

Law No. 15 of 1990 The General Intelligence Service 15 / 1990

Number of Articles: 16

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Table of Content

Articles (1-16)

We, Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar;
Having considered the Amended Provisional Constitution, and in particular Articles 23, 34, and 51 thereof,
The Civil Service Law issued by Decree-Law No. 9 of 1967, as amended;
Law No. 10 of 1970 on the Authority of Recruitment and Removing from Public Office;
The Law of Criminal Procedure No. 15 of 1971, as amended;
Law No. 5 of 1973 on the Establishment of the Court of Accounts, as amended;
Law No. 1 of 1981 organizing the service of officers in the armed forces, as amended by Law No. 9 of 1985;
Law No. 8 of 1981 on compensation of officers, members of the armed forces and the police for occupational injury;
Law No. 5 of 1989 on the Public Budget;
The proposal of the Minister of Defense;
The draft law submitted by the Council of Ministers;
After taking the opinion of the Shura Council;
Hereby promulgate the following:

Articles

Article 1

An Agency called The General Intelligence Agency hereinafter "the Agency" shall be established.
Composition of the Agency

Article 2

The General Intelligence Agency hereinafter "the Agency" shall consist of the following:

1. the Head of the Agency, provided that only a Qatari national may qualify for this position and that he shall be appointed by an Emiri decree specifying his rank;
2. the Deputy Head; assistants, officers, other ranks, and military and civil technicians to be appointed by the Head of the Agency.

Article 3

(a) The appointment of ranking officers and of civil and military technicians from the first and second scale, as described in the Law of General Civil Jobs or their equivalent, shall be governed by Emiri Resolutions in accordance with recommendations made by the Minister of Defense.

1. The appointment of other military ranks and of civil and military technicians from the third and fourth scale, as described by the abovementioned Law, is governed by resolutions issued by the Minister of Defense according to recommendations made by the Head of the Agency.
2. The Head of the Agency may by deputation fill military and civil posts of the Agency for a term to be specified by him.

Article 4

The following laws shall apply to employees of the Agency:

1. Laws applicable to the employees' counterparts in the armed forces, particularly those laws regulating officers' services and compensation in the event of injury.
2. Laws of the armed forces as they apply to the regulation of civil servants employed in such forces.
3. Other laws applicable to the armed forces, particularly relating to the regulation of courts, councils and military committees.

Provided that the laws contemplated in paragraphs a, b and c must conform to the nature of the work of General Intelligence as specified by resolution of the Minister of Defense and authorised by the Head of the Agency.

Article 5

The Agency shall be concerned with the following:

1. Maintaining the State's security and safety and protecting the national unity from international terrorist activities and other hostile activities directed against the State within or beyond its borders.
2. Fighting espionage.
3. Monitoring activities harmful to the economy and resources of the State.
4. Fighting all matters which harm or weaken the position of the State and its political relations with other countries, or which provoke hostility or undermine confidence.
5. Carrying out additional protective duties or tasks to be assigned by the Emir or his authorised representative.

The Head of the Agency shall be authorised to coordinate with the intelligence agencies of other countries in order to execute the duties and powers of the Agency and to recommend to such agencies any actions deemed to be in the State's national security interest.

Article 6

(a) For the purpose of exercising its powers specified hereunder, the Agency shall be authorised to censor and investigate by any technical and professional means in accordance with the law, and such powers may not be curtailed without the express prior approval of the Emir or his authorised representative.

1. The Agency shall be accorded the same authority and power as that given to the police by the Penal Procedures Code. Such authority and power shall be permitted by the Head of the Agency and within the limits to be decided by him.
2. Except as provided in the Penal Procedures Code, the Head of the Agency may order the detention of any person charged with committing any act under Article 5. Such person may be detained for a maximum of one 1 week pending his/her appearance before a court in respect of the offence in question or until he/she is otherwise dealt with in accordance with the law.
3. The Head of the Agency shall assume the powers of the Attorney-General as prescribed in the Penal Procedures Code in cases where the Agency carries out investigations or where the Emir or his authorised representative orders the Head of the Agency to assume the powers of the Attorney-General.

Article 7

(a) No person, governmental or non-governmental body may conceal information of whatsoever nature requested in writing by the Head of the Agency or his authorised representative, nor refuse to divulge to the Head of the Agency the existence and nature of such information.

1. A person or body providing such information shall be exempt from civil or criminal liability in respect of such act.

Article 8

- (a) The Head of the Agency shall assume the powers of technical and administrative supervision over the Agency's work and its employees, and shall issue regulations, resolutions and orders necessary for conducting the Agency's work and ensuring good performance.
1. The Head of the Agency shall be responsible to the Emir or his authorised representative for maintaining the secrecy of the Agency's activities and of the sources of its information and the means by which it obtains such information. The Agency's investigations or information may be reviewed only with the express prior permission of the Emir or his authorised representative, or when the Head of the Agency deems such review to be in the national security interest.
 2. The Head of the Agency shall inform the Emir or his authorised representative of all matters of importance or urgency pertaining to the Agency's responsibilities set out in Article 5 therein.

Article 9 (Amended By Law 3/1998) (Amended By Law 3/1991)

- (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of Law No. 5 of 1989 referred to herein, the Head of the Agency shall prepare and submit the annual budget of the Agency to the Emir or his authorised representative for approval. The financial appropriations necessary for such budget shall be entered in lump-sum figure, under the Emiri Court's budget. However the appropriations shall be separate therefrom.
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 2. The Head of the Agency shall issue the resolutions related to the basis and procedures for the execution of the budget items for the purposes specified therein. Notwithstanding regulations and resolutions applicable in other government departments, the Head of the Agency shall have the discretionary powers to decide the allocation of "hidden" expenditure. All items and procedures related thereto shall be considered confidential.
 3. The Head of the Agency shall prepare a special system for procurement in conformity with the nature of the Agency's work, which system shall be authorised by an Emiri resolution and the Head of the Agency shall have absolute power of implementation thereof.

Article 10

The checking and reviewing of the Agency's accounts shall be authorised by the Emir or his authorised representative. Such authorization shall specify the review body.

Article 11

- (a) The General Intelligence Agency, established hereunder, shall replace the General Intelligence Department with regard to its rights and obligations.
1. The employees of the General Intelligence Department and its affiliates shall be considered appointed in the General Intelligence Agency in accordance with the provisions hereof.

Article 12

The Head of the Agency shall have the right to delegate some or all of his powers to his deputy or assistants and other members of the Agency if he deems it in the interest of the Agency's work.

Article 13

The government bodies shall at all times provide whatsoever assistance may be necessary to the members of the General Intelligence Agency whenever required

Article 14

The Head of the Agency shall prepare the resolutions related to the social welfare of the Agency's members and their families, and such resolutions shall be presented to the Emir or his authorised representative for approval

Article 15

The regulations and resolutions necessary for the execution of this Law shall be issued by the Emir in accordance with a recommendation made by the Minister of Defense.

Article 16

All competent authorities, each within its jurisdiction, shall implement the present Law. This Law shall be published in the *Official Gazette* and shall be effective from the date of issue
