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**Law No. (19) of 2019 Ratifying the International Land Transport Convention of Passengers and Goods between The Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Government of the The State of United Arab Emirates**

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

Having reviewed the Constitution;

And the International Land Transport Convention of Passengers and Goods between The Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Government of the The State of United Arab Emirates, signed in Manama on 30 October 2018;

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

**Article One**

The International Land Transport Convention of Passengers and Goods between The Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Government of the The State of United Arab Emirates, signed in Manama on 30 October 2018, and attached to this Law, has been ratified.

**Article Two**

The Prime Minister and the Ministers - each within his jurisdiction - shall implement the provisions of 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

Issued at Riffa Palace:

On: 27 Shawwal 1440 A.H.

**Corresponding to:** 30 June 2019

**The International Land Transport Convention of Passengers and Goods between The Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Government of the The State of United Arab Emirates**

The Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain represented by the “Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications”, and the Government of the United Arab Emirates represented by the “Federal Transport Authority-Land & Maritime” both shall hereinafter be referred to as the (Contracting Parties).

Desiring to promote joint cooperation in the field of international land transport, and to facilitate the transport of passengers and goods between and through their territories through transit, based on the principles of sovereignty and mutual benefits and with a view to strengthening bilateral economic and commercial relations between them in general.

Have agreed as follows:

**Article (1)**

In applying the provisions of this Convention, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings assigned to them below, unless the context requires otherwise:

Competent Authority:

Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The Federal Transport Authority-Land & Maritime in the United Arab Emirates.

Transporter: Every natural or legal person authorised to transport passengers and goods through international land transport, in accordance with the legislation in force for each of the Contracting Parties.

Regular Service: Transport of passengers between the territories of the Contracting Parties on a specific route, in accordance with the timetables and tariffs established in both States.

Transit Transport: The transport of passengers and goods through the territory of one of the Contracting Parties and between points of departure and arrival outside the territory of that Contracting Party.

Tourist Transport:  International transport of a specified group of passengers in a specific means of transport on a tourist trip, starting from a point in the territory of one of the Contracting Parties, and ending in the territory of the same Party, without boarding or unboarding passengers.

Means of Transport:

Passenger transport vehicle:  An automated means of transport intended for the international transport of passengers at a specified fare, and whose capacity shall not exceed eight seats, except for the driver’s seat.

Bus: An automated means of transport designated for Regular Service, with a capacity of more than eight seats, except for the driver’s seat.

Goods transport vehicle:  A single or combined motorised means of transport, with a trailer or semi-trailer intended for the transport of goods.

**Article (2)**

The provisions of this Convention shall apply to the International Land Transport of Passengers and Goods between the Contracting Parties and across their territories to a third-party state using the means of transport registered by the of one of the Contracting Parties.

The transfer of weapons, equipment, and military missions, shall be excluded from the application of the provisions of this Convention.

**Article (3)**

Neither Contracting Party shall have the right to impose any duties or taxes, which are usually imposed upon import, export, or transit, on goods and means of transport belonging to the other Contracting Party passing in transit other than its own territory, with the exception of fees for road and transport maintenance and management services, and fines imposed on violations of gross weights, maximum dimensions, and net tonnage of means of transport set forth in the local national legislation of the Contracting Parties.

However, it shall be permissible for transit transport to be exempted during its passage through the territories of the Contracting Parties, and on a reciprocal basis, from the fees for the services mentioned above.

**Article (4)**

Subject to the provisions of national legislation, the existing transporter of one of the Contracting Parties, shall have the right to establish offices, appoint representatives or agents, or exercise the work of a travel and tourism agent in the territory of the other Contracting Party, after obtaining a licence from the competent authorities.

**Article (5)**

In case transporters and drivers of either Contracting Party violate the laws, regulations, and instructions in force of the Contracting Parties, the concerned authorities shall exchange information about the measures taken against these violators.

**Article (6)**

The means of transport registered with either Contracting Party shall not exceed the axle loads as well as the dimensions and weights permitted for traffic on the road network in the territory of the other Contracting Party.

**Article (7)**

An empty means of transport registered by one of the Contracting Parties, shall not be allowed to enter the territory of the other Contracting Party to transport passengers and goods, unless it obtains a special permit for this purpose from the competent authority of the other Contracting Party.

**Article (8)**

It shall be prohibited for means of transport registered by one of the Contracting Parties, of any type, to carry out internal transport in the territory of the other Contracting Party, except with a prior permit issued from the competent authorities.

Transporters of one of the Contracting Parties shall not transport passengers and goods between the territory of the other Contracting Party and a third-party territory, except by virtue of a special permit issued for this purpose by the competent authority of the other Contracting Party.

Goods transport vehicles registered by one of the Contracting Parties, after entering the territory of the Other Party and unloading their load therein, shall be allowed to return loaded to the territory of the Other Party exclusively in accordance with the legislation regulating this, and without obtaining the prior approval of the authorities of the Other Party.

**Article (9)**

Bus transporters operating in the regular transport of passengers and registered by one of the Contracting Parties, shall obtain a prior licence from the competent authority of the other Contracting Party.

**Article (10)**

Under the legislation in force of one of the Contracting Parties, it shall be prohibited to transport goods banned from entering or passing through the territory of this Party within both of the Contracting Parties. It shall also be prohibited to enter or pass goods restricted by one of the Contracting Parties through its territory, except with special permission from that Party to remove the restriction, in accordance with its prevailing legislation.

The competent authorities shall exchange lists of prohibited and restricted goods in each of the Contracting Parties.

**Article (11)**

Drivers of means of transport in both of the Contracting Parties shall not exceed the points of departure and arrival. They shall be obligated to use the official entry points and Specified Routes in the territory of the other Contracting Party, as well as to possess the required documents when driving their vehicles.

**Article (12)**

The Contracting Parties shall take all necessary measures to simplify, facilitate, and expedite customs and other official procedures regarding the transport of passengers and goods, without prejudice to the laws and regulations in force in the Contracting Parties.

**Article (13)**

Means of transport engaged in the international transport of passengers, luggage, and goods between the Contracting Parties or through their territories, shall obtain a third-party insurance policy that complies with the laws and regulations in force in each of the Contracting Parties, as well as another insurance policy covering the damage that may be caused to passengers, luggage, and goods in during the transport, and that this policy shall be issued under the laws and regulations in force in the State in which the means is registered.

**Article (14)**

Financial settlements between the transporters in the Contracting Parties in respect of transport and transit operations, shall be made in convertible currencies accepted by licensed banks, in accordance with the laws, regulations, and instructions in force of the Contracting Parties.

**Article (15)**

Means of transport engaged in the international land transport of goods shall be covered by a customs transit card "TIR Carnet", under the Convention on International Transport of Goods, 1975 (TIR).

Means of transport engaged in international land transport of passengers shall be covered by a customs transit card (CARNET DE PASSAGE), under the Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Commercial Road Vehicles of 1956.

In case of non-accession to any of the two Conventions referred to in clauses (1) and (2) of this Article, the provisions of the relevant national legislation in force shall apply.

**Article (16)**

In case of accidents, the concerned authority, in the Contracting Party in whose territory the accident occurred, shall provide the other Contracting Party with the reports, investigation results, and any other necessary information.

**Article (17)**

Passenger transport drivers shall maintain written lists in both Arabic and English languages, containing the names, nationalities, and data of passengers, to be submitted to the relevant authorities.

**Article (18)**

It shall not be permissible for the means of transport registered with one of the Contracting Parties along with their crew, to remain in the territory of the Other Party for a period exceeding the period authorised by the concerned authority, except in cases of emergency and beyond the control that the concerned authority deems acceptable, and with a special permit it issues.

**Article (19)**

The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall promote the exchange of expertises, information, and research in the field of land transport, including statistics and data on the volume of goods transported and the number of passengers.

The Contracting Parties shall seek to develop and encourage communications between international land transport companies, offices, and institutions in order to contribute to raising the efficiency of land transport activities between them.

**Article (20)**

With regard to transport operations, the means of land transport registered with one of the Contracting Parties when they are in the territory of the Other Party, as well as their drivers and the passengers or goods they carry, shall be subject to the laws, regulations, and instructions in force in this Party. This shall be in the absence of a special provision in this Convention.

**Article (21)**

A joint committee of representatives of the Contracting Parties shall be formed, for the purpose of regulating international land transport activities between the Parties, and settling all matters that may arise in the application of this Convention.

The joint committee shall assume the following responsibilities:

Supervising the implementation of the provisions of this Convention.

Studying the difficulties that arise as a result of the implementation of this Convention, and finding appropriate solutions to them.

Revising all the topics falling within the scope of this Convention, and making recommendations regarding them.

Recommending any amendments to the Articles of this Convention, and submitting them to the competent authorities for approval.

Studying the possibility of developing and improving transport operations between the Contracting Parties and across their territories.

Discussing any other matters related to land transport agreed upon between the Contracting Parties, and submitting recommendations thereon to the competent authorities.

The joint committee shall convene whenever the need arises at the call of one of the Contracting Parties, and meetings shall be arranged alternately in both States through diplomatic channels.

**Article (22)**

This Convention shall be ratified in accordance with the constitutional procedures in force in the Contracting Parties, and it shall enter into force from the date of receipt of the second notification by diplomatic means by the respective governments of the Contracting Parties.

Any disputes arising from the interpretation or implementation of this Convention shall be settled amicably through consultations between the Parties through diplomatic channels.

Any amendments to this Convention shall be made with the approval of the Parties in writing through diplomatic channels, and they shall be effective from the date of exchange of the documents of ratification by the respective governments of the Contracting Parties.

This Convention shall be valid for a period of three (3) years, and shall be automatically renewed from year to year unless one of the Contracting Parties notifies the other through diplomatic means of its desire to terminate it, at least six (6) months prior to the date of termination.

This Convention was done and signed in Manama on 30 October 2018, in two original copies in the Arabic language, each of which have the same legal authority.

For the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain

For Government of the State of United Arab Emirates