

FEDERAL LAW NO . 7

Issued on 25/7 / 1973

Corresponding to 25 Jamadi El Thani 1393 H .

ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS APPARATUS AND WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS

Amended by

Federal Law No . 7/1985 dated 18/03/1986 . and

Federal Law No . 27/1992 dated 27/04/1992

We , Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan , President of the United Arab Emirates State ;

After perusing Law no . 1 of 1972 , on the Jurisdiction of Ministries and Powers of the Ministers ;

Acting upon the proposition of the Minister of Communications , the approval of the Council of Ministers and the Federal National Council and the ratification of the Federal Supreme Council ;

Have promulgated the following Law :

CHAPTER ONE

DEFINITIONS

Article 1

In applying this Federal Decree - Law , the following terms and words shall have the meanings stated opposite to each , unless the context indicates otherwise :

The Ministry : The Federal Ministry of Communications or one of its Departments that the Federal Minister of Communications endowed with Part or all of the powers provided for in this Law .

Telecommunications Apparatus : Any wireless apparatus of whatever transmission or receiving capacity originally built to be used , or may be used , for broadcasting or transmission of voice symbols by signs , writing , pictures or other means or reception of all these .

International Rules : Any rules , instructions , orders , regulations , recommendations , directives , provisions , restrictions , terminology , definitions or other technical matters stipulated in the following International Agreements :

1 - The International Convention on Wire and Wireless Communications signed in Geneva in 1959 and its subsequent annexes , protocols , decisions and recommendations .

2 - The International system of Wireless Telecommunications , as amended in Geneva in 1959 and the subsequent annexes , protocols , decisions and recommendations .

3 - The International Convention on Wire and Wireless Communications signed in Buenos Aires in 1952 and the International Regulations annexed thereto .

4 - The Convention of the Arab Union for Wire and Wireless Communications signed in Damascus in 1959 and the subsequent annexes , decisions and recommendations .

5 - Any other rules relative to wireless communications decided by the Council of Ministers upon proposal from the Federal Minister of Communications .

Amateurs : Whoever acquires or possesses any wireless apparatus to satisfy his wish to communicate wirelessly or to manufacture wireless apparatus , dismantle , assemble and all related matters without seeking any material profit or commercial activity or prohibited communication according to International rules or to this Law or any future regulation .

Private Users : Any physical or juristic person acquiring or possessing any wireless apparatus to be used for the purposes of achieving or facilitating his private work .

CHAPTER TWO

GRANTING LICENSES FOR THE POSSESSION AND OPERATION OF WIRELESS APPARATUS FOR PERSONAL USE OR FOR AMATEURS

Article 2

It is prohibited to possess , acquire or operate any wireless apparatus without a license to be issued by the Ministry after approval of the ministries of Defense and Interior .

The operation license shall be for personal use and may not be issued in case a public network is available .

Article 3

The operation license shall determine the kind of station , broadcasting , frequency and allowed operating hours , the capacity of the apparatus on transmission , the aerial direction and the location of the transmitter and receiver .

Article 4

It is prohibited to use any frequency unless it is allocated and registered by the Ministry .

Allocation shall take place according to the Geneva Convention , the International rules and the policy laid down by the Ministry .

No registered frequency may be used in a way contrary to that in which it was registered without prior authorization from the Ministry .

Article 5

The Ministry may issue licenses to amateurs in accordance with the International rules after securing the approval of the ministries of Defense and Interior .

Article 6

Applications for license and registration of frequencies shall be submitted on forms made for this purpose at the Ministry and will reproduce the information stated in them in a true and organized manner .

The Ministry may approve or disapprove issuing the license without mention of the reasons therefor .

Article 7

As amended by Federal Law no . 27/1992 dated 27/4 / 1992 [2](#)

The License shall be for one year and shall take effect as of the date of its issuance . It must be renewed within a maximum period of one month from the date of its expiry .

Upon request from the concerned person , the Ministry may issue licenses for more than one year and , in this case , the fees stated in Article 22 of this Law shall be due on the basis of the number of years for which the license is issued or renewed .

Article 8

The licensees have to comply with the conditions stated in the license issued to them and the rules set forth in this Law and in the International rules .

Article 9

The ownership of the licensed wireless apparatus may not be transferred and the apparatus may not be pledged , leased or disposed of in any manner whatsoever or advertised without prior approval of the Ministry . Any departure from this rule shall result in the administrative cancellation of the license in addition to exposing the apparatus to judicial confiscation .

Article 10

Licenses issued under the provisions of this Law are personal ; they are not assignable and may not be disposed of by any means whatsoever . The license shall automatically be forfeited upon disposing thereof .

Article 11

Any wireless apparatus licensed for personal use may not be used as long as its owner can effect the licensed communication through the wire and wireless public services existing in the State .

Article 12

Whenever dictated by public interest , the Ministry may prohibit the use of wireless apparatus in the areas it determines .

Article 13

It is strictly forbidden to use the licensed wireless apparatus for the following ends :

- 1 - Illegal Interception of communications or disclosing the secrecy of communications haphazardly intercepted by the owner of the apparatus .
- 2 - Interference in , or obstruction of , the acts of public administrations in their different telegraphic or telephonic , wire or wireless communications .
- 3 - Interference with neighbors , affecting or disturbing their comfort .
- 4 - Communicate with any body or transmission means for the purpose of offering services for the perpetration or execution of a crime or facilitate such perpetration or execution .
- 5 - Communicate by any means with any wireless apparatus inside Israel or belonging it .

6 - Address or diffuse a deceitful or misleading message with the knowledge of the apparatus owner that this message may , in any way , prejudice the activities of any public or private organization concerned with the preservation or saving of human life ; exposing to danger the life of any human being or the safety of any land , air or sea vessels ; namely any false message indicating that any of these vessels is in need of assistance , is in danger or does not need such assistance or is not in danger .

7 - Any commercial objectives or commercial publicity purposes with the exception of completing commercial acts concerning the private users themselves .

8 - Transmission of third parties messages with or without financial consideration .

9 - Interfering in any personal matter concerning another physical or juristic person , causing prejudice to him , affecting him , in any manner whatsoever , in his trade , business , secrets , personal life , personal or family reputation or causing him financial prejudice .

10 - Any subject closely or remotely relating to or affecting in any manner whatsoever , directly or indirectly , expressly or tacitly , by words or symbols , the security of the State or its armed forces , its political or defense or commercial or economic condition , the State's reputation or that of its People and any of the above that relates to any interest of public or semi - public institutions .

11 - Publicity to any institution or any creed or the transmission of the correspondence of such institutions .

12 - Transmission or receipt of any broadcasting program .

13 - Any other matter that the Ministry decides to in the future .

Article 14

The Ministry may at any time cancel the license if it is established that the licensee has breached the license conditions or committed a violation to the provisions stated in this Law or if the public interest so requires .

CHAPTER THREE

GRANTING LICENSES THE IMPORT AND EXPORT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS APPARATUS , TRADING IN IT AND REPAIRING IT

Article 15

Without prejudice to other measures provided for in other laws , it is prohibited for traders and manufacturers to import , export , manufacture , assemble or repair Telecommunications apparatus except by license delivered by the Ministry .

The Customs Officers may not release any Telecommunications apparatus except after presentation of the license issued by the Ministry and ascertaining that the apparatus is conform to the specifications stated in the license .

Article 16

The license applications referred to in the preceding Article shall be submitted to the Ministry on special forms prepared for the purpose . The Ministry is entitled to issue the licenses or reject the application without giving any justification thereto .

Article 17

Traders have the obligation to keep registers in which they shall record , in numerical order , the data concerning the imported or exported apparatus , the dates of their import or export as well as the data concerning the apparatus bought locally by the trader .

Article 18

A trader or manufacturer may not sell or transfer possession , assemble or repair any Telecommunications apparatus to any person non - licensed to possess or operate it . The trader or manufacturer has the duty to record in the ad hoc register , according to the specimen prepared for the purpose by the Ministry , all data concerning the apparatus sold or has been object to transfer of possession or has been assembled or repaired and these data should include the name of the purchaser or possessor , the date of sale , possession , assembly or repair , and the number and date of the license held by the purchaser the possessor in addition to the data concerning the apparatus .

Article 19

The registers mentioned above shall be subject to the control and supervision of the Ministry which may inspect these registers at any time and may also make the inventory of the apparatus in possession of the trader or manufacturer .

The Ministry may also cancel the license of the trader or manufacturer if it is established to it that he has made false entries in these registers .

Article 20

Every foreigner entering the State with a Wireless Apparatus , of any kind , in his possession has to declare it , upon arrival with the said apparatus in his possession , to the Borders or Customs authorities and deposit it with such authorities against a relevant receipt until he leaves the country unless he has received an authorization from the Ministry to use it inside the country .

Article 21

The provisions of the preceding Article shall apply on a national who returns from abroad with a Wireless Apparatus of any kind in his possession .

CHAPTER FOUR

FEES

Article 22

The following fees shall be charged for licenses issued under the provisions of this Law :

1 - 150 (One hundred and fifty) Dirhams for each license for the use of an amateur wireless Apparatus or for the annual renewal of the license .

2 - 500 (Five hundred) Dirhams for each license to use a wireless Apparatus or registration of oscillations for personal use ; or for the annual renewal of the license .

3 -

Added by Federal Law no . 7/1985 dated 18/3 / 1986 :

500 (Five hundred) Dirhams for each license , issued under Article 15 of the Law , to import , export , trade in , manufacture , assemble , repair or maintain wireless Apparatus or for the renewal of the said license .

Article 23

The Ministry shall classify the kinds and degrees of wireless Apparatus and Stations according to the technical requirements and the objectives of their use . It shall recommend the fees to be charged depending on the variance of degrees thereof .

This classification and the amount of fees to be charged shall be the object of a Decision to be issued by the Council of Ministers [2](#) and it shall be published in the Official Gazette .

Article 24

The following shall be exempted from registration and renewal fees set forth in the two preceding Articles :

- Members of the Ruling families of the Emirates that form part of the Federation .
- Federal Broadcasting or Television Stations , or thoses of the Federation .
- The Diplomatic corps and Missions accredited in the Federal State on condition of reciprocity .

CHAPTER FIVE

CONTROL AND SANCTIONS

Article 25

The Ministry shall be in charge of the control of the Wireless Apparatus to ascertain that they are fit for use in accordance with the technical conditions and the provisions of this Law . It shall

also control wireless messages and make the necessary investigations to detect the non - licensed pirate stations and apparatus .

Article 26

An Arbitration Committee shall be formed in the Ministry by decree of the Minister of Communications to give its opinion on matters and disputes arising from interference and jamming caused by misuse of the wireless apparatus by licensees .

Article 27

Without prejudice to the administrative sanctions that the Ministry may inflict under this Law , every infringer to the provisions thereof shall be sentenced to imprisonment for a maximum period of three months and / or payment of a fine not exceeding 5000 (five thousandes) Dirhams .

The Court may , when inflicting this penalty , order the confiscation of the wireless apparatus .

Article 28

Inflicting the penalty provided in this Law shall not prejudice the application of the penalties provided for in the other laws as concerns the acts incriminated by these laws but without giving the victim the right to claim damages from third persons for the prejudice sustained as a result of such acts .

CHAPTER SIX

TRANSITIONAL AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 29

Whoever possesses , during the period this Law is in effect , any wireless Apparatus shall have , within a maximum period of one month from the effective date of this Law to submit an application for obtaining a license to use such apparatus in accordance with the provisions set forth in this Law .

The persons possessing licensed apparatus shall submit , within the stated period , applications for renewal of their license up till the end of the year 1973 .

Article 30

During the period this Law is in force , traders or manufacturers possessing Wireless Apparatus shall , within the period fixed in the preceding Article , submit a list of the apparatus in their possession with detailed information thereon .

The above persons are prohibited to sell any wireless apparatus , dispose of it by any means or deliver it to its owner without a license from the Ministry . They have to record these apparatus in the registers referred to in Articles 17 and 18 of this Law .

Article 31

Persons licensed to use or trade in or repair wireless apparatus may apply for modification of their licenses . The Ministry may approve or reject the amendment without mentioning the reasons therefor .

Article 32

Are not subject to the provisions of this Law , the wireless apparatus imported or made or used by the armed forces , Federal or local police forces , the local National Guards Commands or any other government body object of a regulation issued by a resolution of the Council of Ministers . Nevertheless , the above bodies are under obligation to register the oscillations of these apparatus in accordance with Article 4 of this Law . Such registration shall be done free of any charge .

Article 33

The International rules of Wire and Wireless Communications shall apply to any matter not covered by a specific provision of this Law .

Article 34

Shall be abrogated any provision inconsistent with the provisions of this Law .

Article 35

The Minister of Communications shall implement the provisions of this Law which shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall come into effect as of the date of its publication .

Promulgated at the Presidential

Palace in Abu Dhabi

On 25 Jamadi El Thani 1393 H .

Corresponding to 25 July 1973

Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan

President of the United Arab

Emirates State

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