Statute of the Ministry of Tourism

Council of Ministers Resolution No. 96
September 22, 2020

Translation of Saudi Laws
NOTE:
The translation of Saudi laws takes the following into consideration:

- Words used in the singular form include the plural and vice versa.
- Words used in the masculine form include the feminine.
- Words used in the present tense include the present as well as the future.
- The word “person” or “persons” and their related pronouns (he, his, him, they, their, them) refer to a natural and legal person.
Article 1
In this Statute, the following words shall have the meanings assigned thereto:
Ministry: Ministry of Tourism.
Minister: Minister of Tourism.
Statute: Statute of the Ministry of Tourism.

Article 2
The Ministry shall be the agency in charge of regulating, developing, and promoting the tourism sector and addressing any challenges to its development in a manner that contributes to the national economy and that is consistent with the Kingdom’s customs and values. It shall, without prejudice to the powers and responsibilities of other agencies, undertake any action necessary to achieve its objectives, including the following:
1. Proposing laws relating to tourism and amendments to existing ones and submitting the same for completion of necessary statutory procedures.
2. Issuing licenses to engage in tourism activities and to practice related professions, in accordance with applicable legal provisions, as well as regulating and monitoring such activities and professions.
3. Developing tourist destinations in coordination with relevant agencies, in a manner that achieves the objectives of the tourism development strategy. Said agencies may, subject to their statutory powers, develop the destinations falling under their supervision, in coordination with the Ministry.
4. Assessing the infrastructure of tourist sites in the Kingdom and coordinating with relevant agencies for the completion thereof.
5. Conducting a comprehensive survey of tourist areas and tourism potentials in the Kingdom and updating such survey in coordination with relevant agencies as well as assessing the tourism potentials of each province and discussing the opportunities for improvement thereof with the provincial council.
6. Overcoming challenges to tourism and proposing the provision of incentives and support to investors in the tourism sector.
7. Participating with relevant government agencies in maintaining public tourist sites and destinations.
8. Developing and improving the tourism sector workforce in cooperation with relevant agencies.
9. Devising a media campaign for promoting tourism and investment therein in coordination with relevant agencies.
10. Creating and managing a database for monitoring and developing the tourism sector in the Kingdom, in coordination with relevant agencies.
11. Promoting domestic tourism through the publication of books, brochures, magazines, periodicals, and other means, in coordination with relevant agencies.
12. Encouraging the private sector to establish companies for planning and
developing tourist sites and investing in such sites.
13. Organizing relevant exhibitions and holding symposia, seminars, and conferences in accordance with relevant statutory provisions.
14. Cooperating and exchanging expertise with counterpart agencies in other countries, regional and international tourism organizations, and consulting firms within the Kingdom and abroad in areas falling within its jurisdiction, in accordance with applicable statutory procedures.
15. Coordinating with government agencies and other entities to achieve the Ministry’s objectives.
16. Representing the Kingdom before relevant regional and international organizations and agencies and in relevant regional and international forums and conferences.
17. Conducting relevant research and studies, carrying out necessary registration and documentation, and promoting research in the field of tourism.
18. Concluding agreements with relevant agencies in other countries and with international organizations in accordance with applicable statutory procedures.
19. Carrying out any other task assigned thereto.

Article 3
The Minister shall manage the Ministry’s affairs and shall, in accordance with this Statute, take the decisions and measures necessary to achieve its objectives. He shall, in particular, assume the following powers:

1. Proposing policies and strategies relating to the tourism sector in the Kingdom, submitting the same for approval, and supervising their implementation upon approval.
2. Approving the Ministry’s internal regulations, provided they are not inconsistent with relevant statutory provisions.
3. Proposing the Ministry’s organizational structure and submitting the same for completion of necessary statutory procedures.
4. Proposing, in coordination with relevant agencies, policies for the investment of public tourist sites by the private sector, and submitting the same to the Council of Ministers for approval.
5. Approving the holding of relevant exhibitions, meetings, seminars, and conferences, in accordance with relevant statutory provisions.
6. Approving the establishment of the Ministry’s branches or offices, in accordance with applicable statutory procedures.
7. Hiring full-time and part-time experts and consultants to perform certain services and tasks, provide consultation, and conduct research and studies, in accordance with relevant provisions.
8. Accepting gifts, donations, grants, bequests, and endowments in accordance with relevant provisions.
9. Representing the Ministry before the judiciary, government agencies, and other relevant entities within the Kingdom and abroad; he may delegate such power.
10. Appointing the Ministry’s employees in accordance with relevant provisions and supervising the performance of their duties.
11. Overseeing the Ministry's organization of conferences, seminars, exhibitions, and events relating to tourism within the Kingdom and abroad, and its participation therein, in accordance with statutory procedures.

12. Approving the Ministry’s draft budget, final accounts, and annual report prior to their submission in accordance with applicable statutory procedures.

13. The Minister may delegate certain powers to any of the Ministry’s employees.

**Article 4**

This Statute shall supersede the Statute of the Saudi Commission for Tourism and National Heritage promulgated by Council of Ministers Resolution No.78, dated 16/03/1429H and any amendments thereto.

**Article 5**

This Statute shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall enter into force on the date of its publication.