

## Federal Law

**Zayed Bin Sultan Al-Nahyan**

**The UAE President**

**Federal Law No. (1) 2002**

**Regarding the**

### **REGULATION AND CONTROL OF THE USE OF RADIATION SOURCES AND PROTECTION AGAINST THEIR HAZARDS**

We, Zayed Bin Sultan Al- Nahyan, the UAE President;  
Having reviewed the Constitution; and  
Federal Law No. 1/1972 regarding the scope of competencies of the ministries, and the powers of the ministers, and its amending laws thereto; and  
Federal Law No. 8/1973 regarding the Civil Service in the Federal Government, and the laws in amendment thereto; and  
Federal Law No. 3/1979 regarding the Civil Defence, and the laws in amendment thereto; and  
Federal Law No. 8/1980 regarding the regulation of the labour relationships, and the laws in amendment thereto; and  
Penal Code promulgated by the Federal Law No. 3/1987; and  
Penal Procedure Code promulgated by the Federal Law No. 35/1992; and  
Federal Law No. 7/1993 establishing the Federal Environmental Agency; and  
Federal Law No. 24/1999 regarding the protection and development of environment; and  
Upon what has been presented by the Minister of Electricity and Water, and the approval of the Cabinet, and the endorsement of the Federal Supreme Council;  
Have issued the following law:

#### **Article 1**

In implementation of the provisions of this law, the following terms and expressions shall have the meanings assigned thereto unless the context otherwise requires:

- State** : The State of the United Arab Emirates
- Ministry** : The Ministry of Electricity and Water
- Minister** : The Minister of Electricity and Water
- Competent Authority** : The local competent authority in the relevant emirate, or the relevant federal ministry.
- Competent Directorate** : The department at the Ministry which is concerned with the regulation and control of the use of the radiation sources, and the protection against their hazards.
- Radiation Exposure** : It is the exposure of people, either the workers, patients or public at large, to the ionizing radiations, or radioactive substances. The exposure can be external exposure, as a result of irradiation by radiation sources outside the human body, or internal exposure as a result of irradiation by radioactive material absorbed taken in the human body. Radiation exposure can be classified as either normal exposure, exposure expected to be received under normal operating conditions of a radiation source, or potential exposure, that may result from radiological accidents radiation exposure is also classified either as occupational, medical, or public exposure.
- Occupational Exposure** : It is the exposure of a person working with ionizing radiation sources during, or due to, performing his job.

- Medical Exposure** : it is the exposure of a patient to the ionizing radiations as a part of the diagnosis or treatment of his sickness.
- Public Exposure** : It is the exposure to the ionizing radiation incurred by members of the public, who have nothing to do with the practice or the radiation source.
- Exposure Pathways** : The routes by which radioactive material can reach or irradiate humans.
- Practice** : Any human activity that introduces additional sources of exposure or exposure pathways or extends exposure to additional people or modifies the routes of exposure pathways from existing sources, leading to increase the exposure or probability of exposure of people or the number of people exposed.
- Radiations** : The ionizing radiations.
- Ionizing Radiations** : They are all the charged or neutral particles or electromagnetic rays, which cause ionization whether directly or indirectly when they interact with matter. Ionizing radiations include alpha, beta and neutron particles, and electrons and gamma and X-rays.
- Ionization Radiations** : The ability to produce ion pairs or loss of one electron or more from atoms of matter when interacting with it.
- Ionizing Radiation Sources** : The substances or devices, which emit ionizing radiations, or devices used to accelerate subatomic particles.
- Radioactive Wastes** : Substances containing radionuclides or radioactive materials whatever their physical forms, and for which no further use is foreseen, and therefore will be confined so that to control their emission rate to the environment.
- Radiation Accident** : Any accident which leads to the exposure of any person to a doses of ionizing radiation, which exceeds the permissible limit or the loss of a radioactive material or radiation device.
- Radiation Worker** : Any person who works, whether full time or temporarily in a field involving the use of ionizing radiations, or undertaking work which entails his presence in a place where radiation sources are used.

## **Article 2**

A directorate shall be established at the Ministry to be responsible for regulating and controlling of the use of radiation sources, and the protection against their hazards. It shall be called the "Competent Directorate."

A decree shall be issued by the council of Ministers regarding its organization, procedures of work, responsibilities and it shall particularly be responsible for the following:

- 1 Preparation of the regulations necessary for the safe handling of ionizing radiation sources and to raise the same to the Minister for their issue thereof.
- 2 Co-operation with the competent authorities in regulating practices relating to ionizing radiation and the issuance of licences referred to herein.

- 3 To inspect, follow-up and control radiation sources and their uses in co-operation with the competent Authority.
- 4 Supervision of programmes for training and qualifying the technical personnel of the authorities which implement this law, in co-operation with the competent Authority.
- 5 Preparation of an emergency plan to respond to radiological disasters on the national level in co-operation with the competent Authorities inside and outside the state.

### **Article 3**

A committee shall be formed by a Ministerial Decree. It shall be called the "Radiation Protection Committee (RPC)", chaired by the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Electricity and Water and consisting of a number of competent members representing the following authorities, and upon their nomination

The Armed Forces.

The Ministry of Interior.

The Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources.

The Ministry of Health.

The Ministry of Information.

The Emirates Telecommunications Corporation.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Ministry of Justice.

The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

The Federal Environmental Agency.

The General Secretariat of UAE Municipalities.

The Three Representatives of the State Municipalities, or of the local authorities which are concerned with environmental affairs

The Customs Supreme Council.

The Minister may add to the Radiation Protection Committee (RPC) any members from the federal or local governmental authorities as he deems appropriate.

The minister shall appoint the deputy chairman of the RPC.

The director of the Competent Directorate at the Ministry shall be a member and rapporteur of the RPC. The RPC may seek the assistance of any expert or specialist, as it deems appropriate, to help it to undertake its works and duties, but they shall not have the right to vote on the deliberations of the committee. The committee shall raise its recommendations to the Minister to issue the necessary resolutions.

### **Article 4**

The Committee shall be responsible for the following:

1. To specify the particular powers and responsibilities of each competent authority in the State regarding the implementation of the provisions of this law
2. To establish an emergency plan to deal with any radioactive disasters on the state level, in co-operation with the Civil Defence, and other concerned authorities.
3. To Approve the adoption of regulations, rules and guidelines of radiation safety and practices, and any additions or amendments to them in the light of scientific and technological development.
4. Making proposals on the fees to be prescribed for the licences and other activities referred to herein.
5. Provision of opinions and technical advice on matters referred to it by the chairman of the committee.

### **Article 5**

No Real or Judicial person is allowed to conduct any of the following acts if he obtains a prior approval from the competent authority, and a licence from the Competent Directorate:

1. Import, export, transportation, storage, operation, manufacture or distribution of the ionizing radiation sources.
2. Treatment or disposal of radioactive wastes generated by the works and activities provided in Para 1 hereinabove.
3. Assemble of radiation sources, or build installations, laboratories, or warehouses for distribution or storage of the ionizing radiation sources, or to change the locations or specifications of such installations, or to terminate the works thereat.

**Article 6**

The Ministry of Health and the Department of Health and Medical Services in Dubai, and the Medical Services at the Armed Forces and the Police, each within its scope of powers, have competences to issue the licence for the activities related to the medical fields, in co-operation with the Competent Directorate.

The governmental authorities shall be exempted from the condition of obtaining the licences referred to if they obtain the approval of the Council of Ministers for the works which they will conduct.

**Article 7**

The necessary fees prescribed against the licences and activities provided herein shall be fixed by a resolution from the Council of Ministers upon the presentation of the Minister.

**Article 8**

The personnel of the Ministry, competent authority, and local government departments in the emirates, as specified by a resolution from the Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Awqaf [Endowments], in co-ordination with the Minister of Electricity and Water, shall have the power of judicial detention officers regarding establishment of the facts of any violations to this law, and its executive resolutions, within the scope of their competencies.

**Article 9**

The licensee must observe the following:

1.	To take the necessary precautionary measures regarding the radiation sources.
2.	Immediately report of any radiation accident.

All that shall be in accordance with the stipulations of the rules and regulating procedures in this regard.

**Article 10**

Any violator of any of the provisions of Article 5 hereof shall be imprisoned, and fined not less than Dh. 150,000 and not exceeding Dh. 1000,000.

**Article 11**

Any violator of the provisions of Article 9-2 shall be imprisoned for not less than one year, and fined not less than Dh. 100,000, and not exceeding Dh. 500, 000.

**Article 12**

Any violator of the provisions of Article 9-1 hereof shall be imprisoned, and/or fined not less than Dh. 50,000, and not exceeding Dh. 150,000.

**Article 13**

Any violator of any other provision of this law, or its executive regulations, shall be imprisoned for not more than three months, and/or fined not more than Dh. 3000.

**Article 14**

Equipment and materials the subject of the violation caught shall be confiscated. The offender shall be obliged to pay any expenses of the confiscation and disposal. The places the subject of violation which have not satisfied the standard conditions, shall be close down. They shall not be re-opened unless the said conditions are met, and the approvals of the competent authority, competent Directorate, and Public Prosecution obtained.

**Article 15**

The application of the penalties listed herein shall not preclude the imposition of any aggravated punishments stipulated in any other law. The punishments of the offences provided herein shall be doubled in the event of their repetition.

**Article 16**

Any person possessing or using any ionizing radiation source on the operative date hereof should contact the competent authority, and Competent Directorate to obtain the necessary licence, and regularize his status in accordance with the provisions of this law within nine months from its operative date.

**Article 17**

The Minister shall issue the directories necessary for implementation of the provisions of this law.

**Article 18**

Any provision repugnant or contradictory to the provisions of this law shall be repealed.

**Article 19**

This law shall be published in the Official Gazette, and come into force from the date of its publication.

Zayed Bin Sultan Al-Nahyan  
The UAE President

Promulgated by us in the Presidential Palace in Abu Dhabi:

On: 22 SHAWAL 1422 H.

Being: 6<sup>TH</sup> January 2002.