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**Legislative Decree No. (19) of 1980 Approving the Convention of the Establishment of the Arabian Gulf University**

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

Having reviewed the Constitution;

Emiri Order No. (4) of 1975;

And the Convention of the Establishment of the Arabian Gulf University;

Upon the submission of the Minister of Education;

And after the approval of the Council of Ministers;

**Hereby Decree the following Law:**

**Article One**

The Convention on the Establishment of the Arabian Gulf University, as approved by the Conference of Ministers of Education of the Arabian Gulf States, held in Kuwait from 13 to 15 Jumada al-awwal 1400 A.H., corresponding to 30 March – 1 April 1980, and attached to this Law, has been approved.

**Article Two**

The Ministers – each within his jurisdiction – shall implement this Law, 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**

Issued at Riffa Palace

On 18 Shawwal 1400 A.H.

Corresponding to 28 August 1980

**In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious and the Most Merciful**

**Convention on the Establishment of the Arabian Gulf University**

The Governments of:

The United Arab Emirates

The State of Bahrain

The State of Kuwait

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

The Republic of Iraq

The Sultanate of Oman

The State of Qatar

Believing in the need to strengthen scientific cooperation between them, and being aware of the need to develop means of coordination between them in the fields of higher education and scientific research, and in implementation of what was agreed upon at the (fourth) Conference of Ministers of Education of the Arabian Gulf States held in the State of Bahrain, in the period from: 6 – 7 Jumada al-awwal 1399 A.H., corresponding to 3 – 4 April 1979, and as agreed upon at the fifth conference held in the State of Kuwait from 13 – 15 Jumada al-awwal 1400 A.H., corresponding to 30 March – 1 April 1980, they have agreed on the following:

**Establishment of the University**

**Article No. (1)**

A university named (the Arabian Gulf University) shall be established, and the State of Bahrain shall be its headquarters. In this Convention, it shall be referred to as (University).

**Article No. (2)**

The signatory States to this Convention shall be obligated to support and maintain the University financially and morally, through the possible means leading to this.

**Article No. (3)**

The University shall be treated with regard to privileges and immunities as follows:

A- Representatives of the Member States of the Board of Trustees shall enjoy the privileges and immunities prescribed for their likes in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the League of Arab States.

B- The University shall be exempt from customs duties and monetary laws for the import or export of the tools and materials for its use or for the performance of its official duties. Its buildings shall also be exempt from the direct imposed taxes.

C- Facilitations shall be granted to the employees of the University who are not nationals of the Headquarters State, in accordance with the prescribed laws and systems concerning residence and travel procedures. This shall apply to all employees, their spouses, and their minor children, whether they are faculty members, employees, administrators, or experts employed by the University during the performance of their duties.

**University’s Objectives, Means, and Structure**

**Article No. (4)**

The University, its colleges, institutes, and affiliated research centres shall contribute to all that would develop education, higher education, scientific research, and the comprehensive development of the Member States. The University shall seek this through originality in its programmes, innovation in its curricula, and modernity in its methods. In particular, it shall work toward achieving the following objectives:

A - Nurturing the Arab and Islamic culture, civilisation, science, and literature and directing all available efforts and capabilities towards consolidating the Arab and Islamic values as the civilisational foundations for building societies, and highlighting these values in the various fields of knowledge by which the University is concerned.

B - Preparing and training academics and specialists in the branches of scientific and professional knowledge needed by the Member States, especially in branches that the local universities do not meet the requirements for, based on the educational, ethical, and scientific curriculum whose principles are established by the Islamic Shari’a.

C - Doing everything that would serve the Arab society in the Gulf States, by working to investigate the causes of social, economic, administrative, and technical problems, conducting research in the various fields of development, and proposing appropriate scientific and practical solutions by all other means that the University deems appropriate to achieve this goal.

D - Responding to the needs of the Member States by holding scientific, cultural, and intellectual conferences, seminars, and exhibitions, under the auspices of the University, whether at its headquarters or abroad.

E- Focusing in its programmes and plans on the development of postgraduate and specialised studies, particularly in fields that serve the environment and society of the Arab States in the Gulf and respond to their needs.

F- Nurturing research related to the geographical, social, economic, and political characteristics of the Member States.

G- Attracting scholars, researchers, and thinkers whose attitudes are consistent with the University’s objectives and mission, from all over the world, especially from the expatriate nationals of the Arab and Islamic World.

H- Contributing to the progress and development of human knowledge by preparing researchers, thinkers, and scientists, conducting basic scientific research, particularly in the technical fields, as well as by establishing and strengthening ties with Arab and foreign universities and coordinating with them in every matter that would develop higher education, improve its level, and achieve its objectives.

I- Exchanging experiences with universities, educational institutes, and scientific research centres, particularly in the Arab and Islamic World, and contributing to research projects in which the University deems it necessary or useful to contribute.

**Article No. (5)**

The University shall take all available means to achieve its objectives, in particular scientific and applied research, teaching, authorship, translation, publication, and the establishment of graduate departments in the various disciplines offered by the University.

**Article No. (6)**

The Member States of this Convention shall, whenever necessary, seek the assistance of the University, its bodies, and professors in its projects, plans, and programmes related to higher education, scientific research, and development. The conditions for the University to carry out these works shall be determined in an independent agreement concluded by the University President, in every case separately, with the Requesting State.

**Article No. (7)**

The University Structure shall consist of its bodies stipulated in its Statute. These bodies shall exercise their competences and powers stipulated in the University’s Statute as well as in its other Statutes and Regulations.

**Nature of the University**

**Article No. (8)**

The University shall be a non-political regional scientific body, with public legal personality, and shall operate on a non-profit basis.

**Article No. (9)**

The regulation and management of the University shall be based on the full equality among the signatory States to this Convention, with the General Conference shall determine the basis of such equality.

**Students and their Distribution**

**Article No. (10)**

A - The University shall accept students based on the nomination of their Sates and in accordance with the conditions prescribed for admission in each of the disciplines of the University.

B - A percentage of (30%) of the number of students to be admitted in each discipline, shall be allocated to the nationals of the States that do not have such discipline in their local universities.

C - Distributing the remaining (70%) of the number to be admitted in each discipline equally among the Member States, including the States that have allocated to their nationals the (30%) referred to in the preceding paragraph.

**Article No. (11)**

Admission to the University shall be limited to students from Member States of the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States, and it shall be permissible to admit no more than (5%) of the number of admitted students in each discipline from the nationals of non-Member Arab States, provided that they shall meet the conditions for admission to the University.

**Article No. (12)**

Mixing between male and female students in the University shall be prohibited, whether in classrooms or university dormitories.

**Budget of the University and the Obligations of Member States**

**Article No. (13)**

The University’s budget shall consist of the contributions of the Member States as well as of the other resources prescribed in its Statute. The contribution of the Member States shall be done in accordance with the proportions of their contribution in the budget of the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States.

**Article No. (14)**

The States signatory to this Convention shall treat any tools, machines, commodities, and other items related to the University or its branches, which they receive or pass through its airspace, maritime, or land ports, in a manner similar to how they treat similar items related to their own local scientific bodies.

**Article No. (15)**

A - The Headquarters State shall place at the disposition of the University, free of charge, the land necessary for the construction of the University buildings and annexes. However, the University shall not have the right to dispose of it by any means of disposition prescribed for the owner. The land referred to, along with the buildings constructed on it, shall devolve to the Headquarters State if, as a result of the withdrawal of the Member States, it becomes impossible for the University to continue to operate.

B - The Headquarters State shall undertake to provide the University buildings with water, electricity, postal, telephone, telegraph, and telex services, provided that the University shall bear the established fees of these services.

**Ratification of the Convention, its Entry into Force, Amendment, and Withdrawal**

**Article No. (16)**

The Member States shall deposit their ratifications of this Convention with the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States, within six months of its signature. The Bureau shall notify the Member States of the deposit of ratifications.

**Article No. (17)**

This Convention shall enter into force after the lapse of one month from the date of deposit of the ratification of the fourth State.

**Article No. (18)**

This Convention shall be amended at the request of any of the Member States. The amendment shall be effective if ratified by five of the Member States. The amendment shall enter into force one month after the date of depositing the last ratifications of the five States.

**Article No. (19)**

The following rules shall apply in case any of the Member States of this Convention wishes to withdraw:

A - The State wishing to withdraw shall notify the signatory States to this Convention in writing of its wish to withdraw.

B - The State wishing to withdraw shall deposit a copy of the notification referred to in (A) within the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States.

C - The withdrawal shall not take effect until two years have passed from the date of the deposit referred to in (B).

D - The withdrawal shall not entail the cancellation of the obligations arising under this Convention for the withdrawing State prior to the effective date of the withdrawal. It shall not be permissible for the withdrawing State to demand the refund of the cash contributions or in rem donations it has paid to the University, or the aids it has provided to it, regardless of their type or reason for the provision.

**Article No. (20)**

Any dispute arising between the Member States regarding the implementation of this Convention, shall be referred to a trilateral arbitration committee, of which two members shall be appointed by the General Conference of Ministers of Education of the Gulf Arab States. The two members shall select the third member by agreement between them, and he shall preside over the committee. Any decision issued by this committee shall be binding on the disputing parties if approved by the General Conference.

**Article No. (21)**

This Convention have been drawn up in one original copy to be maintained at the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States, and a true copy shall be delivered to each of the Member States.

**Minister of Education and Youth**

**The United Arab Emirates**

**Minister of Education**

**The State of Bahrain**

**Minister of Education**

**The State of Kuwait**

**Minister of Education**

**The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

**Minister of Education**

**The Republic of Iraq**

**Minister of Education**

**The Sultanate of Oman**

**Minister of Education**

**The State of Qatar**