

The United Arab Emirates
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

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

Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Law No. (1) Of 1972, on the terms of reference of the Ministries, and the powers vested upon the Ministers and the laws made in amendment thereto,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Decision of the Council of Ministers number (12) of the year 1989 concerning the Organizational Structure of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

Do hereby promulgate the following Decree:

Article (1)

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

State: The state of the United Arab Emirates

Ministry: The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Minister: The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Undersecretary: Undersecretary of the Ministry.

Competent Department: The fish wealth department in the ministry.

Competent Authority: The competent authority in the concerned emirate.

Committee: Fishing regulation committee in the concerned emirate.

The living aquatics: All aquatic creatures that includes plants and animals, micro and macro-organisms which are migratory and dwelling in the fishing waters, or visit these waters such as Birds, Turtles, Crustaceans Nacreous organisms. They also include the organisms which had been fossilized during their advanced stages.

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

Fishing Boat: Every floating body used in fishing regardless its material.

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

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

Fisherman: Everyone practicing fishing.

Fishing Waters: The internal waters including Coasts of Islands, Creeks, Beaches and coasts of the state, territorial waters and the waters of the exclusive economic Zone of the State.

Fishing License: The license, issued by the competent authority in each emirate for the fisherman to practice fishing in the fishing waters of the emirate.

Exporter's card: The card which the Ministry issues for fish exportation.

Captain's Card (Nokhathe): The card issues by the Ministry to admit the fisherman practicing the fishing profession.

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

Register: The general Register in the Ministry for fishing profession practitioners and their boats.

Chapter One **Fishing Trade Regulation.**

Article (2)

Any person shall not practice fishing profession in the fishing waters unless being authorized by the competent authority and his name is entered in the Register.

Article (3)

- a- There shall be established in the ministry a general Register to record fishing practitioners including the following data:
 - 1- Name of the license holder.
 - 2- Nationality.
 - 3- Profession.
 - 4- Passport number or number of the summary of the family's entries, place of issue and the expiry date.
 - 5- Name of the fishing boat, number and owner's name.

- b- There shall be established in the Ministry a general Register for fishing boats including the following data:
 - 1- The name of the boat.
 - 2- Date and place of manufacturing.
 - 3- Material of the body.
 - 4- Color of the boat.
 - 5- Boat's length, width and height in feet.

- 6- Depth in feet.
- 7- Engine power
- 8- Capacity.
- 9- Fishing, navigation and safety equipments on the boat.
- 10- Number of the working sailors on the boat.
- 11- Name, address and place of residence of the owner of the boat.

Article (4)

a- The applicant in order to be entered in the Register shall meet the following conditions:

- 1- He shall be a citizen or from the corporate bodies owned by citizens.
- 2- He shall be authorized by the competent authority to carry on the fishing trade.
- 3- His age shall not be less than (18) eighteen years A.D.
- 4- The boat he desires to register shall have a fishing boat license from the ministry.
- 5- He should have not been entered in the practitioners fishing Register of another emirate.
- 6- He shall be of good conduct and reputation.

b- With the exception of the provisions stated in Clause (3) of the item (A) in this Article, the competent authority shall have the right to authorize whoever has completed twelve years of age to ride the sea as an apprentice and grant him a special license for such purpose.

Chapter Two **Procedures Of Registration**

Article (5)

Fishermen and Boats Registration Office shall review the applications for entering the register to be submitted to the committee on the form made thereto supported with the following documents:

- 1- A photocopy of the fisherman's passport or identity card or summary of the family's entries, and a photocopy of a valid memorandum of association subject to corporate bodies.
- 2- A recent personal photograph of the fisherman.

- 3- A certificate of good reputation and conduct with the exemption of aged fishermen which the committee approves exempting them from such conditions.
- 4- A photocopy of a valid license of the boat issued by the ministry.
- 5- A photocopy of a valid fishing boat license issued by the competent authority.

Article (6)

The committee shall be responsible for the following:

1. Investigation of the conformity of the data written in the application for entering the Register with the required documents and to make sure that the fisherman had not been registered in more than one emirate.
2. Examination and inspection of the boat owned by the applicant for registration and enrolling data of measurements of length, width and depth in foot as well as year of manufacturing, type of the manufacturing material of the boat, kind of the engine fuel, engine number, capacity, navigation and safety equipments and the maximum limit of fishermen or worker on boat. The committee is entitled to seek technical assistance to check and inspect the boat.
3. Determination of the fishing equipments allowed or banned fishing tools is subject to inspection in compliance with the provisions of fishing gear provided for in the federal law number (23) of the year 1999.
4. Define the number of the recorded fishing boats being entered in to the emirate.
5. Determining the spawning and reproduction seasons in the different grounds and scrutinizing permanently or temporarily, and control the prevention fishing in such grounds as well as scrutinizing the prevention of fishing small sized aquatics under the permitted limit.
6. Scrutinizing the prevention of establishing artificial coral reefs except for the purposes of scientific research or for developing certain kinds of fish after obtaining a license from the ministry and the competent authority.
7. Scrutinizing the prevention of catching marine turtles of all kinds, sizes and ages or collecting their eggs or tampering with their places of existence and reproduction in the fishing waters, catching whales, cow fish (dugongs) and other marine mammals of all kinds and sizes and extracting oyster, sponges and coral reefs except for the purposes of

the scientific research and after obtaining a written authorization from the competent authority.

Article (7)

The committee shall decide on the application for registration in the record within fifteen days from the date of its submission. In case of approval, the fisherman shall be given an approved certificate from the committee including the result of the examination under which he gets registered in the record. If the inserted data in the application is unconfirmed, the committee will summon the applicant to correct the given data within ten days as from the date of the convocation accordingly, the application for registration in the record will be reconsidered within fifteen days from the date of correction. The same procedures shall be followed – up on applying for registration of the boat.

Article (8)

The fishermen, fishing boats, and the number and types of fishing equipments shall be entered in the Register according to the certificates approved by the committee and shall be attached with all the related documents thereon.

Article (9)

The fisherman may, in case the committee rejects his application for entering him or his boat in the register, complain to the minister within fifteen days as from the date of notification thereon. The Minister shall settle the complaint within fifteen days as from the date of registration in the Ministry and his decision thereon is final.

Article (10)

1. In case of approving the application for registration and entering the certificates of test in the register, the ministry shall hand over the fisherman a certificate including his name, address, nationality, registration number and date, name and type of the boat, number and date of its registration, and type and number of the fishing equipments being in use on the boat.
2. The certificate shall be valid for two years commencing from the date of the committee's decision of approving fisherman's name and shall follow the same procedures for renewal.

Article (11)

The committee must approve the fishing gear and equipments used on the licensed fishing boats. They shall have unified, and clear numbers compatible with the number of the boat boarding them, and each one of these gear and equipments shall bear the same number of the boat.

Article (12)

The fisherman has to notify the Ministry of every amendment or change that has occurred to the data or the attached documents entered in the register within one-month as from the data of amendment or change. Notification shall be signed by the concerned person on the application form prepared by the Ministry, and shall be attached with the corrected documents.

Chapter Three **Licenses Of Fishing Boats**

Article (13)

Any fisherman already entered in the register shall not be allowed to use any of the fishing boats unless it has been registered and he has obtained fishing boat license of from the Ministry.

Article (14)

Validity period of the boats and fishing licenses shall be two years and shall be renewed within sixty days as from their expiry date.

Article (15)

The boat's license shall contain the following data:

1. Owner's name
2. Name of the fishing boat, specifications, number and date of registration engine power, kind, number and maximum load.
3. Maximum number of labouring and fishermen who are permitted for fishing on the boat.
4. The result of the technical inspection of the boat.

Article (16)

1. Both of fishing and boat licenses have to be always kept in the boat and to be presented on request.

2. The owner of the boat shall inscribe the name of the boat and its registration number on its front side according to the specifications formed by the Ministry.

Article (17)

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

Article (18)

- 1- Applications for renewing the boat's license shall be submitted by the owner as well as the applications for renewing the fishing license .
- 2- The license may not be renewed unless after repaying the fees and adjudged fines.
- 3- On renewing the license, the procedures specified in the application for licensing must be followed up.

Article (19)

The national fisherman may fish in any fishing ground of the country provided that the license he holds is valid.

Chapter Four **Protection and Development**

Article (20)

- a) Fishing anchoring and running of the fishing boats except for passing over are permanently forbidden in the grounds which the competent authorities specifies in coordination with the ministry and they include:
 1. Fish reproduction and hatching grounds.
 2. Fish nursery grounds.
 3. Natural or Artificial Marine Reserves
 4. Areas reaches to two (2) nautical miles away from the seashore and fishing in them are confined to line and hook.
 5. Areas lying within three (3) nautical-mile perimeter away from the islands of the state.

6. Regions lying within a distance or perimeter of one nautical mile away from any military premises lying on land or in the country waters.
 7. Military training and shooting areas.
 8. Regions where petroleum, gas and communications pipelines are found.
 9. Internal water regions such as artificial or natural lakes, creeks whether natural or had been expanded and deepened except for fishing with line and hook by walkers.
- b) Sardine (uma) and anchovies are exempted from the provision of paragraph (4) of item (A) hereby.
- c) Whoever forced to anchor his boat or to run it in such regions due to forcing circumstances arising from the following are exempted from the provisions of anchoring and running stipulated in item (A) hereby:
1. Bad weather conditions from to ensure the safety of the boat or the crew thereon.
 2. Boat breakdowns that prevent him from running and sailing to the permitted areas until the breakdown gets repaired or received salvation.
 3. Doing salvation and rescue operations for souls or properties that might exist in such regions shall be subject to the regulations and directions in such cases.
- d) An individuals who finds himself forced to anchor his boat or to run it in the region specified in item (A) Of the article hereby under the circumstance arising from the cases specified in Item (c) shall abide by the following:
- 1- Notifying the coast guards by radio or telephone of his new location.
 - 2- Specifying the reason that forced him to be present in the banned region.
 - 3- Leaving the region he had entered in violation as soon as the reason that forced him to do so is finished.
- e) The Ministry staff who has been appointed as juridical officers shall be authorized to notify the competent authority of any violation to the federal law number (23) of the year 1999 and the executive by-laws thereof. They shall be entitled to inquire from the fishermen and owners of boats about their presence in the prohibited regions and send notices to them and impose punishments thereon.

Article (21)

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

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

Articles (22)

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

- 1- Coastal fishing nets (Alamilah) for fishing sardine (umah and(baryah) anchovies the mesh of which shall be not less than 1.5 x 1.5 inches except the codend, and the total length (perimeter) not exceeding 1000 meter except for the bag made from nets of meshes not less than 0.25 x 0.25 inches and length or perimeter not exceeding 50 meters. The length of ropes used for drafting such nets shall not exceed 100 meters on either side of the nets.
- 2- Gargours (fish traps) of meshes not less than 2x2 inches (three fingers).
Lines and hooks of different sizes, types and lengths.
- 3- Trolling lines (Allafah) of different sizes, lengths and types.
- 4- Enclosures which are coastal traps set on coast for fishing. The mesh of enclosure shall not be less than one inch.
- 5- Alsakkar which is enclosing an area on the coast during high tide for catching fish gathering in it on ebb and the mesh of the net in use shall not be less than a quarter of one inch. It is permitted for use in times to be determined by a special decision.

Article (23)

It is generally permitted to catch fish especially pelagic and migratory fish by using the traditional inherited fishing methods which shall not affect fish stock. This shall be subject to the approval of the regulating fishing committees.

Article (24)

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

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

Article (25)

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

- a) Submit an application for setting up Hadra, Masker, beach seine nets or surrounding net to the Fishing Regulation Committee and shall take into consideration the following:

- 1- Suitability of the location from security aspects.
- 2- Compliance of the location with the conditions that must be observed in the emirate.
- 3- The location will be suitable where from the plans made for trade, tourism, and industry uses of the coastal areas.

In case the Committee approves the application the competent Department shall be notified and the application, all the required data shall be recorded in a special register being established for purpose.

- b) The following particulars shall be made available in order to register the master, seine nets or enclosure surroundings and fish traps the following data shall be provided:

- 1- Owners names
- 2- Passport number.
- 3- Address.
- 4- The location of Hadra, Maskar, enclosure surrounding and beach seine nets.

- 4- Name of the hadra.
- 5- Accreditation of the competent authority
- 6- To undertake not to use such equipments for a purpose other than the permitted device.

Article (26)

Fishing is prohibited during times and grounds which studies and scientific research indicate that they are the seasons and grounds for fertilization and reproduction of fish species. In coordination with the competent authority the Minister shall issue decision determine such times and grounds.

Article (27)

- a) In coordination with the fishing regulation committees in each emirate, the minister shall issue a decision to ban catching small fishes under the permitted limits.
- a) If small fishes get caught in the fishing tools of any fisherman, he shall return them back to the sea as soon as he catches them.

Article (28)

- a) The Ministry shall notify municipalities of the country, the competent authorities, committees and the fishermen cooperative societies in the emirate and Fish Wealth Department in the Region about the minimum permitted size of fish for fishing.
- b) The law officers shall be liable for seizing fishermen who sell and marketing fish of sizes less than the permitted limit.

Article (29)

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

- 1- The scientific research has to prove that the species intended for fishing is found abundantly and no fear of being exposed to extinction or that its stock shall be affected due to fishing.
- 2- The purpose of fishing shall be for conducting scientific research and experiments, preservation in governmental aquatic museums or

those belonging to local governments or selling aquatic organisms for growers of such organisms.

- 3- Whoever desires to conduct thereof shall be a citizen of UAE or a corporate body owned by UAE citizens.
 - 4- The applicant for license shall have settled the approved fees thereon.
- b) The license period shall not exceed fifteen days and renewed under essential cases for only one similar period.
 - c) On giving out the license according to the provisions herein, provision shall be taken to determine the numbers, sizes and species to be caught.

Article (30)

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

Article (31)

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

- A) Obtaining the approval of the competent authority through an official application containing the following particulars:
 - 1- Purpose of licensing
 - 2- The place where the competition will be conducted
 - 3- The time of the competition.
 - 4- The living aquatic species for which the fishing competition shall be carried out.
 - 5- The fishing equipments to be used in the competition.
 - 6- The approximate number of the participants in the competition.

The body applying for the license has to be a governmental authority or a private body whose internal discipline allows for conducting and organizing such competitions within the framework of activities permitted thereto.

- b) Not to catch species or sizes that has been banned.
- c) Not to fish in the places and seasons where fishing is banned.

- d) A bidding by the conditions for preserving and developing the living sea creatures.
- E) Sticking to the time period being permitted to conduct the competition.
- e) Presenting a proof of paying the approved fees.
- f) Providing the competent authority with comprehensive results of the competition.

Article (32)

- a) Establishing or investing in commercial living aquatic farms is restricted to the following parties:
 - 1- Citizens
 - 2- Corporate bodies owned by citizens at not less than 51% percent.
 - 3- Fishermen cooperative societies
 - 4- Scientific authorities
- b) The application for license will be submitted to the competent authority including the following particulars:
 - 1- Name and address of the applicant and his domicile.
 - 2- Kind of the aquatic organisms to be reared.
 - 3- Location and area of the farm or its sea location with respect to the net cages, fences and marine hatchers.
 - 4- Source and type of water used in rearing aquatic organisms (fresh, sea water or brackish--- etc).
 - 5- The intended purpose of the product (for local consumption or export).
 - 6- The system is used for rearing and investing the aquatic organisms.
 - 7- The expected productive capacity of the farm.
 - 8- Number of workers required for employment in the farm to carry out such activity.
 - 9- The method to be used in getting rid of the waste water in the farm.
 - 10- Draft design for ponds their partitions and number.
 - 11- The source of larvae or fingerlings to be used in rearing.

Article (33)

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

1. Disallowing the use of fresh water for breeding aquatic organism unless the applied rule approves such kind of water firstly for rearing aquatic organism and then for agriculture in order to optimally use fresh water sources through the systems of reusing the same waters on soil.
2. Disallowing the establishment of aquatic organism farms on beaches, bays, creeks, gulfs and islands where mangrove trees are present.
3. If the rearing method suggests using floating marine cages, the competent authority in coordination with the ministry shall determine number and sizes of such cages.
4. Presenting economical and technical feasibility study of the project specifying production plans, project maximum potentiality, rearing and production technical aspects of the project, result of the economical feasibility study, project financial analysis and results of the physical and chemical studies of the site and its suitability for rearing aquatic organisms for the purpose of preserving, protecting and developing the fish wealth.
5. Making provision for what has been stipulated in the federal law no. (24) of the year 1999 concerning protecting and developing environment in this concern.

Article (34)

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

Article (35)

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

Article (36)

The owner of aquatic organism farm is prohibited to import brood stock or larvae and to rear species thereof different from the species Found in the fishing waters of the country unless after obtaining a written license from the Ministry authorizing him to do so. The competent authority will issue the license in that concern after under taking to take the maximum precautions

for not infiltrating these species in to the local aquatic environment to preserve them.

Article (37)

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

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

Article (38)

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

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

Article (39)

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

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

Article (40)

- a) It is forbidden to catch marine turtles of whatsoever specie, age or size had been and in any area of the fishing waters or the seashores of islands and land.
- b) The fishermen who fortuitously had got sea turtles in their fishing equipments shall on seeing them release them seeking enough care for their safety.
- c) It is prohibited to collect shift, sell or trade with the eggs of turtles or tamper with their nests or the places of their reproduction on land or seashores of islands.

Article (41)

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

Article (42)

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

Article (43)

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

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

Article (44)

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

Article (45)

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

Article (46)

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

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

- 1- He shall be UAE citizen.
- 2- He shall have completed 18 years of age
- 3- He shall have obtained (assistant Nokhada) card from the Ministry.

Article (47)

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

complete inability with a certificate from a specialized medical committee.

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

Article (48)

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

Article (49)

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

Article (50)

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

Article (51)

Whoever exercises the diving hobby shall:

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

Article (52)

It is forbidden for diving hobbyists to:

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

Article (53)

Fishing and voyaging hobbyists shall:

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

Chapter Five **Circulation, Manufacturing And Marketing**

Article (54)

It is impermissible to circulate, sell, market, consume or benefit in any aspect from the fish and marine organisms which its fishing is absolutely prohibited or prohibited in a certain season. And the competent authority in each emirate shall put the appropriate control means for enforcing the provisions herein. The dried or salted marine organisms which had been caught out of the banned fishing season are exempted hereof.

Article (55)

The fishing boats and the transport means of the live marine wealth shall be equipped with fridges or cooled insulated boxes and with means and technologies that attain the intended purpose prepared thereto. And provision shall be made for

cleanliness and for meeting the health conditions thereon subject to the rules to be decided by the competent authority.

Article (56)

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

Article (57)

The health basics necessary for processing and drying the living marine wealth shall be observed prior to marketing. And all the ships, boats or vehicles carrying imported products of the live aquatic wealth shall observe the provisions of the laws, regulations and decisions relating to customs, veterinary quarantine and the public health whether those

Products were fresh, dried, canned, salted, smoked, cooled or frozen subject to the rules set by the competent authority.

Article (58)

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

Article (59)

Scientific research and marine surveys or others from ships and boats may not carry out any researches or explorations or carry out any studies in the fishing waters unless subject to a special license from the ministry and approval of the competent authority. Any body desires to conduct any activity of the mentioned activities shall submit an application to the ministry demanding to conduct the required activity and attached with a detailed study in this concern.

Chapter six
Grants And Loans Of Fishermen
Article (60)

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

Article (61)

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

Article (62)

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

Article (63)

Those who avail from grants and loans shall be:

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

Article (64)

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

Chapter Seven
Living Aquatic Wealth Exportation

Article (65)

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

Article (66)

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

Article (67)

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

Article (68)

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

Article (69)

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

Article (70)

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

Article (71)

- a) The certificate of origin shall not be used except by the owner of the certificate or his representative according to an official power of attorney issued by the competent authorities.
- b) The certificate of origin is only valid for one exporting operation and stamped by the competent authority and showing the means of transport either by land, sea or air freight as per requested by the exporter.

Chapter Eight **Re-exporting and Transit**

Article (72)

- a) The competent authority shall issue the license for practicing exporting and re-exporting of live aquatics caught outside the fishing waters after obtaining a special permit from the Ministry.
- b) The Ministry shall issue the license stipulated in clause (A) provided that they shall meet the following conditions:
 - 1- He shall be citizen of UAE or a sharing partner for not less than 51% percent.
 - 2- Applicant for license shall have stores and the necessary devices for transporting, preserving and storing the living aquatics which are conforming to health conditions approved by the competent authorities in the concerned emirates.
 - 3- The applicant for license shall have experienced staff of specialists and technicians.
 - 4- He shall undertake not to buy, sell, store or deal with fishes that are caught in the fishing waters of the country.
 - 5- He shall pay the necessary fees.
 - 6- The following documents should be attached:
 - 1. Passport photo copy and summary of the family's entities or a copy of a valid deed or certificate of establishing a corporate body and a statement of the permanent address and residency.
 - 2. The permanent address and the telephone number.
 - 3. A copy of a valid title deed or tenancy contract of the cooling stores.
 - 4. A copy of a valid registration book of cooling vehicle for transporting frozen items.
 - 5. Copy of the laboring staff cards on the project.

Article (73)

It is not allowed to hold a license of local fish exporter together with importing and re-exporting license.

Article (74)

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

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

Chapter Nine **General and Conclusive Decisions**

Article (75)

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

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

- 3- Value of imports
- 4- Value of exports
- 5- Destinations intended for export.
- 6- Comparing quantities and prices with the approved fees.

Article (76)

All fishermen, persons and crafts people mentioned in the present law shall adapt their situations in accordance with the provisions of this By-Law and the decisions made in execution thereof.

Article (77)

The provision hereby shall come into effect as from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

Saeed Bin Mohammed Al Raghabani
Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries

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