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**Legislative Decree No. (50) of 2010 Amending Certain Provisions of the Law on Associations, Social and Cultural Clubs, Private Entities Operating in the Field of Youth and Sports, and Private Institutions promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (21) of 1989**

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

Having reviewed the Constitution,

Legislative Decree No. (5) of 1983 amending Emiri Decree No. (2) of 1975 Establishing a Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, as amended;

The Law of Associations, Social and Cultural Clubs, Private Bodies Working in the Field of Youth and Sports and Private Institutions promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (21) of 1989, as amended,

And the National Audit Office Law, promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (16) of 2002,

And upon the submission of the Prime Minister,

And after the approval of the Cabinet,

Hereby Decree the following Law

Article One

The text under the title "The Competent Administrative Authority" and the text under the title "The Relevant Minister" in Article Two of the provisions of Legislative Decree No. (21) of 1989 Promulgating the Law of Associations, Social and Cultural Clubs, Private Bodies Working in the Field of Youth and Sports and Private Institutions shall be replaced, as shall the texts of Articles (60), (61), (66), (67), (68), (71), (72), and (73) of this Law with the following texts:

Article Two:

The Competent Administrative Authority:

The administrative authority whose designation and competencies are specified by a decision from the Cabinet.

The Competent Minister:

The minister whose designation and competencies are specified by a decision from the Cabinet.

Article (60):

A decision shall be issued by the Competent Minister regarding the statute for clubs.

No candidate for membership in the Board of Directors of a club or sports federation shall be affiliated with any political or civil association, nor shall any individual hold membership in more than one club or sports federation.

Article (61):

All Chairmen and Members of the Boards of Directors in clubs and sports bodies shall carry out their duties without remuneration or salary. The Competent Administrative Authority may grant them incentive rewards in accordance with the regulations it establishes.

Article (66):

A sports federation is an entity composed of sports clubs that have activities in one or more sports, with the aim of organising and coordinating these activities thereamong. Sports federations may also be formed for sports that do not have sports clubs, and their Boards of Directors shall be appointed by a decision of the Chairman of the Olympic Committee.

The sports federation shall be registered by a decision issued by the Competent Minister.

The sports federation shall bear administrative, financial, and technical responsibility for the affairs of the sport or activity in the Kingdom and oversee it in accordance with the provisions of this Law and its implementing regulations, while taking into account the laws and regulations issued by the international federation for that sport.

The President of the Olympic Committee shall issue a unified statute detailing the provisions and procedures for the formation, management, dissolution, organisation of meetings, external participation, and all related administrative and financial matters of sports federations, while considering the laws and regulations of the international federation governing each sport.

Article (67):

To establish a sports federation in accordance with the provisions of this Law, at least five clubs must submit a registration application to the Olympic Committee, which are registered in accordance with the provisions of the Law and actively engage in the sport for which the federation is to be established.

Article (68):

The sports federation must obtain the approval of the Olympic Committee before participating in the Olympic Games, multi-sport events, and other tournaments and activities, such as meetings and conferences, whether held in the Kingdom or abroad.

Article (71):

The Bahrain Olympic Committee is an independent civil entity with legal personality and financial, administrative, and technical autonomy. It enjoys all rights and bears all obligations stipulated in the Olympic Charter, with its headquarters in Manama.

Article (72):

a) Within the framework of the Olympic Charter, the Bahrain Olympic Committee aims to sponsor, protect, develop, and organise the Olympic sports movement in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

b) The Bahrain Olympic Committee shall carry out all tasks and responsibilities necessary to achieve its objectives, particularly the following:

1- Participation in the activities of the International Olympic Committee, including meetings of the committee or its subcommittees and similar bodies.

2- Formation, organisation, and leadership of various delegations in the Olympic Games, continental and regional competitions, and in international competitions held under the auspices of the International Olympic Committee.

3- Membership in regional and continental federations and bodies recognised by the International Olympic Committee.

4- Ownership of the rights to the logo of the Bahrain Olympic Committee, with the use of specific properties by delegation from the International Olympic Committee.

5- Supervision of the plans and programmes of sports federations and issuance of approvals regarding various external participations at the teams and individuals’ level, specifically participation in championships, training camps, or attendance at meetings, conferences, and various sports studies.

6- Maintaining the independence of the Bahrain Olympic Committee and rejecting any form of political, religious, economic, or similar pressures that may hinder its adherence to the Olympic Charter.

No entity may adopt the name of the Committee or the term "Olympic" or "Olympian," nor may it use its name to designate a place, business, or product, or manufacture its badges or logos, or trade in them without its permission.

7- Promotion of the fundamental values and principles of Olympic thought, especially in the fields of sports and education, and dissemination of Olympic educational programmes across all areas, as well as in physical education institutes and universities, encouraging the establishment of specialised institutes for Olympic education such as national Olympic academies, Olympic museums, and cultural programmes related to the Olympic movement.

8- Commitment to preserving the principles and directives of the Olympic Charter issued by the International Olympic Committee.

9- Approval of the formation of sports federations, overseeing them, monitoring their activities, supporting them, and providing the necessary technical expertise.

10- Working to develop elite sports performance in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

11- Training and refining sports scholars and technicians by organising training and administrative courses in line with the dissemination of the core principles of Olympic thought.

12- Prevention and rejection of any form of discrimination, sports violence, or spectator disturbances.

13- Adoption and implementation of international anti-doping laws, emphasising that the policies and laws of the Bahrain Olympic Committee regarding anti-doping and its current membership and requirements, as well as the results of its administrative procedures, comply with and respect the international anti-doping law and the responsibilities and duties of national Olympic committees as stipulated in the anti-doping law.

14- Cooperation with governmental and non-governmental bodies within the limits permitted by the Olympic Charter.

15- Promotion of women's participation in sports in general, and in the Olympic field in particular.

16- Raising awareness and responsibility in the field of sports and its intersections with to environmental issues.

17- Commitment to participation in sports fields aimed at promoting peace.

Article (73):

The term of office of the Board of Directors of the Bahrain Olympic Committee and the Boards of Directors of sports federations and clubs shall be four years, with members of the Boards of Directors of these bodies, except for clubs, being elected after each Olympic cycle, whether or not the cycle was held, and whether or not the Kingdom participated. Members of the Boards of Directors of sports clubs shall be elected at least one year prior to that.

The statute issued for this purpose shall specify the provisions and procedures related to the formation of the Olympic Committee, its General Assembly, membership conditions, the composition of its Board of Directors, the convening of meetings, and all administrative, financial, and technical matters, including the fees the Committee charges for the services it provides.

This statute shall be in accordance with the Olympic Charter and shall be approved by the General Assembly of the Olympic Committee and with the consent of the International Olympic Committee.

Article Two

A final paragraph shall be added to Article (4) of the Law of Associations, Social and Cultural Clubs, Private Bodies Working in the Field of Youth and Sports and Private Institutions promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (1989). Additionally, new Articles numbered (22 bis), (72 bis), (73 bis), and (89 bis) shall be added to this Law, with the following texts:

Article (4) Final Paragraph:

"Membership in more than one association engaged in different specialised activities is prohibited without the approval of the Competent Minister."

Article (22 bis):

The National Audit Office shall, at the request of the Competent Minister, exercise financial oversight over all associations by reviewing their records, documents, and accounts of revenues and expenditures, along with other financial matters, to verify the soundness of their resources and the legality of their financial expenditures. These associations must facilitate this process, and the Office shall report its findings to the Competent Minister for further action.

Article (72 bis):

The financial resources of the Olympic Committee shall consist of:

a) Financial support allocated by the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports.

b) Grants, assistance, and donations that the Board of Directors decides to accept in accordance with the regulations and legislation in force in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

c) Support and allocations provided by the International Olympic Committee, the Association of National Olympic Committees, the Asian Olympic Council, or any internationally recognised sports body.

d) Revenues obtained from the services provided by the Committee.

Article (73 bis):

The Olympic Committee shall have a special regulation that organises administrative and financial affairs and the affairs of its personnel, issued by a decision of the Chairman of the Committee.

Article (89 bis):

Imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year and a fine not exceeding one thousand dinars, or by either of these penalties shall be imposed on anyone who establishes, organises, or manages an association, entity, organisation, or group without following the registration procedures in accordance with the provisions of this Law. The same penalty shall apply to anyone who publishes or disseminates, by any means, news, information, or data about those entities.

Article Three

Any provision that contradicts with the provisions of this Law shall be repealed.

Article Four

The Prime Minister and 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.

King of the Kingdom of Bahrain

Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa

Prime Minister

Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa

Issued at Riffa Palace:

On:

8 Dhu al-Hijjah 1431 AH

Corresponding to:

14 November 2010