

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture

وزارة البيئة والمياه والزراعة  
Ministry of Environment Water & Agriculture  
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia المملكة العربية السعودية



**The Executive Regulation of Law of Fishing, Investment and Preservation of Live Aquatic Resources  
within Territorial Waters of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

**General Directorate of Fish Resources**

This translation is provided  
for guidance. The governing  
text is the Arabic text



Resolution No. 21911 dated 3/27/1409 AH

**The Executive Regulation of Law of Fishing, Investment and Preservation of Live Aquatic Resources  
within Territorial Waters of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

The Minister of Agriculture and Water has decided the following:

Pursuant to Article 11 of Law of Fishing, Investment and Preservation of Live Aquatic Resources within Territorial Waters of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia issued by the Council of Ministers Resolution No. 14 dated 1/21/1408 AH, Royal Decree No M/9 dated 3/27/1408 AH provided for the Minister of Agriculture and Water shall assume issuing the necessary regulations to organize or implement any of the matters contained in this Law. These regulations shall take effect thirty days after the date of its publication in the official gazette.

**First:**

Approval of the executive regulations of Law of Fishing, Investment and Preservation of Live Aquatic Resources within Territorial Waters of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

**Second:**

This resolution shall take effect thirty days after the date of its publication in the official gazette and abrogate all what is contrary to its content in any resolutions, instructions or rules issued on a date prior to the date of its enforcement.

**Third:**

The competent authorities at the competent Ministry shall act accordingly to implement its content as appropriate.

**(Duly signed)**

**Abdul Rahman bin Abdul-Aziz AL-AL Sheikh**  
**Minister of Agriculture and water**

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## Section 1: Definitions and terms

### Article (1)

The equipment in the application of this regulation, the following definitions shall have the meanings shown opposite each of them

- **Kingdom:**
  - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- **Scope of work:**
  - Internal and regional water and the exclusive economic zone in the Red Sea and Persian Gulf.
- **The ministry:**
  - Ministry of Agriculture and Water (fish resources research).
- **Fishing equipment:**
  - Any floating object used to catch fish and other living aquatic including: (ships, ark, sanbouk, alhoury, sailing boat, alqatira, aljurdi, almahmal, small boat, equipment etc.).
- **Artificial fishing equipment:**
  - The equipment of fishing that uses modern equipment to search for, fishing and preserve living aquatic.
- **Traditional fishing equipment:**
  - The equipment of fishing that does not use modern equipment to search for, catch and preserve living aquatic.
- **Fishing equipment:**
  - It is a tool used to collect and rescuing living aquatic.
- **Industrial fishing:**
  - The produced quantity (The catch) from fish and other living aquatic by using industrial fishing equipment.
- **Traditional fishing:**
  - The produced quantity (The catch) from fish and other living aquatic by using industrial Fishing equipment.
- **Investing fishing:**
  - The citizen (male or female) who invests his money or part of it in the field of fishing and holds an

investing fishing license issued by this relevant ministry.

- **Artisanal fisher:**

- The citizen who personally practices the profession of fishing or living aquatic and holds an artisanal license issued by this relevant ministry.

- **Improvised fisher:**

- The citizen who practices the profession of fishing and living aquatic and holds a license issued by this relevant ministry.

- **Fishing license:**

- An official document issued by the ministry for everyone who wishes to work as an investing fisher, artisanal fisher, improvised fisher whenever the conditions required met.

- **Fisher's license:**

- An official document issued by the ministry to the living aquatic fisher whenever the conditions required met.

- **Temporary permit for fishing:**

- An official document issued by the ministry for fishermen, their children, and fishing workers until a fishing license is obtained whenever the conditions required met.

- **Fisher's registry:**

- An official document issued by the Ministry for every fisher who has fishing equipment or various equipment to be counted, register the related fishing workers and the violations incurred.

- **Fishing equipment title:**

- An official document issued by the Ship Registry Office of **the Transport Ministry Maritime Administration** to prove the ownership of the equipment.

- **Fishing equipment licenses:**

- An official document issued by **the Ship Registration Office of the Transport Ministry Maritime Administration** stating that the equipment is valid for use.

- **Local water:**

- All springs, pools, Ghudran, ponds, water cycle, swamps, and public streams.

- **Living aquatic resources:**

- Animal and plant organisms that live in or around marine, local or surrounding water and have economic and scientific value.



**Self –contained (diving) devices including:**

- 1- Face mask.
  - 2- Flippers.
  - 3- Weightlifting belt.
  - 4- An equivalent floating tool.
  - 5- Diving knife.
  - 6- Diver's protective clothing.
  - 7- Breathing apparatus (rear air cylinder).
  - 8- Diver's watch for deep diving.
- **Farming living aquatic resources:** Farming good and fast-growing species of live living aquatic in confined areas of water and caring and feed them until they get heavier to the marketing size.
  - **Diving:** Diving to the depths of the sea using self-diving devices. As for those who use a helpful pipe for breathing or else while practicing simple diving at the surface of the sea, it not diving.

**Section 2: General provisions**

**Article (2)**

Without prejudice to the regulations and instructions issued by other competent official authorities, the Saudi citizen has the right to pursue the profession of fishing for living aquatic as an investing or artisan or an improvised fisher or a fishing worker according to the conditions included in this regulation.

**Article (3)**

A license to practice fishing living aquatic as an artisanal fisher, or a fishing license as a new investing fisher, shall only be granted to those who possess suitable fishing equipment for fishing living aquatic in accordance with the articles of this regulation after the Ministry's approval of owning the fishing equipment.

**Article (4)**

The licenses granted of all kinds from this competent Ministry shall not be used except for the intended purpose.

**Article (5)**

In case of the fishing or diving license is lost, the owner must inform the nearest branch of this competent Ministry immediately and then announce for it in the local newspapers so that he can obtain a replacement at least (one month) after the announcement as a minimum.

**Article (6)**

Hikers of all categories are permitted to fish living aquatic by rod and hook only and not to use any fishing nets of all kinds, traps or materials and means permitted or prohibited for artisanal fishermen.

**Article (7)**

All companies and establishments for fishing living aquatic, aquaculture, fishing cooperative societies and owners of industrial fishing equipment must provide this competent Ministry with data and statistics of their living aquatic products annually.

**Article (8)**

All owners of Saudi and foreign ships carrying living aquatic products imported to the Kingdom, either fresh, dried, canned, salted, frozen or manufactured in any other way, must follow the special instructions of customs, the Ministry of Commerce, and the instructions of the veterinary quarantine.

**Article (9)**

Without prejudice to what is required by the regulations, the Saudi investor who owns a fishing equipment fishing overseas has the right to register the equipment with the Ministry of Transport in the Kingdom after the approval of this relevant ministry.

**Article (10)**

It is not permissible to export the local living water resources without the approval of the relevant Ministry.

**Article (11)**

Economic and technical feasibility studies for fishing or aquaculture projects prepared by the authorized agricultural advisory offices by this competent Ministry only shall be accepted.





### Section 3: Exploitation and investment of living aquatic resources

#### Chapter 1: Fishing licenses

##### Article (12)

Without prejudice to the requirements of the regulations and instructions, the approval of the competent Ministry's required for practicing fishing in Saudi waters, and a permit shall be given according to the regulations and conditions of the articles of this regulation.

##### Article (13)

Conditions for granting licenses to practice fishing and shrimp fishing (artisanal, new fisher)

##### **First:**

- A- The applicant must be of Saudi nationality and hold an ID card, attached with his photo, and 18 years old at least
- B- The profession to be amended to a fisher, with the evidences attached from an official authority of the Ministry of Interior (The ministry gives the applicant a letter of approval to change the profession to a fisher) addressed to the Department of Civil Status at the Ministry of the Interior.
- C- The applicant shall attach five recent photos (size: 2x3).
- D- To submit a medical certificate proving that he is free from health impairments for practicing fishing and he is free from infectious diseases as well.
- E- The applicant shall provide evidence of his familiarity in fishing profession and the how to use equipment and methods of fishing for living aquatic either from a recognized institute or fish center or from any official authority from inside or outside the kingdom.
- F- The applicant shall provide technical specifications for the fishing equipment to be owned.
- G- The applicant shall fill in a license request form to practice the profession of fishing living aquatic (artisanal, new fisher).
- H- The applicant shall commit to comply with by all the applicable instructions, regulations, and rules in the Kingdom.

##### **Second:**

- A- After completing what was mentioned above, the applicant shall be given a letter with the approval from the competent Ministry to purchase, import or manufacture the maritime equipment. The duration of this approval is one year. If this period expires, the approval shall be considered void and can be renewed again by the relevant ministry.

B- After purchasing, importing, or manufacturing the maritime equipment, a certified copy of the purchasing, sale, import, manufacture, or clearance of customs duties document shall be presented to the relevant Ministry.

C- The fisher shall submit a written pledge to provide the ministry with a copy of the title deed and working license for this equipment after obtaining it from the Ministry of Transport branch.

D- The fisher shall be given a letter with the approval of the ministry to transfer the ownership (to the old equipment) or the issuance of a bond to own the new equipment and work permit from the Marine Department at the Ministry of Transport.

### **Article (14)**

Conditions for granting a license to practice fishing living aquatic, as an (investor or a new fisher)

#### **First:**

A- The applicant must be a Saudi citizen and 18 years old at least and hold an ID card, or otherwise the profession shall be written a government employee, and attach a copy of it with proof of the profession from an official authority of the Ministry of Interior.

B- He shall attach five recent photos (size: 2x3).

C- He shall commit to abide by all the instructions, regulations, and the applicable rules in the Kingdom.

D- He shall fill in a license request form to practice the profession of fishing living aquatic (artisanal, new fisher).

E- The economic and technical feasibility study shall be submitted to the competent Ministry concerning the intended project including the following points:

- 1- Determine the fishing and embarking area.
- 2- Determine the types and quantities of living aquatic expected to be caught.
- 3- Determine the fishing equipment proposed to be used.
- 4- Determine the specifications and prepare the proposed equipment to be used so that they conform to the specifications and conditions of this regulation.
- 5- Project funding sources.
- 6- Marketing and how to dispose of fishing.
- 7- Determine the types and specializations of project workers.
- 9- Financial and economic analysis with determining the lifespan of the project.

#### **Second:**

After completing what was mentioned above, studying and approval of the project from the relevant Ministry, the Ministry gives the applicant for the Project a resolution of the project approval for two years. If this period



expires without having the fishing equipment described in the project, the approval shall be considered void and it may be renewed again by the ministry.

**Third:** After purchasing, importing, or manufacture the maritime equipment, a certified copy of the purchase, sale, import, manufacture, or clearance of customs duties document shall be presented to the Ministry.

**Fourth:**

The fisher shall submit a written pledge to provide the ministry with a copy of the title deed and working license for this equipment after obtaining it from the branch of Ministry of transport.

**Fifth:**

The fisher shall be given a letter with the approval of the ministry to extract the equipment ownership deed and work permit from the Marine Department at the Ministry of Transport

**Article (15)**

Conditions for renewing a license to practice fishing and shrimp fishing (artisanal):

A- The applicant shall fill in a request form to renew a license to practice fishing and shrimp fishing.

B- A medical certificate to be attached proving that he is free from medical impairments to practice the fishing profession and free from infectious diseases as well.

C- Attaching two photographs 2\*3 size

D- No applicable penalties imposed on him in his register.

**Article (16)**

Conditions for renewing a license to practice fishing and shrimp fishing (Investor):

A- The applicant shall fill in a request form to renew a license to practice fishing and shrimp fishing.

B- Attaching two photographs 2\*3 size

C- The applicant shall prove their work continuity by filling the forms provided by the Ministry to show his actual production within a year.

**Article (17)**

The license validity period to practice profession of fishing for the artisanal or investing fisher is three years and its validity ends with the fisher's disability or death, the expiration of its statutory term, or its withdrawal by the Ministry for violating the articles of this regulation and the governing rules in the Kingdom.

**Article (18)**

the citizen who have no fishing equipment nor hold a fishing worker license, shall be given an improvised fisher license to fishing living aquatic improvising in the areas, times and equipment specified by the ministry for one year duration.

#### **Article (19)**

The Ministry grants a temporary license to practice the profession of fishing for whoever the Ministry deems appropriate from the fishermen, their children and their workers, and its validity period is three months.

#### **Article (20)**

Border forces shall issue driving licenses for all fishing and diving equipment.

#### **Article (21)**

An invested fisher has no right to become an artisanal fisher except after studying his case by this competent Ministry and fulfilling the required conditions of the artisanal fisher.

#### **Article (22)**

Improvised fisher or fishing worker has the right to become an artisanal or investing fisher after fulfilling any of their conditions.

### **Chapter 2: workforce:**

#### **Article (23)**

Saudi artisanal or investing fisher has the right to seek assistance from Saudi or foreign workforce according to the need, the sizes and lengths of the fishing equipment determined by the Ministry in terms of the number of workers and the special type of fishing field, trading, maintenance and marketing, provided that the appointment for the Saudi workers shall have the preference.

#### **Article (24)**

Determining the maximum employees for each equipment as follows:

Number of the workers = the length of the equipment by meter\* the width of the equipment by meter/4  
provided that the appointment for the Saudi workers shall have the preference.

#### **Article (25)**

The validity period of the living aquatic fishing worker license is one year.

#### **Article (26)**

The owner of the equipment or on his behalf by power of attorney shall bear the responsibility for his workers. He shall be responsible for his workers before the government bodies and not to use any workers not under the sponsorship of the equipment owner.

#### **Article (27)**

The owner of the equipment or on his behalf by the power of attorney shall return the fishing workers licenses to the authority from which they were extracted .In case of his workers left the work or left the kingdom; they shall not be compensated except after returning these licenses and studying his need for new employees.



#### Article (28)

The fishing workers licenses shall not be renewed except after the approval of the sponsor or on his behalf by a special power of attorney.

#### Article (29)

It is forbidden to duplicate the fishing workers licenses for the same worker after the elapse of 3 months from the issuance of the first license except for the Saudi worker, the workers of GCC countries or whoever the Ministry deems appropriate.

#### Article (30)

A new fishing worker license shall be granted according to the following conditions and requirements.

##### A. the Saudi worker:

- 1- Filling a license request form for the Saudi fishing worker by the owner of the equipment.
- 2- Attach a true copy of original ID, with proof of profession, provided that he is not a government employee and not less than eighteen years old.
- 3- Attach new two photographs 2\*3 size.
- 4- Attach a medical certificate proving that he is free from health impairments, infectious and communicable diseases.

##### B: the foreign worker:

- 1- Filling a license request form for the foreigner fishing worker by the owner of the equipment or the sponsor.
- 2- Attach a copy of the legal and valid residency, provided that the profession is a fishing worker and equivalent.
- 3- Attach five two photographs (size 2x3).
- 4- Attach a medical certificate proving that he is free from health impairments and infectious and communicable diseases.

#### Article (31)

Renewal of fishing worker license shall be granted according to the following conditions and requirements.

- 1- Filling a license request form for the fishing worker by the owner of the equipment or the sponsor.
- 2- Attach a copy of the legal and valid residency
- 3- Attach a medical certificate proving that he is free from health impairments and infectious and communicable diseases.

#### Article (32)

It is not allowed to transfer a fishing worker to another fisher except after the approval of the Ministry provided that the old worker's license shall be withdrawn and give him a new license under the sponsorship of the second fisher.

### **Chapter 3: Traditional and industrial fishing equipment.**

#### **Article (33)**

Ownership of traditional and industrial fishing equipment is limited to citizens.

#### **Article (34)**

The length of the traditional and industrial fishing equipment is measured through the distance between the front body and the rear body divided to the midline of equipment.

#### **Article (35)**

Specifications of traditional and industrial fishing equipment:

##### **First: The traditional equipment:**

- A- It means the traditional equipment not using modern tools in the search for living aquatic and fishing them.
- B- The length of the equipment should not be more than twenty meters with a strong engine force that suits the length, size, load and manufacturing material of the equipment, so that its speed does not more 15 knots/ hour.
- C- The equipment shall contain a cold storage for the Preservation of the living aquatic which suits the size and length of the equipment.
- D- The equipment shall contain all safety, and warning devices and equipment according to the instructions of the Ministry of Transport, and abiding by the instructions of **Saudi Ports Authority** with regard to signals and sea lanes.
- E- It is allowed to use any type of fishing equipment made of wood, iron, fiberglass, aluminum or any usable material in the fishing equipment industry.

##### **Second: the industrial equipment:**

- A- It means using the modern equipment in the search for living aquatic and fishing them such as all kinds of trawling.
- B- The length of the equipment should not be more than twenty meters with a strong engine force that suits the length, size, load and manufacturing material of the equipment, so that its speed does not more 15 knots/ hour.
- C- The equipment shall contain a refrigerator or cold storage for the Preservation of the living aquatic which suits the size and length of the equipment.



D- The equipment shall contain navigation and communication devices in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Transport.

E- The equipment shall contain all safety, and warning devices and equipment according to the instructions of the Ministry of Transport, and abiding by the instructions of **Saudi Ports Authority** with regard to signals and sea lanes.

E- It is allowed to use any type of fishing equipment made of wood, iron, fiberglass, aluminum or any usable material in the fishing equipment industry.

#### **Article (36)**

The artisanal fisher is allowed to own no more than four industrial fishing equipment and four traditional equipment as well.

#### **Article (37)**

The investing fisher is allowed to own more than four industrial fishing equipment and is not entitled to own four traditional fishing equipment.

#### **Article (38)**

The investing and artisan fisher has the right to own one small supporting equipment; its length not exceeding six meters, with each industrial and inseparable fishing equipment .these supporting equipment are not included in the number of equipment entitled to the fisher nor considered as lifeboats or emergency boats.

#### **Article (39)**

The fishing equipment shall not be used except for the intended purposes of fishing by the license granted.

#### **Article (40)**

Fishing workers are not entitled to purchase or sell their fishing equipment except after getting prior approval from the relevant Ministry.

#### **Article (41)**

Leasing or lending fishing equipment is not permitted except after getting prior approval from the relevant ministry.

#### **Article (42)**

Fishing equipment may not be operated by legal agencies except after getting approval from the relevant Ministry.

#### **Article (42)**

It is not allowed for picnic equipment or other equipment to be transformed into fishing equipment unless the

articles of this regulation are applicable and to its owner and after the approval of the relevant Ministry.

#### **Article (44)**

The fisher has the right to submit to this competent Ministry's request to own a replacement for the damaged equipment after providing evidence by the Ministry of Transport or the competent authorities according to the articles of this regulation.

#### **Article (45)**

It is permissible for the investing and artisan fisher who owns traditional or industrial fishing equipment before the issuance of this regulation to use them in fishing, regardless of their lengths, sizes, readiness, and their engine power. Also, it is allowed for them to transfer their ownership to whom the articles of this regulation apply, after the approval of the relevant ministry.

#### **Article (46)**

The conditions and documents required to own or increase the number of fishing equipment as follows:

A: For those who have a license as an artisanal or an investing fisher from the ministry.

- 1- The articles of this regulation apply to the equipment to be purchased.
- 2- No incurred violations in his registry enforceable.
- 3- Filling a request form to increase the number of fishing equipment.
- 4- Submitting drawings or catalogs showing the technical specifications of the new fishing equipment to be owned. As for the equipment used, he shall submit a copy of the title deed and a copy of the work permit issued by the Ministry of Transport.
- 5- Written approval shall be given for the purchase, import, or manufacturing of the marine equipment. The duration of this approval is one year. If this period ends without having the equipment, the approval shall be considered null and can be renewed by the ministry.
- 6- After purchasing, importing, or manufacturing the marine equipment, a certified copy of the purchase, sale, import, manufacture, or clearance of customs duties document shall be submitted to the relevant Ministry.
- 7- The fisher shall submit a written pledge to provide the Ministry with a copy of the title deed and the work permit for this equipment after obtaining them from the Marine Department, Ministry of Transport.
- 8- The fisher shall be given a letter with the approval of the ministry to transfer ownership to the used equipment or to issue ownership of the new equipment and the work permit from the Marine Department at the Ministry of Transport.

B: For those who have no an artisan or investing fisher license from the ministry:

The procedures and conditions for obtaining a license for an artisan or investing fisher mentioned in this





regulation shall be applied to the applicant wishing to own fishing equipment.

**Article (47)**

To renew a work permit for the fishing equipment by the Ministry of Transport, the fisher shall be given a prior approval from this relevant ministry, the absence of his register from any incurred penalties.

**Article (48)**

The conditions and documents required to transfer the ownership of the used fishing equipment as follows:

- 1- The articles of this regulation shall be applicable to the applicant.
- 2- Filling a request form for increasing fishing equipment.
- 3- Submitting an original and copy of the title deed and the sale document.
- 4- The fisher shall submit a written pledge to provide the Ministry with a copy of the title deed and work permit of the equipment after transferring the ownership to him.
- 5- The fisher shall be given a written approval by the transfer of ownership to the Ministry of Transport.

**Chapter 4: Preservation , transportation, and marketing of living aquatic resources products:**

**Article (49)**

Transporting methods for living aquatic products must be provided with a refrigerator to keep fishing healthy and in a good condition from the embarking area for fishing to the market, provided that this equipment is intended for the transport of living aquatic only.

**Article (50)**

It is not permitted to establish factories, laboratories, or shops for the manufacturing or treatment and preserving of living aquatic except after obtaining approval from the relevant Ministry

**Article (51)**

The factories, laboratories, and shops operating in the manufacture of living aquatic must provide the Ministry with detailed data on the manufactured products, methods of their manufacture, preservation, and marketing annually.

**Chapter 5: Industry and maintenance of fishing tools and equipment:**

**Article (52)**

It is not permitted to establish factories and workshops for the production of fishing equipment and tools except after obtaining the approval of the Ministry concerning the production specifications and standards.

**Article (53)**

The necessary license for the establishment of workshops and maintenance of fishing equipment, tools, and

engines shall be granted by the competent authorities and after coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture and Water.

## **Chapter 6: The Agricultural Bank and loans:**

### **Article (54)**

The conditions required for obtaining loans in the field of fishing:

- 1- Submitting a request with specifications and a price quote for the objects to be insured to the Ministry for approval.
- 2- Submit a copy of the fishing license or approval to own fishing equipment from the relevant ministry.
- 3- Submit a copy of the fisher's logbook.

### **Article (55)**

How to determine the quantities, equipment, and methods of fishing:

- 1- For each fishing equipment, a maximum of 100 meters (100 m) long, a gillnet per square meter of the fishing equipment area.
- 2- A maximum of 10 drag nets (*makhadej*) shall be given to each fishing equipment.
- 3- Each industrial fishing equipment shall be given a maximum of three trawling.
- 4- Each fishing equipment shall be given a maximum of two chunchula nets.
- 5- Each fishing equipment shall be given per square meter of the boat's area a number of (6) trap nets (*sakhawi*) as a maximum.
- 6- Each fishing equipment shall be given a maximum of two refrigerators to keep the fish suits the size of the equipment.

### **Article (56)**

The approval of the Ministry on the industrial fishing equipment insurance application shall be considered a temporary license until the ownership of the equipment for the possibility of presenting it to the Agricultural Bank to obtain the loan.

### **Article (57)**

Concerning the new artisanal fisher, the approval of the Ministry shall be considered a temporary license for the possibility of presenting it to the Agricultural Bank to obtain a loan.

## **Chapter 4: Preservation of living aquatic resources**

### **Article (58)**

Without prejudice to the conditions stipulated in other applicable regulations and instructions, it is not permissible to establish construction or industrial projects, such as water desalination projects or fish breeding



projects in coastal areas before licensing to do so by the ministry. The required license only granted after the Ministry assures that the coastal environment remains unaffected due to the establishment of the relevant projects after coordination with the border forces.

**Article (59)**

It is prohibited to enter all non-settled living aquatic located in the local water of the Kingdom except with the approval of the ministry.

**Article (60)**

All types of commercial fishing are prohibited for all settled living aquatic located in the local water of the Kingdom except with the approval of the ministry.

**Article (61)**

It is strictly forbidden to fishing maritime mammals (mermaids and dolphins) and turtles, collect their eggs, or trade in their meat and products, except for scientific purposes, provided that a license is obtained from the Ministry in coordination with the **National Authority**. Fishermen must return what is caught of these animals by accident to the sea.

**Article (62)**

It is not permissible to catch or trade in ornamental fish, corals, and marine snails without obtaining a license from this relevant ministry.

**Article (63)**

It is forbidden to dispose of laboratories, factories waste, or sewage water into the sea. In addition, the chemical and petroleum materials, ship oils, or any liquids or solutions that harm the life of living aquatic, which leads to their mortality or displacing them from the Kingdom coastal water.

**Article (64)**

It is not permissible to cut the weeds and trees growing on the coasts of the Kingdom or the islands or to transfer the soil or any organic materials which benefit living aquatic, except after obtaining the approval of this relevant ministry.

**Article (65)**

It is not permitted to bury, backfill, or dredge on the coasts of the Kingdom, whether for governmental or private authorities, except after obtaining the approval of the ministry.

**Article (66)**

Fishing is prohibited during periods of living aquatic reproduction in the places and times specified by the ministry.

**Section 5: Prohibitions:**  
**Chapter 1: Fishing equipment and tools:**  
**Article (67)**

Fishing is prohibited in all types of nets that have openings (maja) less than:

- 1- Bottom trawling for Fish (5 centimeters or 2 inches in a collection bag).
- 2- Bottom trawling for Shrimps (3.8 centimeters or 1.5 inches in a collection bag).
- 3- Subsurface trawling (3.2 centimeters or 1.25 inches in a collection bag).
- 4- Surface trawling (1.9 centimeters or 0.75 inches in a collection bag).
- 5- Gillnet (5 centimeters or 2 inches).
- 6- Surrounding nets (6.4 centimeters or 2.5 inches).
- 7- Surrounding nets for catching ornamental fish (1.3 centimeters or 0.5 inches).
- 8- Trammel nets or, triple-layered or aimed trawling
  - A: The middle layer of the net (5 centimeters or 2 inches).
  - B: The two outer layers of net (7.6 centimeters or 3 inches).
- 9- Ring nets or chunchula for catching celluloid/ tortoise shell or sardine fish

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- A: Wing opening (5 centimeters or 2 inches).
  - B: Shoulder opening, if any (3.8 centimeters or 1.5 inches).
  - C: Abdominal opening (1.9 centimeters or 0.75 inches).
- 10- Coastal seine nets (6.4 centimeters or 2.5 inches).
- 11- Drag net (1.5 centimeters or 0.6 inches).
- 12- Ring nets for tuna fishing:
  - A: the wing (7.6 centimeters or 3 inches).
  - B: abdomen (5 centimeters or 2 inches).
- 13- Anchovy (1.3 centimeters or 0.50 inches).
- 14- Al-neshara nets (1.9 centimeters or 0.75 inches).
- 15- Fixed nets or yards or barns (5 centimeters or 2 inches).
- 16- Traps (sakhawi and fish traps) (4.4 centimeters or 1.75 inches).

**Article (68)**

Fishing is prohibited by any equipment that the Ministry deems harmful to living aquatic.



#### **Article (69)**

Fishing is prohibited by equipment of genocide, electric shock, explosives, chemicals and toxic materials.

#### **Article (70)**

Fishing is prohibited by all equipment for hikers, except for the fishing rod only.

#### **Article (71)**

It is not permitted to use any fishing nets, tools or equipment not mentioned in this article without the approval of the ministry.

#### **Article (72)**

This competent Ministry has the right to make any modifications related to the specifications and openings of nets and fishing equipment that seems appropriate.

### **Chapter 2: Regions and periods**

#### **Article (73)**

Fishing is prohibited in the following places:

- 1- Protected areas.
- 2- Testing sites.
- 3- Ports and Sea lanes.
- 4- Close to the petroleum and industrial facilities.
- 5- Close to coastal military facilities and any other areas determined by the competent government agencies.

#### **Article (74)**

It is prohibited to embark in case of bad and dangerous weather.

### **Chapter 6: Diving**

#### **Section 1: Diving licenses**

#### **Article (75)**

Without prejudice to the requirements of other regulations and instructions, every citizen and resident has the right to practice diving in the territorial waters of the Kingdom after obtaining a valid diving license issued by this competent Ministry and after obtaining the approval of the Security Authority at the Ministry of Interior.

#### **Article (76)**

The validity of the diving license for citizen and resident is one year.

#### **Article (77)**

Experts and visitors for research works are entitled to obtain a temporary diving license from the Ministry according to the period required by the entity to which the expert is affiliated, provided that the articles of this regulation apply to him.

**Article (78)**

Night diving or underwater photography is not permitted without the approval of the ministry and the border forces.

**Article (78)**

Diving license shall be used for the intended purpose contained in the license.

**Article (80)**

Diving is prohibited in the prohibited places specified by the concerned authorities.

**Article (81)**

The diver must determine his diving area by using the flag (alfa) to ensure safety measures. He may not extract coral reefs or exploit Living aquatic Resources except after approval of the Ministry.

**Article (82)**

It is forbidden to practice diving lonely. The diver must not enter or exit the sea except through border forces centers and in accordance with article 12 of the border security law and under the supervision of border forces men.

**Article (83)**

Divers who have a diving license from the Ministry must use only self-contained diving devices and also not use closed-circuit diving equipment.

**Article (84)**

The validity of the trainer's license and his assistant is one year.

**Article (85)**

It is not permissible for hotels, companies, institutions and national or foreign bodies to organize diving group trips without obtaining approval from the ministry, provided that the conditions for granting licenses applicable to the participants.

**Article (86)**

It is not allowed to establish diving training centers except after obtaining a license from the ministry.

**Article (87)**

The places and times for diving for a picnic (hobby) shall be determined by the Border forces. The Ministry shall determine the places and times for diving for fishing, investment or scientific research

**Article (88)**



The Ministry grants diving licenses according to the following terms and conditions:

- 1- The applicant must be medically fit.
- 2- 17 years old at least
- 3- Attach a true copy of the original identity card or residence
- 4- Attach a copy of a recognized diving certificate with the original for matching.
- 5- Attach three photos 2\*3 size
- 6- Filling a request form for obtaining a diving license and written undertaking states that he is fully responsible for any damages occurred to him or caused by him to the others as a result of his failure to comply with the instructions and regulations of diving, safety and security.

## **Chapter 2: Diving instructors and their assistants licenses**

### **Article (89)**

The ministry grants licenses to diving instructors and their assistants according to the following terms and conditions:

- 1- Not less than 25 years old.
- 2- To hold an internationally recognized training or assistant trainer certificate with a minimum level of 3 stars for the instructor and 2 stars for the assistant instructor with a copy of the certificate and bringing the original for matching.
- 3- Attach a copy of a valid status card or legal residence.
- 4- Attach a written consent from the sponsor to practice the profession of diving training or assistant diving trainer.
- 5- A medical examination proving that the diver has no infectious, communicable and impairment diseases that hinder the profession of training.
- 6- Attach three photos 2\*3 size
- 7- Filling a request form for obtaining a diving instructor license or assistant diving instructor.

## **Chapter 3: Establishing diving training centers**

### **Article (90)**

To establish a diving training center and granting license by the ministry, the following conditioned must be fulfilled:

- 1- To have a commercial register for marine and diving equipment.
- 2- To have a suitable place for theoretical training of not less than one room.

- 3- Provide a diving trainer with three stars and two assistant trainers with minimum qualification of two stars.
- 4- Provides demonstration devices and educational tools for training.
- 5- Availability of a diving cylinder packing device that matches the international specifications.
- 6- Availability of (hydrostatic) cylinder examination device.
- 7- Provide at least twenty self-contained diving equipment for training, including the following:  
face mask- flippers- weightlifting belt- an equivalent floating tool-diving knife- breathing apparatus - diver's Protective clothing -diver's watch for deep diving.
- 8- Provides educational curricula in Arabic and English.
- 9- Attach a copy of the trainer qualifications and the assistants, and samples of their signatures.
- 10- Obtaining approval from the border forces to establish a diving training center and his employees.
- 11- Providing a pressure room and a specialist doctor at the center to treat the trainees in case of a pressure imbalance occurred in the trainee's body.

#### **Article (91)**

The diving training center shall carry out the following tasks:

- 1- Holding diving training courses.
- 2- Granting all kinds of diving certificates.
- 3- Checking and renewal of diving equipment validities.
- 4- Selling and renting diving equipment.
- 5- Diving cylinder filling.
- 6- Carrying out the hydrostatic test every three years on diving cylinders.
- 7- Determining the practical training sites in (the swimming pool - the sea) and inform the Ministry in the same. In the event of any change in the site, the Ministry shall be informed.
- 8- Provide aid and treatment for the trainees involved in case of any emergency.

### **Chapter 7: Cultivation of living aquatic resources**

#### **Section 1: Living aquatic farms licenses**

#### **Article (92)**

The Ministry shall supervise and follows up all living aquatic breeding projects.

#### **Article (93)**

The Ministry grants a license to establish living aquatic project according to the following conditions:

- 1- Submit a license request for establishing an investment project in the field of living aquatic, clearing





the name of the investing entity, its field of activity and aspects of the investment, in addition to a detailed summary of the history of that entity.

- 2- Providing three copies in Arabic for the technical and economic feasibility study of the project, including the following:

First: Determining the place and location of the project:

A- It must be clear in the study the place and location of the proposed project to be implemented and the suitability of this site for its use in the field of aquaculture. Moreover, the suitability of this site for construction works related to the project, provided that the distance between it and a similar project is not less than 3 km.

B- The study must include adequate information about the used water validity from the qualitative aspect at the project site.

C- The study shall include the climatic and environmental aspects of the project area.

D- The study must include details of the infrastructure for the project area, such as roads, communications, electricity, drinking water, etc.

E- The study should mention the location of the nearest similar project and how far it is from the construction site of the project prepared for the study. In addition, mentioning any sources of water pollution in the area.

F- Security clearance by the Border forces must be attached to the coastal project site only.

**Second: Determining the species proposed to be farmed:**

A- The name must be mentioned in Arabic and Latin for the fish species of the proposed farm, the extent to which it is possible to provide fingerlings and mother's fish for these species, their source, either from inside or outside, and their costs.

B- The study should mention the requirements of the project in terms of fish food, its quality and source, as well as the growth rates and nutritional transformation of the proposed species to be farmed.

**Third: Determining the proposed aquaculture.**

The study must include a detailed summary of the technique used in the following fields:

- 1- Hatching.
- 2- Incubation.
- 3- Fattening or breeding.
- 4- Nutrition.
- 5- Sorting.
- 6- Collecting and marketing.

**Fourth: Determining the project facilities and equipment:**

- It must be mentioned in the study the area of the project, whether on the beach, away from it, or inside the sea.

- The study should mention the size of the important facilities and equipment required for the project, which will include hatching, incubation station, storage room, place for manufacturing fish food, place for maintenance, refrigeration and handling, as well as the laboratories, administration and related equipment.

The study should mention the amount of water and air pumped per hour, the number of pumps used and their capacity, as well as the details of the existing equipment for emergency work, such as generators and backup pumps.

- It must be mentioned in study the scheduled time needed to complete the project constructions and the proposed time to produce the first batch of cultured organisms and the estimated quantity to be produced annually for first five productivity years. The study must include the maximum annual production capacity of the project.

**Fifth: Marketing:**

The study should include detailed information about marketing of fish produced and its impact in the market on the prices during the preparation of the study.

**Sixth: Determining the project workers:**

- The study should mention the number of required workers to run the project, including technicians, administrators, and workers, and mentioning their qualifications.

**Seven: Financial and economic analyses:**

- A detailed analysis of economic feasibility of project and necessary sources of financing should be mentioned in the study.

**Eight: Environmental stimuli:**

- The study should include mentioning the precautions taken into consideration to protect environment in the project area.

**Section 8: Cooperative societies:**

**Article (94)**

The Ministry encourages establishment of cooperative societies for fishermen in fishing regions and cities according to the needs of the region after conducting economic and social studies.

**Article (95)**

The Ministry contributes to support the societies technically and directs the selection of the priority projects for association.



#### **Article (96)**

The Ministry supports fisher's cooperative societies by granting them necessary licenses for the association's projects after studying and determining the number of licenses required for association by the ministry.

#### **Article (97)**

The Ministry acts as a coordinator between the association and the relevant authorities to establish the association, and implement the projects and prepare the related technical studies.

### **Section 9: The competences and powers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water:**

#### **Article (98)**

Issuing fishing licenses, investment in living aquatic and diving licenses of all kinds according to the terms of the articles of this regulation.

#### **Article (99)**

Establishing centers for marine studies and research in Saudi waters in Red Sea and the Persian Gulf and conducting the necessary survey to assess marine resources.

#### **Article (100)**

Encouraging investment and directing it including preserving the vital resources of this sector.

#### **Article (101)**

Encouraging and organizing the operations of financing cooperative societies for fishers with financial loans and necessary equipment through the Agricultural Bank.

#### **Article (102)**

Determining valid marine areas for establishing fish breeding farms and encouraging their formation and technical supervision.

#### **Article (103)**

Issuing instructions related to fishing equipment and ensuring its technical validity.

#### **Article (104)**

Supervising training centers for fishers and divers to use modern devices and equipment for fishing and diving.

#### **Article (105)**

Encouraging establishment of fish farms in local fresh waters and issuing the related licenses.

#### **Article (106)**

Doing the best to develop the currently used fishing equipment, tools, and devices.

#### **Article (107)**

Organizing inventory works and counting the water resources suitable for fishing in cooperation with the municipalities and border forces centers.

#### **Article (108)**

The Ministry gives initial approval to establish factories, laboratories, manufacturing shops and treating water resources in coordination with the Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Municipalities. The Ministry has right to close them if it is proven the invalidity of the manufactured products technically and with regard to the health.

#### **Article (109)**

Conducting scientific, applied and economic research and studies that lead to the best ways of investment, development, and Preservation of living aquatic resources.

#### **Article (110)**

Determining the seasons in which fishing living aquatic is prohibited.

#### **Article (111)**

Determining the areas where fishing living aquatic is prohibited.

#### **Article (112)**

The Ministry has the right at any time to inspect tools, equipment, fishing nets, equipment of preserving and cooling living aquatic products used by artisanal and investing fishers, companies, and institutions.

#### **Article (113)**

The Ministry of Agriculture and Water has the right to grant the private sector (companies, institutions, or individuals) marine areas or local waters for the purpose of exploiting and manufacturing water resources, establishing fish ponds, etc.

#### **Article (114)**

The Ministry determines the number of projects permits for fish farms and living aquatic in local and coastal waters according to the appropriate sites and the Kingdom's need for such projects.

#### **Article (115)**

The Ministry has the right to withdraw the permit granted to companies, institutions or individuals in the field of investing living aquatic resources if it is proven that they failed to commence the work within two years from the date of granting the permit.

#### **Article (116)**

The Ministry shall be responsible for controlling the violations of this law provisions or its regulations or necessary resolutions for its implementation, verification, and implementing the penalties and sanctions in coordination with the border forces.



#### Article (117)

The Ministry gives preliminary approval to establish factories, industrial workshops, maintenance of fishing engines equipment and tools

#### Article (118)

The Minister of Agriculture and Water has the right to issue the necessary resolution to amend one or more articles of these regulations within the scope of fishing law, investment, and Preservation of living aquatic resources in the territorial waters of the Kingdom.

#### Article (119)

The Ministry in cooperation with the Border forces monitors the powers of fishing and diving licenses, equipment, tools and methods of fishing and diving, and applies regulations and instructions issued by the Ministry of agriculture and water and the Ministry of Interior in this regard.

#### Article (120)

The border forces provide the Ministry with lists of names of fishers and divers who are prohibited from embarking due to security or technical violations.

### Chapter 10: Violations and penalties:

#### Article (121)

Anyone who fails to renew the licenses and permits referred to in this regulation more than fifteen days shall be punished with a fine of thirty (30) Saudi riyals for each monthly delay specified for renewal .If the delay period increases for more than a year, the license will be canceled and he must issue a new license according to the articles of this regulation in addition to the fine due for one year unless he hands over the license or permits to the issuing authority during its validity showing his unwillingness to do so .

#### Article (122)

Without prejudice to the most severe sanctions stipulated in other rules, regulations, and resolutions, anyone who violates one of the following articles shall be punished:

**First:** Articles: (4-5-12-27-29-32-42-75-79.)

A fine not more than five hundred Saudi riyals and not less than one hundred Saudi riyals shall be charged.

**Second:** Articles: (40-41-43-81.)

A fine not more than one thousand Saudi riyals and not less than three hundred Saudi riyals shall be charged.

**Third:** articles: (10-39-50-51-52-59-61-62-85-86-91).

A fine not more than five thousand Saudi riyals and not less than one thousand Saudi riyals shall be charged.

**Fourth:** articles: (7-67-68-69 71).

A fine not more than five thousand Saudi riyals and not less than five hundred Saudi riyals shall be charged.

**Fifth:** articles: (60-64-65-66)

A fine not more than ten thousand Saudi riyals and not less than five thousand Saudi riyals shall be charged.

#### **Article (123)**

The penalty outlined in the previous article will be doubled in case of committing the same violation every time, provided that the doubled fine not exceeding ten thousand riyals Saudi for each violation.

#### **Article (124)**

Without prejudice to regulations and instructions issued by other competent official authorities, any violation for which no penalty has been mentioned in this regulation, penalty and fine shall be applied by the border forces according to the laws and regulations of the Ministry of the Interior (the border security law or the security and safety regulations for divers, fishers and picnicking in the local water of the Kingdom). If this violation interferes with the competencies of this relevant ministry, then coordination shall be carried out between the two parties. In all cases, the Ministry shall be informed of what has been taken against the violator.

#### **Article (125)**

This regulation cancels all other provisions that contradict it wherever they are mentioned in the regulations, resolutions, or instructions prior to their issuance without prejudice to fishing and diving licenses, its equipment, or tools previously granted by this competent Ministry to the institutions, companies, and individuals.