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**Decree No. (19) of 2002 ratifying the Agreement to Establish a Joint Supreme Committee for Cooperation between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the State of Kuwait**

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

Having reviewed the Constitution;

The Joint Supreme Committee for Cooperation between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the State of Kuwait signed in Kuwait on 15 Jumada Al-Akhir 1422 A.H., corresponding to 3 September 2001;

And upon the submission of the Minister of Foreign Affairs,

And after the approval of the Council of Ministers,

**Hereby Decree the following:**

**Article One**

The Joint Supreme Committee for Cooperation between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the State of Kuwait signed in Kuwait on 15 Jumada Al-Akhir 1422 A.H., corresponding to 3 September 2001, attached to this Decree, has been ratified.

**Article Two**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs shall implement the provisions this Decree, and it shall come into force from 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**

**Minister of Foreign Affairs**

**Mohammed bin Mubark Al Khalifa**

Issued in Riffa Palace:

On: 7 Rabi' al-Akhir 1423 A.H.

Corresponding to: 18 June 2002

**The Joint Supreme Committee for Cooperation between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the State of Kuwait**

The Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Government of the State of Kuwait,

Believing in the deep and distinguished historical ties, strong kinship, and close fraternal relations existing between their two brotherly States and peoples,

Wishing to strengthen bilateral relations between the two States in all fields for the benefit of their peoples,

Confirming the commitment of the two States to the Charter of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf and to the regional and international charters which call for closer cooperation and fraternal and friendly relations between the States,

Recognising the political and economic changes taking place in the world and the importance of consultations on various regional and international issues,

Have agreed as follows:

**Article One**

Establishment of a Joint Supreme Committee for Cooperation between the two States, chaired by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of both States and composed of a certain number of Ministers concerned with the topics on the agenda of the Joint Supreme Committee for Cooperation or their representatives.

**Article Two**

The tasks of the Joint Supreme Committee include establishing the necessary legal bases and frameworks with the aim of developing cooperation in various fields, in particular in the following fields:

a- To achieve the fullest level of political cooperation and coordination on all matters of common interest.

b- To strengthen diplomatic and consular cooperation with regard to the two States' relations with other States.

c- To strengthen security cooperation and exchange information in order to consolidate the common security of both States.

d- To develop military cooperation between the two States, including the exchange of experience, training programmes, and the conduct of joint manoeuvres.

e - To achieve the fullest level of cooperation in the economic and commercial fields and establish joint investment projects.

f - To achieve freedom of movement for citizens of both sides using identity cards at land, sea,, and air border crossings in accordance with rules agreed by both States.

g - To support cooperation in education, training, employment, social development, media, culture, sports, environmental affairs, and other areas of cooperation agreed upon by both States.

h- To support development activities between the two States through the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development.

i- To recognise the important contribution of the private sector to economic development, representatives of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of both States shall be invited to attend the meetings of the Supreme Committee.

j- To follow-up on the implementation of agreements, treaties, protocols, and cooperation programmes signed between the two States.

**Article Three**

The Joint Supreme Committee shall define the general policy of cooperation and coordination between the two States in the political, economic, commercial, security, military, and other fields required by the interests of the two States.

**Article Four**

The Joint Supreme Committee shall meet twice a year at at the ministerial level, alternately, in the capitals of the two States. This shall be preceded by preparatory meetings at a senior official and expert level. It may hold extraordinary meetings whenever the need arises, and the dates of such meetings shall be determined through diplomatic channels.

**Article Five**

The Joint Supreme Committee shall establish specialised subcommittees to study various fields of Joint Cooperation between the two States, and the minutes of the meetings of the subcommittees shall be submitted to the Joint Supreme Committee for approval.

**Article Six**

The two Cooperation Council departments will be located in the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the two states, and both are responsible for coordinating, monitoring, and preparing the meetings of the Joint Supreme Committee and its sub-committees.

**Article Seven**

This Agreement shall enter into force from the date of mutual notification of the completion of constitutional procedures in accordance with the legislative system followed in both States. The Agreement shall remain in force indefinitely unless either party notifies the other in writing of its desire to terminate the Agreement at least six months prior to the date fixed for termination.

Either State may propose to amend this Agreement, and the amendment will enter into force once both States have agreed to it using the same procedures mentioned above.

This Agreement was signed in Kuwait on the fifteenth of Jumada al-Akhir 1422 A.H., corresponding to the third of September 2001, in two original copies in Arabic, both equally authentic.

**On behalf of the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain**

**On behalf of the Government of the State of Kuwait**

**Mohammed bin Mubark Al Khalifa**

**Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah**

**Minister of Foreign Affairs**

**First Deputy of the Prime Minister**

**Minister of Foreign Affairs**