



شعبة الترجمة الرسمية
Official Translation Department

Travel Document Law

Royal Decree No. M/24
August 28, 2000

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.



Travel Document Law

Article 1

Travel documents issued in the name of the government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia permitting bearers thereof to travel are as follows:

1. Passports.
2. Laissez-passer.
3. Diplomatic passports.
4. Special passports.

The competent agency at the Ministry of Interior and the Kingdom's diplomatic missions abroad shall issue passports and laissez-passer in accordance with this Law. The Implementing Regulations shall set the specifications, validity, and procedures for obtaining such documents as well as the cases in which laissez-passer may be granted. Diplomatic and special passports shall be issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs pursuant to the relevant law.

Article 2

1. A passport shall be granted to any applicant holding Saudi Arabian citizenship, in accordance with the Implementing Regulations.
2. The Minister of Interior may, when necessary, issue a temporary passport or laissez-passer to any person not holding Saudi Arabian citizenship for traveling abroad and re-entering the Kingdom. The Implementing Regulations shall specify the cases in which they may be issued or withdrawn.

Article 3

Repealed

Article 4

Passports and travel permits shall be issued to a person under custody and a minor whose guardian is deceased in accordance with the Implementing Regulations.

Article 5

No person may hold more than one valid passport issued under this Law. The Implementing Regulations shall stipulate the manner by which the issuing agency verifies the same.

Article 6

1. No person may exit the Kingdom without a valid travel document. Exit or entry into the Kingdom is allowed only through the points of entry designated



by the Minister of Interior. The Implementing Regulations shall specify entry and exit procedures.

2. No person may be barred from traveling except by a judicial ruling or a decision issued by the Minister of Interior or the President of State Security, as the case may be, for specific reasons relating to security and for a specific period of time. In both cases, the person barred from traveling shall be notified within a period not exceeding one week from the date of issuance of said ruling or decision.

Article 7

The Minister of Interior shall specify the countries subject to a travel ban, and passport departments shall take appropriate measures to uphold the same in accordance with the Implementing Regulations.

Article 8

Passports or laissez-passer lost or damaged in the Kingdom or abroad shall be reported within a period not exceeding one week from the date of becoming aware of said loss or damage and shall be consequently rendered invalid. The Implementing Regulations shall specify the authorities to be notified and the procedures for issuing a replacement.

Article 9

The Kingdom's diplomatic missions abroad shall register the passports of Saudi citizens so requesting. The Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall determine when said registration is mandatory and the procedures thereof.

Article 10

Without prejudice to any harsher penalty provided for in other laws, a person committing any of the following offenses shall be punished by a fine not exceeding five thousand riyals or shall be barred from traveling for a period not exceeding three years, or by both penalties:

1. Adding, deleting, or altering information provided in passports or laissez-passer by an unauthorized authority.
2. Willfully damaging, distorting, or altering personal photographs in passports or laissez-passer.
3. Negligence leading to the loss of a passport or laissez-passer.
4. Willfully enabling others to unlawfully use his passport or laissez-passer, or selling or pledging the same.
5. Using or attempting to use another person's passport or laissez-passer or aiding others in committing the same.
6. Exiting or entering the Kingdom through undesignated points of entry except with acceptable justification.



7. Exiting or entering the Kingdom without a travel document except with acceptable justification.
8. Violating any provision of this Law and its Implementing Regulations.

Article 11

1. Pursuant to a decision by the Minister of Interior, a committee or more shall be formed, each comprising three members, one of whom is a legal counselor, to review the violations provided for in Article 10 of this Law and propose appropriate penalties therefor.
2. Penalties shall be imposed pursuant to a decision by the Minister of Interior or his designee. Any person against whom a decision is rendered may appeal such decision before the Board of Grievances pursuant to its Law.
3. Violations requiring harsher penalties provided for in other laws shall be referred to the competent authority for review in accordance with its Law.
4. If any of the offenses stated in paragraphs (1), (2), (3), (4), and (5) of Article 10 is committed, the travel document in question shall be revoked by force of law.

Article 12

The following fees shall be charged for travel documents issued under this Law:

- 60 riyals on an annual basis for passport issuance or renewal.
- 50 riyals for laissez-passer issuance.

Said fees may be modified pursuant to a resolution by the Council of Ministers.

Article 13

This Law and its Implementing Regulations shall, upon their entry into force, supersede the provisions relating to travel documents stated in the Travel Passport Law issued pursuant to Royal Order No. (17/3/2) dated 19/1/1358H and in the directives and decisions relating thereto.

Article 14

The Minister of Interior shall issue the Implementing Regulations of this Law. Said Regulations shall be published in the Official Gazette within a period not exceeding 16 months from the date of publication of this Law, provided that the Regulations enter into force on the date this Law enters into force.

Article 15

This Law shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall enter into force 18 months after the date of its publication.