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**Law No. (37) of 2009 regarding the Diplomatic and Consular Corps**

We, Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Acting King of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Having reviewed the Constitution,

The Civil Service Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (35) of 2006,

And Emiri Decree No. (4) of 1971 regarding the Diplomatic and Consular Corps,

The Shura Council and the Council of Representatives have approved the following Law, which we have ratified and enacted:

Part One

General Provisions

Article (1)

Definitions

In applying the provisions of this Law, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings assigned against each unless the context otherwise requires:

Ministry: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The General Diwan: Diwan of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Minister: The Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The Competent Committee: The Committee for the Affairs of Members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps.

Corps: The Diplomatic and Consular Corps.

Mission: Diplomatic or Consular Mission.

Members of the Corps: Employees holding positions in the Diplomatic and Consular Corps in accordance with the provisions of this Law.

Employees: Employees of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs appointed in accordance with the Civil Service Law.

Members of the Mission: Members of the Corps and employees working in Diplomatic and Consular Representation Missions.

Technical Attaché: Military or Commercial Attaché, Cultural Attaché, Assistant Cultural Attaché, or others assigned to work with the Mission from other Ministries.

Salary: The basic salary assigned to the position, including allowances received by the employee, excluding bonuses, rewards, and compensations.

Allowance: A monetary amount continuously granted to Members of the Corps or employees if conditions are met. It is not deducted during paid leave.

Compensation: A monetary sum granted to the employee to offset the requirements, conditions, and nature of the work associated with the position held. This amount is not disbursed during paid leave unless specified, such as travel allowance, telephone allowance, and deputation allowance.

Article (2)

Missions shall be established and abolished by a Royal Decree, upon a proposal from the Minister after the approval of the Cabinet, and shall include:

1- Embassies.

2- Permanent Missions of the Kingdom of Bahrain to international and regional organisations.

3- Consulates General.

4- Consulates.

Article (3)

The positions of members of the Corps shall be as follows:

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

Ambassador.

Minister Plenipotentiary.

Counsellor.

First Secretary.

Second Secretary.

Third Secretary.

Attaché.

Any Member of the Corps may be appointed to perform duties in Consular Missions, in accordance with the rules specified by the implementing regulation, in one of the following positions:

Consul General.

Consul.

Deputy Consul.

Part Two

Affairs of Members of the Corps

Chapter One

Appointment and Seniority

Article (4)

The following conditions must be satisfied for an individual to be appointed to one of the positions in the Corps:

1- Must be Bahraini and possess full civil capacity.

2- Must have a good reputation and character.

Must hold a university degree of at least a 3- bachelor's degree or its equivalent.

4- Must be proficient in one foreign language in addition to Arabic.

5- Must not have been previously convicted of a felony or a misdemeanour involving dishonour or breach of trust, unless they have been reinstated.

6- Must not have been previously dismissed from service by a judicial ruling or a final disciplinary decision.

7- Must successfully pass the evaluation for members of the Corps.

8- Must prove their medical fitness for the position.

Article (5)

Appointment to the position of Attaché shall be from among those who have successfully passed the evaluation referred to in Paragraph (7) of Article (4) of this Law, for a period of six months under probation. If their suitability for the position is established during this period, the Competent Committee shall recommend their confirmation; however, if the Attaché is found unsuitable during the probation period, their service shall be terminated.

Article (6)

The seniority of the Attaché in the position shall be determined according to their ranking in the evaluation. If two or more individuals are equal in rank, priority shall be given to the one with the highest qualifications, then **the one earliest graduate**, followed by the oldest in age.

Article (7)

The Attaché shall take the following oath before the Minister, in the presence of the Undersecretary:

"I swear by Almighty Allah to be loyal to the homeland and the King, to respect the Constitution and the laws of the State, and to serve my country with honour, integrity, and sincerity."

Article (8)

Appointment to positions in the Corps may begin from the rank of Third Secretary up to the rank of Minister Plenipotentiary for individuals working in the Ministry or others, in accordance with the evaluation conducted by the Competent Committee in this regard, provided that the appointee meets all the conditions stipulated in Article (4) of this Law. In this case, the appointee shall take the oath referred to in Article (7) of this Law.

Article (9)

Heads of diplomatic missions shall be appointed by Royal Decree based on a nomination from the Minister. Heads of consular missions shall be appointed in accordance with the rules specified by the implementing regulation.

Article (10)

Ambassadors and heads of diplomatic missions with the rank of Ambassador may be appointed from outside the Corps by Royal Decree.

Article (11)

The head of the diplomatic mission shall take the following oath before the King, in the presence of the Minister:

"I swear by Almighty Allah to be loyal to the homeland and the King, to respect the Constitution and the laws of the State, to perform my duties with honesty and honour, and to safeguard its secrets."

Chapter Two

Committee for the Affairs of Members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps

Article (12)

A committee, referred to as the "Committee for the Affairs of Members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps," shall be established by a decision from the Minister. It shall be constituted and operate according to the rules and conditions set forth in the implementing regulation.

The committee shall be responsible for considering the appointment, promotion, and transfer of members of the Corps, preparing performance evaluation reports for them, notifying them thereof, and addressing any matters that the Minister or the Chair of the committee deems necessary to present. The committee shall submit its recommendations to the Minister for approval.

Chapter Three

Performance Evaluation System

Article (13)

Members of the Corps shall be subject to an annual performance evaluation system based on the designated forms, with their performance assessed using the following ratings:

1- Excellent.

2- Very Good.

3- Good.

4- Average.

5- Poor.

The implementing regulation shall specify the controls and procedures for evaluating the performance of members of the Corps, as well as the processes for drafting, rating, and approving performance evaluation forms.

Article (14)

A Member of the Corps shall be notified of their performance report immediately upon its approval, and they may appeal against it within one month from the date of notification.

The appeal shall be submitted to the Appeals Committee, which shall be established and formed by a decision from the Minister. The committee shall operate in accordance with the rules and conditions outlined in the implementing regulation and shall submit its recommendations to the Minister for approval.

Article (15)

A Member of the Corps who receives two consecutive performance reports rated as Poor shall be referred to the Competent Committee to review their status in accordance with the rules and conditions specified by the implementing regulation.

Chapter Four

Promotion

Article (16)

Promotions in all positions within the Corps shall be based on merit, and in cases of equal merit, seniority shall serve as the deciding criterion, in accordance with the rules and conditions specified by the implementing regulation.

For promotion from one rank to another, the candidate must successfully pass the performance evaluation conducted by the Competent Committee in this regard.

Chapter Five

Transfer, Secondment, and Assignment

Article (17)

Heads of diplomatic missions shall be reassigned to the General Diwan by a decision of the Prime Minister, based on a recommendation from the Minister, while heads of consular missions shall be reassigned by a decision of the Minister.

The implementing regulation shall specify the duration of service for heads of missions abroad.

Article (18)

The duration of service for a Member of the Corps at a mission shall be determined according to the rules specified by the implementing regulation.

Article (19)

The Minister may reassign members of the Corps to work with Gulf, Arab, or international bodies. The financial entitlements of the member shall be determined in accordance with the rules and conditions outlined in the implementing regulation.

The Minister may also, in coordination with the Civil Service Bureau—when necessary—second members of the Corps to work in a governmental entity or public institution, according to the rules and conditions specified by the implementing regulation.

Article (20)

The Minister may second a Member of the Corps to work in the mission of one of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries abroad to perform diplomatic or consular duties on behalf of the Kingdom of Bahrain in cases where the Kingdom does not have its own mission, within the framework of the diplomatic and consular cooperation agreements signed between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Gulf Cooperation Council member states.

Article (21)

The Minister may second a member of the mission to work at the Ministry, and may also second a Member of the Corps or an employee to serve in one of the missions, provided that the duration of the secondment does not exceed six months at a time and is renewable, with the total secondment period not exceeding one year. A seconded member may, with the Minister's approval, be accompanied by one family member with them, all in accordance with the rules and conditions specified by the implementing regulation.

Chapter Six

Salaries, Compensations, and Allowances

Article (22)

The basic salaries assigned to each position within the Corps, along with the social allowance, transportation allowance, telephone allowance, and housing allowance entitled to members, shall be specified in tables issued by a decision of the Prime Minister upon the Minister's proposal and after coordination with the Civil Service Bureau. These tables may be reviewed as necessary, and members shall receive their salaries starting from the date they assume their duties.

Article (23)

Members of the mission shall be entitled to a representation allowance during their period of service abroad, and shall receive 50% of this allowance if their spouse accompanies them. Additionally, a member of the mission transferred to the General Diwan shall receive a reduced representation allowance for a duration equal to their service in the mission, with a maximum of four years.

Article (24)

A member of the mission serving in a country deemed challenging from a security standpoint shall be entitled to a hardship allowance.

Article (25)

A member of the mission shall be entitled to an additional social allowance during their period of service abroad.

Article (26)

The Minister, in agreement with the Minister of Finance and in coordination with the Civil Service Bureau, shall issue a decision specifying the allowance tables referenced in Articles (23), (24), and (25), along with the conditions and rules for entitlement.

The Minister may, in agreement with the Minister of Finance and in coordination with the Civil Service Bureau, amend the table of allowances.

Article (27)

Members of the Corps assigned administrative responsibilities at the General Diwan shall be entitled to secondment compensation, determined by a decision from the Minister, which includes the rules and conditions for eligibility.

Article (28)

A member of the mission shall be entitled to currency differential compensation to address fluctuations in exchange rates, according to the rules and conditions specified by the implementing regulation.

Article (29)

Members of the Corps and employees dispatched on official missions or training or study courses shall be entitled to travel allowances, the specifics of which shall be determined by a decision from the Minister.

A Member of the Corps or an employee of the Ministry, when transferred to a mission or dispatched on an official mission or for a training or study course abroad for a period exceeding thirty days, shall be entitled to relocation expenses according to the rules and conditions specified by the implementing regulation.

Article (30)

The Ministry shall provide heads of missions with furnished accommodation at its own expense and shall also provide suitable housing for the remaining members of the mission. Alternatively, a cash housing allowance may be granted to a member of the mission, according to the rules and conditions specified by the implementing regulation.

Article (31)

The Ministry shall provide a health insurance system for the treatment of members of the Corps serving abroad and their accompanying families, according to the rules and conditions specified by the implementing regulation.

Article (32)

The Ministry shall defray the educational expenses of a mission member's children, from kindergarten (for children aged three and above) through the completion of secondary education or its equivalent. Additionally, a mission member transferred to the General Diwan shall be entitled to annual school expenses for their children who accompanied them abroad, for a period equal to their service in the mission, up to a maximum of four years, in accordance with the rules and conditions specified by the implementing regulation.  
Children of mission members who excel and complete their secondary education abroad shall receive the same treatment as students in the Kingdom regarding their eligibility for scholarships and grants.

Children of members of the mission who excel and complete secondary education abroad shall be treated the same as students studying in the Kingdom regarding their eligibility for scholarships and grants.

Article (33)

A member of the mission shall be entitled to relocation expenses when appointed abroad or transferred from the mission, according to the rules and conditions specified by the implementing regulation.

Article (34)

The Ministry shall cover the travel expenses of a mission member and their family upon appointment, transfer, or during annual leave. Additionally, the Ministry shall cover the travel expenses of a servant and a nanny for the head of the mission, and a nanny only for other mission members, subject to the rules and conditions specified by the implementing regulation.

Article (35)

A member of the mission shall be entitled to emergency relocation expenses in cases of disasters or unrest in the countries where the mission is accredited, in accordance with the rules and conditions specified by the implementing regulation.

Article (36)

The Ministry shall bear the shipping expenses for the belongings of a member of the mission upon appointment or transfer, according to the rules and conditions specified by the implementing regulation.

A member of the mission transferred to the General Diwan shall be entitled to customs exemption for their belongings and personal vehicle, as agreed upon between the Minister and the Minister of Finance.

Article (37)

If a member of the mission passes away abroad—even while on leave away from their duty station—the provisions of Article (87) of Law No. (13) of 1975 regarding the Regulation of Pensions and Retirement Gratuities for Government Employees, as amended, shall apply. The Ministry shall bear the expenses for preparing and transporting the body.

If a family member of a mission member passes away, the Ministry shall bear the costs of preparing and transporting the body, as well as the return travel expenses for the mission member and their family.

Article (38)

A member of the mission who is transferred to the General Diwan at their own request, for reasons not approved by the Ministry, or as a result of one of the penalties stipulated in this Law, shall not be entitled to the reduced representation allowance mentioned in Article (23) or the relocation expenses specified in Article (33).

Chapter Seven

On Leaves

Article (39)

The Minister shall determine, based on a proposal from the Competent Committee, the working days of the week and their timings for missions abroad, taking into account the regulations of the host country.

Article (40)

A Member of the Corps and an employee, whether a husband or a wife, shall be entitled to special unpaid leave to accompany a member of the mission abroad.  
The duration of this leave shall count as service time for pension or retirement benefits. The Ministry shall bear the full pension contributions during the accompaniment period.

Chapter Eight

Duties and Prohibited Acts

Article (41)

A Member of the Corps and other representatives abroad must observe and implement the provisions of this Law, and must:

1- Not engage in any political activity.

2- Not disclose any information or clarifications regarding matters that should remain confidential by nature or pursuant to specific instructions. This obligation shall remain in effect after the end of their service for the period specified by the implementing regulation.

3- Not marry a non-Bahraini without the Ministry's approval.

4- Adhere to general and personal conduct befitting the duties required by the nature of their position and essential to preserving the country's reputation abroad.

5- Maintain an appearance appropriate to their position and refrain from any behavior contrary to public morals and the integrity of their role.

6- Reside in the city of their duty station and may not live elsewhere unless approved by the Minister for valid reasons.

7- Devote official working hours exclusively to their duties, and neither they nor their spouse may engage in any additional work alongside their official responsibilities.

8- Not leave the city where the mission is located except in accordance with the rules established by the Ministry.

9- Adhere to the general regulating government employees' duties and prohibited activities as stipulated by applicable laws and regulations.

Chapter Nine

Investigation and Disciplinary Action Against Members of the Corps

Article (42)

Without prejudice to civil or criminal liability, any member who breaches their duties or violates the prohibitions stipulated in this Law shall be subject to disciplinary action.

A member shall be exempt from disciplinary penalties if it is proven that the violation was committed in execution of an order issued thereto by their superior, despite the member having clearly informed their superior in writing of the nature of the violation; in this case, liability shall rest with the issuer of the order.

Article (43)

The disciplinary penalties that may be imposed on a Member of the Corps are:

1- A warning.

2- A Written warning.

3- Suspension of the periodic allowance for a period not exceeding one year.

4- Suspension from work for a period not exceeding one month within the year and not exceeding ten days at a time.

5- Reassignment to a position outside the Corps.

6- Termination of service.

Article (44)

No disciplinary penalty may be imposed on a Member of the Corps without a written investigation during which their statements are heard and their right to defend themselves is ensured.

The decision imposing the penalty must be reasoned.

Article (45)

The investigation referred to in Article (44) of this Law shall be conducted by a Member of the Corps designated by the Minister, provided that their rank is not lower than that of the member being investigated.

Article (46)

The Minister or their delegate may suspend a Member of the Corps from duty if the investigation requires it, provided the suspension does not exceed three months, and may only be extended upon the recommendation of the Competent Committee.

When suspending a Member of the Corps for the purposes of the investigation, the Minister or their delegate may withhold half the member's salary for a period not exceeding two months. In this case, the matter must be presented to the Competent Committee to decide whether to continue or discontinue the payment of half the suspended salary.

If the matter is not referred within ten days, the full salary must be reinstated.

The Committee must issue its decision within twenty days of the matter being referred to it; otherwise, the full salary must be reinstated.

If the Member of the Corps is acquitted, the investigation is closed, or they are penalised with a caution or written warning, the withheld salary shall be reimbursed. However, if they are penalised with a more severe penalty, the authority that imposed the penalty shall decide on the disposition of the withheld salary.

Article (47)

Except for cautions and written warnings, no penalties under Article (43) of this Law may be imposed without referring the matter of the Member of the Corps under investigation to the Competent Committee and obtaining its recommendation.

Article (48)

The imposition of a written warning or the suspension of the periodic allowance on a Member of the Corps shall result in a one-time denial of promotion and reassignment to the Ministry if serving abroad.

Article (49)

The Minister shall issue a decision to refer a Member of the Corps to the Competent Committee, and the member shall be deemed referred as of the issuance date of the referral decision, which must include a statement of the facts attributed to them. The member shall be notified of the decision in writing, including the date of the Competent Committee's meeting to review their case, via registered mail with acknowledgment of receipt, at least fifteen days prior to the meeting. For members serving abroad, this period is extended to one month.

Article (50)

The Competent Committee may, on its own initiative or at the request of the Member of the Corps referred to it, order the completion of the investigation and may delegate this task to one of its members. In all cases, the referred member has the right to access the conducted investigations and all related documents, take copies thereof, and request the inclusion of performance evaluation reports or any other documents in the investigation file.

Article (51)

A Member of the Corps referred to the Competent Committee may appear in person or through a representative and has the right to defend themselves, either in writing or verbally.

Article (52)

The right to initiate disciplinary action against a Member of the Corps expires one year after the date of the violation. This period is interrupted upon initiating investigation procedures or referring the member to the Competent Committee, and a new period begins from the date of the last action taken regarding the violation.

If multiple members are referred to the Committee, the interruption of the limitation period for one of them shall apply to the others, even if no conclusive actions were taken against them.

Article (53)

Without prejudice to provisions of the criminal or civil liability of a Member of the Corps, the termination of their service—except in cases of death—shall not preclude their disciplinary accountability, provided an investigation was initiated before their service ended.

For violations resulting in the loss of public treasury rights, a Member of the Corps may be held disciplinarily accountable even if an investigation was not initiated prior to the termination of service, for up to five years from the date of termination.

If found guilty, a former member may be fined up to five times the monthly salary they were receiving at the time of their service termination.

Article (54)

If the member referred to the Competent Committee does not attend in person or through a representative at the specified time, they shall be notified of a rescheduled session. Should they fail to appear again, proceedings may continue in their absence, provided their notification is verified through registered mail with acknowledgment of receipt.

Article (55)

The sessions of the Competent Committee shall be confidential and shall be valid only if attended by at least two-thirds of its members. Recommendations shall be issued by a majority vote of the attendees, accompanied by their reasoning, and submitted to the Minister for approval. The member shall be notified of the decision in writing, including its justification, within two weeks of its approval.

Article (56)

A Member of the Corps may appeal the decision imposing a penalty to the Minister within thirty days of becoming aware of the decision. The Minister shall refer the appeal to the Grievance Committee, as stipulated in Article (14) of this Law, for review and to issue its recommendations.

Article (57)

The Grievance Committee shall submit its final recommendation regarding the penalty to the Minister, including the rationale for its recommendation, signed by the Committee Chairperson and its members.  
The Minister or their delegate shall issue a decision on the appeal within 60 days of its submission. Failure to decide within this period shall be deemed a rejection of the appeal.

Article (58)

A member suspended due to investigation or pre-trial detention, as well as a member referred to the Competent Committee, shall retain their position in the promotion queue if the promotion period occurs during their suspension or accountability.  
If acquitted or subjected to a warning penalty, their promotion shall be reinstated to the date it was initially due.

Article (59)

A Member of the Corps referred for criminal prosecution for a felony or misdemeanour involving dishonour or breach of trust shall not be promoted, but shall retain their position in the promotion queue if it occurs during the trial. If the trial concludes with an acquittal, their promotion should be reinstated to the date it was due.

Article (60)

Without prejudice to the provisions of Article (62) of this Law, any Member of the Corps imprisoned pursuant to a court ruling shall be considered suspended from work and deprived of their salary during the period of imprisonment. They may be reinstated to their position upon the completion of their sentence, without prejudice to disciplinary accountability if warranted.

Article (61)

If reports are submitted regarding a member who has been subjected to disciplinary penalties indicating that their conduct and work have been satisfactory since the imposition of the penalty, the Minister or their delegate shall issue a decision to annul those penalties after the following periods:

1- Six months in the case of a warning or written warning.

2- One year in the cases of suspension of the periodic allowance or suspension from work with salary deduction.

The annulment of the penalty shall render it as if it never occurred for future purposes, without affecting the rights and compensations that arose as a result of the penalty.

Chapter Ten

Termination of Service

Article (62)

Without prejudice to the provisions governing retirement, the service of a Member of the Corps shall terminate for one of the following reasons:

1- Reaching the age of sixty. However, the service may be extended for a maximum of four years, if necessary, based on a proposal from the Minister, in accordance with civil service rules and regulations.

2- Early retirement at the request of the Member of the Corps.

3- Marriage to a non-Bahraini without the approval of the Ministry, in which case the service shall terminate from the date of the marriage contract, without affecting the member's retirement rights.

4- Unfitness for health reasons.

5- Dismissal from service by disciplinary decision or by a final judicial ruling.

6- Explicit or implicit resignation.

7- Loss of Bahraini nationality or dual nationality.

8- A final criminal conviction for a felony or for a penalty involving imprisonment for a misdemeanour involving dishonour or breach of trust.

9- Dismissal outside of disciplinary procedures in accordance with the cases and controls specified by the implementing regulation.

10- Death.

Article (63)

A Member of the Corps may submit their resignation in writing to the Minister, and the resignation request shall not be contingent upon any conditions or stipulations; otherwise, it shall be considered as if it had never occurred.

The service of the Member of the Corps shall not terminate except by a decision accepting the resignation, and the request must be decided within thirty days from the date of submission; otherwise, the resignation shall be deemed accepted by operation of law.

If a Member of the Corps is referred for investigation, their resignation shall not be accepted until the investigation is concluded without a penalty of dismissal from service.

In all cases, the Member of the Corps must continue in their duties until they receive the decision to accept the resignation or until the time period specified in this Article expires.

Article (64)

A Member of the Corps shall be considered to have resigned if they are absent from work without permission for more than fifteen consecutive days or thirty non-consecutive days in a year. They must be warned in writing by registered mail with acknowledgment of receipt after five days from the beginning of the continuous absence and ten days from the beginning of the non-continuous absence, unless they have been referred for investigation.

If the Member of the Corps submits, within twenty days following the end of the absence period, proof that their absence was for an acceptable excuse, the competent authority may count the period of absence as annual or sick leave if they have a sufficient leave balance; otherwise, it shall be considered as unpaid leave.

If the Member of the Corps fails to provide justifications for their absence, or if the provided justifications are rejected, their service shall be deemed terminated from the date of their absence in the case of continuous absence, and from the completion of the thirty-day period in the case of non-continuous absence.

Article (65)

The service of an ambassador appointed as the head of a diplomatic mission from outside the Corps, in accordance with Article (10) of this Law, shall terminate at the end of their tenure as the head of that mission, unless the Minister decides to extend their service in the Ministry.

Part Three

Special Provisions for Diplomatic and Consular Missions

Article (66)

In the event of the absence of the Head of the Mission or if there is any impediment preventing them from performing their duties, or if the position is vacant, the next senior Member of the Corps in the same mission shall replace them, or a delegate may be appointed by the Ministry for this purpose.  
If the mission is devoid of diplomatic Members, the senior administrative staff may carry out its functions, and each person who assumes the leadership of the mission shall be granted a substitute allowance in accordance with the rules and conditions specified by the implementing regulation.

Article (67)

The Head of the diplomatic mission shall be considered a Consul General within the jurisdiction of their mission, provided that this does not conflict with the jurisdictions of Consular General offices and consulates established by Royal Decree. The Head of the Mission may delegate all or part of their consular duties to one of the Members of the mission under their authority.

Article (68)

The non-resident Head of the Mission shall be entitled to travel expenses for themselves and their family from the location of the mission in which they are primarily based to the location of the other mission to which they have been assigned, as well as accommodation expenses in accordance with the controls and conditions specified by the implementing regulation.

Article (69)

For reasons of public interest, a Member of the Corps in the mission may be seconded to a position higher than their original position.

Article (70)

The Minister, in agreement with the relevant Ministers, may second Technical Attachés, military or commercial advisors, cultural advisors and their assistants, or other personnel from various ministries. The ministries from which these individuals are seconded shall bear the allowances, benefits, and entitlements associated with the positions they occupy, equivalent to those of their counterparts in the Corps, as per the rules outlined in the implementing regulation.

Upon their final return to the country, these Attachés shall be entitled to the same customs exemptions granted to their counterparts in the mission.

Article (71)

Without prejudice to the rights of the ministries or relevant authorities to direct and supervise, the Technical Attachés and their assistants shall be shall be under the supervision and direction of the Head of the Mission to which they are seconded.

Article (72)

All Members of the consular representation mission shall report to the accredited Head of the diplomatic mission in the country or countries in which they operate, and they shall be under their supervision and must implement any instructions issued by them within the limits of their competencies.

Article (73)

The consular affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain in one or more countries may be entrusted to an Arab or foreign country, in accordance with agreements concluded between the two countries for this purpose.

Article (74)

In the event of the absence of the Head of the consular representation mission, the Member of the consular mission next in rank shall assume all their responsibilities unless the Head of the diplomatic mission appoints one of their Members to act in place of the Head of the consular mission, after consulting with the relevant authority in the Ministry.

Article (75)

Honorary consuls for the Kingdom of Bahrain may be appointed abroad, with their duties defined by a decision from the Minister. These consuls shall not receive salaries or remuneration unless otherwise decided by the Minister.

Article (76)

Subject to the provisions of treaties, laws, regulations, and relevant decisions, diplomatic and consular missions shall protect and promote the interests of the Kingdom of Bahrain and its citizens present within their jurisdictions.  
The Minister shall issue decisions regarding the fees to be collected for consular activities in accordance with what is determined by the relevant authorities.  
The implementing regulation shall specify the basic rules and conditions governing consular work.

Part Four

Final Provisions

Article (77)

The Minister may delegate to whomever they deem appropriate the authority to exercise certain powers stipulated in this Law.

Article (78)

Members of the Corps present at the date this Law comes into effect shall be transferred with their current job positions, grades, and ranks to the salary scale issued in accordance with Article (22) of this Law.

Article (79)

The Civil Service Law shall apply to Members of the Corps in matters not addressed in this Law, provided that it does not conflict with the provisions of this Law.

Article (80)

The implementing regulation of this Law shall be issued by a decision of the Prime Minister. The implementing regulation and the decisions implementing this Law shall be issued within six months from the date of its promulgation. Existing decisions and regulations shall remain in effect until the issuance of this regulation and the related decisions.

Article (81)

Any provision that contradicts the provisions of this Law shall be repealed.

Article (82)

The Prime Minister and the Ministers—each within their jurisdiction—shall implement this Law, and it shall come into force as of the first of the month following the lapse of three months from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

Acting King of the Kingdom of Bahrain

Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa

Issued at Riffa Palace:

On:

16 Rajab 1430 AH

Corresponding to:

9 July 2009