

# **Bureau of Experts at the Council of Ministers Official Translation Department**

# Railway Law

Royal Decree No. M/159 March 3, 2024

**Translation of Saudi Laws** 

## **NOTES:**

- 1. This translation is provided for guidance. The governing text is the Arabic text.
- 2. 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, and who) refer to a natural and legal person.



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# Railway Law

#### **Definitions**

#### Article 1

In this Law, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings assigned thereto, unless the context requires otherwise:

Kingdom: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Ministry: Ministry of Transport and Logistic Services.

Authority: Transport General Authority.

**Board**: Board of Directors of the Authority.

**President**: President of the Authority.

Law: Railway Law.

**Statute**: Statute of the Authority.

**Regulations**: Implementing Regulations of this Law.

**Person**: A natural or legal person.

**Railways**: A transportation network that uses parallel or single rails made from iron, rubber, or concrete, or any other guided system specified in the Regulations, designed for trains, locomotives, railway cars, and mobile equipment to move thereon.

**Train**: A means of transporting passengers and freight on railways within or between cities, or from the Kingdom to another country or vice versa.

**Locomotive**: A power-operated vehicle designed for hauling train railway cars which is deemed part of the train.

**Railway Car**: A vehicle designated for transporting passengers or freight, or for maintenance or other purposes, on railways.

**Infrastructure**: All installations, facilities, systems, and programs necessary for the safe operation of railways, including the lands allocated for railways or their facilities, railway protection zones, tunnels, bridges, power supply lines, and the equipment and construction works that support or are associated with railways or their components; however, this shall not include trains, locomotives, and railway cars.

**Infrastructure Manager**: A legal person licensed to manage infrastructure and provide related services, whether or not such person is the owner thereof.

**Infrastructure Owner**: An owner of infrastructure or part thereof.

**Network**: The railway system, including railways and the systems, fixtures, equipment, and lands used to operate and guide trains on such railways, and excluding stations, train depots, and maintenance facilities.

**Railway Services**: Services related to the operation and maintenance of the network and any facilities thereof, passenger and freight transportation services, and infrastructure management services as well as the maintenance of trains, locomotives, and railway cars.

**Activity**: Any activity related to the provision of railway services.

**Operator**: A legal person licensed to provide any railway service.

**Passenger**: A person who has boarded or is about to board a train, or who has obtained a train boarding pass and is waiting for the train at the station.

**Station**: A place designated for the boarding and alighting of passengers from trains, or for handling containers and goods as well as organizing train stops and guiding the movement of trains.

**Facilities**: Railway or network facilities, including any station, train depot, maintenance facility for mobile or non-mobile equipment, railway maintenance facility, train power supply station, shunting yard, train and railway car terminals, freight loading and unloading platforms, or any other asset intended for the operation of the network or trains.

Railway Assets: Networks, stations, vehicles, and maintenance facilities for railways and vehicles.

Maintenance Facilities: Any real estate or movable property designated for the maintenance and inspection of trains, locomotives, or railway cars as well as all related equipment and the like, even if used for multiple purposes.

**Train depot**: Any place, other than a station, designated for parking trains.

**Network Use Agreement**: An agreement between an infrastructure manager and another legal person who is authorized, pursuant to such agreement, to use specific network infrastructure, including train routes, power sources, stations, terminals, train depots, or maintenance facilities designated for the operation of passenger and freight transportation services, whether such use is for a fee or free of charge.

**Station Use Agreement**: An agreement between two operators who are licensed to provide any passenger transportation service or freight transportation service, or both services, or any other service licensed by the Authority, pursuant to which the first operator allows the second operator to use the station operated thereby for the purpose of providing specific services, whether for a fee or free of charge.

**Use Agreement**: A network use agreement or station use agreement.

Usage Fee: A fee charged pursuant to a use agreement.

**Concessionaire**: A legal person who is entrusted by law to construct railways or provide railway services.

**License**: A license issued by the Authority to a legal person, authorizing such person to provide any railway service, operate any network or facility, or engage in any activity thereof.

Licensee: A legal person who holds a license.

**Freight Transportation Services**: Services related to transporting goods by trains and railway cars within or between cities or from the Kingdom to another country or vice versa, including the operation of stations, train depots, and maintenance facilities as well as the maintenance of freight trains or any service related thereto.

**Passenger Transportation Services**: Services related to transporting passengers by trains within or between cities or from the Kingdom to another country and vice versa, including the operation of stations, train depots, and maintenance facilities as well as the maintenance of passenger trains or any service related thereto.

**Safety Certificate**: A document issued by the Authority certifying that an infrastructure manager or an operator has satisfied the safety requirements.

**Station Operator**: A licensed legal person entrusted by an infrastructure manager to manage a station.



**Dominance**: The ability to, directly or indirectly, affect the actions or decisions of another person, whether individually or jointly with an affiliate, by owning a dominant percentage of the voting rights in a company or the right to appoint all or some of the administrative staff. The Regulations shall specify the percentage of ownership or the administrative staff subject to this definition.

**Affiliate**: A person who is directly or indirectly controlled by another person.

**Incident**: An unexpected event which could lead to an accident on railways or in any railway facility or infrastructure.

**Accident**: An event or series of events on railways or in infrastructure that occur due to an intentional or unintentional act, omission, or negligence by any person, which result in the injury or death of individuals, damage to property or the environment, or the disruption of services.

**Public Utilities**: Water, sewerage, stormwater drainage, electricity, telephone, and public road services.

# **Railway Protection Zones**

#### **Article 2**

- 1. For the purpose of the application of this Law, any area on which railways are constructed and the areas on either side thereof shall be deemed a railway protection zone. The Board shall, in coordination with the relevant agencies, determine the zone in accordance with the operation needs, safety requirements, and technical requirements of railways.
- 2. The competent agencies in charge of public utilities or their networks shall, when seeking to construct or extend lines or networks across railway protection zones or in intersection therewith, coordinate with the infrastructure manager to obtain his prior approval. If said manager fails to grant his approval or to respond, the Authority may direct him, as it deems appropriate, to reach an agreement pursuant to the conditions determined by the Authority.
- 3. Agencies seeking to construct or extend service lines, public utility networks, or oil and gas pipelines across railways or railway protection zones shall adhere to the technical rules and conditions as well as the safety requirements prescribed by the infrastructure manager upon approval thereof by the Authority.

# **Article 3**

The ownership of railway infrastructure may be transferred to any private or public entity in accordance with relevant laws.

# **Licensing and Monitoring Railway Services and Activities**

#### **Article 4**

A person may not provide any railway service, engage in any railway activity, or operate a network or facility without obtaining a license, unless said person is exempt from the licensing requirement pursuant to Article 6 of this Law.

- 1. An infrastructure manager, or any affiliate thereof who is not financially and administratively independent therefrom, may not obtain a license to be an operator of passenger or freight transportation services, unless said manager is the concessionaire or the Board decides otherwise. The Regulations shall specify the conditions for determining the financial and administrative independence of an affiliate.
- 2. The Authority shall decide on any license application submitted thereto within sixty days from the date of completion of the application. The Regulations shall specify the licensing terms.
- 3. The Authority may refuse to issue a license if it deems that an increase in the number of operators of railway services or part thereof may lead to the non-provision of such services or to the poor provision thereof.
- 4. The Authority may suspend the issuance of new licenses for engaging in any of the activities subject to this Law or it may merge such activities, as it deems fit.

## Article 6

A license shall not be required for the construction of networks and the provision of railway services located within the boundaries of private facilities that are not connected to the public network nor serve the public. The Regulations shall specify the necessary conditions.

## **Article 7**

Without prejudice to the operator's obligations and responsibilities as a licensee, any entity contracting with an operator to perform works or provide services that are related to the operator's activities, but not provided for in the concession contract concluded under this Law, shall not be required to obtain a license.

# **Article 8**

The Authority may impose a fee for issuing or renewing licenses or any other certificate issued thereby pursuant to this Law. It may also charge a fee for any other service provided thereby in accordance with the provisions of this Law and the Regulations. The Board shall determine such fees.

- 1. The Authority may cancel or suspend the license in any of the following cases:
  - a) Any change in the dominance of the licensee, unless the Authority approves said change prior to its occurrence in accordance with the conditions and procedures specified in the Regulations.
  - b) A written request from the licensee.
  - c) The licensee's commission of any violation requiring cancellation in accordance with the table of violations and fines.
  - d) Failure to provide the Authority with the required documents within the specified period.
  - e) Failure to operate the licensed services for a period of six consecutive months or more.
  - f) The licensee's bankruptcy, dissolution, or liquidation.
  - g) Assignment of the license without the Authority's approval.
  - h) Expiration of the concession contract with the licensee.
- 2. The Regulations shall specify the procedures for license cancellation and suspension.

The Authority may, without prejudice to the provisions of Article 5 of this Law, include specific terms in the license, as it deems necessary and in accordance with the provisions of this Law. It may also amend or add terms to the license if necessary or at the licensee's request in cases relating to security, safety, and environmental protection, or in fulfillment of other legal requirements. The Regulations shall specify the necessary procedures therefor.

## **Article 11**

- 1. Subject to relevant legal requirements, the Authority may, in accordance with the procedures specified in the Regulations, direct an infrastructure owner to appoint another licensee or any other person to carry out the licensed services in any of the following cases:
  - a) If the licensee initiates bankruptcy proceedings, or other proceedings for settlement or voluntary or judicial liquidation.
  - b) If the Authority, in accordance with the provisions of the Bankruptcy Law, anticipates the occurrence of any of the cases stated in paragraph (1)(a) of this Article.
  - c) If the Authority cancels or suspends the license.
  - d) If the licensee discontinues the service without the Authority's prior written approval, or if the Authority becomes certain of the licensee's intention to discontinue the service based on the results of an investigation conducted by a committee composed of representatives from the Ministry, the Authority, and the infrastructure manager.
  - e) Any other case provided for in the concession contract concluded with the licensee which requires the replacement of said licensee with another.
- 2. The licensee shall notify the Authority immediately upon the occurrence of any of the cases provided for in paragraph (1)(a) of this Article. The Authority may petition the competent court to appoint a bankruptcy trustee in accordance with relevant laws. If the licensee is unable to continue to provide the service, the Authority may transfer such service to another person or more to ensure non-interruption thereof.

## **Article 12**

The infrastructure manager or the bankruptcy trustee appointed in accordance with the provisions of Article 11 of this Law may not, without obtaining the prior approval of the Authority and the infrastructure owner, transfer or agree to transfer ownership of infrastructure assets, including any building or facility constructed thereon; create or approve the creation of security or any other right associated with such assets; or take any action that would lead to the attachment or disposal thereof, unless a final judgment to this effect is rendered.

- 1. An operator, or operators among themselves, may not conclude any restrictive agreement or engage in any act or practice that would undermine or limit competition relating to operating railway assets or providing railway services or relating to the supply fields thereof without obtaining the Authority's prior written approval. The Regulations shall specify the nature of such acts, the mechanism for filing with the Authority the operators' complaints relating to such acts and for investigating them, and the measures that may be taken by the Authority.
- 2. The Authority may, if it ascertains the occurrence of any act, procedure, or intention that would limit or undermine competition, decide to prevent or suspend the same and take the necessary measures to ensure fair and just competition.



# **Use Agreements and Performance Review**

## **Article 14**

- 1. The infrastructure manager shall grant the usage rights of the network operated thereby to the operator of passenger or freight transportation services as needed, on the basis of fair, transparent, and non-discriminatory terms to enable said operator to provide the licensed services.
- 2. The network usage rights provided for in paragraph (1) of this Article shall include the right to use any part of the facilities attached to such network, such as stations, train depots, maintenance facilities, train assembly yards, power supply networks, power resupply facilities, and any other facilities, unless such service facilities are designated for a specific type of train.
- 3. The infrastructure manager may, upon approval of the Authority, contract with any operator and allocate the railway routes under its management thereto, including routes for trains, locomotives, and railway cars belonging to operators from other countries, in accordance with the bilateral agreements concluded between the Kingdom and such countries.
- 4. Subject to paragraph (5) of this Article, the Authority may, as it deems appropriate and without prejudice to the economic benefits guaranteed under a concession contract, place restrictions on the usage rights granted pursuant to this Article, including the services provided between the place of departure and the destination which are covered by the concession contract.
- 5. The usage rights referred to in this Article shall be regulated through use agreements in accordance with this Law.

#### **Article 15**

- 1. The Authority may prepare standard forms for use agreements.
- 2. The Authority may devise a set of manuals, requirements, and standards relating to railways, stations, and infrastructure.

## **Article 16**

The conclusion of a use agreement shall require the Authority's prior approval, subject to the procedures specified in the Regulations.

## **Article 17**

The Authority shall have the power to consider any dispute relating to network usage rights and the allocation of routes to operators; its decision in this regard shall be binding.

## Article 18

- 1. The Authority shall set a policy for determining and collecting usage fees.
- 2. The infrastructure manager or the operator shall determine and collect the usage fees and use such fees to finance his activities, in accordance with the policy referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article.

- 1. The Authority shall monitor and inspect the activities of licensees to ensure compliance with this Law and the Regulations. The Regulations shall specify the relevant provisions and procedures.
- 2. The licensee shall take any corrective measures the Authority deems appropriate; such measures may include amendment of the terms of the license.
- 3. The licensee may request the Authority to review his activities in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (1) of this Article in the event of any potential uncontrollable circumstance that might affect his business.



# Protection and Safety of Railways and Railway Facilities

#### **Article 20**

A person may not provide any railway services or operate any railway assets or facilities without obtaining a safety certificate. The Regulations shall specify the criteria of safety certificates as well as the conditions for the issuance and renewal thereof.

#### **Article 21**

The Authority shall decide on a safety certificate application within sixty days from the date of completion of the application. The Regulations shall specify application completion requirements and application conditions as well as any other additional requirements.

## **Article 22**

The Authority may, for the purpose of conducting inspections, audits, and reviews of a licensee, enter any relevant property or facility to verify the licensee's compliance with the terms of the license, including the requirements of the safety certificate. The licensee shall cooperate with the Authority or any person assigned thereby to conduct such inspections, audits, and reviews, and shall provide any information or document requested therefrom.

#### **Article 23**

- 1. A safety certificate shall be issued for the operation of railway assets or the provision of railway services upon satisfying the following:
  - a) The infrastructure manager or the operator shall provide its own safety management system and any manuals required by the Authority to satisfy the safety requirements.
  - b) The infrastructure manager or the operator shall submit a review report on the safety requirements prepared by an independent person to verify the adequacy and suitability of the safety management system.
- 2. The Authority may suspend the safety certificate if it finds that its holder no longer satisfies its requirements.

#### **Article 24**

The infrastructure manager or owner or the operator shall provide the Authority with the information and documents required to ensure the safety of railways and the facilities thereof if so requested by the Authority.

#### Article 25

Subject to Article 2(2) of this Law, an entity shall coordinate with the Authority prior to carrying out arrangements or procedures or constructing projects within railway protection zones or their surrounding areas which may affect the safety of railways or their facilities.



The infrastructure manager and the operator shall adhere to the following:

- 1. Setting and implementing appropriate measures to prevent accidents and control risks relating to the safety of railways and the facilities thereof.
- 2. Taking, in emergency cases, the necessary procedures and measures, and providing the equipment, tools, and places required to ensure the safety of passengers, goods, and railway infrastructure and assets.

## **Article 27**

The infrastructure manager and the operator shall, each within their respective area of operation and responsibility, set and update safety management systems, ensure the efficiency of such systems, and maintain the documents thereof, in accordance with the procedures provided for in the Regulations, in order to ensure the following:

- 1. The safety of railway services provided, and the safe operation of their assets.
- 2. The health and safety of all employees during the performance of their duties and of persons entering places under the control of the infrastructure manager or the operator.

#### **Article 28**

Without prejudice to the provisions of Articles 26 and 27 of this Law, an operator shall ensure that trains, locomotives, railway cars, and railway fixtures and equipment as well as any railway assets supplied thereby conform to the requirements, specifications, and conditions regulating their use in the Kingdom and to internationally recognized standards.

# **Technical Investigation of Railway Accidents and Incidents**

## **Article 29**

The Authority, or its designee, shall conduct a technical investigation of any accident or incident related to railways or railway services or facilities, and may engage any entity it deems appropriate in the investigation, in accordance with the procedures specified in the Regulations.

#### Article 30

The Regulations shall specify the obligations of infrastructure managers, railway service operators, and railway users in the event of any accident or incident.

#### **Article 31**

The employees of the Authority assigned to conduct a technical investigation of an accident or incident or of any other entity assigned by the Authority to conduct such investigation may enter any property, train, locomotive, railway car, or any related facility, if the interest of the investigation so requires. Such employees may access any information or document or inspect any mobile or other equipment if such information, document, or equipment is directly or indirectly related to the accident or incident.



# **Railway Concession Contracts**

#### Article 32

Concession contracts for the construction of railways or the provision of railway services shall be offered for tender upon the Authority's approval, in accordance with relevant laws.

## Article 33

The Authority may allow a concessionaire to use the lands on which railways are constructed, railway protection zones, and railway facilities, in accordance with relevant laws and the provisions of the concession contract. The Regulations shall specify the cases in which the Authority may request the transfer of existing infrastructure assets from an infrastructure owner to a concessionaire for the purpose of developing such assets pursuant to the concession contract, or if such transfer is deemed more conducive to the management of the assets that are part of the concession.

# **Railway Construction and Maintenance**

#### Article 34

The concessionaire and the licensee shall, each within their respective area of responsibility, carry out construction and maintenance for all the elements and components of railways and their facilities under their responsibility, in accordance with the provisions of the concession contract or the terms of the license and as specified in the Regulations.

## **Article 35**

The infrastructure manager shall supervise the operation, maintenance, and development of the railway network in accordance with the provisions of this Law and the terms of the license. The Authority may direct the manager to construct a new network or new facilities or to develop an existing network or existing facilities.

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# **Violations, Penalties, and Complaints**

## **Article 36**

A person who commits any of the following acts shall be deemed in violation of the provisions of this Law:

- 1. Violating the rules governing the use of railways in stations and facilities.
- 2. Using railways or part thereof for other than their intended purposes.
- 3. Trespassing railway protection zones by individuals, vehicles, machinery, or cars, or leaving animals within such zones.
- 4. Crossing railways or railway bridges, or allowing animals to cross or pass through the same, in other than the places designated therefor.
- 5. Crossing over or cutting a railway fence.
- 6. Constructing any temporary or permanent installations or carrying out any activities that may obscure the visibility of railway routes or signals.
- 7. Obstructing or affecting, in any manner, the visibility of railways or the movement of trains, locomotives, and railway cars thereon.
- 8. Installing an object or equipment that would affect the performance of railways or railway assets or impede their proper functioning.
- 9. Taking possession of the railway protection zone or part thereof with the intention of ownership, usufruct, use, or easement, in any manner.
- 10. Carrying out any activity that may cause landslides, collapses, or soil fragmentation, or pose a risk to railway installations or infrastructure.
- 11. Cutting, damaging, using, or utilizing railway cables and other lines, whether above or under the ground.
- 12. Sabotaging, disrupting, damaging, or stealing railway infrastructure, facilities, or equipment.
- 13. Exposing the safety of railways or railway facilities to risk or causing risk by omission or negligence.
- 14. Causing, by omission or negligence, the collision or derailment of trains, locomotives, or railway
- 15. Providing railway services without a license.
- 16. Violating a requirement or decision issued by the Authority or any of the terms of the license.
- 17. Providing the Authority with false, misleading, or incorrect information.
- 18. Violating safety requirements and conditions.
- 19. Failure, omission, or negligence of a licensee to report any accident, incident, or security breach.
- 20. Failure to provide the information and documents requested by the Authority in accordance with its jurisdiction.
- 21. Obstructing the work of any person in charge of technical investigation or inspection from among the Authority's employees or others assigned by the Authority, or preventing said person from entering railway operation facilities or from accessing the systems or programs necessary for such operation to perform his duties.
- 22. Undermining competition in relation to the operation of railway assets or the provision of railway services.
- 23. Violating any of the provisions of this Law or the Regulations.
- 24. Discontinuing a licensed activity without obtaining the prior written approval of the Authority.

Without prejudice to any harsher penalty provided for in any other law, a person who commits any of the violations provided for in Article 36 of this Law shall be subject to the following penalties:

- 1. A person who commits the violation provided for in Article 36(1) of this Law shall be subject to a fine not exceeding twenty thousand riyals (SAR 20,000), in accordance with the provisions of Article 39(2) of this Law.
- 2. A person who commits any of the violations provided for in Article 36(2-10) of this Law shall be subject to a fine not exceeding two hundred thousand riyals (SAR 200,000).
- 3. A person who commits any of the violations provided for in Article 36(11, 12, and 13) of this Law shall be subject to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years and a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand riyals (SAR 500,000), or to either penalty. If the violation results in death, injury, or an accident, this shall be deemed an aggravating circumstance. The fine may be doubled if the violation is repeated even if it exceeds the maximum amount, provided that the fine does not exceed double said amount.
- 4. A person who commits any of the violations provided for in Article 36(14-24) of this Law shall be subject to a fine not exceeding ten million riyals (SAR 10,000,000). The Board shall issue a table that contains the violations referred to in paragraphs (2) and (4) of this Article and their corresponding fines, in addition to any additional actions the violator must take and the time periods specified therefor.

The fine may be doubled if the violation is repeated even if it exceeds the maximum amount, provided that the fine does not exceed double said amount.

#### **Article 38**

- 1. The Public Prosecution shall investigate the violations provided for in Article 36(11, 12, and 13) and the violation of providing false or misleading information provided for in Article 36(17) of this Law, and shall prosecute such violations before the competent court.
- 2. The competent court shall hear lawsuits arising from the application of Article 36(11, 12, and 13), and Article 36(17) of this Law regarding the provision of false or misleading information, and shall impose the prescribed penalties.

## Article 39

- 1. The Regulations shall specify the provisions governing the use of railway transport means, stations, and facilities, including provisions for protecting the rights of transport users and persons with disabilities.
- 2. The Authority shall issue a table specifying the violations of the users of railway transport means, stations, and facilities as well as their corresponding fines, provided that the fine does not exceed twenty thousand riyals (SAR 20,000). The Regulations shall specify the entity in charge of detecting and recording violations and imposing fines.

# **Article 40**

In addition to the penalties stipulated in Article 37 of this Law, a person who violates any of the provisions of Article 36 of this Law may be subject to either of the following penalties:

- 1. Partial or complete suspension of the activity for a period not exceeding one year.
- 2. Cancellation of the license.

- 1. The violator shall, pursuant to a final court judgment or a non-appealable decision by the Violation Review Committee referred to in Article 45 of this Law, each within its respective jurisdiction, incur all the costs and expenses necessary for the removal of the damage resulting from his actions and the reinstatement of the previous status, and shall compensate for any losses arising therefrom.
- 2. The judgment or decision imposing the penalty pursuant to the provisions of Articles 37 and 40 of this Law may include a provision to publish its summary at the expense of the convicted person or the violator in a local newspaper, or more, published in his area of residence or in any other appropriate medium, based on the type, gravity, and impact of the violation committed, provided that publication is made after the judgment becomes final, or the decision becomes unappealable upon the lapse of the statutory period for appeal, or upon the rendering of a final judgment dismissing the appeal.

## Article 42

- 1. Authority employees to be designated pursuant to a decision issued by the President shall detect and investigate violations. Said employees shall, to this end, have access to the documents and records of railway service operators and licensees, and may obtain copies of any required documents if necessary. The Board may, pursuant to a decision issued thereby, assign the detection of violations to the private sector.
- 2. Without prejudice to the provision of paragraph (1) of this Article, the competent security agencies shall detect and record the violations provided for in Article 36(2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 17) of this Law.

# **Article 43**

- 1. If a detected violation requires urgent action, the President may, pursuant to a decision issued thereby, take one or more of the following measures:
  - a) Order the cessation of the violation.
  - b) Remove the damage and rectify the violation or carry out corrective measures at the violator's expense.
  - c) Suspend the activity wholly or partially for a period not exceeding six months.
- 2. The decision issued with regard to the violations referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article shall be implemented as of the date of its issuance.

- 1. The Authority shall, within a period to be specified in the Regulations, refer the detected violations provided for in Article 36 of this Law, with the exception of paragraphs (11), (12), and (13) as well as paragraph (17) relating to the provision of false or misleading information, to the Violation Review Committee provided for in Article 45 of this Law.
- 2. A person against whom a decision is issued by the Violation Review Committee provided for in Article 45 of this Law may appeal such decision before the competent court.

- 1. A committee, or more, shall be formed pursuant to a decision by the Board upon nomination by the President comprising five members from other than Authority employees, including three members holding a degree in Sharia or law, one of whom shall be named chairman, as well as two railway experts. Said committee shall review the violations set forth in Article 36 of this Law, with the exception of paragraphs (11), (12), and (13) and paragraph (17) relating to the provision of false or misleading information, and shall impose the penalties stipulated in Article 37(2 and 4) and Article 40 of this Law. Committee decisions shall be passed by majority vote and shall be reasoned.
- 2. The term of committee membership shall be three years.
- 3. The Board shall determine the committee's work rules and procedures as well as the remuneration of its members and the staff of its secretariat.

#### **Article 46**

- 1. The Violation Review Committee referred to in Article 45 of this Law shall have the power to undertake the following:
  - a) Review the urgent measures taken in accordance with the provisions of Article 43 of this Law at the request of the person against whom such measures are taken.
  - b) Review complaints arising from engaging in the activity against the Authority, concessionaires, or licensees; between a concessionaire, licensee, or service beneficiary; or between the Authority and a licensee.
  - c) Summon witnesses, request evidence and documents, and assume all the powers necessary to carry out its duties and functions.
- 2. A complaint may not be filed with the Committee except after the lapse of thirty days from the date of filing the complaint with the Authority for consideration thereof within such period, unless the Authority notifies the complainant that he may file his complaint with the Committee prior to the expiration of such period.
- 3. Any person against whom a decision is issued pursuant to the provisions of this Law or the Regulations shall have the right to appeal such decision before the competent court.

#### **Article 47**

Without prejudice to the imposition of the penalties provided for in this Law, any person sustaining harm as a result of the commission of any of the violations stipulated in this Law or the Regulations shall be entitled to claim compensation before the competent court for material or moral damage in proportion to the extent of such harm.

#### **Article 48**

The Authority may agree to settle through arbitration any dispute or disagreement arising between the Authority and a licensee, in accordance with the Law of Arbitration in the Kingdom.



# **Concluding Provisions**

# **Article 49**

The Board shall, upon coordination with the Ministry of Industry and Mineral Resources, issue the Regulations within ninety days from the date of publication of this Law in the Official Gazette.

# Article 50

This Law shall enter into force ninety days following the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

