



**Bureau of Experts at the Council of Ministers  
Official Translation Department**

## **Anti-Bribery Law**

Royal Decree No. M/36  
June 30, 1992

**Translation of Saudi Laws**



**NOTE:**

The translation of Saudi laws takes the following into consideration:

- Words used in the singular form include the plural and vice versa.
- Words used in the masculine form include the feminine.
- Words used in the present tense include the present as well as the future.
- The word “person” or “persons” and their related pronouns (he, his, him, they, their, them) refer to a natural and legal person.



## Anti-Bribery Law

### Article 1

Any public servant who solicits, accepts, or receives for himself or for others a gift or payment of any sort, or a promise thereof, as a consideration for performing any of his office duties or an alleged office duty, even if the action taken is legitimate, shall be considered a bribee and shall be punished by imprisonment for a term not exceeding ten years and a fine not exceeding 1,000,000 riyals, or by either penalty. The public servant shall be incriminated regardless of his intent not to perform the promised act.

### Article 2

Any public servant who solicits, accepts, or receives for himself or for others a gift or payment of any sort, or a promise thereof, as a consideration for not performing an office duty or an alleged office duty, even if such inaction is legitimate, shall be considered a bribee and shall be punished by the same penalty set forth in Article 1 of this Law. The public servant shall be incriminated regardless of his intent not to perform the promised act.

### Article 3

Any public servant who solicits, accepts, or receives for himself or for others a gift or payment of any sort, or a promise thereof, as a consideration for breaching his office duties or as a reward for the same, even in the absence of a prior agreement, shall be considered a bribee and shall be punished by the same penalty set forth in Article 1 of this Law.

### Article 4

Any public servant who breaches his office duties by performing or refraining from performing any of such duties as a result of a plea, recommendation, or intercession, shall be considered a bribee and shall be punished by imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years and a fine not exceeding 100,000 riyals, or by either penalty.

### Article 5

Any public servant who solicits, accepts, or receives for himself or for others a gift or payment of any sort, or a promise thereof, as a consideration for using a real or alleged influence to obtain or attempt to obtain, from any public authority, a contract, order, decision, commitment, license, supply agreement, job, service, or privilege of any type, shall be considered a bribee and shall be punished by the same penalty set forth in Article 1 of this Law.



## **Article 6**

Any public servant not covered by the other provisions of this Law, who solicits, accepts, or receives for himself or for others a gift or a payment of any sort, or a promise thereof, by virtue of his position to follow up a case-file at any government agency, shall be punished by imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years and a fine not exceeding 50,000 riyals, or by either penalty. The same penalty shall apply to any person who gives, offers, or promises to give a gift for the aforementioned purpose as well as to the mediator in any of these cases.

## **Article 7**

Any person who uses force, violence, or threat against any public servant to perform an illegal action or to prevent such servant from performing any of his office duties, shall be punished by the same penalty set forth in Article 1 of this Law.

## **Article 8**

In the application of the provisions of this Law, the following persons shall be considered public servants:

1. Any person who works for the government or any public corporate entity, whether permanently or temporarily.
2. An arbitrator or expert assigned by the government or any authority with judicial jurisdiction.
3. Any person assigned by a government agency or any other administrative authority to perform a specific task.
4. Any person who works for companies or sole proprietorships that manage, operate, or maintain public facilities or provide public services, as well as any person who works for joint stock companies, companies partially owned by the government, and companies and sole proprietorships engaged in banking services.
5. Chairmen and members of the boards of directors of the companies set forth in paragraph (4) of this Article.
6. Employees and members of non-government public-benefit societies, as well as chairmen and members of their boards of directors.
7. Employees of international organizations and bodies with respect to the conduct of international commercial activities.

## **Article 9**

Any person who offers or promises a bribe and such offer or promise is rejected shall be punished by imprisonment for a term not exceeding ten years and a fine not exceeding 1,000,000 riyals, or by either penalty.

### **Article 9 (bis 1)**

Any person who promises, offers, or grants a gift to any person working for private or cooperative societies, private organizations, companies, sole



proprietorships, or professional bodies, in any capacity, whether for his own benefit or the benefit of others, for the unlawful performance or non-performance of his duties, shall be deemed to have committed bribery and shall be subject to imprisonment for a period not exceeding five years or a fine not exceeding 500,000 riyals, or both.

#### **Article 9 (bis 2)**

Any person working for private or cooperative societies, private organizations, companies, sole proprietorships, or professional bodies, in any capacity, who requests for himself or others, or accepts or receives a promise or gift for the unlawful performance or non-performance of his duties, shall be deemed to have committed bribery and shall be subject to imprisonment for a period not exceeding five years or a fine not exceeding 500,000 riyals, or both.

#### **Article 10**

The briber, the mediator, and any accomplice in any of the offences set forth in this Law shall be punished as provided for in the relevant Article. Any person who knowingly agrees, incites, or assists in committing such offences shall be considered an accomplice if the offence is perpetrated as a result of said agreement, incitement, or assistance.

#### **Article 11**

Any person who is assigned by the bribee or the briber to take a bribe and knowingly accepts the same shall be punished by imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years and a fine not exceeding 50,000 riyals, or by either penalty.

#### **Article 12**

In the application of this Law, any benefit or privilege obtained by the bribee, regardless of its type or designation, whether material or otherwise, shall be considered a gift or promise of payment of any sort.

#### **Article 13**

A public servant or a person of a similar capacity convicted of any offence set forth in this Law shall be dismissed and prevented from assuming any public position or performing any acts that are the responsibility of public servants in accordance with Article 8 of this Law.

#### **Article 14**

The Minister of Interior shall, based on a recommendation by a committee comprising representatives from the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development, and Oversight and Anti-Corruption Authority, issue a decision to reconsider consequential punishments upon the lapse of five years following the completion of the execution of the original



punishment. The Minister of Interior shall determine the committee work procedures.

#### **Article 15**

In all cases, any money, benefit, or privilege – subject of the offence – shall be confiscated, whenever possible.

#### **Article 16**

The briber or mediator shall be exempted from original and consequential punishments if he informs the authorities prior to the discovery of the offence.

#### **Article 17**

Any person who provides incriminating information on any of the offences set forth in this Law that substantiates the offence and he is not a briber, accomplice, or mediator shall receive a reward not less than 5,000 riyals and not more than half of the money confiscated. Such reward shall be determined by the authority deciding upon the offence. The Presidency of State Security may, upon the approval of the Prime Minister, pay a higher reward than the amount prescribed under this Article.

#### **Article 18**

Any person who is convicted of an offence set forth in this Law shall be considered a recidivist if proven to have committed another offence under this Law prior to the lapse of five years from the date of completion of the punishment. In this case, such person may be punished by a penalty higher than the maximum limit of the prescribed punishment for the offence, provided that double the maximum limit is not exceeded.

#### **Article 19**

The competent authority responsible for adjudging bribery offences shall impose a fine not exceeding ten times the value of the bribe or enforce a ban on entering into procurement or project execution contracts with ministries, public corporate entities, or either penalty against any national or foreign private company or establishment where the manager or any of the employees thereof is convicted of any of the offences provided for in this Law if proven that the offence is committed in its favor. The Council of Ministers may reconsider the abovementioned ban upon the lapse of at least five years from the date of issuance of the judgment.

#### **Article 20**

If any national or foreign private company or establishment is banned from entering into any contracts in accordance with Article 19 of this Law, the government agency contracting therewith shall submit to the Council of Ministers its opinion on ongoing contracts with such company or establishment,



even if the government agency is not connected to the offence subject of the judgment.

**Article 21**

The Presidency of State Security shall publish and announce judgments issued on bribery offences.

**Article 22**

This Law shall supersede the Anti-Bribery Law promulgated by Royal Decree No. 15 dated 7/3/1382H and its amendments, and shall repeal any conflicting provisions.

**Article 23**

This Law shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall enter into force 30 days after its publication date.