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**Decree** **No. (1) of 1986 Approving the Statutes of the Gulf Cooperation Council Specifications and Measures Authority**

We, Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, – Emir of the State of Bahrain.

Having reviewed the Constitution;

Emiri Order No. (4) of 1975;

Emiri Order No. (10) of 1985;

Legislative Decree No. (24) of 1981 approving the Statute of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf;

Legislative Decree No. (26) of 1981 approving the Unified Economic Agreement between the Countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council;

Statute of the Gulf Cooperation Council Specifications and Measures Authority signed in the city of Muscat in the Sultanate of Oman on Monday, 11 Rabi' al-Thani 1406 A.H., corresponding to 23 December 1985;

And Legislative Decree No. (16) of 1985 regarding Specifications and Measures;

Upon the submission of the Minister for Commerce and Agriculture;

And after the approval of the Council of Ministers,

**Hereby Decree the following:**

**Article One**

The Statute of the Gulf Cooperation Council Specifications and Measures Authority signed in the city of Muscat in the Sultanate of Oman on Monday, 11 Rabi' al-Thani 1406 A.H., corresponding to 23 December 1985 attached to this Decree have been approved.

**Article Two**

The Minister of Commerce and Agriculture shall implement this Decree, and it shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

**Emir of the State of Bahrain**

**Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa**

**Acting Prime Minister**

**Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa**

**Minister of Commerce and Agriculture**

**Habib Ahmed Qassem**

Issued at Riffa Palace

On: 23 Jumada Al-Akhir 1406 A.H.

Corresponding to: 4 March 1986

**Gulf Cooperation Council Specifications and Measures Authority**

**Statutes of the Gulf Cooperation Council Specifications and Measures Authority**

**Preamble:**

In accordance with the Charter of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf signed on 21 Rajab 1401 A.H. corresponding to 25 May 1981 and in accordance with the Unified Economic Agreement between the Countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council signed in the city of Riyadh on 6 Sha 'ban 1401 A.H. corresponding to 8 June 1981.

In implementation of the decision of the Supreme Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council in its third session in the State of Bahrain on 23 Muharram 1403 A.H., corresponding to 9 November 1982, to transform of the Arab Saudi Standards and Metrology Organization into a Gulf organization specialized in Specifications and Measures for the Gulf Cooperation Council countries.

Based on what was approved by the Trade Cooperation Committee in its second meeting in Bahrain on Monday, 4 Muharram 1404 A.H., corresponding to 10 October 1983, that this transformation should take place gradually. Therefore:-

- The Minister of Commerce and Agriculture of the State of Bahrain.

- The Minister of Commerce of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

- The Minister of Commerce and Industry of the Sultanate of Oman.

- The Minister of Economy and Commerce of the State of Qatar.

- The Minister of Oil and Industry of the State of Kuwait.

All agreed in the third meeting of the Authority's Board of Directors held in Riyadh on 11 Shawwal 1405 A.H., corresponding to 29 June 1985, on the following:

**Article One:**

Within the framework of the Cooperation Council, an organization called the Gulf Cooperation Council Specifications and Measures Authority, hereinafter referred to as the Authority, with its headquarters in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

**Definitions:**

The following designations - wherever mentioned in this Statute - shall have the connotations mentioned in front of each of them.

1 - Cooperation Council: Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf.

2 - The Authority: Gulf Cooperation Council Specifications and Measures Authority.

3 - Gulf Standard Specifications: Standard specifications issued by the Authority.

**4– Board of Directors:** The Board of Directors of the Authority.

5– President of the Board: The President of the Board of Directors of the Authority.

6– Secretary-General: The Secretary General of the Authority.

7- Year: Hijri Year

**Article Three:**

The Authority possesses legal personality and an independent budget.

**Article Four:**

The Authority shall be responsible for the following:

1 - Legislative matters concerning specifications and measures in the member countries of the Council. It shall have the exclusive authority to prepare, adopt, and publish Gulf standard specifications for goods, products, measuring and calibration devices, identification, symbols, technical terminology, execution requirements, sampling methods as well as methods of inspection, testing, and calibration.

2 - Preparation, printing, and publication of standard specifications in coordination with the member countries.

3 - Monitoring the implementation of adopted standards through standardization bodies in each member state.

4 - Developing a comprehensive plan for standardization activities in the Council countries across various fields and distributing the responsibilities among member countries based on their capabilities.

5 - Regulating legal and industrial calibration activities.

6 - Conducting research and studies related to the development of the Authority's work.

7 - Establishing a system for granting quality marks and product conformity certificates.

8 - Promoting awareness of standardization.

9 - Storing information related to the Authority's activities for the benefit of the Council countries.

10 - Preparing and organizing training plans in various areas of the Authority's work.

11 - Providing technical assistance to member countries.

12 - Participating as an observer member in regional and international organizations related to standardization that serve the purposes of the Authority.

**Article Five:**

1 - The Board of Directors shall be composed of the competent minister or his representative from each member country. Additionally, without having the right to vote, the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Affairs at the General Secretariat of the Gulf Cooperation Council and the Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council Specifications and Measures Authority shall participate in its meetings.

2 - The Board of Directors shall presided by a representative of the member countries, on a rotating basis among the competent ministers or their representatives, following the established procedures in the Council. In case of the president's absence, the minister next in line according to the order will act as a substitute.

3 - The Board of Directors shall meet at least twice a year, upon the invitation of its president or their president, or upon the request of one-third of its members.  The meeting shall be considered valid only in the presence of the majority of members, including the president or his representative.

4 - The approval of the Authority's standards requires a unanimous vote of the present members, and these standard specifications become mandatory for all countries that have approved them. Other decisions shall be issued by a majority vote of those present, with the president's side prevailing in case of a tie.

**Article Six:**

The Board of Directors of the Authority shall be responsible for all the affairs of the Authority and shall take all necessary measures to ensure its effective performance. For this purpose, it shall have the following authorities:

1 - Formulating the general policies of the Authority.

2 - Reviewing the recommendations, reports, studies, and draft standard specification submitted to it by the Secretary-General or those assigned to prepare them.

3 - Appointing the Secretary-General for a renewable term of three years.

4 - Approving the organizational structure of the Authority.

5 - Approving Gulf standard specifications.

6 - Approving the budget of the Authority.

7 - Approving the final accounts of the Authority, appointing the auditor, and determining their remuneration.

8 - Approving all technical, administrative, and financial plans, programs, and regulations to ensure the smooth operation of the Authority.

9 - Submitting periodic reports on the work of the Authority to the Ministerial Council.

**Article Seven:**

The Secretary-General shall execute the decisions of the Board of Directors, monitor their implementation, and exercise the powers of executive management. For this purpose:-

1 - Preparing technical, administrative, and financial plans and programs for the Authority.

2 - Managing the technical, administrative, and financial affairs of the Authority.

3 - Seeking the assistance of experts, technicians, administrators, and workers from the citizens of the member countries as needed for the proper operation of the Authority, and determining their remuneration in accordance with a regulation approved by the Board of Directors.

4 - Contracting with experts, technicians, administrators, and workers who are not citizens of the Gulf Cooperation Council member countries as needed for the proper operation of the Authority, and determining their remuneration in accordance with a regulation approved by the Board of Directors.

5 - Technical cooperation with specialized technical bodies to develop the work of the Authority within the limits of its authorized powers.

6 - Forming specialized technical committees from the member countries as needed to prepare standard specification projects, studies, and others.

7 - Representing the Authority before international, regional, and local bodies.

8 - Preparing for meetings of the Board of Directors and preparing its agenda.

9 - Carrying out the tasks assigned to the Secretary-General by the Board of Directors.

**Article Eight:**

The Authority and its bodies within the territories of each member state enjoy legal personality - and so do the Authority, its assets, movable and immovable properties, and its employees as determined by the Board of Directors, in the territories of the member states - with privileges and immunities as per the established practices of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

**Article Nine:**

The financial resources of the Authority shall be derived from the following sources:

(A) Appropriations allocated to it by the member countries.

(B) Grants and donations approved by the Board.

(C) Other resources obtained by the Authority.

**Article Ten:**

The interpretation of this statute or any amendment made thereto falls under the authority of the Board of Directors.

**Article Eleven:**

This Statute shall come into force from the date of its signing on Monday, 11 Rabi' Al-Thani 1406 A.H., corresponding to 23 December 1985, by the competent ministers. Each member country shall ratify it and promulgate it in accordance with its established procedures.

Minister of State for Financial and Industrial Affairs of the United Arab Emirates.

Minister of Commerce and Agriculture of the State of Bahrain

Minister of Commerce of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Minister of Commerce and Industry of the Sultanate of Oman

Minister of Economy and Commerce of the State of Qatar

**Minister of Oil and Industry of the State of Kuwait**