , consume , exploit or benefit in any aspect of Fish and other aquatics the fishing of which is prohibited entirely or in a specific season. The Competent Authority in each emirate shall set the appropriate control means for implementing the provisions herein.

**Article (37)**

The Fishing boats and means of transporting live aquatic wealth shall be equipped with refrigerators or ice-cooled insulation boxes and with means and technologies which satisfy the purpose being made for and shall also observe cleanliness and secure hygienic conditions as per regulations to be prescribed by the Competent Authority.

**Article (38)**

Live Aquatic wealth may not be sold out at markets or stores where hygienic and trade conditions prescribed by the laws, regulations and decisions issued by the Competent Authority are not observed.

**Article (39)**

Basic health standards shall be considered in processing and drying living aquatic wealth prior to its marketing. All ships or vehicles carrying imported products prepared out of living aquatic take into consideration the provisions of the laws and regulations and decisions of the customs, veterinary quarantine and the general health, whether these products are fresh, dried, canned, salted or smoked.

**Article (40)**

Foreign ships may not fish living aquatic wealth in the fishing waters in the country.

**Article (41)**

Ships of Scientific research ,marine surveys ships, or other ships may not conduct any researches or explorations or taking samples or conducting any studies in the fishing waters unless by a private licensed from the ministry and approval of the competent authority.



## **Chapter six** **Grants and Loans of fishermen**

### **Article ( 42)**

The ministry will give out grants , loans, and services to the fishermen who practice or desire to practice the fishing trade , and the priority in availing these privileges will be for those who had fishing as their unique trade, their source of sustenance and carry on it by themselves .

### **Article (43)**

The grants and loans which the ministry extends to fishermen will be in kind ,And the cabinet may issue a decision to release the fishermen from the value of the loans or part thereof .

The Minister will issue a decision for the system of loans and grants of fishermen containing the terms and conditions of granting and using such loans and the procedures of obtaining them .

.

## **Chapter Seven** **Exporting Live aquatic wealth**

### **Article (44)**

It is impermissible to export the living aquatic wealth caught in the fishing waters outside the state unless under a decision by the cabinet and for the categories specified in article (45) hereby . The decision will determine the times , seasons , quantities and kinds which are permitted for export . The ban stipulated herein includes transit ,transport or export of the live aquatic wealth being caught in the fishing waters outside the fishing waters by any means whatsoever.



### **Article(45)**

The categories indicated in article (44) herein are :

- 1- The cooperative societies of the fishermen .
- 2- The national fishermen who own fishing boats and depend on the fishing trade as their essential source of sustenance. Under a decision by the Minister the names of this category of fishermen will be determined .
- 3- The persons ,companies and authorities who carry on fish farming activities with respect to the fish extracted from the fish farms.

### **Article(46)**

To do export by the those mentioned in article (45) hereby it is compelling to obtain a fish exporter card valid for a period to be determined under a decision by the Minister after the applicant for the card had got the necessary license thereon .The by-laws will determine the conditions required for the method of granting such card license.

### **Article(47)**

The decision issued from the cabinet and the Fish exporting fisherman's card issued by the ministry will be considered as two basic documents for obtaining the certificate of origin required for exportation.

The exporting fisherman's card may not be renewed after the termination of its specified period unless after renewing the license from the ministry , and its impermissible to lease or lend it for third party .

### **Article ( 48)**

The usage of the certificate of origin will be by its owner or whoever represents him subject to a power of attorney . And the certificate of origin will be valid for one operation of export. It shall be sealed by the competent authority with the expression land, sea and air freight as per the request of the fish exporting fisherman after producing a proof of his application .



## **Chapter eight** **Re-export and Transit**

### **Article ( 49)**

The executive by-laws shall determine the conditions and procedures of transit and re-export of the live aquatic wealth being caught outside the state.

### **Article (50)**

The competent authority may not grant license to the companies and individuals for doing import and re-export of the live aquatic wealth being caught outside the fishing waters unless after the applicant for licensing had obtained a private permit from the ministry .

## **Chapter nine** **Penalties**

### **Article 9(51)**

Without prejudice to any severer penalty provided for in another law and taking provision of the international conventions in which the state is a part , whoever infringes the provisions 28,34,40,and 44 hereby will be punished with imprisonment for a period not less than six months and a fine not less than fifty thousand dirhams and not exceeding one hundred thousand dirhams or either penalty.

In case of reverting , the penalty will be with imprisonment for a period not less than three years and a fine not less than one hundred thousand dirhams and not exceeding two hundred thousand dirhams or either penalty .

In all cases the boats and the gear subject of the violation will be seized and the recoveries adjudged confiscation .



### **Article ( 52)**

Without prejudice to any severer penalty provided for in another law and taking provision of the international conventions in which the state is a part , whoever infringes the provisions 23,24,26,and 27 hereby will be punished with imprisonment for a period not less than three months and a fine not less than twenty - five thousand dirhams and not exceeding fifty thousand dirhams or either penalty.

In case of reverting , the penalty will be imprisonment for a period not less than one years and a fine not less than fifty thousand dirhams and not exceeding One hundred thousand dirhams or either penalty .

In all cases the boats and the gear subject of the violation will be seized and the recoveries adjudged confiscation .

### **Article (53)**

Without prejudice to any severer penalty provided for in another law and taking provision of the international conventions in which the state is a part , whoever infringes the provisions 2,14,21,22,25,29,30,31,32,36 and 47 hereby will be punished with imprisonment for a period not less than two months and a fine not less than ten thousand dirhams and not exceeding twenty thousand dirhams or either penalty.

In case of reverting , the penalty will be imprisonment for a period not less than four months and a fine not less than twenty thousand dirhams and not exceeding forty thousand dirhams or either penalty .

In all cases the boats and the gear subject of the violation will be seized and the recoveries adjudged confiscation .

### **Article (54)**

Without prejudice to any severer penalty provided for in another law and taking provision of the international conventions in which the state is a part , whoever infringes the provisions 32,35,37,38,39,41 and 57 hereby will be punished with imprisonment for a period not less than one month and not exceeding six months and with a fine not less than five thousand dirhams and not exceeding twenty thousand dirhams or either penalty.



### **Article (55)**

Each one who has committed any other violation of the provisions hereby or the decisions being issued in execution thereof will be punished with a fine not exceeding four thousand dirhams .

## **Chapter ten** **General and Exclusive Provisions**

### **Article ( 56)**

All the fishermen , persons and craftsmen provided for hereby shall adjust their statuses subject to its provisions and the decisions executing thereof during a year as from the date of its enforcement, and the cabinet is entitled to extend such period for similar periods.

### **Article ( 57)**

The employees of the ministry ,the competent authority and the local government departments who will be determined by a decision from the minister of justice and Islamic Affairs and Awkaf in agreement with minister of Agriculture and Fisheries and after consultation with the competent authority will be having the capacity of law officers in proving what infringes the provisions hereby and the decisions being issued in execution thereof .

Under such capacity they will be entitled to intercept ,inspect and enter the places and bodies the activities of which lie within the scope of executing this law save the places made for housing for the purpose of ascertaining the execution of its provisions and the decisions made in execution thereof and seizing the infringing cases .

### **Article ( 58)**

The exporting fishermen and craftsmen associating with exporting , re-exporting or processing the live aquatic wealth shall keep proper records for registering the data and information relating to the live aquatic wealth associated to their activity .A decision by the minister will determine the form of such registers and the types of the data and information which must be registered in each register . The ministry must be supplied with a copy of each record at least once a year . The law officers





will view periodically these registers to ascertain being kept properly and met the conditions stipulated in the decision of the Minister .

#### **Article (59)**

The due fees will be determined subject to the provisions hereby under a decision from the cabinet upon a proposal of the minister after coordination with the competent authorities .

#### **Article (60)**

The boats owned by the scientific research bodies and the bodies concerned with the Aquatic wealth are exempted from the licensing fees.

#### **Article (61)**

The minister will issue the decisions of regulating fishing and diving for hobbyists subject to what the executing by-laws determine.

#### **Article (62)**

The Minister will issue the regulations hereby after coordination with the competent authorities in the Emirates .The Minister will also issue the decisions necessary to execute the provisions of the law .

#### **Article (63)**

Each provision that contravenes or contradicts the provisions hereby will be void and nil.

#### **Article ( 64)**

This law will be published in the official Gazette and effected after six months as from the date of its publication .Zayid Bin Sultan AL Nahyan  
President of the United Arab Emirates Issued by us in the presidential palace in Abu Dhabi On the date of 8/Rajab/ 1420 Hijri Corresponding to 17/October 1999 AD



Ministerial Decision number (302) of the year 2001 for issuing the executive by-laws of the federal law number (23) of the year 1999 concerning the exploitation, protection and development of the live aquatic wealth in the United Arab Emirates.

**The United Arab Emirates**  
**Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries**

Ministerial Decision number (302) of the year 2001 for issuing the executive by-laws of the Federal Law number (23) of the year 1999 concerning the exploitation, protection and development of the living aquatic wealth in the United Arab Emirates.

**Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries**

- After cognizance of Federal Law No. (1) of 1972, regarding the ministries jurisdictions, and the powers of the Ministers and the laws made in amendment thereof,

-The federal law number ( 17) of the year 1972 concerning the nationality and passports and the laws made in amendment thereof,

- Federal Law No. (13) of 1976 concerning Cooperative Societies,

- Federal Law No. (6) of 1979, concerning the veterinary quarantine and the laws made in amendment thereof,

- Federal Law No. (8) of 1980, as amended, concerning the regulation of labor relations and the laws made in amendment thereof,

- Federal Law no (26) of 1981, as amended, concerning the Marine Commercial law and the laws made in amendment thereof,

-The Penal Code issued under Federal Law No (3) of 1987,

-The Disciplinary Procedure Code issued under Federal Law No (35) of 1992,



-The Federal Law No (7) of 1993 for establishing the Federal Environment Agency,

-The Federal Law No (19) of the year 1993 concerning demarcation of the marine zones of the state of the United Arab Emirates.

-And the federal law number (23) of the year 1999 concerning the Exploitation, Protection, and Developments of Living Aquatic Resources in the United Arab Emirates.

- The Federal Law No. (24) for the year 1999, concerning the Protection and Development of the Environment.

-The Decision of the Council of Ministers number (12) of 1989 concerning the Organizational Structure of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries  
Have decided :

### **Article (1)**

The following words and expressions shall have the meanings assigned there to, unless the context requires otherwise:

**The State:** The state of the United Arab Emirates

**The Ministry:** The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

**The Minister:** The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

**Undersecretary:** Undersecretary of the Ministry.

**The Competent Department:** The fish wealth department in the ministry.

**The Competent Authority:** The competent authority in the concerned emirate.

**The Committee:** The fishing regulation committee in the concerned emirate.

**The living aquatic wealth:** All aquatic creatures that includes plants and animals, micro-organisms and macro-organisms which are migratory and dwelling in the fishing waters, or which visit these waters such as birds, turtles, shell and scale organisms. They also include the organisms which had been fossilised during their advanced stages.



**Fishing:** Extraction of the living aquatic wealth from its natural habitat.

**Fishing Boat:** Every buoy used in fishing made of a material whatsoever.

**Fishing equipments and gear:** Gear and equipments used in fishing including nets, traps (gorgers), trolling lines and hooks and otherwise.

**Boat Crew:** All the persons working on the fishing boat.

**Fisherman:** Everyone trading fishing.

**Fishing Waters:** The internal waters including coasts of islands, creeks, beaches and coasts of the state, territorial waters and the waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone of the state.

**Fishing License:** The license, which the competent authority in each emirate issues for the fisherman that authorizes him to practice fishing in the fishing waters of such emirate.

**Exporter's card :** The card which the Ministry issues to whoever his activity is fish exportation.

**Captain's Card ( Nokhathe) :** The card which the Ministry issues by which the fisherman is permitted to practice the fishing trade .

**Boat's License :** The written license which the ministry issues for the fishing boat .

**Register :** The general register in the Ministry for fishing trade practioners and their boats.

## **Chapter One** **Fishing Trade Regulation.**

### **Article (2)**

Any person may not practice the fishing trade in the fishing waters unless authorized by the competent authority and his name entered in the register.



### **Article (3)**

- a- There shall be established in the ministry a general register for recording those carrying on the fishing trade to include the following data:
- 1- Name of the license's owner.
  - 2- His nationality.
  - 3- His Profession.
  - 4- His passport number or number of the summary of the family's entries, and its place of issue and expiry date.
  - 5- Name of the fishing boat, its number and owner's name.
- b- There shall be established in the ministry a general register for fishing boats to include the following data:
- 1- The name of the boat.
  - 2- Date and place of manufacturing.
  - 3- Material of the body.
  - 4- Color of the boat.
  - 5- Boat's length, width and height in feet.
  - 6- Depth in feet.
  - 7- Total power of the engine.
  - 8- Load of the boat.
  - 9- Fishing, sailing and safety equipments on the boat.
  - 10- Number of sailors working on the boat.
  - 11- Name, address and place of residence of the owner of the boat.

### **Article (4)**

- a- The applicant in order to be entered in the register shall meet the following conditions:
- 1- He shall be a citizen or from the corporate bodies owned by citizens.
  - 2- He shall be authorized by the competent authority to carry on the fishing trade.
  - 3- His age shall not be less than (18) eighteen years A.D.



- 4- The boat he desires to register shall have a fishing boat license from the ministry.
  - 5- He should have not been entered in the practioners fishing register of another emirate.
  - 6- He shall be of good conduct and reputation.
- b- With the exemption from article (3) item (a) thereof, the competent authority shall have the right to authorize whoever has completed twelve years of age to ride the sea as an apprentice and grant him a special license for such purpose.

## **Chapter Two** **Procedures Of Entering The Register**

### **Article (5)**

After auditing by the fishermen and boats registration office the applications for entering the register will be submitted to the committee on the form made thereto and supported with the following documents:

- 1- A photocopy of the fisherman's passport or identity card or summary of the family's entries, and a photocopy of a valid memorandum of association subject to corporate bodies.
- 2- A recent personal photograph of the fisherman.
- 3- A certificate of good reputation and conduct with the exemption of elder fishermen which the committee approves exempting them from such conditions.
- 4- A photocopy of a valid license of the boat issued by the ministry.
- 5- A photocopy of a valid fishing boat license issued by the competent authority.

### **Article (6)**

The committee is competent for the following:

1. Investigation of the conformity of the data written in the application for entering the register with the required documents and making sure that the fisherman had not been entered in more than one emirate.



2. Examination and inspection of the boat owned by the applicant for registration and entering its own data which includes measurements of length, width and depth in foot as well as year of manufacturing, type of the manufacturing material of the boat, kind of the engine fuel, engine number, maximum load limit, navigation and safety equipments and the maximum limit of fishermen or worker on boat. It is entitled to seek technical assistance to check and inspect the boat.
3. Determination of the fishing equipments allowed or non-allowed for use following inspection in compliance with the ban provisions of fishing gear provided for in the federal law number (23) of the year 1999.
4. Determining the number of the recorded fishing boats being entered in to the emirate.
5. Determining the spawning and reproduction seasons in the different grounds and scrutinizing permanently or temporarily, the execution of preventing fishing in such grounds and scrutinizing the prevention of fishing small sized aquatic organisms the lengths of which are less than the permitted limit.
6. Scrutinizing the prevention of establishing artificial coral reefs except for the purposes of scientific research or for developing certain kinds of the fish wealth on condition of obtaining a license thereon from the ministry and the competent authority.
7. Scrutinizing the prevention of catching marine turtles of all kinds, sizes and ages or collecting their eggs or tampering with their places of existence and reproduction in the fishing waters. And scrutinizing the prevention of catching whales, cow fish(dugongs) and other marine mammals of all kinds and sizes and the prevention of extracting oyster, sponges and coral reefs except for the purposes of the scientific research and after obtaining a written authorization thereon from the competent authority.

### **Article (7)**

The committee shall decide on the application for registration in the record within fifteen days from the date of its submission ; and in case of approval , the fisherman will be given an approved certificate from the committee chairman including the result of the examination under which he gets registered in the record. But, in case the data inserted in the application is unconfirmed , the committee will summon the applicant for registration to correct his data within ten



days as from the date of the convocation and then the application for registration in the record will be reconsidered within fifteen days from the date of correcting the data . The same procedures will be followed – up on applying for registration of the boat.

### **Article (8)**

The fishermen, fishing boats, and the number and types of fishing equipments will be entered in the register subject to the certificates approved by the committee and attached with all the documents giving evidence thereon.

### **Article (9)**

The fishermen may, in case the committee rejects his application for entering him or his boat in the register, complain to the minister within fifteen days as from the date of notification thereon. The Minister shall decide on the complain within fifteen days as from the date of registering it in the ministry and his decision thereon will be final.

### **Article (10)**

1. In case of approving the application for registration and entering the certificates of examination in the register the ministry will hand over the fisherman a certificate including his name, address, nationality, its registration number and its date, name of the boat and its type, number and date of its registration, and type and number of the fishing equipments being in use on the boat.
2. The certificate will be valid for a two-year period commencing as from the date of the committee's decision of approving the entering the fisherman's name, and renewed with the same procedures stipulated hereby.

### **Article (11)**

The committee's approval is contingent on the fishing gear and equipments used on the licensed fishing boats. Those gear and equipments shall have unified, and clear numbers compatible with the number of the boat boarding them, and each one of these gear and equipments shall bear the same number of the boat housing them.





### **Article (12)**

The fisherman is compelled to notify the ministry of every amendment or charge that has occurred to his own data which he had been entered in the register or documents attached with the application of his registration during a one-month maximum period as from the data of amendment or change. The notification will be subject to an application signed by the concerned person as per the form being made by the ministry, on condition that the application shall be attached with the documents proving the data to be changed.

## **Chapter Three** **Licenses Of Fishing Boats**

### **Article (13)**

Any fisherman already entered in the register may not use any of the fishing boats unless the boat had been entered in the register and obtained a license of a fishing boat from the ministry.

### **Article (14)**

The validity period of the boats license and fishing license will be two years and renewed within a sixty-day-maximum period as from their expiry date.

### **Article (15)**

The boat's license shall contain the following data:

1. Owner's name
2. The name of the fishing boat, its specifications, number and date of its registration and its engine power, kind, number and maximum load.
3. Maximum limit of strength and fishermen who are permitted to carry on the fishing trade by boat.
4. Result of the boat's technical inspection of the boat.

### **Article (16)**

1. The boat's license and the fishing license shall be always kept in the boat to be produced on request.



2. The owner of the boat shall inscribe the name of the boat and its registration number on its front side according to the system, size and method that the Ministry specifies .

#### **Article (17)**

The boat's license and the fishing license may be issued in lieu of loss or damage against the prescribed fee provided that the application shall be attached with the damaged license or whatever proves the loss of the original license.

#### **Article (18)**

- 1- The applications for renewing the boat's license will be submitted by his owner and the applications for renewing the fishing license will be submitted by its holder.
- 2- The license may not be renewed unless after repaying the fees and adjudged fines.
- 3- On renewing the license the procedures specified in the application for licensing are to be followed up.

#### **Article (19)**

The national fisherman may fish in any fishing ground of the country provided that the licenses he holds shall be valid.

### **Chapter Four** **Protection and Development**

#### **Article (20)**

- a) Fishing live aquatic wealth, anchoring and running fishing boats except for passing over, are permanently forbidden in the grounds which the competent authorities specify in coordination with the ministry and they particularly cover:
  1. Fish reproduction and hatching grounds.
  2. Fish nursery grounds.
  3. Natural or artificial marine reserves



4. Regions that are within two (2) nautical miles away from the seashore and fishing in them is confined to line and hook.
  5. The region lying within three (3) nautical-mile perimeter away from the islands of the state.
  6. Regions lying within a distance or perimeter of one nautical mile away from any military premises lying on land or in the country waters.
  7. Military training and shooting regions.
  8. Regions where petroleum, gas and communications pipelines are found.
  9. Internal water regions such as artificial or natural lakes, creeks whether natural or had been expanded and deepened except for fishing with line and hook by walkers.
- b) The case of fishing Sardine(uma) and archovies is exempted from the provision of paragraph (4) of item (a) hereby.
- c) Whoever forced to anchor his boat or to run it in such regions due to forcing circumstances arising from the following are exempted from the provisions of anchoring and running stipulated in item (a) hereby:
1. Bad weather conditions from which he fears for the safety of the boat or for the crew thereon.
  2. Boat breakdowns that prevent him from running and sailing to the regions he is permitted to enter until the breakdown gets repaired or received salvation.
  3. Doing salvation and rescue operations for souls or properties that might exist in such regions subject to the observed, in such concern.
- d) Whoever forced to anchor his boat or to run it in the region specified in item (a) of the article hereby under the circumstance arising from the cases specified in item (c) shall abide by the following:
- 1- Notifying the coast guards by radio or telephone of his new position, specifically.
  - 2- Specifying the reason that forced him to be present in the banned region.
  - 3- Leaving the region he had entered in violation as soon as the reason that forced him to do so is corrected.



- e) The employees of the ministry and who have been decided to be awarded the capacity of law officers shall notify the competent authority of any violation to the federal law number (23) of the year 1999 and the executive by-laws thereof.  
They are for, such purpose, entitled to inquire from the fishermen and owner of boats about their presence in the prohibited regions and send notices to them and impose punishments thereon.

### **Article (21)**

The following materials and equipments with all of their types shall be absolutely forbidden from using in fishing living aquatic wealths in the fishing waters .

- 1- Explosive, crackers and materials that are harmful, poisonous and atheistic to water organisms.
- 2- Trawl nets (Al kerf) whatsoever the boat that tows such equipments.
- 3- Setting nets (Al Tedrees).
- 4- Drift nets made wholly from the nylon material.
- 5- Drifting nets (Al Hayyal) whatsoever its type.
- 6- Multi, hooked bottom lines.

### **Articles (22)**

In coordination with the competent authority and according to the outcome of studies and scientific research or to the public interest requirements, the following fishing equipments after being approved by the fishing regulation committees may be used in all the grounds and all round the year except for those banned by a decision from the minister during a certain period or in a certain ground.

- 1- Coastal fishing nets (Alamilah) for fishing sardine (umah and( baryah) archovies the mesh of which shall be not less than 1.5 x 1.5 inches except the codend, and the total length (perimeter) not exceeding 1000 meter except for the bag made from nets of meshes not less than 0.25 x 0.25 inches and length or perimeter not exceeding 50 meters. The length of ropes used for drafting such nets shall not exceed 100 meters on either side of the nets.
- 2- Gargoor (fish traps) of meshes not less than 2x2 inches (three fingers).
- 3- Lines and hooks of different sizes, types and lengths.



- 4- Trolloing lines (Allafah) of different sizes, lengths and types.
- 5- Enclosures which are coastal traps set on coast for fishing. The mesh of enclosure shall not be less than one inch.
- 6- Alsakkar which is enclosing an area on the coast during high tide for catching fish gathering in it on ebb and the mesh of the net in use shall not be less than a quarter of one inch. It is permitted for use in times to be determined by a special decision.

### **Article (23)**

It is generally permitted to catch fish especially pelagic and migratory fish with all the known and inherited traditional fishing methods which don't pose risk to the fish stock provided that the fishing regulation committees shall approve thereon.

### **Article (24)**

On using the permitted fishing equipments the following rules shall be observed:

1. They must not be placed in areas of navigation, ships and boats movement, and in areas of natural coral reefs, and near marine signs (bouys) and the used or abandoned marine constructions.
2. Putting outstanding signs on enclosure-nets (Al Halaq).
3. Putting distinguished and clear signs for gargoors or locating their position with Gps devices to find them easily.

### **Article (25)**

The fisherman who is licensed to carry on fishing by setting up fixed fishing equipments (hadra for catching fish) or Al-masaker, beach seine nets or surrounding nets, shall follow the following procedures:

- a) Submitting written application for setting up Hadra ,Masker ,beach seine nets or surrounding net to the fishing regulation committee with provision to the following:
  - 1- Suitability of the location from security aspects.
  - 2- Compliance of the location with the conditions that must be observed in the emirate.
  - 3- The location will be suitable where from the plans made for trade, tourism, and industry uses of the coastal areas.
- b) Once the committee approves the application the competent department will be notified and the application, its particulars and



particulars submitted shall be recorded in a special register being established by the department for the said purpose.

- c) The following particulars shall be made available in order to register. The master ,r seine nets or enclosure and submitted particulars competent department, surrounding and gorgers.
1. Owners names
  2. His passport No.
  3. Owner's address
  4. location of the Hadra, Maskar ,enclosureor surrounding place of using the beach seine nets.
  5. Name of the hadra
  6. Accreditation of the competent authority
  7. Undertaking not to use such equipments for a purpose other than the permitted one.

#### **Article (26)**

Fishing is prohibited in times and grounds which studies and scientific research indicate they are seasons and grounds for fertilization and reproduction of fish species. In coordination with the competent authority the Minister will by a decision determine such times and grounds.

#### **Article (27)**

- a) In coordination with the fishing regulation committees in each emirate , the minister will issue a decision to put ban on catching small fish of the lengths less than the permitted limit.
- a) The fisherman who by chance has got fish in his equipments of lengths less than the approved limit, shall return them to the sea as soon as possible for fear of death.

#### **Article (28)**

- a) The ministry shall notify municipalities of the country, the competent authorities, committees and the fishermen cooperative societies in the emirate and the fish wealth department in the region, of the minimum limit of the permitted length for catching fish.
- b) The law officers shall be liable for seizing fishermen who market fish of lengths less than the permitted limit.



### **Article (29)**

To exercise diving with gas cylinders, compressed air, pipes or any other means for fishing purposes, it is compelling to obtain a written license from the competent authority provided that the following conditions are to be fulfilled:

- 1- The scientific research has to prove that the species intended for fishing is found abundantly and no fear of being extinguished or its stock affected as a result of fishing.
  - 2- The purpose of fishing shall be for conducting scientific research and experiments, preservation in governmental aquatic museums or those belonging to local governments or selling aquatic organisms for growers of such organisms.
  - 3- Whoever desires to conduct thereof shall be a citizen or a corporate body owned by citizens.
  - 4- The applicant for license shall have settled the approved fees thereon.
- b) The license period shall not exceed fifteen days and renewed under essential cases for only one similar period.
- c) On giving out the license according to the provisions herein, provision shall be taken to determine the numbers, sizes and species to be caught.

### **Article (30)**

The veterinary quarantine authorities and the custom authorities shall abide not to issuing the approvals required for exporting ornamental fish consignments unless after producing the license specified in article (29) hereby supported by a letter from the ministry approving export and after these authorities verified that the exporter had obtained a valid exporter card for ornamental fish.

### **Article (31)**

Marine sport competitions which include catching living aquatic organisms may not be held in any region of the country unless after fulfilling the following conditions:



- a) Obtaining the approval of the competent authority subject to an official application containing the following particulars:
  - 1- Purpose of licensing
  - 2- The place where the competition will be conducted
  - 3- The time period of such competition.
  - 4- The living aquatic species for which the fishing competition will be carried out.
  - 5- The fishing equipments to be used in the competition.
  - 6- The approximate number of the participants in the competition.
- b) The body applying for the license will be a governmental authority or a private authority whose internal discipline allows for conducting and organizing such competitions within the framework of activities permitted thereto.
- c) Not to catch species or sizes that have been banned.
- d) Not to fish in the places and seasons where fishing is banned.
- e) A bidding by the conditions for preserving and developing the live aquatic wealths.
- f) Sticking to the time period being permitted to conduct the competition.
- g) Presenting a proof of paying the approved fees.
- h) Providing the competent authority with comprehensive results of the competition.

### **Article (32)**

- a) Establishing or investing in commercial living aquatic farms is restricted to the following parties:
  - 1- Citizens
  - 2- Corporate bodies owned by citizens at not less than 51% percent.
  - 3- Fishermen cooperative societies
  - 4- Scientific authorities
- b) The application for license will be submitted to the competent authority including the following particulars:
  - 1- Name and address of the applicant and his domicile.
  - 2- Kind of the aquatic organisms to be reared.
  - 3- Location and area of the farm or its sea location with respect to the net cages, fences and marine hatchers.





- 4- Source and type of water used in rearing aquatic organisms (fresh, sea water or brakish--- etc).
- 5- The intended purpose of the product (for local consumption or export).
- 6- The system used for rearing and investing the aquatic organisms.
- 7- The expected productive capacity of the farm.
- 8- Number of workers required for employment in the farm to carry out such activity.
- 9- The method to be used in getting rid of the waste water in the farm.
- 10- Design (crooky),for ponds and their partitions and number.
- 11- The source of larvae or fingerlings to be used in rearing.

### **Article (33)**

On giving license for establishing aquatic organism breeding farms provision for the following shall be made:

1. Disallowing the use of fresh water for breeding aquatic organism unless the applied rule approves such kind of water firstly for rearing aquatic organism and then for agriculture in order to optimally use fresh water sources through the systems of reusing the same waters on soil.
2. Disallowing the establishment of aquatic organism firms on beaches ,bays, creeks, gulfs and islands where mangrove trees are present.
3. If the rearing method suggests using floating marine cages, the competent authority in coordination with the ministry shall determine number and sizes of such cages.
4. Presenting economical and economical technical feasibility study of the project specifying production plans, project maximum potentiality, rearing and production technical aspects of the project, result of the economical feasibility study, project financial analysis and results of the physical and chemical studies of the site and its suitability for rearing aquatic organisms for the purpose of preserving, protecting and developing the fish wealth.



5. Making provision for what has been stipulated in the federal law no. (24) of the year 1999 concerning protecting and developing environment in this concern.

#### **Article (34)**

The Ministry in corporation with the competent authority will consider the applications for obtaining a license for establishing and investing the commercial farms for aquatic organisms.

#### **Article (35)**

The license period of establishing and investing commercial aquatic organism farms will be limited for a five years period to be renewed as required and after obtaining the necessary approvals and fulfilling the required conditions.

#### **Article (36)**

The owner of aquatic organism farm is prohibited to import brood stock or larvae and to rear species thereof different from the species found in the fishing waters of the country unless after obtaining a written license from the Ministry authorizing him to do so . The competent authority will issue the license in that concern after under taking to take the maximum precautions for not infiltrating these species in to the local aquatic environment to preserve them.

#### **Article (37)**

It is prohibited to establish artificial coral reefs made of any material in any ground of the fishing waters unless after the approval of the fishing regulations committee and obtaining a license from the competent authority as well as from the ministry to achieve any one of the following two purposes:

- a) Conduct Scientific research
- b) Development and enhancing certain species of the living aquatic wealth (releasing larvae, setting up reserves ..... etc.)



### **Article (38)**

To obtain the license indicated in article (37), hereby it is compelling to submit a written application specifying in it the following:

- 1- Name of applicant for the license
- 2- His address
- 3- His capacity
- 4- Purpose of the license
- 5- The site determined for setting up the coral reef
- 6- Species of the aquatic organisms intended for reproduction and the method applied thereon along with submitting an undertaking not to cause any inflictions to the aquatic environment or to the live aquatic resources existing therein.
- 7- A declaration by which the applicant shall abide by the conditions and specifications of establishing a coral reef.

### **Article (39)**

All the owners of the existing marine coral reefs shall adjust their statuses in compliance with the provisions stated hereby and obtain license for their existing coral reefs from the ministry and the competent authority subject to the applied rule in this concern on condition that their coral reefs had not been established in:

- 1- Navigatory regions
- 2- Navigation areas
- 3- Known fishing grounds (such as Alneewat, Alheerat and AlAkwa'....)
- 4- Marine reserves.
- 5- Grounds in which fishing is forbidden permanently or temporarily.

### **Article (40)**

- a) It is forbidden to catch marine turtles of whatsoever specie, age or size had been and in any area of the fishing waters or the seashores of islands and land.



- b) The fishermen who fortuitously had got sea turtles in their fishing equipments shall on seeing them release them seeking enough care for their safety.
- c) It is prohibited to collect shift, sell or trade with the eggs of turtles or tamper with their nests or the places of their reproduction on land or seashores of islands.

#### **Article (41)**

It is forbidden to catch the different marine mammals, of whales species dugongs (Al Atwaml), Dolphins and any other marine mammals. And the fisherman who had got any of the aforesaid aquatic mammals in his fishing equipments shall manage to release them into the sea seeking enough care for their safety.

#### **Article (42)**

It is absolutely forbidden to extract oysters, sponges and coral reefs from the bottom of the sea by diving or by using any other means.

#### **Article (43)**

Scientific research requirements or enhancement or of such organisms are exempted from the provisions of articles(40-42) thereby after obtaining the approval of the competent authority, on condition that the application for license shall include the following:

- 1- Name of the applicant for the license.
- 2- His capacity
- 3- His address
- 4- Purpose of the license
- 5- Species and numbers he desires to catch.
- 6- The period during which he desires to fish.
- 7- Presenting an undertaking not to violate the conditions of the license.

#### **Article (44)**

It is forbidden to catch the living aquatic creatures to extract their eggs, skins, fins and any other parts thereof.



### **Article (45)**

- a) The importers of fishing gear or equipments shall obtain the prior approval of the ministry.
- b) It is forbidden to import, possess, sell, circulate and reserve each of the following fishing gear and equipments:
  - 1- Nets made wholly from nylon such as the mono or tri filament nets or multiciliate (fringe) in line, and the multi layer nylon nets except for the twisted polyethylene lines or the lines made from similar materials.
  - 2- All types of nets of meshes less than 1.5x1.5 inches except for nets used for making coastal fishing nets bags which are used for fishing with enclosures and nets specialized for catching sardine (umah) and arcoviches.
  - 3- Gargours of openings less than 2x2 inches (three fingers)
  - 4- Explosives and poisonous and atheistic materials used for fishing the live aquatic resources.

### **Article (46)**

The fishing boat is prohibited to sail without the presence of its owner or whoever citizen he deputizes being on board.

The owner's deputy who is to be present on board the boat shall meet the following conditions. These are:

- 1- He shall be a citizen.
- 2- He shall have completed 18 years of age
- 3- He shall have obtained a vice captain card from the ministry.

### **Article (47)**

- a) As an exemption from the provision of article (47) hereby, the owner of the boat in case he proves his complete inability may deputize a national fisherman to manage and operate the boat. He shall prove his



complete inability with a certificate from a specialized medical committee.

- b) The deputy must
- 1- Have exceeded eighteen years of age.
  - 2- Have experience in fishing work and in riding the sea.
  - 3- Submit power of attorney from a competent body.
- c) The successors of the owner of the boat shall have the right in case of his  
Death, to deputize for managing it whoever meets the conditions provided for in item (b) herein.

#### **Article (48)**

All the labourers on board of the boat must be sponsored by its owner in compliance to what is being observed subject to the observed rules in the country.

#### **Article (49)**

Each one of the fishing regulation committees will issue a decision to determine the number of labourers who are permitted to work on the boat according to its size, efficiency, and conditions of its use in the light of the observed rules and in compliance of with prevailing laws in this concern.

#### **Article (50)**

It is absolutely forbidden to throw the dead fish wastes and carcasses of whales and sharks in the fishing waters.

#### **Article (51)**

Whoever exercises the diving hobby shall:

- a) Hold an approved diving license
- b) Abide by the rules, regulations and orders issued by the competent bodies.
- c) Clarify the diving place with the international banner (Alfa) for determining the diving area.
- d) Guarantee the devices fitness he uses for exercising diving.
- e) Hold a navigation license from the competent authority.



### **Article (52)**

It is forbidden for diving hobbyists to:

- 1- Pick off coral reefs
- 2- Pick off ruins and dispose of them personally.
- 3- Pick off ship wreckages or dispose of them for personal purposes.
- 4- Dive individually.
- 5- Use fishing guns while using diving equipments (compressed oxygen).
- 6- Dive in banned waters, prohibited areas, near military constructions or vivid marine constructions and castles.

### **Article (53)**

Fishing and voyaging hobbyists shall:

- a) Hold a navigation license for fishing and voyaging.
- b) Not practice the sports fishing hobby for trading and marketing.
- c) Not using nets, gargoors, gears and other forbidden equipments.
- d) Not approach the prohibited areas, vivid military premises, and palaces.
- e) Provide the Ministry with the information it requires about the live marine wealth.

## **Chapter Five** **Circulation, Manufacturing And Marketing**

### **Article (54)**

It is impermissible to circulate, sell, market, consume or benefit in any aspect from the fish and marine organisms which its fishing is absolutely prohibited or prohibited in a certain season. And the competent authority in each emirate shall



put the appropriate control means for enforcing the provisions herein. The dried or salted marine organisms which had been caught out of the banned fishing season are exempted hereof.

#### **Article (55)**

The fishing boats and the transport means of the live marine wealth shall be equipped with fridges or cooled insulated boxes and with means and technologies that attain the intended purpose prepared thereto. And provision shall be made for cleanliness and for meeting the health conditions thereon subject to the rules to be decided by the competent authority.

#### **Article (56)**

The live marine wealth may not be sold in markets or shops that don't meet the commercial and health conditions to be decided by the rules, regulations and decisions being issued by the state and the competent authority.

#### **Article (57)**

The health basics necessary for processing and drying the living marine wealth shall be observed prior to marketing. And all the ships, boats or vehicles carrying imported products of the live aquatic wealth shall observe the provisions of the laws, regulations and decisions relating to customs, veterinary quarantine and the public health whether those products were fresh, dried, canned, salted, smoked, cooled or frozen subject to the rules set by the competent authority.

#### **Article (58)**

Foreign ships may not catch live aquatic wealth in the fishing waters of the state; that includes ships, boats, vessels, small boats yachts, launches, speed boats, ferries, doba, tugs tankers and other marine means.

#### **Article (59)**

Scientific research and marine surveys or others from ships and boats may not carry out any researches or explorations or carry out any studies in the fishing





waters unless subject to a special license from the ministry and approval of the competent authority. Any body desires to conduct any activity of the mentioned activities shall submit an application to the ministry demanding to conduct the required activity and attached with a detailed study in this concern.

**Chapter six**  
**Grants And Loans Of Fishermen**  
**Article (60)**

- a) The ministry provides services to the fishermen who carry on or desire to carry on the fishing trade, and particularly:
  - 1- Boat engines repairing service at marine workshops of the ministry.
  - 2- Fish extension services.
- b) To avail of the boat repairing service, it is compelling for the fisherman to stick to protection procedures issued by the ministry or by the other competent authorities.
- c) The boat engines repairing services is extended free to the fisherman provided that he shall himself or his representative buy the necessary spare parts on his own expense and hand it over to the technical workers on the on the marine workshops belonging to the ministry.

**Article (61)**

- a) The ministry presents grants and loans to the fishermen who carry on or desire to carry on the fishing trade. The competent department in the ministry will determine the form and kind of such loans and grants.
- b) The minister will issue a decision to form a central committee for fish loans the functions of which are:
  - 1- Studying the needs of fishermen from grants and fish loans.
  - 2- Gathering and studying the fishermen's applications coming in to the ministry from the sub-committees.
  - 3- Making specifications and studying and analyzing contracts relating to providing the materials of grants and fish loans.
  - 4- Overseeing distribution of grants and fish loans.
  - 5- Determining the conditions of using loans.
- c) The Minister will issue a decision to form sub-committees for grants



and loans in the different parts of the country to study the applications submitted to them and to transfer them to the grants and loans central committee attached with its recommendations.

### **Article (62)**

The priority of availing from loans and grants shall be for those having the fishing trade as their only source of living and carrying on such trade by themselves.

### **Article (63)**

Those who avail from grants and loans shall be:

- a) A fisherman wholly devoted to the fishing trade or working in a simple job (of limited income) or from retired employees.
- b) Having his boat engine broken down and irreparable.
- c) Not less than eighteen years of age.
- d) Having not less than one year passed over passing receipt of a loan or grant from the ministry and exempted from that whoever proves that the grant he has received has become unusable according to a technical report from the one of the workshop of the ministry.
- e) Abiding with the instructions and directives issued by the ministry or by the other competent bodies related to protection.
- f) Working by himself on his boat during fishing.
- g) Submitting an application to the sub-committee for grants and loans with the following documents attached:
  - 1- Photocopy of the passport and the summary of the family's entries.
  - 2- Photocopy of the fishing boat license from the ministry.
  - 3- Photocopy of a captain's card.
  - 4- Total-salary certificate.
  - 5- Photocopy of the fishing license issued by the competent authority.

### **Article (64)**

The grants and loans which the ministry gives to the fishermen will be subsidized and the ministry contributes 50% percent of the loan on condition that the fisherman shall repay the remaining amount to the collection officer in the finance department of the ministry.



## **Chapter Seven** **Living Aquatic Wealth Exportation**

### **Article (65)**

The live aquatic wealth caught in the fishing waters of the country may not be exported except according to the decisions of the Cabinet which determine the categories allowed for export, and the times, seasons, quantities and kinds that may be exported.

### **Article (66)**

The minister will by a decision determine the names of the citizens, cooperative societies and companies which are allowed for carrying on export of live aquatic wealth caught in the fishing waters to outside the country.

### **Article (67)**

- a) Exporters of local fish shall obtain a license for carrying on this trade from the ministry.
- b) The applicant for the license shall submit an application to the ministry with the following documents attached:
  - 1- A photocopy of his passport and the summary of the family's entries and a photocopy of the registration certificate of the body corporate along with specifying the address and domicile.
  - 2- A photocopy of a fishing boat valid license with regard to fishermen.
  - 3- A photocopy of a captain valid license with regard to fishermen.
  - 4- A photocopy of a valid license for establishing and investing a commercial fish farm with respect to companies or individuals involved in fish farming.
  - 5- A photocopy of the registration book of a cooled and equipped vehicle for transporting living aquatic wealth for those desiring to export local fish by land.
- c) The application for license must not be considered except after paying the approved fees and meeting the undertakings required by the ministry.
- d) The period of the license for exporting locally produced fish from fish farms will be for one year renewable for similar periods. And the period



of licensing for exporting local fish from non fish farm will be for two months renewable for similar periods.

### **Article (68)**

- a) The competent department in the ministry will issue a local fish exporter card for two months for those possessing a license for exporting local fish which includes the following data:
- 1- Exporter's number
  - 2- Name of Exporter
  - 3- His personal photograph
  - 4- Number of the vehicle intended for exporting fish.
  - 5- His permanent address
  - 6- Date of card issued and date of its expiry.
  - 7- Date and number of receipt.
- b) To give the card of export it is compelling:
- 1- For the exporter to submit an undertaking for not leasing the card for third parties, misusing it or lending it to third parties for any purpose whatsoever.
  - 2- To abide by exporting the kinds and amounts allowed for export during the times and seasons specified for fish export and to pay the approved fees.
  - 3- To keep proper records for what the exporter export from fish as to their kinds, quantities, prices and the intended destination by quantity according to the form prepared by the competent department.
  - 4- To provide the competent department with comprehensive statistics and data about export operations.

### **Article (69)**

The veterinary quarantine authorities shall stick to investigating the quantities and kinds intended for export and their compliance with the decisions issued for specifying the quantities during the times and seasons provided for hereby prior to issuing the necessary health certificates.



### **Article (70)**

The exporter's card may not be renewed except after renewing the fish export license issued from the ministry, paying the fees thereon and the adjudged fines.

### **Article (71)**

- a) The certificate of origin may not be used except by the person whom the certificate has been issued or by his representative subject to an official power of attorney issued by the competent authorities.
- b) The certificate of origin will be valid for one operation of export and stamped by the competent authority with the expression of land, sea or air freight as to the request of the fish exporter after applying what proves his application.

## **Chapter Eight** **Re-export and Transit**

### **Article (72)**

- a) The competent authority will issue the license for practicing the trade of exporting  
and re-exporting the live aquatic wealth caught outside the fishing waters after the  
applicant for license obtains a special permit from the ministry.
- b) The ministry will issue the license stipulated in clause (a) herein according to an application from the concerned to the concerned department in the ministry on condition that they shall meet the following conditions:
  - 1- He shall be a citizen or a corporate body owned by citizen for no less than 51% percent.
  - 2- The applicant for license shall have stores and the necessary means for transporting, preserving and storing the living aquatic wealth in which the health conditions approved by the competent authorities in the concerned emirates are met.
  - 3- In the premises of the previous applicant for license there shall be working technicians specialized and experience in such work.
  - 4- He shall undertake not to buy, sell, store or deal with fish that are caught in the fishing waters of the country.
  - 5- He shall pay the approved fees.



- 6- He shall attach with the application for license.
1. A copy of the passport and the summary of the family's entries or a copy of a valid deed or a valid certificate of establishing a corporate body and a statement of the permanent address and domicile.
  2. The permanent address and the telephone number.
  3. A copy of a valid title deed or tenancy contract of the cooling stores.
  4. A copy of a valid registration book of a frozen transport vehicle or vehicles.
  5. Copy of the cards of laborers working on the project.

### **Article (73)**

It is impermissible to hold both local fish exporter license and import and re-export license.

### **Article (74)**

To allow transit for freights of live aquatic wealth which were impounded outside the waters of the country, it's compelling to:

- 1- Produce a certificate of origin from the exporter's country specifying the intended destination and the boarded quantities and kinds.
- 2- Overlay with lead the vehicle or the means crossing the boarder in the country of origin and never dissociating lead or discharging the load in the country except with the knowledge of the competent authority or the competent department.

## **Chapter Nine** **General And Conclusive Decisions**

### **Article (75)**

The exporters and craftsmen involved with exporting or re-exporting or processing the live aquatic wealth shall keep proper records for entering the data relating to their activity and provide the ministry with a copy of the same at least once a year, that includes:

- a) With respect to the exporters of local live aquatic wealth:



- 1- Quantities and kinds of fish already exported by months.
  - 2- Price of each exported kind as per the intended destination.
  - 3- Destinations to which export was made.
  - 4- Means of export by land by sea or by air.
  - 5- Comparing the quantities and prices with the approved fees.
- b) Dealers with re-export
- 1- Quantities and kinds of wealth exported by months.
  - 2- Source of such quantities and kinds.
  - 3- Destinations to which export was made.
  - 4- Value of imports and value of exports.
  - 5- Comparing the quantities and prices with the approved fees.
- c) Dealers with processing
- 1- Quantities and kinds of aquatic wealth imported monthly.
  - 2- Quantities, kinds and forms of products exported monthly.
  - 3- Value of imports
  - 4- Value of exports
  - 5- Destinations intended for export.
  - 6- Comparing quantities and prices with the approved fees.

#### **Article (76)**

All fishermen, persons and crafts people who are mentioned hereby shall adapt their status subject to the content of the articles hereby and the decisions made in execution thereof.

#### **Article (77)**

The provision hereby shall apply as from the date of its publication in the official gazette.

**Saeed Bin Mohammed Al Raghabani**  
**Minister Of Agriculture And Fisheries**

**Issued on 15<sup>th</sup> Jamadi Al Ula 1922 Hijri**  
**corresponding to: 7<sup>th</sup> August 2001**