

## **Law No. 42 of 2014**

### **Promulgating The Environment Protection Law**

- Having perused the constitution,
- and the penal law promulgated by law no. 16 of 1960, and amending laws thereto,
- and the law No. 17 of 1960 on promulgating the penal procedures code and amending laws thereto,
- and the law No. 12 of 1964 regarding the prevention of polluting navigational water with oil, and amending laws thereto,
- and the law No. 30 of 1964, of establishing the Audit Bureau, and amending laws thereto,
- and the law No. 37 of 1964 of establishing the Central Tenders Committee, and the amending laws thereto,
- and the Decree issued for determining the width of the regional territorial seawaters of the State of Kuwait on 17/12/1967
- and the law No. 28 of 1969 regarding the work in oil sector activities,
- and the law No. 19 of 1973, concerning conservation of the petroleum resources,
- and the law No. 131 of 1977 organizing the use of ionizing radiation and protection against its dangers,
- and the Law Decree No. 18 of 1978 regarding the safety systems, and the protection of public utilities and the public wealth resources, and amending laws thereto,
- and Kuwait regional agreement for cooperation in the protection of the marine environment against pollution for the year 1978
- and the Law Decree No. 31 of 1978 on the rules of preparing public budgets sheets, monitoring their implementation, the final account and amending laws thereto,
- and the law No. 15 of 1979 regarding the Civil Service, and amending laws thereto,
- and the Decree promulgated on the Civil Service issued on 4/4/1979
- and the Law Decree No. 28 of 1980 of issuing the law of maritime trade

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- and the Law No. 94 of 1983 regarding the establishment of the Public Authority of Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources, and amending Laws thereto,
- and the Law Decree No. 9 of 1987 prohibiting certain activities which are detrimental to the public cleanliness and plants,
- and the Law No. 15 of 1995 regarding combating smoking,
- and the Law No. 21 of 1995 regarding the establishment of the Environment Public Authority, amended by the Law No. (16) of 1996;
- and the Law No. 56 of 1996 concerning the establishment of the Public Authority for Industry and amending laws thereto,
- and the Law No. (10) of 2003 of issuing the Unified Customs Law for the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council,
- and the Law No. (5) of 2005 concerning Kuwait Municipality and the amending laws thereto,
- and the Law No. (6) of 2010 regarding the Labour in the Private Sector,

The National Assembly approved the following law, which we hereby ratify and promulgate:

**Preamble Section**  
**General Provisions**  
**Chapter One: Definitions**

**(Article 1)**

In the enforcement of the provisions of this Law, the following terms shall each have the meaning assigned opposite thereto:

- The Authority: The Environment Public Authority
- The Supreme Council: The Environment Supreme Council
- The Board of Directors: The Board of Directors of the Environment Public Authority

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- The Director General: The Director General of the Environment Public Authority
- The Concerned Authorities: All the executive authorities concerned with any of the affairs related to environment and development
- Closed Public Place: the place that has the shape of an integrated building, and is not aerated except through outlets prepared for this purpose. Public Means of Transportation are considered among the closed public places.
- Semi-Closed Public Place: the place that has the shape of a non-integrated building and is directly opened to external air and cannot be completely closed.
- Environment: The biological and physical surroundings that enclose living organisms including humans, animals, plants and all their surroundings of natural habitats, air, water, soil, and their contents of solid, liquid, gas materials, or natural radiations, in addition to fixed and mobile constructions erected by humans.
- Polluting Materials and Factors: Any materials, whether liquid, solid, or gas, or smoke, or vapour or microorganisms (like bacteria and viruses) or other micro- and non-micro-organisms or odours or noise or radiation or heat or glare of light or vibrations resulting from the activity of humans, or nature such as earthquakes and floods, which directly or indirectly cause the pollution of the environment or lead to violation of the environmental balance or causes damage to the human health or the health of other living organisms.
- Environment Pollution: All human and natural activities that contribute to the existence of any of polluting materials or factors in the environment, in amounts or characteristics that, directly or indirectly, lead, either alone or through interaction and reaction with other materials, to the damage of the public health or performing such works or activities that may lead to the deterioration of the

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natural ecological system, or hinder enjoying life and benefiting from the private and public properties.

- **Pollution Source:** The place through which there is a release or emission of substances or pollutants or energy to the surrounding environment (air, water and soil). The pollution source may be a point source (like chimneys, sewers, industrial areas and waste dumping areas “landfills”) or movable source (such as vehicles, ships and aircrafts).
- **Environment Protection:** a set of policies and measures that aim at protecting the natural resources and environmental systems and the procedures that ensure the prevention of pollution or mitigation of its severity or combating it as well as the conservation of environment, its natural resources and biodiversity and the rehabilitation of areas degraded because of the harmful practices and the establishment of land and marine reserves, defining buffer zones around point sources of pollution as well as preventing harmful behaviours or detrimental practices to the environment, and encouraging positive behavior patterns.
- **Air Pollution:** is the introduction of any polluted materials or factors (chemical or physical or biological) or energy into the air leading to a change in the characteristics and specifications of natural air and atmosphere, and their existence in concentrations and for long time periods that have adverse and hazard effects to the human health or to the environment, whether such pollution is the result of natural resources or resulting from human activity.
- **Internal Environment:** the physical surroundings and installations where humans exist. This applies also to the environmental conditions that surround humans within the residential, commercial facilities, etc.
- **Work Environment:** the physical surroundings, circumstances and conditions surrounding the human being in places where he exists to carry out his work, whether inside or outside buildings and facilities.

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- **Ozone Layer:** is one of the upper atmosphere layers (the lower part of the stratosphere layer of the atmosphere) containing high concentrations of ozone gas, and absorbs harmful ultraviolet radiation emitted from the sun and prevent its arrival to the earth surface.
- **Ground Ozone:** a gas that is formed as a secondary pollutant near the ground as a result of the interaction between the primary air pollutants (nitrogen oxides and vapours of organic compounds) and sunlight.
- **Substances Depleting the Ozone Layer:** is a group of manufactured chemical materials (such as Chlorofluorocarbons, Freon gases, and Halons) which, when released into the air and raised to the upper atmosphere (stratosphere) react with the ozone molecule and deplete it, thereby leading to the deterioration of the ozone layer and the expansion of the ozone hole.
- **Greenhouse Gases (GHGs):** are any of the gases that contribute to the absorption of infrared rays emitted from the Earth's hot surface and preventing it from spreading and scattering in outer space, which leads to the trapping of heat in the ground atmosphere and therefore making it warm.
- **Climate Change:** is the occurrence of significant changes in the distribution of statistical forms of climate over time periods extending to tens of years. Such changes occur in medium time period and severe weather conditions around the world (such as increased temperature of the atmosphere, sea-level rise and changes in the forms of wind, etc.).
- **Water Pollution:** the release of any material or energy in the aquatic environment deliberately or unintentionally, directly or indirectly, resulting in damages to living resources or threatening human health or obstructing water activities including fishing, spoiling navigational activities, tourism and development, or quality of

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seawater , or deprives its suitability for use by people thereof, or altering its properties.

- **Soil Contamination:** incidental changes in the physical, chemical or biological characteristics of the soil in a manner that adversely affect its efficiency.
- **Integrated Environmental Management of Coastal Areas:** A style of management that depends on contribution of all concerned authorities through coordination among them in a manner that guarantees conservation of the environment in the coastal areas.
- **Natural Resources:** are all materials and natural compounds that are exploited by man for industrial and development purposes and improving the style of life. They can be utilized either directly (such as air, water, land, animals, fish and plants) or indirectly (such as oil, gas and alternative energies).
- **Biodiversity:** These are the numbers, types, species, races and genetic variations in living organisms located in a particular geographical area or in natural habitats or ecosystems. The extent and degree of biodiversity serve as indicators to measure the health of ecosystems.
- **Sustainable Development:** The development which is aimed at the rational use of natural resources to satisfy the needs of the present generation while maintaining these resources and without disturbing the ecosystems to meet the needs of future generations.
- **Environmental Impact:** is the tool through which positive and negative impacts - whether direct or indirect, immediate or future – are detected and which result from projects, via prediction of measures to avoid adverse impacts on human health and protect the surrounding environment.
- **Environmental Impact Assessment Studies:** are comprehensive scientific studies to assess the overall impacts associated with the

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various projects and activities on environment before starting to implement such projects, or when any modifications or extensions to existing ones are applied, pursuant to the decisions issued by the competent authority. These include studies to determine the expected effects, predicting them, measuring and interpreting them, as well as identifying methods controlling them to reduce or minimize their negative impacts during the various phases of the project.

- **Environmental Auditing:** A set of assessment procedures conducted by specialized environmental consulting firms to identify executive environmental compliance gaps in the system and the environmental management of the facility, and the corrective actions related to the same. These actions include the preparation of the facility for obtaining the international certification of approved environmental management systems.
- **The Competent Minister:** Prime Minister or First Deputy Prime Minister.
- **Environmental Inspection:** are the field operations carried out by judicial officers at all facilities, on activities and development projects in order to verify the degree of commitment to the application of the environmental regulations, requirements and measuring standards, which may require the use of appliances and equipment, different mechanisms and systems, sampling and the relevant scientific and technical documentation of such samples.
- **Judicial officers:** are the Authority employees or others who are appointed by the Competent Minister, and qualified to monitor the implementation of this Law and its Executive Bylaw and regulations.
- **Marine Environment Pollution:** means that human activity, either directly or indirectly – intentionally or unintentionally – adds or extracts materials or energy from the marine environment in a manner that could result in drastic impacts on human health or adversely affect vital resources or ecosystems or hinder aspects of maritime activity, including fishing, or those that can reduce the

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degree of water quality and its validity for certain uses or lead to negative effects to the legitimate uses of the marine environment.

- **Discharge:** is all leakage, spillage, emission, release or discharge, whether intentional or unintentional, of any type of polluted materials (solid, liquid, gaseous and dust) or a form of energy, to the surrounding environment (air, water, soil) or their disposal in the restricted areas.
- **Hazardous Materials:** are materials that result in detrimental hazards to human health or living organisms, either directly or indirectly, and include, but not limited to, chemical, biological and radioactive materials, and solid and liquid wastes.
- **Sewage Water:** is water discharged from human complex sites (such as residential, commercial, industrial areas, etc.), containing human solid and liquid effluents (such as oils, grease, sediment and solid residues and substances dissolved in water, and from germs and bacteria) which are transferred to treatment sites through sewage networks or by tankers allocated for this purpose.
- **Sewage Water Treatment Plants:** are facilities or equipment which are specially designed for the reception of raw sewage waters for the purpose of their treatment through mechanical, physical, chemical and biological methods and extracting the same from polluted materials that are harmful to the environment and public health and allows from benefiting from the same once again.
- **Sludge:** are substances that are precipitated during the treatment of liquid wastes in specialized hygienic and industrial treatment plants. Such materials are usually in semi-solid form and contain many organic or hazardous materials and require a special treatment depending on their composition.
- **Industrial Discharge:** These are liquid wastes generated by a set of manufacturing processes in industrial facilities and development

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activities which need to be treated on site or transferred to specialized treatment sites.

- **Solid Municipal Wastes:** These are solid wastes and materials that result from houses, residential communities and commercial activities (such as foodstuff wastes, house wastes including paper, cardboard, packing wastes, canning wastes, as well as plastic, wood, glass and metal wastes).
- **Waste Dumping Sites (Landfills):** are the sites which are selected, used and managed in order to dispose of one type or more of wastes through dumping above the ground or in low sites or under the ground, which may result in many environmental impacts, depending on the type of wastes and the method adopted for their disposal.
- **Hazardous Waste:** highly toxic liquid, solid or gaseous wastes or wastes having the ability to cause corrosion to materials or as a result of being flammable or explosive, and which constitute, either directly or indirectly, a high risk to human health, living organisms and ecosystems.
- **Medical Waste:** these are wastes resulting from the activities of medical complexes and hospitals, medical centers and health clinics, and all kinds of blood banks, clinical laboratories, medical research centers, and veterinary clinics.
- **Hazardous Materials:** are materials with hazardous properties that are harmful to human health or adversely affect the environment, such as infectious, toxic, explosive or flammable substances or those with ionizing radiation.
- **Nuclear Waste:** these are materials of radioactive nature that emit ionized radiations such as cesium and uranium and which result from operations of power generation from nuclear plants and some industrial and medical uses, as well as the phases of the nuclear fuel cycle. The nuclear waste is divided into three levels: the first level of

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high radiation power, the second level of medium radiation power, and the third level of low radiation.

- **Radioactivity Rate:** The ratio that must not exceed the extent that harms human health or the environment, i.e. any amount of ionizing radiation to which the body is exposed continuously or intermittently or for an indefinite period of time that shall not result in perceptible damage thereto.
- **Polluted Materials Reception Facilities:** are plants, equipment and docks allocated for the reception, precipitation, treatment, and discharge of waste and polluted materials.
- **Pollution Damage:** means every loss resulting from the pollution of environment with a harmful substance whatever its cause may be, including the cost of pollution control measures, rehabilitation and all loss or damage caused by such measures.
- **Rescue Measures:** means all preventive measures taken by any person or entity before, during or after any pollution accident for the purpose of combating pollution and reducing its effects.
- **Incident:** means every incident or series of incidents from a single source or multiple sources, which resulted in pollution.
- **Oil:** Includes all types of crude oil (petroleum) and products. This includes any type of gaseous and liquid petroleum hydrocarbons, lubricants, fuel oils, refined oils, furnace oil, bitumen and other materials extracted from the oil and its wastes.
- **Oily Mixture:** means any mixture containing a quantity of oil regardless of its content.
- **Unclean Balance Ballast Water:** is the water placed in the tank of a ship which is used to keep the balance, if its contents of oil are in excess of 10 parts per million.

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- Ship: any floating marine vessel, regardless of its shape or form, and whether it is fixed or moving freely.
- Drilling Associated Water: it is the contaminated water resulting and discharged from drilling operations, exploration, well testing or oil production operations.
- Rehabilitation: Every measure taken to restore balance to the environment after being exposed to a pollution incident, including all administrative and site efforts to ensure the restoration of the environment to its natural state and in accordance with the criteria set out by the competent authorities.

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**Chapter Two:  
Scope of Enforcing the Law and Its Objectives**

**(Article 2)**

The provisions of this law are applicable to all public and private entities, as well as the individuals.

**(Article 3)**

This law aims at achieving the following objectives:

1. Protection of the environment and its natural resources and maintaining the natural balance in the entire territory of the State.
2. Combating the environmental pollution and degradation in all its forms and avoiding any immediate or long-term damage resulting from the plans and programs of economic, agricultural, industrial, touristic, architectural development or other activities and development programs that aim at improving the living standards.
3. Development of natural resources and ensuring the achievement of the sustainable development objectives and the conservation of biodiversity in the full territory of the State.
4. Protection of society, human health and living organisms against all hazard activities.
5. Protection of the environment against the hazard activities and actions that take place outside the territory of the State.

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**Chapter Three:**  
**Management of Environment Affairs**  
**First: Environment Supreme Council**

**(Article 4)**

The Environment Supreme Council shall be formed under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister or the First Deputy Prime Minister and the membership of a number of Ministers to be selected by the Chairman of the Supreme Council. The Director General of the Authority shall be a member of the Council and its rapporteur. The Supreme Council shall include in its membership three members who shall be duly competent and experienced in the field of environment protection, to be appointed in a virtue of a decree for four years renewable for another similar term. Such decree shall fix their remunerations. The Supreme Council shall issue an internal regulation that regulates its work procedures, and the manner of adopting its decisions. The Supreme Council shall work within the frame of the general policy of the government, and shall take all necessary measures that protect the State territorial areas against pollution regardless of its source, and shall achieve of the objectives stated in this law.

Also, the Supreme Council shall be concerned with the following:

1. Drafting the general policy of environment protection in the State.
2. Approving the national plans for environment protection and emergency plans for confronting environmental disasters.
3. Following up the implementation of all concerned governmental authorities of the provisions of this law, and settling any disputes or conflicts in the jurisdictions that may hinder the achievement of policies and objectives and clauses therein.
4. Approving the Authority annual balance sheet.

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5. Selecting the representatives of two non-governmental societies concerned with the environment affairs for the membership of the Board of Directors.
6. Approving the internal regulation of the Board of Directors pursuant to the proposal made by the Board.
7. Approving the Authority annual work plan as well as reviewing and assessing the same periodically.
8. Following up the environmental situation and working on the enhancement of the environment quality and management in the country.
9. Reviewing and approving the annual report of the environmental performance of governmental agencies, and following up the remedy of any default by the State agencies stated in such report.
10. Adopting the financial regulations of salaries and wages of the Authority employees.
11. Approving the organizational structure of the Authority.
12. Adopting the formation of the auxiliary standing committees and adopting their financial budgets.
13. Imposing legal penalties on companies, establishments and agencies in violation of the provisions of this law and the environmental regulations and standards provided for in its Executive Bylaw.

### **(Article 5)**

A decision shall be issued by the Supreme Council for the formation of the Authority Board of Directors for a term of four years, renewable for one similar term. The Board of Directors shall be under the chairmanship of the Director General and the membership of:

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1. A representative for each of the Ministry of health, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Communication, Ministry of Electricity and Water, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Ministry of Public Works, Ministry of Information, Ministry of Oil, Kuwait Municipality, Public Authority for Industry, Kuwait University, Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources, provided that the grade of each representative shall not be less than an Assistant Undersecretary, to be selected by the Competent Minister.
2. Two representatives of the Public Utility Societies concerned with the environment.

## **Second: The Environment Public Authority**

### **(Article 6)**

The Environment Public Authority (The Authority) is a public body with legal entity and has its annexed budget. It concerns with the affairs of the environment and has the general jurisdiction over environmental affairs in the State. The Authority is annexed to the Council of Ministers and is overseen by the Environment Supreme Council.

### **(Article 7)**

The Authority shall be concerned with all works, tasks and activities that protect the environment in the country, including but not limited to the following:

1. Setting and enforcing the general policy of the government concerning environment protection, and setting the strategies and work plans for environment protection and conservation of natural resources and ecosystems, as well as achieving the objectives of sustainable development, including the appropriate scientific, environmental and health criteria for the human living, as well as industrial and structural expansion besides the utilization of natural

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resources for maintaining the workers' health, and the safety of all utilities and work environment, in addition to the protection of environment and maintaining environmental balance in general.

2. Preparing and supervising the implementation of integrated work plans including all these relevant to the environment protection on both the short and long term in coordination with the competent authorities and in the light of the environmental policies.
3. Supervising and controlling the activities, procedures and practices concerned with environment protection, in addition to their follow up and evaluation.
4. Defining pollutants and setting standards for the quality of the environment and preparing drafts of laws, regulations, systems and stipulations for the protection of the environment and following up their implementation, and sets the necessary controls to prevent, reduce and control environmental pollution, in coordination with the State concerned authorities.
5. Preparing and participating in the guidance and support of researches and studies in the field of environment protection, and conservation of resources as well as realizing the environment development and following up the evaluation of their results as well as implementing the recommendations issued in this concern through the competent authorities in the State.
6. Identifying the problems arising from environmental pollution and degradation in cooperation with the local and international organizations and agencies concerned with such environmental issues and propose suitable solutions thereto and traces the implementation thereof.
7. Studying regional and international agreements concerned with the environment and providing opinion regarding the accession of such agreements in coordination with the concerned authorities and

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cooperating and coordinating with such organizations with regard to the implementation of the provisions of those agreements.

8. Following up the recent developments in the International Law in the field of environment protection.
9. Coordinating the State relationship with the international and regional organizations concerned with environmental affairs.
10. Setting the general framework for environmental education and awareness programs, increasing the level of environmental awareness as well as achieving the positive community participation in environmental protection.
11. Developing and conducting comprehensive environmental surveys and continuous monitoring programs of the environmental criteria and parameters in all environmental sectors as well as carrying out the environmental surveillance and measurement operations and the continuous follow up of environment quality.
12. Setting a comprehensive plan for confronting environmental disasters, and taking the necessary actions for confronting the same during the time of war and peace in coordination and cooperation with the concerned authorities.
13. Setting a comprehensive work plan for supporting the nongovernmental organizations, and training different sectors of the society on the different means and methods of environmental protection, in cooperation with the concerned authorities.
14. Preparing a system for environmental impact assessment of the different State projects, and developing the necessary guidelines and procedures, as well as giving its firm opinion prior to the approval of their execution by the concerned authorities.
15. Studying the environmental reports submitted to it about the environmental conditions in the country and taking the necessary

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actions as well as preparing an annual report that includes the general environmental situation and the environmental performance of the governmental organizations in the State of Kuwait.

16. Issuing the necessary approvals to specialized companies, organizations and consulting offices in the field of preparing environmental impact assessment studies, or providing environmental consultancy or environmental auditing and organizations working in the field environmental services and environmental laboratories for practicing such activities.
17. Establishing and developing an environmental comprehensive database for the State and working for improving the procedures of taking decisions regarding the environment and achieving the electronic linking with the State organizations, and the exchange of information between them.
18. Preparing the environmental statements and indicators of the State of Kuwait and publishing them in official reports and statistics of the Authority and the relevant authorities inside and outside the State of Kuwait.
19. Setting the necessary standards and regulations to be applied by project owners and installations, and taking necessary actions stated in the law against the violators of these standards and regulations.

### **(Article 8)**

The Authority shall have a Director General to be appointed by a Decree in the Grade of an Undersecretary for the term of four years renewable to one similar term. The Director General should be competent, experienced and specialized in the environment related fields. He should be responsible for implementing all decisions of the Authority. The Director General represents the Authority before Judiciary, and in its relationship with third parties. He may have one or more Deputies, to be appointed by a Decree.

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## **(Article 9)**

The Board of Directors of the Environment Public Authority has all the capacities necessary for achieving its objectives as stated in this law, and in particular:

1. Supervising the execution of policies set by the Environment Supreme Council.
2. Proposing national plans for environment protection and emergency plans for confronting environmental disasters and supervising the implementation of the same after being duly approved by the Supreme Council.
3. Preparing the organizational structure of the Authority and designating the necessary bodies thereof and determining its jurisdictions.
4. Preparing the internal regulations for the Board of Directors provided it includes the following:
  - a. Specifying the jurisdictions of the Director General and his Deputies.
  - b. Organizing the functions of the Board of Directors, the manner of taking its decisions, the rules and regulations for committees and work teams meetings.
  - c. Determining the remunerations of the members of the Board of Directors, Deputies of the Director General, members of the committees, members and work teams as well as experts and consultants.
5. Issuing the internal regulations of the Authority including the administrative bylaws, employees appointment regulations, their remunerations, their promotions as well as their in cash and in kind benefits, cash grants, disciplinary penalties and termination of their

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services without violation of the provisions of articles 5 and 38 of the Civil Service Law. The provisions of Civil Service Law and System apply to all the employees of the authority, unless otherwise particularly stated in its internal regulations.

6. Approving the drafts of the Authority annual budget.
7. Proposing the drafts of laws and decrees related to the Authority.
8. Proposing the formation of standing supporting committees and approving their recommendations. The Board may delegate the Director General or any of its committees in some of its jurisdictions.
9. Setting schedules of fees and charges collected by the Authority against the services it renders.
10. Approving the development, upgrading and amendment of environmental standards, regulations, and bylaws.
11. Reviewing and approving the imposing penalties against violators as stated in the law of environmental protection, and approving reconciliation regulations with those committing environmental violations.

#### **(Article 10)**

The Authority shall have an annexed budget within the General State Budget. In preparation of this budget, the rules and regulations applicable to the general budget of the State shall apply. The fiscal year of the Authority shall commence with the fiscal year of the government and end therewith. The only exception to this shall be the first fiscal year, which shall commence with the date of putting this law into effect, and shall end with the end of the next fiscal year to the date of issuing this law.

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**(Article 11)**

The Authority financial resources consist of:

1. Its annual allocations in the State General Budget.
2. Fees against services the Authority render to other parties.
3. Aids and donations granted by national and international authorities for the purposes of environment protection and development as approved by the Board of Directors.
4. The revenue from any experimental projects carried out by the Authority.

**(Article 12)**

In exception of the provisions of article 16 of the Law number 15 of 1978 referred to above, the aids and donations by national and international authorities to the Authority shall be its own property for the purpose of environment protection and development as approved by the Board of Directors. Such aids and gifts should only be spent for the purpose they are given to, and with a decision from the Board of Directors.

**Third: Environment Protection Fund**

**(Article 13)**

A special fund shall be established in the Authority under the title of Environment Protection fund, and should be supervised by the Supreme Council of Environment, and the following shall devolve to it:

- The amounts allocated by the State in its budget for supporting the fund
- The fines and compensations as ruled by the court or agreed upon for damages to the environment.
- Any other resources as approved by the Supreme Council.

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**(Article 14)**

The Environment Supreme Council shall issue a decision concerning the internal regulations of the fund, specifying its purposes and working system.

**(Article 15)**

The fund shall be concerned with the following:

1. Establishing projects aiming at protection of the environment and conserving its resources, as well as maintaining its natural balance.
2. Supporting the containment efforts of natural disasters.
3. Establishing the projects of rehabilitating damaged sites in the country.
4. Encouraging shift towards green economy and sustainable development.
5. Supporting investment in the field of environment sciences and technologies, and upgrading national cadres for working in this field.
6. Supporting investment in the sector of environmental education and establishing educational and awareness centers related to the environmental fields.
7. Supporting environmental researches and studies relevant to the fund projects.
8. Supporting official environmental civil community institutions, and encouraging the participation of other civil community organizations operating in non-environmental fields to enable them to drive in the direction of protecting environment, each in its field of jurisdiction.

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**Section One**  
**Development and Environment**  
**Chapter One:**  
**Environmental Impact Assessment**

**(Article 16)**

All entities subject to the provisions of this law are prohibited to commence the implementation of any project, or conducting any alterations or expansions to the existing activities, or obtaining any licenses of the same, but after carrying out environmental impact assessment studies pursuant to the rules, regulations and procedures set by the Executive Bylaw of this law.

**(Article 17)**

No entity, whether a company, an organization, a consulting office, a center or a laboratory, or any other entities with multiple activities may practice any activity or service or provide any consultancy in the field of environment unless it obtains the approval of the Authority to the same, pursuant to the regulations and procedures set by the Executive Bylaw of this law.

**Chapter Two:**  
**Professional Surrounding and Internal Surrounding**

**(Article 18)**

All installations shall comply with all the engineering and environmental regulations set by the Executive Bylaw of this law.

**(Article 19)**

In practicing their activities, all installations shall ensure the safety of its workers and shall not expose them to any damage resulting from the emission or leakage of any polluted materials in their working environment, whether resulting from the nature of practicing the activities or due to a

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malfunction its devices. Every installation should take the necessary precautions for not exceeding the allowed safe limits for exposure to chemical materials, noise, vibrations, heat, humidity, light, ultrasonic waves, non-active radiations and to abide by any other regulations specified in the Executive Bylaw of this law.

**(Article 20)**

It is conditional that closed and semi-enclosed public places should satisfy the satisfactory ventilation conditions that match the size of the place and its capacity as well as the type of activity practiced therein, in order to guarantee air renewal and purity, along with abidance with the airflow rates as specified in the Executive Bylaw of this law.



**Section Two**  
**Protection of Terrestrial Environment from Pollution**  
**Chapter One: Management of Chemical Substances and Hazardous**  
**Wastes**  
**First: Management of Chemical Substances**

**(Article 21)**

Production or handling chemical substances specified in the Executive Bylaw of this law is prohibited unless the necessary license is obtained from the competent authority upon the approval of the Authority.

The Authority may cease the activity or file an application for cancelling the license from the issuing authority if the product is proved to be hazard to environment or health. In all cases, approval of the Authority for the product is a pre-requisite prior to its marketing or importing.

**(Article 22)**

All parties that produce, pack, handle, store, transport, import or export chemical substances or while their transit across the territory of the State of Kuwait should abide by the environmental procedures and criteria specified in the Executive Bylaw of this law.

**(Article 23)**

Approval of the competent authorities should be obtained upon importing or exporting hazardous or chemical materials. This is conditioned by the completion of testing, compliance, and auditing procedures by the competent authority or by companies duly qualified for this purpose.

The Executive Bylaw of this law specifies the procedures and requirements regulating this, and the required records, and the responsibilities of the competent authorities towards the same.

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**(Article 24)**

The Authority shall coordinate with the competent authorities for implementing the requirements of the international agreements regarding the management of chemical substances, hazardous wastes as well as the conduct of comprehensive national surveys of the emission of chemical compounds. The Authority is also concerned, within two years of the issuance of this law, with the preparation of the national program for chemical safety, and setting the plans and time tables for implementing the same in cooperation with competent authorities in the country.

**Second: Management of Hazardous,  
Medical and Solid Municipal Waste and Sludge**

**(Article 25)**

Importing, bringing, dumping, sinking or storing nuclear wastes or their disposal in any form within the territory of the State of Kuwait is completely prohibited.

To allow the transit of any marine, air, or land means of transportation carrying any of such wastes through the territory of the State of Kuwait is strictly prohibited without a prior permission of the Authority in coordination with the competent authorities in the State of Kuwait.

**(Article 26)**

It is strictly prohibited to handle the low radiation radioactive waste generated from hospitals or certain industries without a prior license from the competent authorities. Such wastes should be disposed off pursuant to the environmental regulations and standards specified in the Executive Regulations of this law.

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**(Article 27)**

It is totally prohibited to import or export hazardous wastes, or allowing their transit across the territory of the State of Kuwait, with the exception of exporting the hazardous waste which the State of Kuwait does not have the technical ability, the necessary facilities or the appropriate means or ports for the disposal of the same. In all cases, the approval of the Authority to such action is obligatory.

**(Article 28)**

Collection, transportation, and disposal of solid municipal wastes, hazardous and medical wastes and the sludge resulting from sewage and industrial wastes are totally prohibited without getting the necessary license from the competent authorities. The Executive Bylaw of this law specifies the procedures and conditions of issuing such licenses as well as the mechanism of handling and dealing with such materials.

**(Article 29)**

All types of hazardous and medical wastes and all types of sludge shall be disposed of pursuant to the environmental regulations and standards specified by the Executive Bylaw of this law. It is prohibited to dispose of any type of such wastes by direct dumping in sites that are not environmentally allotted for this purpose.

**(Article 30)**

Solid municipal waste should be disposed of pursuant to the environmental regulations and standards specified by the Executive Bylaw of this law. The concerned authorities shall abide to the completion of the infrastructure necessary for recycling the solid municipal wastes within a maximum period of five years from the date of issuing this law.

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**(Article 31)**

The sources that generate the hazardous waste, medical waste, or sludge in addition to the competent authorities entrusted to the collection, transportation and disposal of all types of wastes shall abide to provide the Authority with the details of such wastes, and maintaining a special register for the same. The Executive Bylaw of this law shall specify the required information, transport and management mechanism.

**(Article 32)**

Throwing, treating, or burning solid municipal wastes is prohibited except in facilities allocated for this purpose, and it must be taking into consideration that such facilities shall be far away from human populations and environmentally sensitive areas. The Executive Bylaw of this law specifies the specifications and regulations related to these facilities and their locations.

**(Article 33)**

It is strictly prohibited to throw garbage or wastes of all types except in the containers allocated for this purpose.

**(Article 34)**

The Authority is concerned with coordinating with other competent authorities for the preparation of the National Program for Integrated Waste Management, including the preparation, development and upgrading of a national strategy for the integrated management of solid municipal waste, medical, liquid and hazardous wastes, duly accompanied with the necessary work plans, State organization liability, supervision and monitoring programs and scheduled tables for their implementation. The Authority abides to present the said program to the Supreme Council for approval within three years maximum from the date of issuing this law.

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**(Article 35)**

It is prohibited to connect the clinical and industrial liquid wastes with the public storm water and sewage waste networks. The concerned authorities are abide to establish special treatment plants for these areas within the maximum period of seven years from the date of issuing this law.

**(Article 36)**

It is prohibited to construct new landfills in the State of Kuwait or to expand the existing ones without the approval of the Supreme Council. In all cases, environmental impact assessment studies should be carried out, and such new construction or expansion should abide to the regulations stated in the Executive Bylaw of this law. The competent authorities should set a detailed plan for the management, rehabilitation and restoration of all landfills in the country within one year from the issue date of this law, provided that this plan shall be submitted to the Supreme Council for approval.

**(Article 37)**

Concerned authorities shall, within five years of issuing this law, conduct a comprehensive inventory of the types, amounts and locations of Asbestos waste in the country, and dispose of such hazardous wastes in qualified sites for this purpose. The government shall bear the financial obligation resulting from the collection, transport and disposal of such wastes from private residence and governmental facilities areas.

**(Article 38)**

The authorities concerned with the construction of sewage networks and storm water networks, shall obtain the necessary environmental approvals prior to the construction of the same. They shall also monitor and maintain the same to ensure the safety of marine environment and quality and efficiency of treatment plants.

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**(Article 39)**

The concerned authorities are abide to set the necessary standard specifications for all recycled materials, the nature and type and utilization mechanisms in such a manner to ensure the safety and competence of such utilization. The government shall grant the recycled materials within its territory, which match the standard specifications, priority of use in its projects, in support of the recycling industries.

## **Chapter Two: Protecting Land and Agricultural Environment from Pollution**

### **(Article 40)**

Whoever visits the wild areas for camps erection or any other purpose is prohibited to carry out any other activity that may cause damage to soil or affect its natural characteristics or polluting it in a manner that affects its productivity. The Executive Bylaw of this law shall specify the regulations and standards to be abided by in this concern.

### **(Article 41)**

Direct grazing or using lands in agriculture or exercising any other activity that would be detrimental to the quality or quantity of vegetation in any area in a manner leading to desertification, degradation of the environment or wildlife is strictly prohibited.

Also, it is prohibited causing damage to plants and trees, picking flowers in public squares and streets and public areas or uprooting trees and wild plants in the public lands.

The only exception of the above is what is specified in the Executive Bylaw of this law for development purposes. In all cases, such removal of greenery areas and trees should be compensated for.

### **(Article 42)**

The Authority shall, in cooperation with the concerned authorities, determine the conditions for insecticides, pesticides, fertilizers and soil improving materials with respect to the following:

1. Types and specifications of such materials that may be produced, manufactured, imported, handled, or used in the country.

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2. The controls for the allowed insecticides to be applied on locally produced or imported foods.
3. Conditions to be abided by disposal of the wastes of insecticides or compounds used in manufacturing them, or whose validity has expired.
4. Procedures of registering or renewing the registration of such materials.
5. Conditions and specifications of sampling such materials and the methods used in the analysis and evaluation of results.
6. How to monitor, evaluate and address the pollution resulting from the trading of these materials or their unsafe or incorrect usage.

**(Article 43)**

It is prohibited to spray or use pesticides, organic chlorine insecticides or any other chemical compounds for the purposes of agriculture, public health or other purposes unless the conditions, controls and safeguards are determined by the Executive Bylaw of this law.

**(Article 44)**

The competent authority concerned with the activity of extraction or importing quarry materials shall cooperate with the Authority and the rest of the competent authorities to identify areas and land allocated for the extraction of these materials or organizing the existing ones according to the terms and conditions specified in the Executive Bylaw of this law and taking into account the demarcation of such lands on the basis of geological and environmental surveys for the various areas in the territory of the country.

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**(Article 45)**

The authority granting the license for practicing the quarry material activity should monitor all other activities related to this work such as extraction, handling, import, storage and sale of these materials, including supervision, control, prevention of contraventions and reactivation of penalties provided in this law.

**(Article 46)**

It is not allowed to construct, expand, develop or merge any quarry or divide the same into more than one project, or conduct any form of change, unless a license in this regard is issued by the concerned authority. No license may be issued to practice this activity except for the companies qualified by the competent authorities.

In all cases, the practitioners of this activity shall abide to rehabilitate the sites after the expiry of the term of their work, pursuant to the conditions specified by the Authority in this concern.

**(Article 47)**

Upon constructing installations in the wild environment it should be taken into account the application of protective methods against sand encroachment to reduce their environmental and economic impacts pursuant to what is stipulated the Executive Bylaw of this law.

**Section Three**  
**Protecting The External Air Against Pollution**

**(Article 48)**

The Authority shall carry out continuous monitoring and evaluation operations and prepare research and studies for maintaining air quality and reducing the adverse impact resulting from the emission of polluting gases. The Executive Bylaw of this law shall determine air quality standards.

The Authority, in coordination and cooperation with the concerned competent authorities, shall take the necessary actions when exceeding those standards.

**(Article 49)**

The Authority, in coordination with the competent authorities, shall prepare and develop a national strategy for air quality management in the State of Kuwait and sets the necessary work plans and schedules for implementing the same. The Authority shall also be concerned with updating such strategy and evaluating it every five years.

**(Article 50)**

The Authority shall publish the air quality indicators on electronic websites, and inform the public about air quality levels, and the necessary actions to be adopted upon reaching levels of concentration that may affect community health or a particular sector of the society.

**(Article 51)**

The Authority abides to establish, develop and update a national network for continuous monitoring and control of air quality in the State of Kuwait. Authorities in government and private sector also abide by establishing air monitoring and control systems within the scope of their work, and linking such systems with the Authority, as detailed in the Executive Bylaw of this law.

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**(Article 52)**

In practicing their activities, all installations abide not to allow the emission or leak of air pollutants above the allowed limits, as specified by the Executive Bylaw of this law.

Those in charge of the installation should use the appropriate means for continuous monitoring of the rates of gas emissions from different sources in the installation, and reporting immediately to the Authority upon exceeding the permitted limits. The Executive Bylaw of this law specifies the type of installations to which this paragraph applies.

**(Article 53)**

The owner or operator of the installation shall abide by the periodical maintenance of machines and equipment, and by taking all necessary precautions to prevent any leakage or emission of any pollutants which may contaminate the environment.

**(Article 54)**

All entities and individuals, upon practicing any production or service activity, particularly those operating machines and equipment and using the alarming devices and speakers, shall abide not to exceed the allowed limits of noise, and they shall be installed in places prepared for this purpose and do not exceed their borders.

Licensing authorities should take into consideration the use of appropriate machines and equipment, so that the total sounds emerging from point sources are within the allowed limits.

The Executive Bylaw of this law determines the allowable limits of sound intensity, and the allowed period of exposure.

**(Article 55)**

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The establishment of installations emanating noise and causing damage to the neighboring environment is strictly prohibited. The Authority shall work on guaranteeing the enforcement of noise limiting systems in roads, public projects, and around human populations, and pursuant to the Executive Bylaw of this law.

**(Article 56)**

The publicity and advertisement for cigarettes and types of tobacco and its derivatives and accessories are completely prohibited in the territory of the State of Kuwait. Smoking is also prohibited in enclosed and semi-enclosed public places and all means of public transportation. All authorities shall take the necessary action for prohibiting smoking in these places in such a way to prevent detrimental health effects to others.

**(Article 57)**

The competent authority shall abide to the preparation, development, implementation and the updating of the national plan for the disposal of ozone depleting materials and the supervision of its implementation in cooperation with the concerned authorities and the regional and international organizations. The competent authority shall submit an annual report to the Board of Directors on the progress of the plan. The Executive Bylaw of this law shall determine the competent authority and its working mechanism.

**(Article 58)**

It is prohibited to import or export or re-export materials subject to the international agreement governing the ozone depleting materials or its mixtures, or alternatives recycled materials thereof, unless the approval of the Authority is obtained. The Executive Bylaw of this law specifies the ozone depleting the materials and the relevant environmental regulations and standards to be used in handling them. It is possible to delete or add to the list of such materials pursuant to a decision from the Director General.

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**(Article 59)**

It is prohibited to manufacture or import all devices, equipment and products that contain or work with the controlled materials referred to in the above article, including trucks, vehicles, aerosol bottles, sprays and all cooling, air conditioning and water cooling devices, insulating materials, and industrial sponge unless the approval of the Authority is obtained.

**(Article 60)**

It is not allowed to manufacture or use the controlled materials referred to in Article (59) of this law in any new industries or constructions, or in the expansion of any existing installations or in the process of cleaning electronic circles, industrial equipment, air conditioning and refrigeration systems, or in sterilization and drying clothes, unless the approval of the Authority is obtained.

**(Article 61)**

The Authority, in coordination with the competent concerned authorities, and within two years of the effective date of this law, shall establish a Bank for Halons to list the quantities available and imported from these materials and control them. The Executive Bylaw of this law shall determine the jurisdiction and the work system in this bank.

**(Article 62)**

It is prohibited to import, export or manufacture the materials controlled under the attachments (B, C, E) of the Montreal Protocol unless the Authority approval is obtained. The import or export of devices or equipment containing such substances is also prohibited.

**(Article 63)**

Upon carrying out any repairs or maintenance of devices or equipment containing any of the controlled materials, all authorities and individuals

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shall abide to the environmental regulations and standards specified in the Executive Bylaw of this law.

**(Article 64)**

It is prohibited to dispose of containers, cylinders, or wastes containing the materials subject to control unless this is made pursuant to the conditions and regulations stated in the Executive Bylaw of this law.

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**Section Four**  
**Protecting Water and Coastal Environment Against Pollution**  
**Chapter One: Protecting Marine Environment Against Pollution**  
**First: Protection Scope**

**(Article 65)**

The authority shall prepare and follow up the execution of the national plan for marine environment management, accompanied by a timetable for the execution phases, and the liabilities of the concerned authorities towards the same, and the requirements of execution thereof.

**(Article 66)**

The Authority shall establish a national network for monitoring the marine environment, which shall cover all territorial waters of the State of Kuwait. This includes monitoring all indicators of the environmental situation of the marine environment. The Authority shall also be concerned with providing all the requirements for the success of this network, like the infrastructure, such as laboratories, and the prequalification of national cadre etc, within five years of issuing this law. All concerned governmental authorities shall cooperate with the Authority for the execution of this plan.

**(Article 67)**

The provisions of this Chapter shall be applicable to all ships, equipment, ports, land, marine and air facilities located within the borders of the marine areas, and the upper atmosphere layers above them as well as the seabed as stated in Article (68) of this law, regardless of their shape or form, whether they are fixed or movable, as well as the floating and submerged pipelines, the shipping and unloading facilities, etc. It applies also to the high seas if it causes pollution to restricted waters.

In exception of the application of the provisions of this chapter are the vessels and military means of transportation and the like. The exempted

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vessels and means of transportation shall take all the necessary precautions for preventing the pollution of the restricted marine areas.

**(Article 68)**

The following marine areas and the upper atmosphere layers above them as well as the seabed under them shall be considered as restricted areas in which no pollution of the marine environment is permitted regardless of the type of material and the source or the quantities thereof. Committing any action of this type shall be considered as a crime pursuant to the provisions of this law:

- a. The internal waters of the State of Kuwait located behind Kuwait Bay closure line.
- b. The territorial sea of the State of Kuwait which extends up to 12 nautical miles from the base line.
- c. The area adjacent to the territorial sea, which extends up to 24 nautical miles from the base line from which the territorial sea width is measured.
- d. The water adjacent to the territorial seas, which extends up to 50 nautical miles from the base line from which the territorial sea width is measured.

**(Article 69)**

The Authority, in cooperation and coordination with other concerned authorities in the country, shall set an integrated national plan within two years from the date of issuing this law, aiming at mobilizing all the capabilities of all authorities operating within the restricted marine areas, and other related parties, including the equipment, machinery, materials and experiences, for controlling and combating pollution cases and others. The Executive Bylaw of this law shall specify the authority concerned with the management of the plan, its coordination mechanism and its enforcement method.

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## **Second: Pollution From Vessels and Land Sources**

### **(Article 70)**

The ships using the restricted marine areas should be equipped with the equipment and devices necessary for pollution prevention and waste treatment pursuant to international regulations.

### **(Article 71)**

All land sites and the ships allocated for transporting oil with a load over one hundred fifty tons or more and all other ships with a load capacity of four hundred tons or more shall maintain an emergency plan for combating any possible oil pollution which may arise thereof and provide devices and equipment necessary for the implementation of such plan.

### **(Article 72)**

The ships, regardless of their nationality, are prohibited to discharge or throw oil or its wastes or any other harmful materials in the restricted area. They should abide by unloading any waste causing pollution in the reception facilities.

### **(Article 73)**

All industrial, commercial and touristic installations and private residence, whether governmental or non-governmental, are prohibited to discharge any materials or wastes or liquids, which can cause pollution in beaches or nearby water areas thereof, whether intentionally or non-intentionally, directly or indirectly.

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**(Article 74)**

The owner or holder of any place onshore or a device for keeping or transporting oil or waste or sewage waters or any other harmful materials is prohibited to discharge the same in the restricted area.

**(Article 75)**

National and foreign companies and organizations which are duly licensed to explore, produce or utilize marine oil fields and other marine natural resources, including oil transport, are prohibited to discharge any polluted materials or the water associated with drilling or exploration operations or wells testing or production in the restricted areas.

**(Article 76)**

The national and foreign companies and organizations which are duly licensed to combat pollution in the restricted areas should use the safe and secure means that do not result in any harm to the marine environment, and should treat the polluted substances pursuant to the latest technical systems and in conformity with the provisions of this law and the Executive Bylaw thereof.

**(Article 77)**

It is not allowed to keep any ship or facility in the restricted marine areas without obtaining a prior permission from the Authority, which will specify the terms and conditions to be followed upon submitting such application. All the above shall be without prejudice to the civil liability terms and for compensation for the losses and damages resulting from the pollution and removal of its impacts.

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### **Third: Records and Administrative Procedures**

#### **(Article 78)**

The ships carrying harmful or polluted materials should keep a record of the shipment, in which the captain or any other person in charge on deck shall record all data related to the shipment, its destination, and the precautions taken to prevent any pollution, pursuant to the international conditions.

#### **(Article 79)**

All ships allocated for oil transport are abide to keep a record for the oil wherein the captain or any other person in charge on deck shall record the date, time and location of all operations of shipping, transport and unloading oil for every shipment separately. The Executive Bylaw of this law shall determine the records by which oil ships/tankers should abide.

### **Fourth: Administrative and Judicial Procedures**

#### **(Article 80)**

In case of any incident of pollution of the marine environment with oil or other hazard materials, the person in charge of any means or equipment, or marine or land or air facility is obliged to report the said incident immediately to the authorities specified in the Executive Bylaw of this law.

#### **(Article 81)**

The Executive Bylaw of this law determines the following matters:

1. Conditions to be satisfied by Kuwaiti ships and certificates it holds, as well as the rules and procedures of their inspection pursuant to local and international regulations.

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2. Acceptable certificates of guarantee covering the pollution hazards should be available in Kuwaiti and foreign ships and all other land and marine facilities located in restricted marine areas.
3. Rules of settlement of disputes in case of violations pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.
4. Charges collected by the State against services it renders, including the salaries of pollution monitoring inspectors, and the entity concerned with the same.
5. Cases of seizing ships and other means, and the mechanisms of shutting down facilities and properties that caused pollution, and procedures of their release.
6. Inspection rules of ships, other means and facilities.
7. The mechanism of forming committees concerned with estimating the cost of measures taken for combating environmental pollution and damage for each and every pollution incident, and determining their affiliation.
8. Issuing the licenses necessary for building and managing the polluted materials receiving facilities.

**(Article 82)**

The owner of the ship carrying polluted materials and facilities for storing and transporting oil and harmful materials, operating in the restricted marine areas mentioned in Article (68) should submit to the competent authority a financial guarantee or a bank guarantee to cover the civil liability for the damages of marine pollution, pursuant to the controls set by the Executive Bylaw of this law. The guarantee certificate should be effective when submitted to the competent authority upon the entrance of the ship to the territorial waters of the State of Kuwait.

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**(Article 83)**

The following shall be liable for pollution in the restricted marine areas referred to in Article (68) of this law:

- a. The owner of the ship or aircraft, or the captain, if the pollution is caused by a ship or aircraft.
- b. The owner or operator of the facility if the pollution is caused by a facility.
- c. The owner, its user or holder of the device, if the pollution is caused by a device for keeping oil or polluted materials.
- d. The owner of the ship or its captain or the owner of the facility who leaves the same prior to obtaining the permission of abandoning it.

**(Article 84)**

The person in charge of pollution stipulated in this chapter may determine the liability arising from marine pollution per every incident in the restricted area in a maximum rate of Fifteen Million Kuwaiti Dinar (K.D. 15,000,000/-) or the amount of Eighty Kuwaiti Dinars (K.D. 80/-) for each registered ton of the shipment of the ship or the device prepared for keeping oil or harmful materials, whichever less.

**(Article 85)**

The civil liability pursuant to the previous article shall not be specified in the following cases:

- a) If it is proved that the incident causing the civil liability was due to the non-compliance with the environmental regulations or due to gross negligence.
- b) Violations of safety and navigation rules and regulations.

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In all cases, the determination of liability does not cover the cost of disinfection and removal of pollution or reduction of the same and environment rehabilitation.

**(Article 86)**

The competent authority shall notify the Ministry of Interior to inform diplomatic or consulate representatives of the State to which the source of pollution belongs and that caused the pollution incident pursuant to the provisions of this law, the committed incidence, the supporting evidences, and the measures taken by the State. The competent authority is also entitled to inform neighbouring countries in addition to regional and international agencies with the incident.

The Executive Bylaw of this law shall determine the competent authority, and the responsibilities of other authorities towards the incident.

**(Article 87)**

The Competent Minister shall delegate the necessary employees for monitoring the execution of the provisions of this chapter, and the regulations and decisions thereto, and the evidencing of any violations of its provisions. Such employees shall have the authority of judicial apprehension, and in this concern they have the right of access to all facilities, means, equipment and ships existing in the restricted marine areas and those located onshore that have contributed or may contribute to pollution. They have also the right to inspect and collect evidences and apprehend cases violating the provisions of this chapter, and write the necessary official reports of the violations and referring them to the Public Prosecution, and may if necessary seek the assistance of policemen.

**Chapter Two: Drinking Water and Ground Water**

**(Article 88)**

The Authority shall cooperate and coordinate with the concerned authorities to conserve water sources in the State of Kuwait to guarantee

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the safety of drinking water, pursuant to the standards of the World Health Organization, as well as the environmental regulations and standards specified in the Executive Bylaw of this law.

**(Article 89)**

The Authority shall cooperate and coordinate with the concerned authorities to prepare a national program for the management of drinking water in the country within five years from the date of issuing this law, provided that the program shall include the liabilities of the concerned governmental authorities and the coordination mechanisms between them, specify the monitoring programs of all phases of production, transport and distribution, and the plans for protecting the water resources used in this regard such as sea water and underground water. Also, the Authority shall abide to update this program every seven years as a maximum.

**(Article 90)**

The competent authorities shall abide by monitoring the quality of all types of locally produced drinking water, whether in desalination plants, underground water, bottling factories, etc. as well as all types of imported water from abroad, including bottled drinking water, or mineral water and the like. The Executive Bylaw of this law shall specify the liabilities of the competent authorities, the mechanisms of monitoring, supervision, and auditing, and the conditions of producing, transporting, storing, inspecting, trading and marketing water in the country.

**(Article 91)**

The authority shall cooperate with the competent authorities for publishing all data and results of drinking water quality for consumers, and shall work for the continuity of awareness programs related to the same.

**(Article 92)**

The competent authorities shall maintain the safety of drinking water in the internal networks of governmental institutions and buildings like schools,

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hospitals, authorities etc, and to monitor the quality of such water via documented periodical inspection. All competent authorities also shall warrant water quality within their facilities. The Executive Bylaw of this law shall specify the regulations and standards to be followed for achieving this.

**(Article 93)**

The competent authority shall warrant the validity of fresh water transport tanks to guarantee maintaining the quality of drinking water transported to consumers, and supervise the quality of water in their bottling sites.

**(Article 94)**

Products related to drinking water such as filters and coolers may not be circulated or marketed without obtaining the necessary approvals of the competent authorities. The Executive Bylaw of this law shall specify the conditions to be observed in this regard.

**(Article 95)**

The drinking water means of transport, tanks, connections and coolers should satisfy the regulations and standards stipulated in the Executive Bylaw of this law to guarantee the validity of drinking water for human use.

The Authority, in coordination with the competent authorities, shall conduct a periodical checking of the water tanks and connections of water coolers to verify their validity. The owners of buildings and utilities should be notified of the actions to be followed. In case of non-compliance of such instructions, necessary repairs may be performed, at all their cost.

**(Article 96)**

The underground water is a national wealth, and should not be utilized without a prior permission from the competent authorities. The Authority shall supervise the utilization works of such waters in the manner that protects it from pollution and guarantees its sustainability. The Executive

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Bylaw of this law shall designate the competent authorities and the liability of each of them as well as the regulations and standards related thereto.

### **Chapter Three: Protection of Coastal Environment Against Pollution**

#### **(Article 97)**

It is prohibited to pull out rocks and gravels, remove beach sands, or fill up beaches, build jetties, breakers or cemented rockwall or the like except after the approval of the Authority and concerned authorities and the compliance with regulations and standards determined by the Executive Bylaw of this law.

#### **(Article 98)**

It is prohibited to use evaporation pits for the disposal of polluted water associated with production operations in oil fields. The best methods should be selected for recycling or treating such water on site, pursuant to regulations and standards determined in the Executive Bylaw of this law.

#### **(Article 99)**

Upon construction of water distillation and power generation plants, ports and harbours or other coastal installations, the necessary environmental approvals from the Authority and the necessary permits from the competent authorities must be obtained, as well as the compliance with regulations and standards prescribed by the Executive Bylaw of this law.

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**Section Five**  
**Biodiversity**  
**Chapter One: Endangered Wild Organisms**

**(Article 100)**

It is prohibited to hunt, kill, catch, collect, harm, acquire or transport wild land and marine organisms, whether alive or dead or prejudice their juveniles, eggs, nests or their habitats, and the Executive Bylaw of this law shall determine the types and numbers of organisms allowed to be hunted or fished in certain seasons and specific areas.

Hunting or fishing for scientific purposes shall be exempted after the approval of competent concerned authorities in coordination with the Authority.

**(Article 101)**

It is banned to trade in endangered species of wild organisms or any part of it or its products as specified in the CITES Convention and other valid international agreements.

It is possible, via a decision from the Director-General and in cooperation with the competent authorities, to add some other species to those mentioned in the said convention. The exception to the above will only be the cases licensed by competent authorities and approved by the Authority for scientific or treatment purposes or for Zoos and exhibitions.

**Chapter Two: Natural Reserves**

**(Article 102)**

The natural reserves (protected areas) shall be determined by a decision from the Supreme Council. The decision shall include their geographical borders, classification, organization, management method and their monitoring, in a manner which shall ensure their protection from pollution and maintenance of biodiversity and natural heritage.

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**(Article 103)**

Natural reserves (protected areas), ecological fences and fenced zones for research and scientific purposes as well as border areas isolated for protection and the like are considered as areas subject to environmental regulations and basic rules of natural reserves as specified by the Executive Bylaw of this law.

**(Article 104)**

It is not permitted taking any part of the reserves approved by the government unless by a decision from the Supreme Council after the Authority presents the reasons for this action. In all cases, it is not allowed taking any part thereof involving a biological or natural diversity which is not available in other locations of the country.

**(Article 105)**

It is prohibited to introduce any type of animals or plants which are not indigenous to the environment in the natural reserves or to take any action that might hinder the exerted efforts for preserving the natural environment in general or affects the same or exposing to risk or harming land or marine organisms inside such natural reserves or damaging their contents in any form. This includes particularly the following:

1. Fishing of fish, shrimp, oysters and other living organisms.
2. Collecting shells, corals and other marine animals or causing damage thereto in any way.
3. Seizing wild animals or hunting or killing or catching the same or damaging their nests or holes or causing disturbance to the same way.
4. Grazing or seizing sheep or livestock or other grazing animals.
5. Damaging, uprooting or setting fire on wild plants for any reason.

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6. Traffic of cars and all types of vehicles outside paved roads or lanes designated for that purpose.
7. Sailing or berthing of ships and boats and movement of amphibious vehicles or other similar motors in mudflats and tidal areas.
8. Takeoff and landing of all types of aircrafts or flying at low altitudes above or near protected areas.
9. Building works or construction of floating facilities or fixed drilling platforms, or carrying out any dumping works or construction of berths or wave breakers or others.
10. Constructing camps or recreational facilities, whether permanent or temporary.
11. Destroying or vandalizing fences of reservations in any way.
12. Exploring or producing minerals, quarrying or exploiting quarries or using explosives or pulling out coral reefs or coastal rocks, removing sands or conducting dumping operations or other works that lead to changing the coastline or the topography of land and marine protected areas.
13. Discharging or throwing or dumping contaminated liquid or solid materials or hazardous materials or the use of insecticides or pesticides or toxins or entering the same into natural reserves or throwing human wastes, ship wastes or oils or the like therein.
14. Carrying out explosion operations or fire shooting or training therein.

**(Article 106)**

The competent authority specified by the Supreme Council shall manage the natural reserves in the State territories. The Supreme Council shall have the right to entrust other authorities to supervise and monitor certain

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reserves or fenced zones. In all cases, the Authority shall approve the policies, plans, programs, decisions, and regulations of managing natural reserves and shall supervise continuous monitoring operations to guarantee the implementation of plans, decisions and regulations related to natural reserves, as well as implementing the relevant programs for protecting and deployment of animals and plants, particularly endangered ones, and resettle extinct species.

**(Article 107)**

The competent authorities shall determine the grazing load in land areas based on the capacities of pastoral areas in the State of Kuwait. The competent authorities abide to update the grazing locations every ten years maximum. In all cases, all forms of grazing are prohibited in islands and natural reserves. The competent authorities shall also abide to provide the necessary monitoring capabilities. The Executive Bylaw of this law shall determine the competent authorities and the liabilities of each of them, as well as the mechanism of issuing annual follow-up reports.

**Chapter Three: Kuwait Bay  
(Article 108)**

It is prohibited in Kuwaiti Bay, as an area of a special nature, to practice any activity that may harm the environment, particularly the following activities:

1. Disposal of sewage or industrial waste or throwing any type of waste.
2. Carrying out reclamation operations using dredged materials from deepening works of navigational waterways.
3. Fishing of all types of marine living organisms and erection of fishing areas and fish farms.
4. Building chalets on the Bay shores.

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It is possible through a decision from the Supreme Council to prohibit any other activities that may negatively affect the Bay upon recommendation by the Authority in this regard. In all cases, the approval of the Supreme Council is required for establishing projects within the waters or shores of Kuwait Bay.

**(Article 109)**

The Supreme Council shall issue a national plan for managing the environmental situation in Kuwait Bay, including monitoring, protection and rehabilitation requirements in addition to the approval of erected projects within the scope of Kuwait Bay within three years from the date of issuing this law. The Supreme Council shall also update the said plan every ten years. All government institutions shall abide to support the plan and comply with it.

**(Article 110)**

The approval of the Supreme Council should be obtained for all projects of the oil sector within Kuwait Bay. In all cases, all oil companies operating in this area, pursuant to the approval of the Supreme Council, shall provide the maximum level of protection available for its works, as a guarantee for protecting the environmental situation in Kuwait Bay.

**Section Six**  
**Environmental Management**  
**Chapter One: Environmental Strategies**

**(Article 111)**

The competent authorities shall abide to develop clear working strategies within the scope of their work related to the environment, accompanied by the time schedules and mechanisms of execution as well as the annexed projects thereto. The Supreme Council shall determine the concerned authorities with the setting and approval of such strategies, and the annual follow-up of their implementation phases. Also, the Authority shall set the general framework for the preparation and supervision of such strategies, and guarantee the necessary integration between them.

**(Article 112)**

Working on the preparation of these strategies shall be completed within five years from the date of issuing this law, and the concerned authorities shall abide to provide the necessary financial credentials for their successful implementation. In all cases, the term of the strategies shall not be less than twenty years, provided they are developed and updated every five years.

**Chapter Two: Environment Police**

**(Article 113)**

A martial specialized unit shall be established in the Ministry of Interior to be called “Environment Police”, and shall be concerned with following up the enforcement of environmental laws and regulations in sectors and fields specified by the Supreme Council. The unit shall also support the activities of the judicial officers affiliated to the Authority.

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**(Article 114)**

The Environment Police shall be subject to all laws, rules, regulations and decisions governing the activities of the Police Force in the State. The Ministry of Interior shall manage this force, provide all capabilities necessary for performing its work, and submit an annual report to the Supreme Council about its activities.

**(Article 115)**

The Minister of Interior shall issue a decree on the regulation of the unit within six months from the date of issuing this law, provided that the unit shall commence its work within a maximum period of two years from the date of issuing this law.

**Chapter Three: Environmental Data Management**

**(Article 116)**

The Authority abides, in cooperation with the competent authorities in the State of Kuwait, to set a national plan for managing the environmental data, to be approved by the Supreme Council. All State Departments shall abide by sharing their data, whether environmental or related to environmental affairs, with the Authority, periodically and directly. The Authority shall publish such data and make them available to the public in a transparent and documented form. The Executive Bylaw of this law shall determine the type of data, the mechanism of circulation, and the liability of each authority thereof.

**(Article 117)**

All State departments shall abide by establishing monitoring and control systems for their projects and work sites affiliated to them, and linking the same with the Authority. The Executive Bylaw of this law shall specify the type of projects and their linking mechanism with the Authority.

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## **Chapter Four: Environmental Crises and Disasters**

### **(Article 118)**

The Authority shall cooperate with the competent authorities for preparing emergency plans and natural risk management plans, including dust and sand storms, droughts, sudden flash floods, earthquakes, mass kill cases of fish and other marine organisms etc, in addition to other environmental risks that may result from human activities. In all cases, the competent authorities shall manage such plans and provide their requirements of success, while the Authority shall follow up their performance and submit the necessary reports to the Supreme Council.

## **Chapter Five: Authority Management Systems**

### **(Article 119)**

Environment specialized departments shall be established in the State authorities to guarantee the follow up and enforcement of the environmental laws within their scope of work. The Supreme Council shall designate the authorities concerned with the establishment of such departments, and the Authority shall specify their scope of work and their organizational structure in coordination with the competent authorities in this regard.

### **(Article 120)**

The Supreme Council, when necessary, shall appoint environmental inspectors from the staff of the Authority or from other governmental institutions to monitor the environmental performance therein. The Supreme Council shall determine the time period, specific functions and remunerations of the said inspectors. All the State departments shall cooperate with the environment inspectors and provide them with all necessary data for performing their work and achieving the tasks required from them.

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The Executive Bylaw of this law shall determine the jurisdictions of the environmental inspectors, and the conditions of their selection. In all cases, their qualifications shall not be less than a University Degree with an experience of not less than ten years.

**(Article 121)**

All concerned institutions in the State are abide to cooperate with the Authority in calculating the environmental loads within the scope of their works, such as pastures, fisheries, air and underground water quality, etc. These institutions shall abide by maintaining these loads in a manner which shall achieve environmental sustainability thereto.

**(Article 122)**

All governmental institutions shall abide by using energy saving systems in their new establishments. The Authority shall be concerned with including the energy saving requirements within its environmental regulations.

**(Article 123)**

Within two years from the date of issuing this law, the concerned authorities in the State shall specify the conditions and standard specifications for all energy devices, equipment, systems, mechanisms and consumable materials. The import of any materials not fulfilling these specifications shall be banned. The Executive Bylaw of this law shall determine the authorities concerned with identifying the specifications, the mechanism of issuing them and warrantee of its application.

**(Article 124)**

The damage or prejudice or trafficking of cultural heritage, whether movable or immovable, is strictly prohibited. The same applies to the establishment of military or civilian facilities in archaeological sites of valuable historical, touristic and religious nature.

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## **Chapter Six: Mass Media and Environmental Awareness**

### **(Article 125)**

The government shall establish a museum for the natural history of the State of Kuwait for enhancing environmental citizenship, and preserving the natural history of the State of Kuwait in all forms, whether geological, geomorphological, biological or marine, and whether currently existing, lost or extinct. This museum shall be established within five years as of the date of issuing this law as a maximum.

The Supreme Council shall determine the governmental entity responsible for the establishment of this museum, and the governmental authority to be concerned with its management.

### **(Article 126)**

It is prohibited to publish and rumour false news or information about the environmental situation in the country or any of its components which may cause public panic or questioning the quality of the environmental situation, unless it is based on scientific facts. This is in order to preserve the social security and the State stature.

### **(Article 127)**

All owners of the real estate properties in the country shall abide to improve the situation of their real estates by providing the necessary rehabilitation and rectify their facades to prevent sight pollution, and improve their general appearance.

The competent authority, in collaboration with the Authority, shall abide by setting the detailed conditions in the Executive Bylaw of this law within one year from the date of issuing this law. The competent authority shall also abide by applying what is mentioned in the Executive Bylaw in this regard within five years of the date of its issuance.

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## **Section Seven Penalties**

### **(Article 128)**

Whoever violates the provisions of articles (16, 17, 18, 126) of this law shall be punished with a fine of not less than five thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not more than fifty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars.

### **(Article 129)**

Whoever violates the provisions of articles (19, 20, 21, 23, 43) of this law shall be punished with imprisonment of a period not exceeding three years and a fine of not less than ten thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not more than fifty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars or with either of the two penalties.

### **(Article 130)**

Whoever violates the provisions of article (25) of this law shall be punished with the death penalty or life imprisonment and a fine of not less than five hundred thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not more than one million Kuwaiti Dinars.

Violators of the first paragraph of article 25 of this law shall be punished with a life imprisonment and a fine of not less than two hundred fifty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not more than five hundred thousand Kuwaiti Dinars.

Violators of article (25/second paragraph) shall be abide by re-exporting the nuclear waste subject of the crime at their own expense.

### **(Article 131)**

Whoever violates the provisions of articles (27, 28, 29, 30) of this law shall be punished with imprisonment of a period not less than three years and not exceeding ten years and a fine of not less than twenty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not more than two hundred thousand Kuwaiti Dinars. Violators

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of the provisions of article (25) of this law shall abide by re-exporting hazardous substances subject of the crime at their own expense.

**(Article 132)**

Whoever violates the provisions of articles (31, 35) of this law shall be punished with imprisonment for a period not less than one year and not exceeding three years, and a fine of not less than ten thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not more than fifty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars or with either of the two penalties.

**(Article 133)**

Whoever violates the provisions of article (33) of this law shall be punished with a fine of not less than fifty Kuwaiti Dinars and not more than five hundred Kuwaiti Dinars.

**(Article 134)**

Whoever violates the provisions of articles (40, 127) of this law shall be punished with a fine of not less than five thousand Kuwaiti Dinars together with binding the violator to remove the effects of the violation within the time limit to be fixed by the Authority. If he fails to do that, the Authority shall carry out the removal at his own expense.

**(Article 135)**

Whoever violates the provisions of article (41) of this law shall be punished with a fine of not less than two hundred fifty Kuwaiti Dinars and not more than five thousand Kuwaiti Dinars.

**(Article 136)**

Whoever violates the provisions of article (52/paragraph one) of this law shall be punished with a fine of not less than thirty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not more than one hundred fifty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars.

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The fine shall not be less than fifty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not to exceed two hundred thousand Kuwaiti Dinars for violators of the provisions of article (52/paragraph two).

**(Article 137)**

Whoever violates the provisions of article (54) of this law shall be punished with a fine of not less than five hundred Kuwaiti Dinars and not more than five thousand Kuwaiti Dinars along with confiscation of the used machinery and equipment.

**(Article 138)**

Whoever violates the provisions of article (56/first paragraph) of this law shall be punished with a fine of not less than fifty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not more than two hundred thousand Kuwaiti Dinars.

Also, whoever violates article (56/second paragraph) shall be punished with a fine of not less than fifty Kuwaiti Dinars and not exceeding one hundred Kuwaiti Dinars. Moreover, the manager of the organization violating the provisions of the second paragraph of the above mentioned article shall be punished with a fine of not less than one thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not exceeding five thousand Kuwaiti Dinars.

**(Article 139)**

Whoever violates the provisions of articles (58, 59, 60, 62) of this law shall be punished with imprisonment for a period not to exceed than one year and a fine of not less than ten thousands Kuwaiti Dinars and not more than fifty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars. In all cases, the materials, products, machinery and equipment, the question of the crime, shall be confiscated.

**(Article 140)**

Whoever violates the provisions of articles (63, 64) of this law shall be punished with imprisonment of a period not to exceed six months and a

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fine of not less than one thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not more than five thousand Kuwaiti Dinars or with either of the two penalties.

**(Article 141)**

Whoever intentionally causes pollution in marine zones stipulated in article (68) of this law in violation to the provisions of articles (72, 73, 74, 75, 76), shall be punished with imprisonment of a period not to exceed six months and a fine of not less than fifty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not more than two hundred thousand Kuwaiti Dinars or with either of the two penalties.

**(Article 142)**

Whoever un-intentionally causes pollution in the marine zones stipulated in article (68) of this law in violation to the provisions of articles (72, 73, 74, 75, 76) shall be punished with a fine of not less than thirty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not exceeding one hundred fifty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars.

**(Article 143)**

Whoever commits one of the following acts shall be punished with a fine of not less than ten thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not exceeding fifty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars:

1. Failure to equip the ship with pollution reduction equipment in violation of the provisions of article (70) of this law.
2. Failure to take all the necessary precautions for preventing or minimizing the impacts of pollution prior to or after the occurrence of the fault in the ship or one of its equipment.
3. Failure to immediately notify the competent administrative authority of any oil leakage or any other material incident in violation article (80) of this law.

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#### **(Article 144)**

Without prejudice to the provisions of articles (160, 161) of this law, the Competent Minister or whom he authorizes in this regard may, upon the request of the concerned parties, accept settlement in the cases of unintentional caused pollution as follows:

1. Paying the amount of not less than fifty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars, in case of the violation of any of the provisions of articles (72, 73, 74, 75, 76).
2. Payment of pollution combating measures costs issued by the competent technical committee as stipulated in article (81/item 7) of this law.

Accepting the settlement shall result in the expiry of the penal case against the accused.

#### **(Article 145)**

Whoever commits one of the following acts shall be punished with a fine of not less than ten thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not exceeding forty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars:

1. The ship does not maintain a record for oil or for the shipment of other hazardous materials referred to in articles (78, 79) of this law, or ignored to register the due data therein, or deliberately registered misleading information.
2. The ship does not hold the international certificates related to oil pollution prevention pursuant to international agreements, and those endorsed by the Competent Minister for ships raising a flag of a country which is not a member of the international agreements in this regard.

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**(Article 146)**

The owner of the ship shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than two months and not exceeding two years and a fine of not less than ten thousands Kuwaiti Dinars and not more than one hundred thousand Kuwaiti Dinars or one of these two penalties if he left the ship or his facility in the restricted marine area without obtaining the necessary permission from the competent department, along with binding him by the expenses of the remedy of the contravention pursuant to the decision of the competent committee as stipulated in article (81/item 7) of this law.

**(Article 147)**

Whoever violates the provision of article (95/first paragraph) of this law shall be punished with a fine of not less than one hundred Kuwaiti Dinars and not exceeding one thousand Kuwaiti Dinars.

**(Article 148)**

Whoever violates the provision of article (97) of this law shall be punished with imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year and a fine of not less than two thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not exceeding twenty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars.

**(Article 149)**

Whoever violates the provisions of the first paragraph of article (100) of this law shall be punished with imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year and a fine of not less than five hundred Kuwaiti Dinars and not exceeding five thousand Kuwaiti Dinars or with either of the two penalties, along with confiscation of the seized wild organisms, and the used tools.

Also, whoever violates the provision of the third paragraph of article 107 and article 108 of this law shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than one year and not exceeding three years and a fine not less than five thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not exceeding fifty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars or with either of the two penalties.

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**(Article 150)**

Whoever violates the provision of article 105 of this law shall be punished with imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year and a fine not less than five hundred Kuwaiti Dinars and not exceeding five thousand Kuwaiti Dinars or with any of the two penalties.

**(Article 151)**

Whoever violates the provision of articles 101 and 124 of this law shall be punished with imprisonment of a period not less than one year and not exceeding three years and a fine not less than five thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not exceeding fifty thousand Kuwaiti Dinars or with any of the two penalties. In all cases, the seized wild organisms and heritage pieces, the subject of the crime, should be confiscated.

**(Article 152)**

Whoever violates the provision of article 173 of this law shall be punished with imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year and a fine not less than one thousand Kuwaiti Dinars and not exceeding five thousand Kuwaiti Dinars or with either of the two penalties.

**(Article 153)**

The penalties stipulated in this law shall not be applicable to pollution cases resulting from:

- a) Securing the safety of lives or means of transportation or goods.
- b) The unloading operations resulting from a fault incurred by the ship or aircraft or the devices of either of them, provided it should not have taken place by the person in charge of any of them with the purpose of breaking down or damaging the same, or due to negligence. In all cases, it is conditional that the person in charge of any of them should have taken, prior to the fault and thereafter, all

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the necessary precautions sufficient for prevention or reducing pollution effects, and shall immediately notify the competent department.

- c) A sudden break in a pipeline carrying the oil or oil mixture during operations, drilling, exploration, or well testing, without negligence in pipelines monitoring or maintenance, and provided that all necessary precautions are taken for the pipelines monitoring operation and controlling pollution and its source once it occurs. The above shall be made without prejudice to the right of the affected person's right to claim the causing party for the costs of removing the effects resulting from such pollution and compensation for the damages and losses resulting thereof.

**(Article 154)**

In all cases, if the person who caused of the pollution commits any violation of the provisions of Chapter One of Section Four of this law within five years from the date of the first violation, the punishment shall be doubled, and the rules of settlement stipulated in this Chapter shall not be applicable to him.

**(Article 155)**

Every person entrusted with monitoring the implementation of the provisions of this law, and its bylaws and regulations shall be punished with imprisonment for a period of not more than one year if the violation to such provisions has taken place as a result of his contribution with the violator.

**(Article 156)**

Whoever commits a violating act to the provisions of this law shall be punished with imprisonment for a period of not less than one year and not exceeding seven years, if his act causes a permanent disability to a person. However, the imprisonment shall be not less than three years and not more than ten years if the violation causes a permanent disability to three persons

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or more. If this act results in the death of a person, the imprisonment penalty shall be not less than five years and not exceeding fifteen years. The punishment shall be with life imprisonment if it leads to death of three persons or more.

**(Article 157)**

In case of issuing a court verdict for violation of this law, the court may order the publication of the full verdict or its summary in the newspapers it selects or via the audible and visible means of mass media, or to stick copies of the verdict or its summary on the places it specifies, and for not more than one month, at the expense of the convict.

Whoever removes such photocopies or hide them in any manner or damages the same shall be punished with imprisonment for a period of not more than three months and a fine not exceeding one thousand Kuwaiti Dinars or with either of the two penalties. If the doer is one of the persons in charge of the original violation or one of his labourers, he shall be punished with imprisonment for a period of not more than six months.

## **Section Eight**

### **Civil Liability and Compensation for Environmental Damages**

#### **(Article 158)**

The person in charge is responsible for the damage resulting from pollution, even if he is not mistaken, and the person causing the damage shall be held liable only if he commits a mistake.

#### **(Article 159)**

In case multiple persons are responsible for a pollution incident, the liability shall be a joint liability.

#### **(Article 160)**

Without prejudice to any other law, the person who is civilly liable for pollution shall be committed to compensate for:

- a) The damages incurred by natural resources.
- b) Any damages affecting the environment or limiting its beneficial use.
- c) Costs of cleansing, and pollution removal or mitigation of the same, and environment rehabilitation.
- d) Public utilities obstruction costs.

#### **(Article 161)**

Nothing in this law may prevent any normal or legal person or persons in charge to claim the person liable for pollution for compensation for the damages incurred by him as a result of such pollution.

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**(Article 162)**

Both the producer and the distributor shall ensure the safety of the product whose contents or method of use, may expose the life of persons or properties to damage.

Liability for the products shall be established, whether the producer or the distributor is connected to the affected person with a contract or not.

**(Article 163)**

If the sources of damage are numerous, and the affected party cannot attribute the damage to its doer, the affected party may require one of the parties causing the damage to pay the full compensation for the damage incurred by him. The defendant may deny the liability that the activity he practices was not the cause of the damage, and that the damage occurred by virtue of an alien source which is not related to him.

**(Article 164)**

Whoever occupies a place for residence or other purposes shall be liable for any compensation to the affected party and for the damage incurred by him due to noise, odours or others, unless he proves that the damage occurred due to an alien reason he has nothing to do with it.

**(Article 165)**

Whoever is threatened by the risk of pollution may ask the court to order the owner of the installation with the hazard activity or the owner of the waste site to submit a report or data about the materials produced or dealt with by him.

**(Article 166)**

The person who is liable for pollution shall be released from his liability if the damage was proved to be due to:

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- a) Force majeure.
- b) If it totally took place due to intentional misconduct by one of the persons who is not related with the owner or the operator, whether contractual or subordinate.
- c) If it totally took place due to the negligence or fault of the competent administrative authority.

For the enforcement of the previous paragraph, it is conditional that the person liable for pollution has notified the competent department of the incident and its causes, if he is aware or should be aware of the same, and that he had taken all precautions necessary for preventing the accident or reducing the pollution effects.

#### **(Article 167)**

The cases arising from pollution incidents shall expire after the lapse of three years from the day the affected party is aware of the same and also who is responsible for the damage, and from the day of completing the limitation of the damages with respect to the claim of compensation for the damages incurred by the natural resources or from the day of completing the procedures for cleansing and removal of contaminated materials and rehabilitation of the environment with regard to the claims of those expenses.

## **Section Nine Concluding Provisions**

### **(Article 168)**

The Director General of the Authority or other concerned administrative authorities shall determine the employees necessary for conducting the required inspection works for implementing this law and its executive Bylaws, regulations and decisions, except for Chapter One of Section Four thereof, and proving the crimes violating its provisions. These employees shall be granted the status of judicial officers and shall have the right in this regard to enter all places where these crimes are committed, write the minutes, collect the samples, conduct the necessary measurements and studies in order to determine the extent of environment pollution and its sources, and ensure the enforcement of the regulations and systems related to the protection of workers and the environment. They shall also check the licenses and records and any other documents, obtain a photocopy of the same, and request the necessary information from the business owners or their representatives pursuant to the Executive Bylaw of this law and to seize all what they find in breach of the provisions of this law. Also, they may seek the assistance of policemen in this regard, if necessary.

### **(Article 169)**

The employees entrusted with the execution of the provisions of this law and the implementing rules and regulations, referred to in the previous article of this law, shall take an oath before the Director General that they will perform their work with total honesty and devotion, and will not reveal any of the work secrets which they may have access thereto by virtue of their functions, even after leaving office.

### **(Article 170)**

The Director General or whoever he authorizes, may request any information, data and documents he deems necessary from any public or private entity which practices any activity that may cause environmental

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pollution. The Authority may, in the place it deems appropriate for this purpose, establish monitoring centers pursuant to the requirements of environment protection, in coordination with the competent authorities. Also, the Authority may establish monitoring laboratories that shall be concerned with the final opinion in laboratory results related to environment pollution.

**(Article 171)**

The Public Prosecution shall undertake the investigation and prosecution in all crimes arising from the enforcement of the provisions of this law and the implementing bylaws, regulations and decisions.

**(Article 172)**

Every citizen or society concerned with environment protection may resort to the competent administrative and judicial authorities for the execution of the provisions of the law of environment and those stipulated in the Executive Bylaw of this law.

**(Article 173)**

Every public employee or others, during the performance of their duty, who is aware or may be aware of any violation for the provisions of this law or its Executive Bylaw that may result in an environmental damage, should notify the same immediately to the Authority or the Public Prosecution or the Policeman.

**(Article 174)**

With the exception of Chapter One of Section Four, the Director General or whoever he authorizes may grant the violator of the regulations and standards stipulated in this law or its Executive Bylaw, a grace period to immediately rectify his violation. If he fails to do so within thirty days, or it becomes evident during such period that the continuity of the violation may inflict serious damages to the environment, the Authority may, in agreement with the competent authorities, take the necessary legal

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procedures for ceasing the violating activity, closing down the facility, or cancelling the license without prejudice to the penalties contained in this law, and to the compensation for the damages arising from such violations.

**(Article 175)**

The law No. 21 of 1995 establishing the Environment Public Authority, as amended by the law No. 16 of 1996 shall be cancelled, and also the law No. 12 of 1964 preventing the pollution of navigational waters with oil as well as any provision which is contradictory to the provisions of this law.

**(Article 176)**

The enforcement of the penalties stipulated in this law shall not prejudice the enforcement of any more severe penalty stipulated in any other law.

**(Article 177)**

The enforcement of the provisions of this law shall not prejudice the provisions of the law No. 19 of 1973 and the law No. 131 of 1977 referred to herein above, and shall not also prejudice the provisions of any other law regulating the protection of environment in special fields.

However, the authorities that implement these laws or any other authority having the power of issuing rules, regulations, and conditions related to environment protection should obtain the approval of the Authority prior to issuing such rules, regulations, and conditions.

**(Article 178)**

The Authority shall not be subject to the prior control pursuant to the provisions of the law No. 30 of 1964 of establishing the Audit Bureau, and shall not be also subject to the provisions of the law No. 37 of 1964 concerning public tenders.

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**(Article 179)**

The Competent Minister shall issue the necessary decisions, rules and regulations necessary for implementing the provisions of Chapter One of Section Four of this law. The Director General, upon the approval of the Board of Directors, shall issue the rules, regulations and decisions necessary for the implementation of this law, except Chapter One of Section Four thereof, within one year from the effective date of this law.

**(Article 180)**

The effective rules, regulations and decisions applicable at the time of issuing this law shall continue to be effective in all matters not contradicting with its provisions, until the issuance of the executive decisions, rules and regulations thereof.

**(Article 181)**

The Prime Minister, and Ministers, each within his jurisdiction, shall implement this law, which will be effective after the expiry of three months from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

Amir of Kuwait  
Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah

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