



Legislative Decree No. (15) of 2021 with respect to External Auditors

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

After reviewing the constitution, in particular Article (38) thereof,

And the Commerce Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (7) of 1987, as amended,

And Legislative Decree No. 19 of 1995 with respect to Evaluating Academic Qualifications,

And Legislative Decree No. 26 of 1996 with respect to Auditors,

And the Commercial Companies Law promulgated by Decree No. (21) of 2001, as amended,

And the Central Bank of Bahrain and Financial Institutions Law promulgated by Law No. (64) of 2006, as amended,

And Legislative Decree No. (27) of 2015 regarding the commercial registry, as amended by Decree-Law No. (52) of 2018,

And upon the submission of the Prime Minister,

And with the approval of the Council of Ministers,

Hereby Decree the following Law

Chapter One

General Provisions

Article (1)

In the implementation of the provisions of this Law, the following terms and expressions shall have the meanings assigned thereto, unless the context of the text requires otherwise:

Kingdom: Kingdom of Bahrain.

Ministry: The Ministry concerned with trade affairs.

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Concerned Directorate: The directorate concerned with registering the auditors in the Ministry or the directorate concerned with oversight, as the case may be.

Register: Auditors Register.



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Concerned Directorate: The directorate concerned with registering the auditors in the Ministry or the directorate concerned with oversight, as the case may be.

Register: Auditors Register.



Auditor: Any natural or legal person licensed to practice the profession of audit in accordance with the provisions of this Law.

Audit Firm or office: The firm or office owned by an individual auditor who practices the profession through an individual establishment.

Practice: audit practice undertaken by the auditor in accordance with the provisions of this Law.

Financial Institutions: Banks, insurance companies, companies working in the field of securities, portfolios, investment funds, finance companies, money exchange companies, financial brokers and intermediaries, insurance intermediaries, stock market intermediaries, consulting firms specialized in the financial services industry, rating and credit scoring companies, Bahrain Stock Exchange, precious metals and strategic commodities markets, and financial sector support institutions. Including institutions that provide their financial services in accordance with the provisions of Islamic Sharia.

Professional certificate in the field of accounting: a professional certificate in accounting, as determined by a ministerial order issued by the Minister.

Unqualified Partner: the partner who is working in audit firms and not registered in the Register.

Article (2)

No natural or legal person may practice as an auditor except after being registered in the Register in accordance with the provisions of this Law.

Chapter Two

Auditors Register and Registration Conditions

Article (3)

An Auditors Register shall be established in the Ministry, including the following categories:

- 1- Trainee Auditors.
- 2- Practicing Auditors.
- 3- Non-practicing Auditors.

Article (4)

The natural persons who are registered in the Auditors Register shall fulfill the following conditions:

- 1- To be a person with full legal capacity.



- 2- He/she shall have a university qualification in the field of accounting from one of the universities or recognized high institutes, or any other qualification that the relevant authority in evaluating qualifications considers equivalent to being registered as an auditor under training. Excluded from this, the Auditors who are holding a professional certificate in the field of accounting.
- 3- He/she shall be of good reputation and not have been convicted of a felony or a crime involving breach of honor or trust, unless he/she has been reinstated.
- 4- He/she shall not be subjected to a final disciplinary decision to be struck off from the Register unless a period of no less than three years has passed since the issuance of the decision.
- 5- He/she shall have completed the training period stipulated in this Law or have consecutive accounting experience after obtaining a university qualification for no less than five years.
- 6- He/she shall be working on a full-time basis employment in this practice and may not carry on any commercial activity nor being employed in the governmental or private sector.
- 7- He/she shall be a Bahraini National, and a non-Bahraini may be registered if he/she fulfills the conditions stipulated in this article, in addition to the following conditions:
 - a. He/she shall have a legal and permanent residence in the Kingdom for the duration of his/her name registration.
 - b. He/she shall work for one of the Audit Firms or offices in the Kingdom or works for a branch of a non-Bahraini Audit Firm or office licensed to work in the Kingdom.
 - c. He/she shall have at least five years of accounting experience.
- 8- Any other conditions to be determined by a ministerial order of the Minister.

Article (5)

The Auditor shall submit an insurance policy against liability for professional errors, valid for the duration of the license and commensurate with the volume of his/her business, issued by one of the insurance companies approved in the Kingdom within thirty days from the date of his/her registration in the Register. In the case where no insurance policy has been submitted, the Auditors registration shall be considered void. Without prejudice to the rights of bona fide third parties.

A decision of the Minister shall be issued to determine the insurance coverage segments.

Article (6)

Practicing duties in any of the following areas shall be considered an accounting experience:

- 1- Auditing accounts in one of the Audit Firms or offices in the Kingdom.
- 2- Practicing the duties of accounting, audit, or inspecting accounts in one of the ministries, public authorities, and institutions, or other governmental authorities, companies, or financial institutions, in the Kingdom.



The practice of these duties outside the Kingdom may be considered as accounting experience by a ministerial order issued by the Minister.

Article (7)

The name of each person engaged in audit duties for the first time shall be registered in the Register of trainee auditors, and the period of training to be completed shall be five years. The trainee auditor shall spend the period of training in one or more Audit Offices or Firms registered in the Register, provided that the Register shall be notified with the name and address of the Office or Firm within thirty days from the date of the change, the notification shall be accompanied by supporting documents, and the office owner shall prepare performance reports for each of his/her trainees.

Article (8)

The auditor under training may not open an office in his/her name during the training period.

Article (9)

The trainee auditor who has completed the training period may request the Concerned Directorate to transfer his/her name to the practicing Auditors Register, and he/she shall attach a statement of the companies that he/she audited their accounts.

The Concerned Directorate may request from the owner of the Audit Office or Firm, in which the trainee auditor has trained in, a copy of the performance reports of the trainee auditor for the period of training he/she has spent.

Article (10)

Without prejudice to the provisions regulating branches of foreign companies stipulated in the Commercial Companies Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (21) of 2001, branches of foreign Audit Firms and Offices may be registered in accordance with the following conditions and regulations:

1. To be among the audit firms and offices with specialized international expertise, in accordance with the standards that are determined by a ministerial order of the Minister.
2. Its license shall be valid in the original country in relation to its nationality.
3. It shall have practiced the profession for no less than fifteen years.
4. To verify The Memorandum and Articles of Association of the audit firm or office in its country with official documents, if any, in addition to its activities, its financial solvency, and the auditing duties it carried out.



5. The person responsible for managing the branch or the authorized signatory shall be registered in the practicing Auditors Register, and his/her practical experience shall not be less than ten years.
6. Any other conditions to be determined by a ministerial order of the Minister.

An insurance policy against liability for professional errors shall be submitted, valid for the duration of the license and commensurate with the volume of its business, to be issued by one of the insurance companies approved in the Kingdom within thirty days from the date of its registration in the Registry. In the event that the insurance policy is not submitted, the registration shall be considered void, with no prejudice to the rights of bona fide third parties. A decision of the Minister shall be issued to determine the insurance coverage segments.

Several Bahraini auditors must be employed after its registration in the Register, whenever possible.

Article (11)

Without prejudice to the provision of Article (17) of this Law, if the practicing Auditor ceases practicing the profession for any reason whatsoever, he/she shall request the transfer of his/her name to the register of non-practicing auditors if his/her cessation continues for more than one year. The name of a non-Bahraini auditor who ceases practicing the profession for the same period of time and for any reason whatsoever, shall also be struck off from the Register.

An auditor registered in the register of non-practicing auditors may request that his/her name be returned to the Register of practicing auditors, if he/she wishes to return to practicing the profession or if the conditions for disbarment is removed in accordance with the regulations and conditions issued by a ministerial order of the Minister.

Article (12)

The person who signs audited financial reports for public joint-stock companies' accounts or ministries, public authorities and institutions, and other government authorities accounts shall be required to have a professional certificate in the field of accounting and to have practiced the profession of auditing for no less than five years from the date of his/her registration in the Register.

The Central Bank of Bahrain, after coordination with the Minister, shall set the regulations and conditions that must be adhered to when selecting an auditor in relation to financial institutions.



Chapter Three

Registration Procedures in the Auditors Register

Article (13)

Applications for registration in the Auditors Register shall be submitted electronically to the Concerned Directorate, along with the supporting documents. The Concerned Directorate shall decide on the application for registration within fifteen days from the date of its submission, fulfilling the required conditions. If the Directorate deems it necessary to fulfill any additional information, it shall notify the applicant accordingly, within fifteen days from the date of submitting the application, and if he/she does not submit it within a week from the date of his/her notification, the application shall be considered void.

The rejection of the application by the Concerned Directorate shall be accompanied by the relevant reasons, and the lapse of the deadline for deciding on the completed application without a response shall be considered an implicit rejection.

The Minister shall issue a ministerial order specifying the documents required for registration in the Register.

Article (14)

The Concerned Directorate shall register the details of the application after its acceptance in the designated Register, and the applicant is granted a certificate of registration that is considered as a license to practice the profession, according to the certificate templates prepared by the Concerned Directorate. The registration period is one year, renewable for another similar period or periods.

Article (15)

The practicing auditors registration in the Register shall be renewed within three months before its expiry date. The registration may be renewed within three months from the date of its expiry, at the request of the person concerned, if he/she presents an acceptable excuse to the Directorate, and the prescribed fee is collected for the entire period starting from the date of expiry of the registration.

Chapter Four

Powers of the Concerned Directorate

Article (16)

The Concerned Directorate shall undertake the following tasks:

1. Keeping the Auditors Registers.
2. Issuing registration certificates and renewing the registration of audit practice.



3. Investigation of complaints and violations attributed to Auditors.
4. Supervising and controlling Audit Offices and Firms and verifying the quality of their performance to ensure the implementation of the provisions of this Law.
5. Any other tasks specified by a ministerial order of the Minister.

Article (17)

The Concerned Directorate may strike off the Auditor registration from the Register in any of the following cases:

- 1- failure to uphold any of the conditions of registration.
- 2- The expiry of the period prescribed for submitting an application for renewal of registration in the Registry without submitting it, without prejudice to the provision of Article (15) of this Law.
- 3- Failure to notify the Concerned Directorate about the conclusion of practicing the profession within the period stipulated in Article (32) of this Law.
- 4- Issuance of a final judgment of bankruptcy or distraint of the Auditor.

In all cases, the person whose registration has been struck off shall be notified of the striking off decision.

Chapter Five

The rights, obligations and duties of the Auditors

Article (18)

The participating Bahraini Auditors may practice the profession through a commercial company in accordance with the following conditions:

- 1- Establishing a general partnership company in accordance with the Commercial Companies Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (21) of 2001, and the company shall be registered in the Register.
- 2- The manager responsible for signing the audit reports issued by the company shall be one of those registered in the Auditors Register.
- 3- None of the partners shall practice the profession except on behalf of the company.
- 4- The partners of the company shall not be a partner in more than one company.



Article (19)

It is permissible to establish commercial companies comprising of partners from practicing Auditors and Unqualified Partners in accordance with the provisions of this Law and in accordance with a ministerial order issued by the Minister that determines the form of companies that these partners may adopt, the ownership percentage allowed for the Unqualified Partners to acquire, how to hold or redeem shares, and the types of partners' liability and its limits, the person responsible for the management and signing the financial reports, the rules for maintaining independence, the regulations that the company must follow upon the death or assignment of a partner licensed to practice the profession of his/her shares therein, and any other regulations determined by the Minister.

Article (20)

Auditors shall adhere to internationally recognized auditing practices principles and standards, in accordance with the regulations issued by the International Federation of Accounts, comply with professional ethics and technical principles, and abide by the recognized rules of integrity and honesty in auditing practice.

Article (21)

The Auditor, in order to practice his/her profession, may:

- 1- Review and audit the financial accounts, and express his/her opinion thereon, in accordance with the accounting and audit standards approved in the Kingdom.
- 2- Prepare reports on the periodic and annual financial statements, budgets, and accounts for his/her clients.
- 3- Provide expertise, advice and studies in the financial, economic and tax fields.
- 4- Liquidation procedures.
- 5- Inspect the books, records, instruments and other documents and request data and clarifications that he/she deems necessary to be obtained or that he/she deems necessary to perform his/her duties completely and correctly.
- 6- Obtain documents and information that enable him/ her to carry out his/her work. No person may prevent or withhold any documents, data, or information that he/she deems necessary to carry out his/her duties.
- 7- Conduct the inventory process at the time he/she deems appropriate on the treasuries and stores of the entity subject to the audit and has the right to ascertain the assets and obligations of the entity, and to visit its factories, workshops, stores, offices, work sites and projects, and to seek clarification from the specialists about the aspects that he/she needs to perform his/her duty in an optimal manner.



Article (22)

It is not permissible for any company or institution to dismiss the Auditor during the fiscal year in which he/she performs his/her duties unless it is proven that he/she has violated the provisions of this Law and the relevant laws and decrees, provided that the company or institution obtains the approval of the Concerned Directorate.

Article (23)

With no prejudice to the rules issued by the Central Bank of Bahrain regarding public shareholding companies, the Auditor shall be appointed for one fiscal year, renewable for similar periods, provided that it does not exceed five consecutive fiscal years, and he/she may not be appointed thereafter until two fiscal years have elapsed.

The Auditor responsible for audit the company's accounts and approving the final report must be changed after a period of time not exceeding three years.

Article (24)

Auditors shall include in their annual audit reports submitted to companies and institutions, the violations they come across during the audit process.

They shall also immediately inform the Audit Committee stipulated in Article (184) BIS of the Commercial Companies Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (21) of 2001 (if any) - and the officials in the audited companies and institutions, of any serious violations that appear to them while carrying out their duties.

Auditors shall verify the accuracy and efficiency of the internal supervision system in the audited company and its effectiveness in limiting fraud and errors and detecting them as soon as they occur and shall include this in the company's financial report.

Article (25)

Auditors shall verify that the company whose accounts are being auditing by them implement the principles of corporate governance issued by the Ministry or the governance requirements issued by the Central Bank of Bahrain - as the case may be - ensure that the company complies with the procedures for Anti-money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism, and ensure that the company's accounting systems are complying with any requirements imposed under any international agreement or treaty to which the Kingdom is a party in.



Article (26)

The Auditor is prohibited from the following:

- 1- Practicing the profession or advertising it in any way that contradicts the applicable laws and ministerial orders or the recognized rules of professional conduct and ethics.
- 2- Carrying out any work that conflicts with the auditing practices that he/she undertakes.
- 3- To have any interest, whether direct or indirect, with the company or institution that he/she audits its accounts.
- 4- Dealing in the sale or purchase of the securities of the company or institution for which he/she audits its accounts, whether directly or indirectly, or providing any advice to any person in this regard.
- 5- To be a creditor or debtor to the company or institution that he/she audits its accounts, apart from fees for services he/she performs for them.
- 6- To be a partner or accountant in any other Audit Firm or office.
- 7- Audit the accounts of any company or institution in which he/she participated in its establishment, shared in, or managed it, or had previously worked in it in any capacity unless a period of no less than five years had passed since he/she had left his position.
- 8- Audit the accounts of any company or institution he/she is a partner or agent of one of its founders or partners, or an employee of any of them, or has a relationship with him/her up to the second degree.
- 9- Providing any consultancy work to the company or institution that he/she audits its accounts.

Article (27)

The Auditor shall indicate his/her name with his/her registration number in the Register in all correspondences, certificates, budgets and reports that he/ she signs, and he/she must place the registration certificate in a prominent place in his/ her office.

He/she shall also use his/her personal name as an essential element in the name of his/her office, if it is a general partnership company, its name shall be in accordance with the Commercial Companies Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (21) of 2001.

Article (28)

The Auditor shall notify the Concerned Directorate within thirty days from the beginning of each Georgian calendar year of the following:

- 1- Names and qualifications of those he/she employs to perform audit tasks, the courses and programs he/she has undertaken to develop his/her skills and those of the auditors working for him/her.
- 2- A list of the trainee auditors training in his/her office or firm.
- 3- A list of companies and institutions for which he/she audits their accounts.



Article (29)

The Auditor shall notify the Concerned Directorate of any change or modification to his/her address within thirty days from the date of such change or modification. If he/she fails to notify on the specified dates, his/her address that is registered with the Concerned Directorate shall be considered as valid address.

He/she shall also notify the Concerned Directorate of any Auditor or trainee auditor who leaves his employment within thirty days of leaving work.

Article (30)

The Auditor shall personally sign the audit reports issued by his/her office in case of being a natural person, but if he/she is a legal person, the responsible manager shall sign these reports.

Article (31)

The Auditor shall undertake audit for the accounts of third parties, according to a written contract to be concluded with them setting forth the rights and obligations of both parties, in particular determining the scope and nature of the auditing operation, object of the contract and the office fees, all of which shall not conflict with the provisions of this Law.

Article (32)

The Auditor shall notify the Concerned Directorate of his/her cessation of audit practicing- temporarily or permanently - within thirty days from the date of cessation.

Article (33)

The Auditor shall be responsible for the audit duties and the validity and accuracy of the data contained in his/her report.

The Auditor shall be responsible for compensating the damage caused to a client or a third party due to negligence, or professional errors made by him/her or those who work under his/her supervision while carrying out the audit, if there are several auditors, they shall be jointly liable.

If the audit is undertaken by a company, all partners shall be jointly liable against third parties for the damages caused by negligence, or professional errors.



Article (34)

Auditors, owners and managers of Audit Offices shall not divulge any information they learned during or because of the practice of their profession even after the termination of their duties unless such action is intended to prevent the committing of a crime or felony or reporting the occurrence thereof.

Article (35)

Audit Offices and Firms may not seek the assistance for undertaking their duties from a person whose name has been struck off or who has been suspended from practicing the audit in accordance with the provisions of this Law unless he/she is registered again in the Register or the period of his/her suspension has expired.

Article (36)

The Auditor - even if he/she ceases to practice - shall maintain the records, files and data of his/her clients for at least ten years from the date of preparing the last financial report. An electronic copy of them may be maintained, unless such records, files and data are related to cases being heard before the courts, in this case they shall be kept until such cases are resolved by a final judgment, whichever is the longer period.

Article (37)

The Auditor shall settle all transactions and obligations in the event that he/she ceases practicing audit permanently or for a period that may cause harm to clients, and he/she shall notify the company or institution for which he/she audits its accounts in writing if he/she wants to cease undertaking the work mutually agreed upon, provided that he/she finishes the audit duties for the current fiscal year or any other agreed upon tasks. In all cases, such cessation must not cause damage to the client.

Chapter Six

Disciplinary responsibility of Auditors

Article (38)

The Concerned Directorate may, on its own or based on a complaint submitted to it, investigate with the Auditor regarding matters he/she is charged with that violates honor and honesty, or affect the conduct, ethics, and integrity of the profession, or include negligence in practicing his/her duties, or violates the provisions of this Law and the ministerial orders implemented thereto or the provisions of any laws or other relevant orders.



Article (39)

If the Concerned Directorate finds that the incident the auditor is charged with constitutes a disciplinary violation, it shall refer the matter to the disciplinary board. The Director of the Concerned Directorate or whoever is delegated by the Minister for this purpose shall undertake the investigation and initiation of disciplinary violations. If it finds that the alleged incident constitutes a criminal offence, it shall refer the matter to the Public Prosecution.

Article (40)

Disciplining the Auditors shall be before a disciplinary board formed by a ministerial order of the Minister consisting of three members, two judges from the High Civil Court nominated by the Supreme Judicial Council and one of the Ministry's employees. One of the judges assumes the presidency of the board according to his/her seniority.

The Minister shall issue a ministerial order stating the terms of reference of the disciplinary board and organizing its work procedures.

Article (41)

The disciplinary board shall issue its verdict regarding violations after notifying the referred Auditor to appear before the board at least fifteen days prior to the date of the hearing, by any means that informs, provided that the notification includes a summary of the violations attributed to the auditor, and the date and place of the session. The hearings shall be private.

The violator auditor may express his/her defense orally or in writing in person or through a person appointed by him/her from among those working in the profession or from lawyers.

The board may decide the attendance of the violator Auditor personally, if he/she does not attend despite being notified without an acceptable excuse, the verdict may be issued in his/her absence, and the verdict issued in the disciplinary action must be public and substantiated.

Article (42)

The Auditor shall be notified of the verdict of the disciplinary board by a registered letter or by electronic means. An Auditor may appeal before the High Civil Court of Appeal against the verdict of the disciplinary board, within forty-five days from the date of his/her notification of the verdict.

Article (43)

The Auditor's ceasing of practicing audit shall not preclude him/her from being disciplinary accountable for the violations he/she committed during his/her audit practice.



The disciplinary actions shall lapse after three years from the date of retirement from the profession or cessation of practicing audit.

Article (44)

An Auditor who violates his/her professional duties, deviates from its requirements, violates the practices of the profession or generally accepted accounting and audit standards or the profession ethics, or who violates a provision of this Law and the regulations or ministerial decrees/orders implementing it, or the provisions of any other applicable relevant laws or orders, shall be punished with the following disciplinary penalties:

- 1- Reprimand.
- 2- Written warning.
- 3- A fine not exceeding (100,000) One Hundred Thousand Dinars.
- 4- Suspension from practicing the profession for a period not exceeding three years.
- 5- Revocation of the license to practice the profession and striking off the name of the violator from the Register.

When estimating the fine, consideration must be given to the gravity of the violation, the intransigent shown by the violator auditor, the benefits that he/she earned and the damage caused to others as a result of that.

Article (45)

The verdicts of the disciplinary board shall be entered in a special register prepared for this purpose and its content shall be endorsed in the register in which the auditor is registered in.

Article (46)

The Concerned Directorate may consider an application to re-register the Auditor in the Register after the lapse of three years from the disciplinary verdict to strike off is issued.

Chapter Seven

Penalties

Article (47)

Without prejudice to a severer penalty stipulated in any other law, a penalty of imprisonment and a fine of no less than Ten Thousand Dinars and not more than One Hundred Thousand Dinars, or either of these two penalties, shall be imposed on any of the following:

- 1- Any person who states false information in any report, accounts or document prepared by him/ her while practicing the profession.



- 2- Any person who prepares a report that denies the facts or endorses facts which are contrary to the truth in a document that must be issued by law or by virtue of the rules of practicing the profession.
- 3- Any person who discloses a secret of any of the clients for which he/she audits its accounts.
- 4- Any person who ratified by signing financial reports that were not audited by him/her or the auditors under his/her supervision.
- 5- Any person who practiced the audit without obtaining a license.
- 6- Any person who registered his/her name in the Auditors Register based on incorrect data or information or submitted certificates that do not conform to reality, with his/her knowledge of that.
- 7- Violated accounting, audit or other professional standards.
- 8- Any person who dealt in the sale or purchase of the securities of the company or institution for which he/she audits its accounts, whether directly or indirectly, or providing any advice to any person in this regard, and obtaining a personal benefit directly or indirectly, making use of the information he/she obtains because of his/her profession.
- 9- Any person who deluded the public by any means of advertising that he/she has the right to practice the profession, despite the fact that he/she is not registered in the practicing Auditors Register, or that he/she has been suspended from practicing the profession or his/her registration struck off from the register.

Article (48)

When ruling on any of the penalties stipulated in Article (47), the court may order the removal of billboards and the destruction of flyers and other means of publicity used to practice the profession, and it may close the Audit Office, as the case may be, and strike off the name of the Auditor from the Register. It may also order the publication of the judgment in a local daily newspaper at the expense of the convict.

Article (49)

Without prejudice to a severer penalty stipulated in any other law, a fine of no more than Five Thousand Dinars shall be imposed on anyone who violates any of the provisions of Articles (27), (28), (29), (30), (31), (32), (34), (35), (36) and (37) of this Law.

Article (50)

The person responsible for the actual management of the violating legal person shall be punished with the same penalties prescribed for the acts committed in violation of the provisions of this Law, if it is proven that he/she was aware of them, or if his/her violating of the duties imposed on him/her by the administration contributed to the occurring of the crime.



The legal person shall be jointly liable for the payment of the adjudicated compensation, if the crime that occurred in violation of the provisions of this Law was committed by one of its employees, in its name or for its benefit.

Article (51)

Without prejudice to a severer penalty stipulated in any other law, reconciliation may be made in all or some of the crimes stipulated in this Law, and the Minister or whomever he delegates, upon a written request from the accused or his/her representative, may accept reconciliation whether before filing the action or in the course of hearing the action and before a final verdict is issued, if the accused pays an amount equivalent to the minimum fine prescribed for the crime, or Two Thousand Bahraini Dinars, whichever is greater.

Reconciliation results in the abatement of the criminal case

Chapter Eight

Final Provisions

Article (52)

The appeal against the judgments issued in implementation of this Law shall be within sixty days from the date of its announcement or publication, and the appeal shall be submitted by a written request to the Minister, and it shall be decided upon within sixty days of its submission. If the appeal is rejected, the rejection shall be substantiated., and the expiry of the sixty day period without a response shall be considered an implicit rejection of the appeal.

The appellant may appeal the rejection of the appeal before the High Court within sixty days from the date of his/her knowledge of the explicit rejection of the appeal, or the expiry of the sixty day period without a response. The case is not accepted until after the appeal against the verdict.

Article (53)

Employees delegated by a ministerial order issued by the minister concerned with justice affairs, in agreement with the Minister, shall have a judicial policing capacity in the implementation of the provisions of this Law and the ministerial orders implementing it, in relation to concerning crimes that occur within their jurisdictions and are related to the duties of their jobs. Accordingly, they have the right to enter the headquarters of Audit Offices and Firms and register violations and draft the necessary reports for that.

It is prohibited for the Auditor to prevent or preclude any of the employees authorized as judicial police officers from carrying out the tasks and powers assigned to them under the provisions of this Law.



Article (54)

The clerk's office of the court from which the following verdicts are issued against any Auditor shall send a copy of the award within fifteen days from the date of its issuance to the Concerned Directorate, for endorsement accordingly in the Register:

- 1- Judgments of declaring bankruptcy or canceling it, and judgments for setting or amending the date for stopping payment of debts.
- 2- Reinstatement judgements.
- 3- Judgments and orders issued to place the distraint on the Auditor, or to appoint or dismiss the custodians, or to lift the distraint.
- 4- Judgements for dissolving and liquidating Audit Firms.
- 5- Judgements for placing the Audit Firm under judicial custody or seizure.

Article (55)

The registration and renewal fees in the Auditors Registers, provided by the Ministry in accordance with the provisions of this Law shall be determined by a ministerial order of the Minister after approval of the Council of Ministers.

Article (56)

The Minister may issue an order regulating the accounting categories and sections and the requirements for obtaining a license in each category or section thereof.

Article (57)

The Minister shall issue the necessary orders to implement the provisions of this Law, and until such orders are issued, the decisions in force at the time of the issuance of this Law shall continue to be enforced without conflict with its provisions.

Article (58)

All data registered in the Auditors Register established in accordance with Legislative Decree No. (26) of 1996 regarding auditors, shall be transferred to the Register provided for in this Law according to the category of each auditor.



Article (59)

All those to whom the provisions of this Law apply, shall adjust their status in accordance with its provisions, within one year from the date of its enforcement.

Article (60)

Legislative Decree No. (26) of 1996 regarding auditors shall be repealed, as well as any text that contradicts the provisions of this Law.

Article (61)

The Prime Minister and Ministers, each in his/her respective capacity, shall implement the provisions of this Law which shall come into effect from the first day of the month after three months from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

King of the Kingdom of Bahrain

Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa

Prime Minister

Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa

Issued at Riffa Palace

On: 23 Thu Al-Hijjah 1442 H

Corresponding to: 2 August, 2021 AD