Foreign Schools Bylaw

Article 1:
Meanings of the following terms is as follows:

Foreign Schools: That follows education curricula other than the Saudi curricula.
The Minister: Minister of Education.
The Ministry: Ministry of Education.

Article 2:
This bylaw regulates foreign schools of expatriates residing in the kingdom to provide adequate education for their children within definite regulations, in order for them to be able to continue their education when they return home.

Article 3:
Ministry shall assume licensing and supervision on foreign schools and their branches through its competent unit.

Article 4:
Foreign schools are specialized educational organizations; and get their funds from tuition fees, donations and grants.

Article 5:
Admission of Saudi students, in foreign schools is not allowed; except for those cases, where necessity arises to enroll, such as students coming from abroad whose educational situation is not manageable for enrollment in Saudi schools.

Minister may consider approval of their admission, for a duration as per their circumstances each year, and for a total duration not exceeding three years.

Article 6:
Issuance of the license to open any foreign school shall be through Minister’s approval based on the recommendation of the supervisory council stipulated in article 8 herein.
Article 7:
Foreign school educational levels shall be limited to nursery, primary, intermediary and secondary school or equivalent.

Article 8:
A supervisory council, on foreign schools shall be formed; Minister will be the president of this council with following as members:
Deputy of Ministry of Interior.
Deputy of Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Deputy of Ministry of Education.
Deputy of General President of Girls Education.
Ministry supervisor on foreign schools shall be secretary of the council.

Article 9:
Supervisory council shall set instructions and rules required for implementing this bylaw. In particular, the council shall consider approval of the following:
1. Licensing rules and procedures.
2. Foreign school opening requests.
3. Education programs and curricula.
4. Tuition fees.
5. Donations and grants given to foreign schools.

Article 10:
Supervisory council meetings shall be held twice a year minimum, and the call to convene may come from president or by a recommendation of a member and approved by the president.

Article 11:
Every foreign school shall assume responsibility of organizing all internal work of the school; additionally they have to evaluate their standard, by comparing themselves with other schools in their circle.
Article 12:
In each foreign school, there shall be a management board, with representation of students' parents, to oversee school interests, ministry is entitled to attend its meetings.

Article 13:
Every foreign school must teach the subjects of Arabic language principles, Islamic civilization and kingdom’s history and geography for at least one hour per week.

Article 14:
Every foreign school shall submit an annual estimated budget in Arabic to the supervisory council prior to the beginning of each academic year. Budget shall include administrative, technical/academic and financial requirements and sources, to secure and finance these requirements.

Article 15:
Every foreign school shall submit an annual report to the supervisory council on its works. Budget implementation and reports of violations and irregularities if any and its causes.

Article 16:
A party violating any of the provisions of this bylaw or resolutions issued pursuant to its implementation will be subject to following penalties (one or more):

1. Caution notice.
2. Fine up to fifty thousand riyals.
3. Cancellation of license.

At all times Minister may order the rectification of the violation within a maximum of two weeks period from rectifying order acknowledgement date.

Article 17:
A Ministry committee with the following members and Minister as president shall be formed:

1. A representative of the Ministry of Interior.
2. A representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
4. An individual Sharia specialist.
This committee shall assume review of violations of this bylaw and decisions issued pursuant to its implementation; additionally it may propose appropriate punishment.

Article 18:
A decision of the punishment shall be issued by the Minister pursuant to a proposal by the committee provided for in article 17 of this bylaw. The decisions of fines and license revocation may be appealed before the board of grievances.

Article 19:
In the cases of school’s end of purpose, or its license revocation, school shall be brought to closure under ministry supervisory and in coordination with concerned entities.

Article 20:
Situations of schools existing at the time of enforcement of this bylaw shall be rectified subject to provisions herein, in 12 month’s duration from the date of enforcement of this bylaw.

Article 21:
This bylaw shall be published in the official gazette and shall come into force in ninety days from its publication date (1), and shall repeal any prior conflicting provisions with it.

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