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**Published on the website on May 2024**

**Legislative Decree No. (26) of 2001 ratifying the Convention regulating International Land Transport (transit) between the Government of the State of Bahrain and the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan**

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

Having reviewed the Constitution;

Emiri Order No. (4) of 1975;

Emiri Order No. (38) of 2001;

And the Convention regulating International Land Transport (transit) between the Government of the State of Bahrain and the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, signed in Manama on 30 Rabi’ al-Thani 1422 A.H., corresponding to 21 July 2001,

Upon the submission of the Minister of Finance and National Economy,

And after the approval of the Council of Ministers;

**Hereby Decree the following Law:**

**Article One:**

The Convention regulating International Land Transport (transit) between the Government of the State of Bahrain and the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, signed in Manama on 30 Rabi’ al-Thani 1422 A.H., corresponding to 21 July 2001, attached to this law, has been ratified.

**Article Two**

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

**Emir of the State of Bahrain**

**Salman bin Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa**

**Issued at Riffa Palace.**

**11 Jumada al-awwal 1422 A.H.**

**Corresponding to 1 August 2001**

**The Convention regulating International Land Transport (transit) between the Government of the State of Bahrain and the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan**

The Government of the State of Bahrain and the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, hereinafter referred to as (the Contracting Parties), desire to strengthen and develop economic ties and facilitate international land transportation of passengers and goods between their countries and across their territories in transit.

**Article (1)**

**Definitions**

For the purposes of this convention, the words and phrases set forth below shall have the meanings indicated next to each of them:

1- (Transporter) Any natural or legal person licensed to transport passengers and goods in accordance with the laws, regulations and instructions of the contracting parties.

2- a- (Transportation mean) Any means of road transport powered by a motor and intended for the transport of more than eight passengers excluding the driver, or for the transport of goods or towing such a means.

b- or any transport group by tow as set forth in Paragraph (2-a) and a trailer or attached trailer intended for the transport of passengers or goods.

3- (Permit) is the complete statement that must be submitted in every transit operation in the country in which the transportation operation begins to allow the means of transportation to enter and exit the territory of the other contracting party.

4- (Regular bus line) Transporting passengers between the territories of the contracting parties according to a specific route and in line with national routes and fares.

5- (Regular transit bus line) The regular bus line that departs from the territory of one of the contracting parties and passes through the territory of the other contracting party without loading or unloading passengers and ends in the territory of a third country.

6- (Shuttle Line Service) Organised international passenger transportation in the form of groups specified in the duration of the trip and from a fixed starting point to a fixed arrival point, and the return of this group to the first starting point at the end of the regular trip (passengers in a group shall return in the same group and the first trip to the point Arrival shall be without passengers).

7- (Closed Tourist Transport Service) International transportation 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 it ends in the territory of the same contracting party without loading or unloading passengers.

8- (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

**Article (2)**

The provisions of this Convention shall apply to the international transport of passengers and goods to and from the territory of one Contracting Party and through the territory of the other Contracting Party (by transit) using the means of transport registered in the country of one of the Contracting Parties.

**Article (3)**

Each Contracting Party shall recognise, under the provisions of this Convention, to the other Contracting Party the right of transit of passengers, their luggage, commercial goods and means of transport belonging to the other Contracting Party over the routes specified by the competent authorities of each Contracting Party.

**Article (4)**

Subject to the provisions of national legislation and by prior authorisation, the carrier of one Contracting Party shall have the right to establish offices and appoint representatives or agents in the territory of the other Contracting Party, but without having the right to exercise the work of a travel or tourism agent in the territory of the other Contracting Party.

**Article (5)**

Neither Contracting Party may impose any duties or taxes that are normally imposed upon import, export or transit on the goods and means of transport belonging to the other Contracting Party transiting through its territory, except for the following:

a.  Road use fees (private bridges & roads fees).

b.  Allowance for maintenance, protection, management and transportation services on roads

c.  Fines imposed for violating the gross and net weights and maximum dimensions of means of transport, in accordance with the local national legislation of the two contracting parties.

However, transportation may be exempted during its passage (Transit) through the territories of the two contracting parties and on a reciprocal basis from the fees for the services mentioned in Clause “b” referred to above.

**Article (6)**

In the event that carriers and drivers belonging to either contracting party violate the laws, regulations and instructions in force, the competent authorities must exchange information about the measures taken against these violators.

**Article (7)**

Means of transport registered in the territory of one Contracting Party shall not be permitted to transport passengers and goods between any two points within the territory of the other Contracting Party.

Unless the carrier obtains from the first contracting party a special permit from the competent authority of the other contracting party, he cannot transport passengers and goods from the territory of the other contracting party to the territory of a third country.

**Article (8)**

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

**Article (9)**

A means of transport registered in the territory of one Contracting Party cannot load goods on a return trip to its country or to a third country after unloading its cargo in the territory of the other Contracting Party unless it obtains a special permit and as permitted by the national legislation of that other Contracting Party.

**Article (10)**

The carrier in the territory of one of the contracting parties can operate a regular bus line or a regular transit bus line through the territory of the other contracting party, provided that he obtains a prior annual permit from the competent authority of the other contracting party, and consideration must be given to issuing equivalent permits by the two contracting parties.

**Article (11)**

Means of transport registered in the territory of one Contracting Party may carry out closed tourist line service and shuttle service to and from the other Contracting Party without obtaining a permit to do so.

**Article (12)**

Transporting goods in transit through the territories of the Contracting Parties does not require prior authorisation.

**Article (13)**

The transport of weapons, explosives, war equipment and explosives between the Contracting Parties or through their territories shall require a special permit to be obtained from the competent authorities of both Contracting Parties.

It is prohibited to transport by transit any goods whose entry into either contracting country is prohibited for reasons of protection of human, animal or plant health.

**Article (14)**

The Contracting Parties shall take all necessary measures to simplify, facilitate and expedite customs procedures and other official acts with regard to the carriage of passengers and goods.

**Article (15)**

1-    All means of transport carrying out international transport shall be accompanied by temporary customs entry documents (Carnet De Passage En Douane) or Triptique in accordance with the provisions of the relevant international customs conventions issued by the competent authorities of the two contracting parties.

In the absence of such international customs documents, the provisions of the national legislation of the Contracting Party concerned shall apply.

2-   If the international transport of goods is covered by the TIR Document, then the regulations provided for in the TIR Charter for goods or vehicles apply, and if the international transport of goods is not covered by the TIR Document, then the provisions of the national legislation of the contracting party concerned apply.

3- Drivers of vehicles engaged in international transport under the provisions of this Convention shall be in possession of the following documents:

a.    A valid driving licence corresponding to the category of vehicle he is driving. This licence shall comply with the provisions of the laws and regulations in force in the country in which the means of transport is registered, or it must be an international driving licence.

b.  A valid transportation licence.

c.  A valid passport containing all necessary entry visas.

**Article (16)**

The competent authorities of the two contracting parties shall issue entry visas valid for a period of three months and for several trips to each driver and his assistant who carry out international land transportation of passengers or goods in accordance with the provisions of this convention and the relevant national laws, regulations and instructions.

**Article (17)**

Fuel in the standard tank of the means of transportation is exempt from customs duties and other fees.

The standard tank is the tank installed in the mean of transportation by the manufacturer.

**Article (18)**

Used spare parts that have been replaced shall be re-exported or destroyed under the supervision of the customs authority or delivered to them.

Import of spare parts shall be carried out in accordance with national laws and regulations

**Article (19)**

a- Means of transportation used for the international transport of passengers, their luggage and goods between the Contracting Countries or others shall receive a third-party insurance policy under the laws and regulations in force in the territory of each Contracting Party.

b-  Another insurance policy covering damages that may arise over passengers, luggage and goods during transportation, and this policy shall be issued in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in the country in which the means of transportation is registered.

**Article (20)**

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

**Article (21)**

In the event of accidents, malfunctions or any other difficulties, the competent authorities in the territory of the Contracting Party in which the incident occurred shall provide the other Contracting Party with reports, results of the investigation and any other necessary information.

**Article (22)**

Carriers and crew of a means of transport registered in the territory of one Contracting Party shall comply with the applicable laws and regulations governing road traffic in the territory of the other Contracting Party.

Any other matters related to transportation operations that are not mentioned in this convention are subject to the laws, regulations and instructions in force in the territory of one of the contracting parties.

**Article (23)**

A joint committee shall be formed of representatives of the two contracting parties (Bahraini Jordanian) and shall meet once a year or at the request of one of the contracting parties in Manama or Amman alternately. Its mission shall be:

1-   Supervising the implementation of this convention.

2-   Study the problems resulting from the implementation of this convention, find appropriate solutions to them, and explore the possibilities of developing and improving transport operations between and across the territories of the two contracting countries.

3-   Review the topics that fall within the scope of this convention, and make recommendations regarding them.

4-   Recommending any amendments to the articles of this convention, and submitting them to the competent authorities of the contracting parties for approval.

5-  Any other matters that the contracting parties agree to discuss.

**Article (24)**

The competent authorities responsible for the implementation of this Convention are:

**a- In the State of Bahrain**

Ministry of Finance and National Economy

**b- In the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan:**

Ministry of Transportation

**Article (25)**

1-     This agreement shall enter into force thirty days after the date of receipt of the last two notifications of the completion of the constitutional procedures necessary for the enforcement of this agreement by the contracting parties.

2-     This Convention shall remain in effect for a period of one year after it enters into force and shall be automatically renewed from year to year unless its implementation is terminated by either contracting party, giving written notice three months before the date of the expiration of its validity period to the other contracting party.

In witness thereof, this convention was signed by the undersigned, duly and officially authorised by their respective governments.

Written and signed in the city of Manama, on the thirtieth of Rabi’ al-Thani 1422 H, corresponding to the twenty-first of July 2001, in two original copies with the same legal authority, and each party shall retain a copy thereof.

**on behalf of the government**

**on behalf of the government**

**State of Bahrain the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan**

**Abdullah Hassan Saif**

**Engineer Nader Al-Dhahabi**

**The Minister of Finance and National Economy**

**Minister of Transportation**