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**Decree No. (38) of 2000 ratifying the Tourism Cooperation Agreement between the Government of the State of Bahrain and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic**

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

Having reviewed the Constitution;

And the Tourism Cooperation Agreement between the Government of the State of Bahrain and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, signed in Manama on 22 Jumada al-Akhir 1421 A.H., corresponding to 20 September 2000;

And upon the submission of the Minister of Cabinet Affairs and Information,

And after the approval of the Council of Ministers.

**Hereby Decree the following:**

**Article One**

The Tourism Cooperation Agreement between the Government of the State of Bahrain and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, signed in Manama on 22 Jumada al-Akhir 1421 A.H., corresponding to 20 September 20000, and attached to this Decree, has been ratified.

**Article Two**

The Ministers -each within his jurisdiction- shall implement this Decree, and it shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

**Emir of the State of Bahrain**

**Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa**

Issued at Riffa Palace:

On: 20 Rajab 1421 A.H.

Corresponding to: 18 October 2000

**Tourism Cooperation Agreement between the Government of the State of Bahrain and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic**

Within the framework of the existing fraternal relations between the State of Bahrain and the Syrian Arab Republic and based on the close ties between the governments of the two countries and in support of the role that tourism plays in rapprochement and understanding between peoples and a desire to continue strengthening cooperation in the field of tourism, the two sides reviewed the reality of cooperation in this field and ways to develop it in the two brotherly countries. The following was agreed upon:

**Article One**

The two parties shall take all necessary measures to encourage tourism exchange between the State of Bahrain and the Syrian Arab Republic.

**Article Two**

The two countries shall encourage intra-tourism within the framework of the regulations and laws in force in the two countries and by encouraging travel and tourism offices to organise tourist trips for their citizens to visit the other country.

**Article Three**

The two countries shall encourage the exchange of experiences in the field of tourism development and the exchange of information and experiences regarding the methods used to preserve the environmental and social components and character of the country.

**Article Four**

The two countries shall encourage the exchange of experiences in the field of tourism and hotel rehabilitation and the exchange of curricula and methods of education and training in specialised institutes and centres in the two countries, in addition to granting study grants and tourism and hotel training in the institutions of the two countries.

**Article Five**

The two countries shall encourage the exchange of visits by media representatives from the two countries to prepare information materials on tourism to be disseminated through their respective media outlets.

**Article Six**

The two parties in both countries shall inform their countries of the investment opportunities available in each country in the field of tourism and provide all possible facilities in this field according to the laws and regulations in force in both countries.

**Article Seven**

The two sides shall encourage the exchange of information and experiences in the field of developing traditional crafts and industries and the legislation that works to regulate this sector in the two countries.

**Article Eight**

The two sides shall encourage the holding of cultural tourism weeks as well as participation in exhibitions, conferences, and seminars held in both countries.

**Article Nine**

The two countries shall encourage the exchange of information and data in the field of tourism statistics in both countries.

**Article Ten**

The two sides shall work on joint cooperation and coordination in international forums and organisations concerned with tourism affairs, with the aim of supporting the positions and issues that concern the two countries in this field.

**Article Eleven**

The two sides shall agree to form a technical committee from both countries entrusted with the task of implementing the terms and objectives of this Agreement, which will meet once a year in one of the two countries alternately.

**Article Twelve**

The two sides shall work to coordinate in marketing fields and develop joint marketing programmes by encouraging connections between travel and tourism offices between the two countries.

**Article Thirteen**

This Agreement shall enter into force provisionally from the date of its signature, and permanently from the date of mutual notification of the completion of the ratification procedures in accordance with the legal system followed in both countries, and shall remain in force for an indefinite period unless one of the Parties notifies the other Party, in writing, of its intention to terminate it at least six months before the date fixed for termination.

This Agreement was drawn up and signed in the city of Manama on 22 Jumada al-Akhir 1421 A.H., corresponding to 20 September 2000, in two original copies in the Arabic language.

**On behalf of the Government of the State of Bahrain**

**On behalf of The Government of of Syrian Arab Republic**

**Minister of Cabinet Affairs and Information**

**Muhammad Ibrahim Al Mutawa Information Minister**

**Adnan Imran**