



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

**Road Transport Law**

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## 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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## Road Transport Law

### Article 1

For the application of this Law, the following terms shall have the meanings assigned thereto, unless the context requires otherwise:

1. **Kingdom:** Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
2. **Law:** Road Transport Law.
3. **Authority:** Transport General Authority.
4. **Regulations:** Implementing Regulations of this Law.
5. **Board:** The Authority's Board of Directors.
6. **President:** The Authority's President.
7. **Road Transport:** Transporting passengers and their belongings as well as goods on roads by means of a vehicle; this includes vehicle rental for transportation purposes and relating intermediation services.
8. **Passenger:** A natural person, other than the driver, who uses a vehicle for transportation purposes, whether on board such vehicle, embarking thereon, or disembarking therefrom.
9. **Person:** Any natural or legal person.
10. **Driver:** Any person who drives a vehicle.
11. **Vehicle:** A means of road transport intended for transporting passengers and their belongings and for transporting goods, whether propelled or pulled by a motor or by the physical power of the driver.
12. **Bus:** A motor vehicle intended for transporting more than eight passengers and their belongings, whether for a charge or free of charge; this includes buses intended for rent.
13. **Private Automobile:** A motor vehicle intended for private use and may, upon obtaining a license from the Authority, be used to transport passengers and their belongings for a charge, or to transport goods for commercial purposes; this includes automobiles intended for rent.
14. **Taxi:** A motor vehicle seating no more than eight passengers, intended for transporting passengers and their belongings for a charge.
15. **Truck:** A single-unit motor vehicle or one towing a trailer, or any other combination of units permitted to run on roads, intended for transporting goods for commercial or non-commercial purposes; this includes trucks intended for rent.
16. **Bike:** A motorized or human-powered vehicle, with one or more wheels, which is not designed as an automobile, and is intended for transporting passengers and their belongings for a charge or for transporting goods for commercial purposes; this includes bikes intended for rent.
17. **Tractor:** A vehicle to which a trailer is attached forming a single unit.
18. **Trailer:** A non-motorized vehicle that is towed by a motor vehicle.
19. **Semi-trailer:** A trailer a significant weight of which rests on a tractor.
20. **Regular Transport:** The transport of passengers and their belongings by buses, on designated routes, at specific fares, and with consistent service and published schedules.



21. **Irregular Transport:** On-demand transport of passengers and their belongings by bus, pursuant to a contract between a service provider and a beneficiary.
22. **Private Transport:** Transporting personnel or the like and their belongings using buses owned by their employer or rented for this purpose.
23. **Intermediation:** Arranging road transport activities and services among beneficiaries; this includes intermediation through applications.
24. **License:** An official document issued by the Authority authorizing a person to engage in any road transport activity in accordance with the provisions of this Law.
25. **Service Provider:** A person licensed to engage in one or more road transport activities.
26. **Consignor:** A person who contracts with a service provider for the road transport of goods to a consignee.
27. **Consignee:** A person to whom goods are consigned.
28. **Goods:** Materials, equipment, commodities, animals, foodstuffs, or other items transported by vehicles.
29. **Facilities:** Road transport facilities, including stations and points of departure and arrival, vehicle depots, parking lots, rest facilities, and land logistics centers in addition to freight terminals and freight distribution centers.

## Article 2

This Law aims to regulate road transport activities, vehicles, and facilities; develop and promote relevant services; and encourage investment therein in coordination with the relevant authorities, in accordance with the Kingdom's socio-economic development goals, taking into consideration the environmental impact as well as security and safety requirements.

## Article 3

Passengers and their belongings as well as goods shall be transported on roads using one of the following means:

1. Buses.
2. Private automobiles.
3. Taxis.
4. Trucks.
5. Bikes.
6. Tractors, trailers, or semi-trailers.
7. Any other road transport means that may be developed in the future and is classified as such by a Board decision.



#### **Article 4**

1. A person may not engage in any road transport activity without obtaining a license. The Regulations shall specify the procedures, conditions, and requirements necessary for license issuance and duration.
2. The prohibition provided for in paragraph (1) of this Article shall include acts that precede engaging in road transport activities, such as soliciting, calling, pestering, or intercepting passengers, or gathering or wandering in areas where passengers are present for the purpose of soliciting them.

#### **Article 5**

1. A license may not be assigned to another person without the Authority's approval. The Regulations shall specify the controls and procedures for obtaining such approval.
2. A vehicle may not be operated in other than the activity it is licensed for, except in cases so requiring and on a temporary basis, as specified in the Regulations.

#### **Article 6**

The Board may set a maximum number of licenses and vehicles for any specified activity, pursuant to controls and criteria to be approved thereby.

#### **Article 7**

The Authority shall issue the necessary documents for a service provider to engage in any road transport activity, in accordance with the conditions and requirements specified in the Regulations.

#### **Article 8**

Road transport activities shall be classified as follows:

1. Passenger transport activities.
2. Freight transport activities.
3. Vehicle rental activities.
4. Intermediation activities in passenger transport, freight transport, or vehicle rental.
5. Any other activity to be determined pursuant to a decision by the Board.



### **Article 9**

Passenger transport activities shall be classified as follows:

1. Regular transport.
2. Irregular transport.
3. Private passenger transport.
4. Private automobile transport.
5. Taxi transport.
6. Intermediation in passenger transport.
7. Any other activity specified in the Regulations.

The Regulations shall specify the relevant sub-activities.

### **Article 10**

Freight transport activities shall be classified as follows:

1. Transport of goods for commercial purposes.
2. Transport of goods for non-commercial purposes.
3. Intermediation in freight transport.
4. Any other activity specified in the Regulations.

The Regulations shall specify the relevant sub-activities.

### **Article 11**

Vehicle rental activities shall be classified as follows:

1. Bus rental.
2. Private automobile rental.
3. Truck rental.
4. Bike rental.
5. Intermediation in the rental of buses, private automobiles, trucks, or bikes.

The Regulations shall specify the relevant sub-activities.

### **Article 12**

The Authority may, without prejudice to applicable laws and instructions, invite the private sector to bid on road transport projects, as specified by the Board, in accordance with the criteria set for such purpose; the relevant statutory procedures shall be satisfied.



### **Article 13**

A service provider shall comply with the following:

1. The operational requirements and controls as specified in the Regulations.
2. The external vehicle identity as specified in the Regulations.
3. The rights of beneficiaries as specified in the Regulations.

### **Article 14**

A beneficiary of road transport activities shall comply with the obligations specified in the Regulations.

### **Article 15**

Subject to the jurisdictions of relevant authorities, the Authority shall issue the licenses necessary for the operation of road transport facilities. The Regulations shall specify the necessary controls and requirements.

### **Article 16**

The Authority shall determine the necessary equipment, requirements, technical specifications, and security and safety requirements for road transport activities, vehicles, and facilities, in accordance with the approved standards.

### **Article 17**

The Board shall determine the fees for licenses, documents, services, and works provided by the Authority in accordance with the provisions of this Law.

### **Article 18**

The Board shall determine transport fees for any road transport activity on roads designated thereby, pursuant to policies to be drawn up by the Board in which the strategy for pricing is stated, without prejudice to the Kingdom's international obligations.

### **Article 19**

1. Inspectors, to be appointed by a decision of the President, shall, individually or collectively, detect and investigate violations of the provisions of this Law, the Regulations, and the license terms. The Regulations shall specify the rules and procedures for exercising their duties.
2. Without prejudice to paragraph (1) of this Article, the Board may outsource certain inspection and violation detection tasks, in accordance with controls and criteria to be approved thereby.

### **Article 20**

Officers and employees at locations subject to inspection shall enable the inspectors to perform their duties and provide them with assistance and the required information and documents. Such inspectors must show their credentials when performing their duties.



## **Article 21**

1. The Authority may, if necessary, seek the assistance of the competent authorities in the detection of violations or the enforcement of decisions issued against violators.
2. Law enforcement agencies shall, when necessary, support the Authority in performing its duties with regard to detecting violations of drivers not licensed to engage in road transport activities, without prejudice to the jurisdiction of each agency.

## **Article 22**

Without prejudice to any harsher penalty provided for in any other law, a person who violates any provision of this Law, the Regulations, or the license terms shall be subject to one or more of the following penalties:

1. A warning; this shall include granting the violator a period for rectifying the violation.
2. A fine not exceeding five million riyals (SAR 5,000,000).
3. Suspension of the license, fully or partially, for a period not exceeding one year.
4. Revocation of the license.
5. Suspension of the driver, the vehicle, or both, from engaging in any road transport activity for a period not exceeding one year.
6. Impoundment of the vehicle for a period not exceeding 60 days.

With the exception of the penalties stipulated in paragraphs (1) and (4) of this Article, the penalty shall be doubled if the violation is repeated within a year from the date on which the decision becomes unappealable due to the lapse of the statutory period for appeal or upon the issuance of a final judgment.

## **Article 23**

1. The President shall, pursuant to a decision issued thereby, issue a violation classification schedule together with the corresponding penalties stipulated in Article 22 of this Law. Said decision shall observe the nature and gravity of each violation as well as its aggravating and mitigating circumstances.
2. The inspectors referred to in Article 19 of this Law shall, in accordance with the violation classification schedule provided for in paragraph (1) of this Article, impose the warning penalty provided for in Article 22(1) of this Law, the fine penalty provided for in Article 22(2) of this Law for fines that do not exceed ten thousand riyals (SAR 10,000), and the vehicle impoundment penalty stipulated in Article 22(6) of this Law for vehicles violating safety and security requirements and for vehicles violating the provisions of Article 4 of this Law. The Regulations shall specify the means of notifying the violator of any imposed penalty.
3. The violator may appeal the penalty imposed under paragraph (2) of this Article before the committee referred to in Article 24(1) of this Law within 30 days from the date of notification thereof. If the committee decides to affirm the penalty, the violator may appeal its decision before the competent court within 60 days from the date of notification of such decision.





## Article 24

1. Subject to Article 23(2) of this Law, a committee, or more, shall have the power to consider the violations of this Law, the Regulations, or the license terms and to impose the penalties provided for in Article 22 of this Law. Said committee shall be formed pursuant to a decision by the President for a renewable term of three years and shall be composed of at least three members. The committee formation decision shall name its chairman, who must be a specialist in Sharia or law. The committee's decisions shall be passed by majority vote and shall be reasoned.
2. The Regulations shall specify the work rules and procedures of the committee referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article, as well as the remuneration of its members and secretariat.
3. The decision of the committee referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article may be appealed before the competent court within 60 days from the date of notification of the decision.

## Article 25

In addition to the penalties stipulated in Article 22 of this Law, the committee referred to in Article 24(1) of this Law may undertake the following:

1. Impose a fine for each day the violation continues after the committee's decision becomes unappealable, provided that the total fines do not exceed 10% of the amount stipulated in Article 22(2) of this Law. For the purpose of determining the fine, calculation shall commence from the date specified in the decision.
2. Include in the penalty decision an order to deport from the Kingdom the non-Saudi who violates the provisions of Article 4 of this Law, pursuant to controls to be agreed upon between the Minister of Interior and the Chairman of the Authority's Board.
3. Include in the penalty decision a stipulation for the publication of a summary thereof at the violator's expense in a local newspaper issued in the area of his residence, or, in the absence of such newspaper, in a newspaper issued in the nearest area to his residence, or in any other appropriate medium, as per the type, gravity, and impact of the violation, provided that the publication is made only after the decision becomes unappealable due to the lapse of the statutory period for appeal or upon the issuance of a final judgment thereon.
4. Include in the penalty decision a provision to compel the violator to rectify the violation.
5. Issue a decision to partially or wholly block the applications or websites of the establishments subject of the violation, provided that the relevant statutory procedures in this regard are satisfied.
6. Issue a decision to close any violating business that engages in any road transport activity without a valid license.
7. Petition the competent court to order the confiscation of the vehicle used to engage in any road transport activity without a license for the fifth time.

## Article 26

1. A service provider shall be liable for any damage caused to public or private property as a result of violating the provisions of this Law, the Regulations, or the license terms, unless it is established that another party is liable therefor.
2. If public or private property is damaged as a result of engaging in any road transport activity without a license, the person causing such damage shall be liable therefor unless liability is established against another party.



## **Article 27**

A vehicle impounded in accordance with the provisions of this Law shall be sold at public auction if the owner, his designee, or any of his heirs fails to claim said vehicle within 90 days from the expiration of the impoundment period. Any fines, fees, or towing and impoundment charges imposed on the vehicle or its owner shall be deducted from the sale proceeds, and the remainder shall be deposited with the General Commission for Guardianship over Property of Minors and those of Similar Status in a trust for the owner or his heirs. The Regulations shall specify the following:

1. The procedures for the sale of such vehicles at public auction.
2. The mechanism for notifying the relevant person of the provisions of this Article at least 30 days prior to the date set for the auction.
3. The measures to be taken in the event of failure to sell such vehicles, without prejudice to any measures approved by the relevant agencies.

## **Article 28**

The provisions of this Law shall not apply to government vehicles; vehicles belonging to diplomatic and consular missions or to regional and international bodies; emergency vehicles; ambulances; hearses; or to vehicles used to transport cash, precious metals, and instruments of monetary value.

## **Article 29**

If the penalties or measures taken by the Authority affect road transport services, the Authority must, when necessary, make any appropriate arrangements to ensure continuity of services.

## **Article 30**

The Authority shall, with regard to the activities specified thereby, carry out the following:

1. Qualify providers of equipment and electronic services for vehicles, in accordance with the controls and criteria specified in the Regulations.
2. Qualify providers of professional driver training services, in accordance with the controls and criteria specified in the Regulations.
3. Specify the performance assessment areas for service providers and any relevant procedures relating to licenses and the classification thereof, in accordance with the controls and criteria specified in the Regulations.

## **Article 31**

The Board may outsource some of the Authority's duties in accordance with applicable laws and instructions and subject to the controls and criteria approved thereby.

## **Article 32**

The Regulations shall be issued by a Board decision within 180 days from the date of publication of this Law.



### **Article 33**

This Law shall supersede the Law of Road Public Transport issued by Royal Decree No. M/25, dated 21/6/1397H, and shall repeal all provisions conflicting therewith.

### **Article 34**

This Law shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall enter into force 180 days from the date of its publication.



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