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**Law No. (15) of 2007 regarding Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances**

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

Having reviewed the Constitution,

Legislative Decree No. (4) of 1973 regarding the Control of the Circulation and Use of Narcotic Drugs and Preparations, and the laws that amend it,

Penal Code promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (15) of 1976, and the laws that amend it;

Legislative Decree No. (18) of 1997 regarding the Regulation of the Pharmacy Profession and Pharmaceutical Centres,

And the Criminal Procedures Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (46) of 2002,

The Shura Council and the Council of Representatives have approved the following Law, which we have ratified and enacted:

Chapter One

Definitions and General Provisions

Article (1)

In applying the provisions of this Law, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings assigned against each unless the context otherwise requires:

Ministry:

The Ministry of Health.

Minister:

The Minister of Health.

The Competent Administrative Authority:

The Pharmacy and Drug Control Department in the Ministry of Health.

Relevant Department:

The General Directorate of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Science.

Institution:

Includes any of the institutions, hospitals, or clinics referred to in Article (38) of this Law.

Narcotic Drugs:

Any natural or synthetic substance or preparation listed in Tables (1, 2, 4, 5) of the first group attached to this Law, as well as substances and preparations listed in Table (3) of the same group if the concentration of the Narcotic Drug exceeds the limits specified therein.

Psychotropic Substances:

Any natural or synthetic substance or preparation listed in Tables (1, 2, 3, 4) of the second group attached to this Law.

Precursors:

Any natural or synthetic substance with medical uses that may be unlawfully used to prepare Narcotic Substances or Psychotropic Substances, from the substances or preparations listed in Tables (1, 2) of the third group attached to this Law.

Cultivation:

Any act of sowing for germination, or tending to a plant from the beginning of its growth until maturity and harvest, including handling its seeds or any part of the plant at any stage of its growth.

Production:

The separation of Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances from their plant source or from their primary material.

Manufacturing:

All processes other than production through which Narcotic Substances, Psychotropic Substances, or Precursors are obtained, including purification, extraction, synthesis, mixing, and converting these substances into any other form.

Procuring:

Bringing Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances or Precursors from outside the Kingdom of Bahrain, including their transit through its territory.

Importation and Exportation:

Bringing Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances or Precursors into the Kingdom or their removal therefrom, including the transit of these substances.

Transport:

The transportation of Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances or Precursors from one place to another within the Kingdom.

Minor:

A person who has not reached the age of twenty-one years.

Article (2)

It is prohibited to produce, manufacture, procure, import, export, transport, possess, hold, acquire, purchase, sell, deliver, receive, exchange, trade, finance, or use Narcotic Substances, Psychotropic Substances, and Precursors listed in Tables (1, 2, 3, 4) of the first group, and in the second and third groups annexed to this Law. This includes dispensing, medically prescribing, assigning, mediating in transactions related to them, or dealing with them in any form, except under the circumstances and conditions specified in this Law.

Article (3)

It shall be prohibited to cultivate, produce, procure, import, export, transport, possess, hold, acquire, purchase, sell, deliver, receive, exchange, trade, finance, or consume any plant listed in Table (5) of the first group attached to this Law, or to dispense or prescribe it medically, or to assign it in any capacity, or to mediate in any transaction concerning it, or to deal with its seeds or any part of it at any stage of its growth, or to mediate in any such actions, except in the cases and under the conditions stipulated in this Law.

Exempted from this are parts of plants and seeds listed in Table (6) of the first group attached to this Law.

Article (4)

The tables attached to this Law may be amended, whether by adding entries or altering concentrations, through a decision issued by the Cabinet upon the Minister's proposal, after obtaining the approval of a committee of specialists formed by the Minister. This committee shall include two representatives from the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Justice and Islamic Affairs.

Chapter Two

National Committee for Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances

Article (5)

A committee called the "National Committee for Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances" shall be established, affiliated with the Cabinet. It shall be chaired by the Minister and consist of no fewer than eight members appointed by a decision of the Cabinet based on the Minister's nomination. The decision shall specify the membership duration and regulate the committee’s work.

Article (6)

The National Committee shall be responsible for the following:

a. Proposing the general policy for combating the illicit use of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, and Precursors.

b. Coordinating cooperation among various governmental and non-governmental entities concerned with Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, and Precursors.

c. Developing plans for awareness, prevention, and treatment in combating the illicit use of Narcotic Substances, Psychotropic Substances, and Precursors.

Chapter Three

Licences

Article (7)

Licences shall be issued in accordance with the provisions of this Law by the Minister or by a delegated authority after payment of the prescribed fee, based on an application submitted to the Competent Administrative Authority, including the data specified by a decision from the Minister, and accompanied by the documents and papers determined by that decision.

The decision referred to in the previous paragraph must include the system for issuing licences, the duration thereof, and the procedures for processing licence applications.  
The Minister or the delegated authority may refuse to grant a licence, reduce the requested quantity, or request any additional information deemed necessary for issuing the licence.

The concerned party may appeal to the Minister against the decision to refuse the grant of the licence or to reduce the requested quantity within thirty days from the date of their knowledge of the decision.

The appeal shall be resolved, and the concerned party shall be notified in writing of the decision regarding their appeal within thirty days of submission.

The concerned party may challenge the decision rejecting their appeal before the High Civil Court within sixty days from the date of notification or upon the expiration of the period specified in the previous paragraph without receiving notification.

No challenge may be brought before the court unless an appeal against the decision has been submitted, and a decision rejecting the appeal has been issued, or the specified period has elapsed without notification.

Article (8)

It is prohibited to grant any licence under the provisions of this Law to:

a. Anyone previously convicted of a felony or sentenced to imprisonment for a misdemeanour involving dishonour or breach of trust, unless their status has been rehabilitated.

b. Anyone previously dismissed by a judgement or disciplinary decision from public office for reasons involving dishonour or trust, unless three years have elapsed from the date of dismissal.

The licence shall be deemed void by force of law if any of the aforementioned circumstances apply to the individual to whom it was issued.

Article (9)

Fees shall be imposed on licences issued under the provisions of this Law, and a decision from the Minister, after the approval of the Cabinet, shall specify these fees, the procedures for their collection, and the conditions for their reduction or exemption.

Article (10)

The Competent Administrative Authority shall establish a register to record licences issued in accordance with the provisions of this Law, which shall particularly include the following data:

a. The name, title, age, nationality, place of residence, and personal identification number of the individual; or, in the case of an entity, its name, address, and the name of its responsible manager, along with their title, age, nationality, place of residence, and personal identification number.

b. The date of issuance of the licence, its number, and its purpose.

c. The types of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, or Precursors licensed and their quantities in words and figures, along with their storage locations.

d. The commercial registration number for entities required to be registered.

e. Any other data added by The Competent Administrative Authority.

Chapter Four

Cultivation, Manufacturing, and Production

Article (11)

Licences may be granted to governmental entities, colleges, specialised institutes, and licensed scientific research centres to cultivate any of the plants listed in Table (5) of the first group attached to this Law, for medical purposes or scientific research that their specialisation requires.

This licence shall be issued in coordination with the relevant administration and related authorities, and the relevant administration shall supervise compliance by the licence holders with the conditions of the licence.

Article (12)

Licences may be granted to pharmaceutical factories to manufacture or produce medicines that contain Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, or Precursors in the proportions specified in the licence.

These factories are prohibited from using Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, or Precursors except for the manufacture or production of the medicines they are licensed to produce.

Chapter Five

Importation, Exportation, and Transport

Article (13)

Licences for the importation, exportation, or transport of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, or Precursors may only be granted to the following entities:

a. Government entities, colleges, specialised institutes, and licensed scientific research centres.

b. Licensed hospitals.

c. Licensed chemical analysis laboratories and industrial factories.

d. Licensed pharmaceutical factories and pharmacies.

The Minister shall determine, by decision, the rules governing the exchange of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, and Precursors.

Article (14)

Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, or Precursors arriving at the Customs Authority or being re-exported may only be delivered to another entity under a license issued by the Ministry. The license must specify the recipient's name (entity or individual), personal identification number, address, registration number in the Ministry’s records, the type and quantities of materials licensed for import or export, and the approximate date of the transaction.

Article (15)

It is prohibited to bring in, import, export, or transport Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances within parcels containing other materials. Such substances must be shipped, even as samples, in securely sealed parcels, clearly labeled with the full name of the Narcotic Drug, its pharmaceutical form, quantity, and the percentage of the Narcotic Substances it contains.

Article (16)

The Public Prosecution, in coordination with the General Department of Customs Affairs and the relevant authority, may issue written authorization for the transit of shipments containing Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, or Precursors through the Kingdom's territory to another country under a controlled delivery system, provided it aids in identifying individuals involved in transporting the shipment and its intended destination.

Chapter Six

Medical Handling of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, and Precursors

Section One

Concerning Physicians

Article (17)

No licensed physician may prescribe Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances to any patient except for therapeutic purposes and in accordance with established medical standards.

Under no circumstances may a physician issue a prescription for Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances for their personal use.

Article (18)

Licensed physicians in the Kingdom may, with the Ministry's approval, keep certain Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances in their private clinics, as determined by a Ministerial decision, for the treatment of their patients when necessary. These substances must be kept in a form consistent with their intended medical use and without any alteration.

The mentioned physicians may treat patients with these substances outside their clinics in emergency cases; however, they are prohibited from dispensing any of these substances to their patients for self-use.

Article (19)

Physicians are prohibited from issuing prescriptions for any substances listed in Tables (1, 2, 4) of the first group attached to this Law for use exceeding one week. They are also prohibited from issuing prescriptions for Psychotropic Substances for use exceeding two months.

Article (20)

Prescriptions that contain Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances shall be issued on the prescription forms prepared by The Competent Administrative Authority.

These prescription forms must bear a general serial number and be stamped with the seal of the Competent Administrative Authority.

Section Two

Concerning Pharmacists

Article (21)

Taking into account the provisions of this Law, licensed pharmacies may deal in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances for the purpose of selling them to hospitals, physicians' clinics, or patients to whom their physicians prescribe such substances for medical treatment.

Article (22)

The officials of licensed pharmacies authorised to handle Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, or Precursors must store the licensed materials in their original containers and in a securely locked cabinet.

Article (23)

Pharmacists may only dispense Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances based on a prescription that meets the following conditions:

a. It must be written on a prescription form issued by the Ministry.

b. It must be prescribed by a physician licensed to practise medicine in the Kingdom.

c. The prescription must be written in ink, with clear handwriting, and without any alterations or erasures.

d. It must state the name, age, address, and personal identification number of the patient.

e. It must specify the name and quantity of the narcotic substance in both numerals and words.

f. The prescription must bear the date, the physician's full signature, and their official seal.

g. It must state the physician's full name, address, and telephone number.

h. No more than three days may have elapsed from the issuance of prescriptions for substances listed in Tables (1, 2, 4) of the first group attached to this Law, or seven days for prescriptions containing Psychotropic Substances, excluding the day of issuance in both cases.

Article (24)

Prescriptions for Psychotropic Substances intended for use over a period exceeding one month shall be dispensed in two instalments.

Article (25)

Under all circumstances, it is prohibited to return prescription forms containing substances listed in Tables (1, 2, 4) of the first group attached to this Law to the bearer. Pharmacists must retain these forms for five years after dispensing, indicating the dispensing date, signing them, and stamping them with the pharmacy’s seal.  
Bearers of these forms may request a stamped copy from the pharmacy. Neither the original form nor its copy may be reused.

Section Three

Concerning Patients

Article (26)

a. Patients may possess Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances in quantities prescribed by physicians licensed to practise medicine in the Kingdom for their personal use and strictly for medical reasons.

The transfer of these substances to any other person, for any reason, is strictly prohibited.

b. When travelling abroad for treatment, a patient may possess a limited quantity not exceeding five doses from Tables (1, 2, 4) of the first group of medicines, or a quantity sufficient for two months from Tables (1, 2, 3, 4) of the second group of medicines, as per a prescription issued in accordance with the provisions of this Law. The relevant administration shall issue a certificate permitting the passage of these medicines in the country of treatment.

c. If a patient is receiving treatment abroad, they may bring into the Kingdom a limited quantity of substances from the first group (Tables 1, 2, 4) sufficient for a treatment period not exceeding one week from the date of entry, or a quantity from the second group (Tables 1, 2, 3, 4) sufficient for one week of treatment. This must be based on a prescription approved by the competent authorities in the country where the treatment is received.

Patients are prohibited from bringing substances from the first and second groups that are unavailable in the Kingdom’s pharmacies, except with a prescription issued in accordance with the law and upon coordination with the relevant authority.

Section Four

Concerning Hospitals and Clinics

Article (27)

Without prejudice to the provisions of Articles (28) and (29) of this Law, the Minister shall issue a decision regulating the handling of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances in hospitals, health centres, pharmaceutical factories, and licensed clinics.

Chapter Seven

Registration and Submission of Reports

Article (28)

Any person licensed to import, export, possess, or deal in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, or Precursors in accordance with the provisions of this Law must record the incoming and outgoing quantities of these substances, as and when they arise, in a special register, in the manner specified by the Ministry.

The pages of this register must be numbered and stamped with the Ministry's seal, and must include data on the Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, and Precursors received, including the date of receipt, the source from which they were received, their type and quantities, as well as the number and date of the licence issued for them. It must also include data on the substances dispensed, such as the date, quantity, type, and the entity or individual to whom they were dispensed, along with their personal identification number, address, and any relevant dispensing documents, as well as other necessary data.

These records must be presented to the Ministry's representatives upon request.

Article (29)

Anyone licensed to import, export, possess, or deal in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, or Precursors under the provisions of this Law must, within the first week of every three months, send a registered letter to the Competent Administrative Authority. This letter must include two signed and stamped copies of a report specifying the quantities of the aforementioned substances received, dispensed, and remaining during the period, using the forms designated by the Competent Administrative Authority for this purpose.

Chapter Eight

Penalties and Measures

Article (30)

a. The death penalty or life imprisonment and a fine of not less than five thousand dinars and not more than fifty thousand dinars shall be imposed on anyone who, with the intention of trafficking, commits any of the following acts:

1- Procuring, importing, producing, or manufacturing Narcotic Drugs listed in Tables (1, 2, 3, 4) of the first group, or Psychotropic Substances listed in Table (1) of the second group attached to this Law, without legal authorization.

2- Cultivating, procuring, importing, exporting, or producing any of the plants listed in Table (5) of the first group attached to this Law, or any part thereof at any stage of growth, or its seeds, without legal authorisation, or smuggling it at any stage of growth.

3- Financing, either personally or through others, any of the activities stipulated in Clauses (1) and (2) of this Paragraph.

4- Possessing, obtaining, purchasing, selling, delivering, or receiving Narcotic Drugs listed in Tables (1, 2, 3, 4) of the first group, or Psychotropic Substances listed in Table (1) of the second group, or plants listed in Table (5) of the first group attached to this Law, or transferring or exchanging them in any form, or any part thereof or their seeds, or mediating in any of this or trafficking in them in any manner, without legal authorization.

b. The penalty for the crimes specified in this Article shall be death and a fine not less than five thousand dinars and not exceeding fifty thousand dinars in any of the following circumstances:

1- Recidivism.

2- Commission of the crime by a public employee or a person entrusted with public service responsible for combating drug-related crimes or the control and inspection of their trade or possession.

3- Using a minor to commit any of these crimes.

4- Participation in any international syndicates for smuggling Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, or Precursors, or working for, or cooperating with, such syndicates.

5- Exploiting authority or legal immunity in committing any of these crimes or in facilitating such acts.

Article (31)

a. A term of imprisonment of no less than ten years and a fine not less than three thousand dinars and not exceeding thirty thousand dinars shall be imposed on anyone who, for consideration, commits any of the following acts:

1- Transporting Narcotic Drugs listed in Tables (1, 2, 3, 4) of the first group, or Psychotropic Substances listed in Table (1) of the second group, or plants listed in Table (5) of the first group attached to this Law, without legal authorisation.

2- Disposing of, in any form, any substance listed in Tables (1, 2, 3, 4) of the first group or any Psychotropic Substance listed in Table (1) of the second group, or plants listed in Table (5) of the first group attached to this Law, or any part thereof or their seeds, when licensed for specific purposes but used outside of those purposes.

3- Offering a Narcotic Substance or plant, or a Psychotropic Substance mentioned in the previous items for consumption, or facilitating its consumption without legal authorisation..

4- Managing, preparing, or establishing a place for the consumption of Narcotic Drugs or plants, or Psychotropic Substances mentioned in the previous items without legal authorisation.

b. The penalty for the crimes specified in this Article shall be life imprisonment and a fine not less than three thousand dinars and not exceeding thirty thousand dinars in any of the following cases:

1- If any of the circumstances mentioned in Clauses (1) to (5) of Paragraph (b) of Article (30) of this Law are present.

2- If the crime is committed in educational institutions or their service facilities, or within a cultural, sports, or correctional institution, or in public parks, treatment places, places of worship, camps, prisons, or detention facilities.

3- If a narcotic substance or plant, or a psychotropic substance mentioned in Paragraph (a) of this article is offered, delivered, or sold to a minor, or if the minor is coerced into consuming it by any means of coercion, deception, inducement, seduction, or facilitation.

Article (32)

Imprisonment and a fine not exceeding three thousand dinars shall be imposed on anyone who procures, imports, exports, buys, produces, manufactures, possesses, or obtains narcotic drugs listed in Tables (1, 2, 3, 4) of the first group, or psychotropic substances listed in Table (1) of the second group, or cultivates, possesses, obtains, or buys any plant listed in Table (5) of the first group at any stage of its growth or its seeds, with the intent for consumption or personal use outside of legally permitted circumstances.  
The penalty shall be imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven years and a fine not exceeding five thousand dinars if this occurs without the intent to traffic, consume, or use personally, and outside of legally permitted circumstances.

Article (33)

Imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven years and a fine not less than one thousand dinars and not exceeding ten thousand dinars shall be imposed on anyone who commits, without consideration, any of the acts specified in Clauses (1, 2, 3, 4) of Paragraph (a) of Article (31) of this Law.   
The penalty shall be imprisonment for a term not less than five years and a fine not less than three thousand dinars and not exceeding ten thousand dinars if any of the circumstances mentioned in Clauses (1) to (3) of Paragraph (b) of Article (31) of this Law are present.

Article (34)

Imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years and a fine not exceeding three thousand dinars shall be imposed on anyone who procures, imports, exports, produces, manufactures, possesses, buys, sells, delivers, receives, or transports Psychotropic Substances listed in Tables (2, 3, 4) of the second group attached to this Law, or transfers, exchanges, or dispenses them in any form, or mediates in any of this or traffics in them in any manner, outside of legally permitted circumstances.  
The same penalty shall apply to anyone who disposes of, in any form, the Psychotropic Substances referred to in the previous paragraph, who is licensed to use them for specific purposes outside of those purposes, or offers them for consumption or facilitates their consumption in contravention of legal provisions, or manages, prepares, or establishes a place for their consumption, all for consideration.

Article (35)

Imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months and a fine not exceeding one hundred dinars shall be imposed on anyone who:

a. Commits any of the acts specified in the first paragraph of Article (34) of this Law with the intent of consumption in circumstances not authorized by law.

b. Commits any of the acts specified in the second paragraph of Article (34) of this Law without consideration.

Article (36)

Imprisonment and a fine not exceeding one thousand dinars shall be imposed on anyone who procures, imports, exports, produces, manufactures, possesses, buys, sells, delivers, receives, or transports any substance from the Precursors listed in Tables (1) or (2) of the third group attached to this Law, or transfers, exchanges, or mediates in any of this for the purpose of trafficking, or traffics in them in any manner, outside of legally authorized circumstances.

The same penalty shall apply to anyone who disposes of, in any form, the Precursors referred to in the previous paragraph, who is licensed to use them for specific purposes outside of those purposes, or offers them for consumption or facilitates their consumption outside legally authorized circumstances, or manages, prepares, or establishes a place for their consumption, all for consideration.

Article (37)

Imprisonment for a term not exceeding four months and a fine not exceeding one hundred dinars shall be imposed on anyone who:

a. Commits any of the acts specified in the first paragraph of Article (36) of this Law with the intent of consumption in circumstances not authorized by law.

b. Commits any of the acts specified in the second paragraph of Article (36) of this Law without consideration.

Article (38)

The court may, instead of imposing the penalty specified in the first paragraph of Article (32), Clause (a) of Article (35), or Clause (a) of Article (37), order the placement of anyone proven to be addicted to Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances in a treatment facility established for this purpose, or mandate their treatment in a hospital or clinic specialized in psychological care, requiring them to attend in accordance with the treatment program implemented at the facility.

Article (39)

Release from the treatment facility shall be authorized by the penalty enforcement judge, based on the recommendation of the committee specified in Article (40) of this Law. The period of placement in the facility shall not be less than three months and shall not exceed one year, unless otherwise stipulated by law.

The committee shall refer the matter of the individual placed in the treatment facility to the court through the Public Prosecution to impose the penalty prescribed in any of the following cases:

a. The ineffectiveness of the placement.

b. The expiry of the maximum period prescribed for placement without recovery.

c. Violation of the obligations required for the implementation of the programme in operation at the Institution.

d. The commission of any crime specified in this Law.

The period spent by the depositor in the Institution shall be deducted from any custodial penalty imposed on them, with respect to the cases specified in Clauses (a), (b), and (c) of the previous paragraph.

Article (40)

A committee named "Supervision and Care Committee" shall be established, headed by a representative of the Ministry and comprising a judge, a member of the Public Prosecution, representatives from the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Social Development, and three members selected by the Minister.

A decision shall be issued by the Minister every three years appointing the members of the committee based on nominations from the relevant authorities, and this decision shall include the organisation of the committee's work.

Article (41)

The Supervision and Care Committee shall undertake the following:

a. Supervising those placed in the Institution.

b. Studying the economic and social situation of the families of those sentenced to penalties or measures specified in this Law, and submitting recommendations regarding the need of these families for monthly assistance to the Minister of Social Development.

c. Caring for those sentenced to penalties or measures specified in this Law after their release and coordinating with the relevant authorities to find suitable job opportunities for them.

d. Following up on those released, offering them advice and guidance, and helping them overcome obstacles to their reintegration into society.

e. Any other responsibilities stipulated by this Law.

Article (42)

No criminal lawsuit shall be initiated against anyone who voluntarily approaches the Supervision and Care Committee for treatment of Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances, or at the request of their spouse or a relative up to the fourth degree, provided that they are placed under observation in the Institution for a period not exceeding one month. If it is established that they are addicted and require treatment, they must sign a consent form agreeing to remain in the Institution for a period not exceeding six months.

If they recover during this period, the Institution’s management shall decide on their release. If further treatment is deemed necessary after the observation period or after the six-month stay, and the patient does not provide written consent, a report shall be submitted to the aforementioned committee. The committee shall decide, after hearing their statements and those of others deemed necessary, whether to release the patient or to extend their stay in the Institution for additional periods, provided that their total stay does not exceed one year. The Institution’s management must notify the patient in writing of any decision to extend their stay within three days of its issuance and must execute the release decision within 24 hours of its issuance.

The patient may appeal the committee's decision regarding their continued placement to the Higher Criminal Court convened in advisory chambers.

The provisions of this Article do not apply to anyone who is caught consuming Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances or against whom criminal lawsuit have been initiated for this offence.

Article (43)

All data and information that come to the knowledge of those involved in the treatment of addicts or users shall be considered confidential, and the disclosure of such information shall be punishable by the penalties prescribed in Article (371) of the Penal Code.

Article (44)

A penalty of imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year, a fine not exceeding three thousand dinars, or both, shall be imposed on anyone found in a place prepared or designated for the consumption of Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances, with their knowledge of such use. This provision does not apply to a spouse, ascendants, descendants, or co-residents who share accommodation and are financially dependent on the person who prepared or designated the place.

Article (45)

Without prejudice to the provisions of the preceding Articles, a fine not exceeding three thousand dinars shall be imposed on anyone who possesses Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, or Precursors for which they have been licensed to trade or possess, and who fails to maintain the register referred to in Article (28) of this Law or intentionally conceals it.

The penalty shall be a fine not exceeding five hundred dinars for failing to maintain registration in the designated register as prescribed by the Ministry or for failing to submit the report referred to in Article (29) of this Law within the specified timeframe.

Article (46)

A fine not exceeding three thousand dinars shall be imposed on anyone who violates the provisions of any of Articles (17), (18), (19), (20), (22), (23), (24), and (25) of this Law, and in addition to the fine, the offender may be prohibited from practising their profession for a period not exceeding one year.

The same penalty shall apply to anyone who violates the provisions of the decision issued by the Minister in accordance with the provisions of Article (27) of this Law.

Article (47)

a. A fine not less than five hundred dinars and not exceeding three thousand dinars shall be imposed on anyone who is licensed to possess Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances and retains quantities that exceed the amounts resulting from multiple weighings or that are less than those amounts, provided that the difference in weight does not exceed the following percentages:

1- 10% for quantities not exceeding one gram.

2- 5% for quantities exceeding one gram but not exceeding 25 grams, provided that the allowable amount does not exceed 50 centigrams.

3- 2% for quantities exceeding 25 grams.

4- 5% for liquid Narcotic Drugs or Psychotropic Substances, regardless of the amount.

B. In the event of recurrence in committing any of the offences specified in Paragraph (a) of this Article, the penalty shall be imprisonment and double the prescribed fine or one of these penalties.

Article (48)

Imprisonment and a fine not less than three thousand dinars and not exceeding ten thousand dinars shall be imposed on anyone who assaults a public employee responsible for enforcing the provisions of this Law or the regulations or decisions implementing it, or who resists them by force or violence during the performance of their duties or because of them.

The penalty shall be life imprisonment if the assault or resistance results in permanent disability, or if the offender is armed or is one of the authorities entrusted with maintaining security.

The penalty shall be death if the assault or resistance results in death.

Article (49)

Death penalty shall be imposed on anyone who intentionally kills a public employee responsible for the implementation of the provisions of this Law or the regulations or decisions implementing it during the performance of their duties or because of them.

Article (50)

In applying the provisions of this Law, a suspended sentence shall not be imposed on anyone previously convicted of any of the offences specified in this Law. In all cases, the judgements rendered in misdemeanours shall be enforceable immediately, even if appealed.

Article (51)

Without prejudice to the rights of bona fide third parties, in all cases, the confiscation of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, or Precursors, as well as the devices, tools, containers, and means of transport prepared for this purpose, shall be ordered when seized in accordance with the provisions of the Law.

The seized substances and preparations shall be destroyed or delivered to one of the government authorities licensed to deal with these substances for their benefit, all under the supervision of a committee established and regulated by a decision from the Minister of Justice and Islamic Affairs.

Article (52)

Without prejudice to the rights of bona fide third parties, every licensed establishment for the trade in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, or Precursors, or any other establishment not prepared for habitation or uninhabited, shall be ordered to be closed for a period of not less than three months and not exceeding one year if any of the offences specified in Articles (30), (31), (33), and (34) of this Law occur therein. In the case of recurrence, the licence shall be revoked permanently or the establishment shall be closed for an indefinite period. In this case, reopening the establishment shall only be permitted if it is prepared for a lawful purpose and with the approval of the Public Prosecution.

Article (53)

Anyone who voluntarily informs the public authorities about the crime committed before they are aware of it shall be exempt from the penalties specified in Articles (30), (31), (34) first paragraph, and (36), first paragraph of this Law. If the report is made after the authorities become aware of the crime, exemption from punishment shall require that the report leads to the arrest of the remaining offenders or the identification of those who participated in the crime.

Article (54)

The court may impose, in addition to the prescribed penalty, one of the following measures on anyone previously convicted of any of the offences specified in this Law:

a. Placement in one of the vocational training Institutions or in a treatment facility for a period not exceeding one year.

b. Restriction of residence to a specific location.

c. Prohibition of residence in a specific location.

d. Obligation to reside at their domicile.

e. Prohibition from frequenting certain places or shops.

f. Deprivation of the right to practise a specific profession or craft.

g. Deportation of a foreigner from the Kingdom permanently.

The duration of the measure imposed shall not be less than one year and not exceed three years for the measures specified in Clauses (b) to (f).

In the event of violating the imposed measure, the offender shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not less than three months and not exceeding one year, and a fine not exceeding three thousand dinars, or one of these penalties.

Article (55)

Attempting to commit the misdemeanours specified in this Law shall be punishable by half the penalty prescribed for the completed offence.

Article (56)

The provisions of Article (18), second paragraph and the provisions of Articles (98) to (103) of the Criminal Procedures Law shall apply to the offences specified in Articles (30), (31), (34), first paragraph, and (36) first paragraph of this Law.

Article (57)

The court shall not, in applying the provisions of Article (72) of the Penal Code, impose a penalty of less than ten years' imprisonment for any of the offences specified in Articles (30) and (31), Paragraph (b) of this Law.

Chapter Nine

Final Provisions

Article (58)

Legislative Decree No. (4) of 1973 regarding the Control of the Circulation and Use of Narcotic Drugs and Preparations shall be repealed.

Article (59)

The Minister shall issue the necessary decisions to implement this Law within six months from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

Article (60)

The Ministers—each within their jurisdiction—shall implement this Law, and it shall come into force from the day following the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

Acting King of the Kingdom of Bahrain

Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa

Issued at Riffa Palace:

On:

27 Rajab 1428 AH

Corresponding to:

10 August 2007

Tables Attached to this Law