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**Law No. (53) of 2006 Designating Tubli Bay as a Natural Protected Area**

We, Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of the kingdom of Bahrain.

Having reviewed the Constitution,

Law No. (3) of 1975 regarding Public Health, amended by Legislative Decree No. (16) of 1993,

Legislative Decree No. (15) of 1976 promulgating the Penal Code, as amended,

Legislative Decree No. (18) of 1983 regarding the Charging of Land Reclamation Costs to Landowners,

Legislative Decree No. (2) of 1995 regarding the Protection of Wildlife, amended by Legislative Decree No. (12) of 2000,

Legislative Decree No. (21) of 1996 regarding the Environment, amended by Legislative Decree No. (8) of 1997,

The Municipal Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (35) of 2001,

Legislative Decree No. (19) of 2001 Promulgating the Civil Law,

Legislative Decree No. (20) of 2002 regarding the regulation of Fishing, Exploitation, and Protection of Marine Resources,

Legislative Decree No. (50) of 2002 Establishing the Public Commission for the Protection of Marine Resources, Environment, and Wildlife,

Law No. (6) of 2005 Amending Certain Provisions of Legislative Decrees regarding the Regulation of Acquisition of Lands for Public Benefit and Buildings, Urban Planning, Division of Lands intended for Construction and Development, and Public Roads Works,

And the Protection of Shores, Coastlines, and Maritime Ports Law promulgated by Law No. (20) of 2006,

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

Article (1)

Tubli Bay shall be designated as a protected natural area of the second category (national park), according to the international classification of protected areas.

It is wholly owned by the State and is subject to the supervision of the authority responsible for managing natural reserves.

Article (2)

All forms of infilling and dumping in Tubli Bay are prohibited, and the final infill line for the bay shall be determined as a meandering line, which secures a total area of the bay estimated at approximately 13.5 square kilometres.

Article (3)

Without prejudice to the provisions of Article (2) of this Law and without affecting the existing area of the bay, the competent governmental authority shall establish physical boundaries on the ground to define the features, limits, and area of Tubli Bay. It shall determine the final infill line and the setback line, and the relevant authorities shall prepare the necessary maps to achieve this, which shall not exceed a period of three (3) months from the date of the promulgation of this Law.

Article (4)

The competent governmental authorities shall take all necessary measures to preserve the environmental integrity of the Bay and to enhance its wildlife.

Article (5)

Without prejudice to any more severe penalties stipulated in any other law, any person who violates the provisions of this Law shall be punished with imprisonment and a fine not exceeding fifty thousand dinars, or either of these penalties. The court shall order the confiscation of the machinery and tools used in committing the offence and shall obligate the convicted person to remove the violation and restore the situation to what it was.

The competent authorities may seek civil compensation from the convicted person for all damages incurred.

Article (6)

The competent governmental authority shall decide to suspend dumping operations or the removal of any other violations of the provisions of this Law before a ruling is issued in the lawsuit and shall retain all machinery and tools used in these violations.

Article (7)

The Cabinet shall take the necessary decisions and measures to implement the provisions of this Law.

Article (8)

The Cabinet and Ministers—each within his jurisdiction—shall implement this Law, and it shall come into force from the day following the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

King of the Kingdom of Bahrain

Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa

Issued at Riffa Palace:

On:

11 Rajab 1427 AH

Corresponding to:

5 August 2006