

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Bureau of Experts at the Council of Ministers
Official Translation Department



*Statute of the General
Authority of Civil Aviation*

*Translation
Of Saudi Laws*

First Edition 2012



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Statute of the General Authority of Civil Aviation

Council of Ministers Resolution No. 33, Dated 11/2/1426H

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*In the Name of God
the Compassionate
the Merciful*

**This translation is provided
for guidance. The governing
text is the Arabic text.**

No.: 33

Date: 11/2/1426H

The Council of Ministers;

Upon perusal of the File received from the Office of Presidency of the Council of Ministers No. 7/B/39016 dated 28/7/1425H, including Letter No. 2327 dated 12/7/1425H of HE Chief of the Bureau of Experts, as regards the Draft Statute of the General Authority of Civil Aviation;

And upon perusal of the Council of Ministers Resolution No. 13 dated 17/1/1425H, concerning conversion of the Presidency of Civil Aviation into a general authority with a corporate personality as well as financial and administrative autonomy;

And upon perusal of Minutes No. 251 dated 12/7/1425H, drafted at the Bureau of Experts;

And upon perusal of the Recommendations of the General Committee of the Council of Ministers No. 582 dated 23/10/1425H and No. 618 dated 15/11/1425H;

Resolves as follows:

The Statute of the General Authority of Civil Aviation, as per the attached form, shall be approved.

(Signed)

Deputy Prime Minister

Article 1

The following terms and phrases shall have the meanings assigned to them, unless otherwise required by context:

Kingdom: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Authority: General Authority of Civil Aviation.

Statute: Statute of the General Authority of Civil Aviation.

Board: Board of Directors of the General Authority of Civil Aviation.

Chairman: Chairman of the Board of Directors of the General Authority of Civil Aviation.

President: President of the General Authority of Civil Aviation.

Territory of the Kingdom: Kingdom's land, territorial waters and the airspace thereover.

Air Transport: commercial transportation carried out by a natural or corporate person by means of exploiting airlines for transporting passengers, mail, goods or any of them.

Chicago Convention: the Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation, ratified by Royal Decree No. M/24 dated 30/4/1381H, as well as annexes and amendments thereto.

Article 2

- 1- Under this Statute, a general authority shall be established and named "General Authority of Civil Aviation", and shall have a public corporate personality and financial and administrative autonomy. Its headquarters shall be in the City of Jeddah, and it may open branch offices to carry out its duties and attend to its activities.

- 2- All movable and immovable assets of the Presidency of Civil Aviation shall devolve upon the Authority, and it shall bear all obligations incurred by the Presidency of Civil Aviation.

Article 3

The Authority shall operate according to commercial principles and standards, and shall have the powers necessary to fully carry out its responsibilities and duties in a manner that ensures safety and security of civil aviation as well as the development and expansion of air transport industry within the territory of the Kingdom.

Article 4

The primary objective of the Authority shall be regulating, expanding and developing the civil aviation sector and air transport industry within the territory of the Kingdom, as well as promoting their national role and preparing them for attracting national and foreign private investments, as an important resource of the national economy. To that end, the Authority may undertake the following:

- 1- Set and oversee implementing regulations of the civil aviation sector and air transport industry within the territory of the Kingdom, and pursue implementation thereof by relevant bodies.
- 2- Pursue implementation of civil aviation treaties as well as international agreements – to which the Kingdom is party – within the territory of the Kingdom.
- 3- Build, develop, manage, operate, maintain and qualify civil aerodromes in the Kingdom and oversee their personnel in a manner that ensures flow of passengers, goods and mail in

aerodromes, in accordance with the provisions of Chicago Convention and annexes thereto. The Authority shall issue licenses necessary to building landing pads for helicopters and runways for crop dusters and the like.

- 4- Build, develop, manage, operate and maintain (air navigation systems), provide them with support equipment and run aerial tests for said equipment.
- 5- Plan air traffic within the territory of the Kingdom and manage it in a manner that ensures aviation safety and flow of air traffic and optimal use thereof, and coordinate with relevant bodies for such purpose. The Authority shall issue and disseminate navigational information by all means and technologies available. It shall also execute technical MOUs aiming to coordinate air traffic and exchange technical information with other countries.
- 6- Issue licenses and certificates for personnel of the civil aviation sector as well as licenses for repair, maintenance and manufacture stations for Saudi registered civil aircraft within the Kingdom and abroad, and create a register where national civil aircraft and rights arising thereon shall be recorded.
- 7- Technically investigate civil aircraft accidents and incidents which take place in the territory of the Kingdom, as well as Saudi registered aircraft accidents and incidents which take place over high seas or above lands not belonging to any country. The Authority shall participate in the investigation of accidents and incidents of national-registered aircraft which take place in the territories of other countries.
- 8- Participate in search and rescue operations with regard to civil aviation in coordination with relevant bodies.



- 9- Oversee implementation of firefighting and rescue services in the Kingdom's aerodromes, and ensure their conformity to approved requirements under domestic and international laws.
- 10- Execute air transport agreements between the Kingdom and other countries, and approve air trade agreements concluded between national air carriers and foreign airlines.
- 11- Issue necessary licenses for establishments and companies in the air transport and civil aviation industry within the Kingdom, including licenses for operating national and foreign airlines as well as operating their regular and irregular routes.
- 12- Issue necessary licenses for establishments and companies involved in air freight, ground services and support services within the Kingdom, and set regulatory rules therefor.
- 13- Regulate private air transport activities within the territory of the Kingdom.
- 14- Adopt air transport tariffs for passengers, mail, goods and group trips, and set procedures to ensure compliance therewith.
- 15- Monitor, inspect and audit – within its jurisdiction – operations of national and foreign air transport and aviation industry establishments and companies operating in the Kingdom; to ensure compliance with laws, directives and provisions of licenses issued to them, and impose prescribed penalties in case of violation.
- 16- Implement international provisions and rules relating to civil aviation security in accordance with Chicago Convention and its annexes as well as other relevant international agreements and conventions to which the Kingdom is party, ensure compliance of all agencies and

companies operating within the territory of the Kingdom with implementation of rules and procedures provided for in the National Program for Civil Aviation Security, and issue security guides, brochures and reports pertaining to civil aviation.

- 17- Train and qualify manpower in various civil aviation sectors through academies and institutions specialized in civil aviation sciences and support specialties, and issue necessary technical licenses therefor with the participation of relevant agencies.
- 18- Represent the Kingdom in the International Civil Aviation Organization as well as regional and international organizations and commissions related to civil aviation activities.

Article 5

The Authority's Board shall comprise the following:

- Minister of Defense and Aviation and Inspector General Chairman
- Assistant Minister of Defense and Aviation
and Inspector General for Civil Aviation Affairs Vice-Chairman
- Secretary General of the Supreme Commission for Tourism Member
- President of the General Authority of Civil Aviation Member
- Representative of the Ministry of Transport Member
- Representative of the Ministry of Finance Member
- Representative of the Ministry of Economy and Planning Member
- Three members from the private sector appointed pursuant to a



resolution by the Council of Ministers upon a recommendation by the Minister of Defense and Aviation and Inspector General.

The term of membership of representatives of government agencies and the private sector in the Board shall be three years. Representatives of government agencies shall hold a rank not lower than “Grade Fourteen”.

Article 6

The Authority's Board shall be the highest authority in charge of the Authority's affairs and departments as well as its management and setting its general policy. It shall, in particular, assume the following powers:

- 1- Set goals and policies for the Authority to realize its objectives, and approve programs necessary therefor and oversee their execution.
- 2- Approve the Authority's financial, operational and investment regulations in agreement with the Ministry of Finance.
- 3- Approve the Authority's administrative structure and organizational guide.
- 4- Approve the Authority's draft work plan and operational plans within the State General Plan.
- 5- Approve the Authority's budget and submit it to relevant agencies, in accordance with applicable procedures.
- 6- Approve the Authority's final accounts, annual report and auditor's report and submit the same in accordance with applicable procedures.

- 7- Approve employment and administrative regulations pertaining to the Authority's personnel, upon agreement with the Ministry of Civil Service and Ministry of Finance.
- 8- Approve establishment of the Authority's branch offices.
- 9- Approve rules governing licenses, services and activities provided by the Authority and their fees.
- 10- Invest the Authority's funds in a manner that serves its objectives.
- 11- Set plans, rules and procedures that ensure the Authority's operation on competitive and commercial principles.
- 12- Approve the Implementing Regulations of this Statute.
- 13- Appoint one or more external auditors and a comptroller.
- 14- Set controls that ensure smooth workflow and enhance the Authority's efficiency.
- 15- Accept gifts, aids and donations in accordance with the law.
- 16- Delegate powers to the President to enable him discharge his duties in a manner that realizes the Authority's objectives.

Article 7

- 1- Meetings of the Board shall be held at the Authority's headquarters, and may, when necessary, be held elsewhere in the Kingdom.
- 2- The Board shall convene at least twice a year, upon a call by its Chairman or upon a request by at least half the members. Said call must include meeting agenda. Board



meetings shall not be valid unless attended by majority of its members, including the Chairman or Vice-Chairman. Board resolutions shall pass by majority vote of attending members. In case of a tie, the meeting's chairman shall have the casting vote. The Board may, as it deems appropriate, seek the assistance of persons with expertise and knowledge by inviting them to attend its meetings without having the right to vote.

- 3- The Board may form a committee or more from among its members and entrust it with certain powers or tasks. It may also delegate a certain task to any of its members.
- 4- Board deliberations and resolutions shall be recorded in minutes signed by the meeting's chairman and attending Board members.

Article 8

The Authority shall have a president of the rank "Grade Excellent" appointed by royal order. He shall be the executive officer of the Authority and shall report to the Board. His primary responsibilities shall be overseeing and managing the Authority's affairs in accordance with this Statute and resolutions of the Board. He shall, in particular, undertake the following:

- 1- Pursue implementation of resolutions issued by the Board and notify the Board of actions taken thereon.
- 2- Propose the Authority's draft financial, administrative, technical and operational regulations and submit the same to the Board.

- 3- Oversee Authority's personnel and exercise administrative, financial and technical powers conferred upon him by this Statute and as specified by the regulations.
- 4- Oversee drafting of the Authority's budget and submit it to the Board.
- 5- Oversee drafting of the Authority's final accounts and annual report and submit them to the Board.
- 6- Approve payment orders within the budget's allocations.
- 7- Submit to the Board periodic reports on the Authority's performance, activities and achievements.
- 8- Propose the Authority's plans and programs and oversee their implementation, upon approval by the Board.
- 9- Pursue collection of the Authority's revenues.
- 10- Represent the Authority in its relations with other agencies and before the judiciary, within the Kingdom and abroad.

The President may delegate some of his powers and tasks to other Authority officials in a manner that ensures smooth workflow, in accordance with administrative and financial regulations as well as mandates conferred upon him by the Board.

Article 9

The Authority's financial revenues shall consist of the following resources:

- 1- Funds allocated by the State in accordance with this Statute.
- 2- Revenues generated from services rendered by the Authority within its field.



- 3- Gifts, aids and donations accepted by the Board in accordance with the law.
- 4- Other revenues the Board decides to add to Authority's funds in accordance with the law.

Article 10

- 1- The Authority shall collect, without exception or discrimination among agencies or carriers, all revenues charged against the use of airspace and civil aviation facilities as well as utilization of services provided by the Authority.
- 2- Authority funds and total revenues shall be deposited in a separate account – under its name – with the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency, and shall be disbursed from in accordance with Authority's approved budget. The Authority may open accounts with banks licensed to operate in the Kingdom.
- 3- The Authority shall retain its revenues and shall expend directly therefrom on its various activities. It shall work to increase its revenues by diversifying sources of income and optimal investment of its installations, facilities and services provided, so as to be fully self-funded for its investment and operational expenses.
- 4- The Authority shall retain an annual reserve not exceeding 20% of revenues in excess of investment and operational expenses. All amounts exceeding such percentage shall be channeled into State Treasury.
- 5- The Authority shall work to balance the annual revenue with investment and operational expenses. If the annual revenue exceeds the expenses, fees for Authority services shall be reconsidered. Fees of aircraft passage shall be set in a manner

that ensures increase of civil aviation competitiveness in the Kingdom, and help attract more aerial activities into the territory of the Kingdom.

Article 11

The Authority's fiscal year shall be that of the State. As an exception, the first fiscal year of the Authority shall commence on the date this Statute comes into force and shall end with the end of the State's Fiscal Year.

Article 12

With the exception of the President, Authority's personnel shall be subject to the provisions of Labor Law and Social Insurance Law.

Article 13

Without prejudice to the right of the General Auditing Bureau to audit the Authority's accounts, the external auditor, appointed by the Board, shall audit the Authority's accounts. The Board shall determine his fees. In case of multiple auditors, they shall be jointly liable before the Authority for their work. The auditor's report shall be submitted to the Board, and a copy thereof shall be furnished to the General Auditing Bureau.

Article 14

This Statute shall be published in the Official Gazette, and shall come into effect 180 days from date of publication.

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For comments and inquiries
please write to the following address:
Official Translation Department
Bureau of Experts at the Council of Ministers
P.O. Box 6770 Riyadh 11452
otd@boe.gov.sa