

**ANTI- FORGERY LAW**  
**ISSUED BY ROYAL DECREE**

**No.53 DATED 5.11.1382**

**DECREE**

No.53

Date: 5.11.1382

( 30.3.1963)

**With the help of God Almighty,**

**In the name of His majesty the King,**

**We, Faysal Ibn Abdul Aziz At Saud**

**Viceroy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,**

In consideration of Royal Order No.42 dated 9.10.1381 H, and having reviewed Articles 19 and 20 of the Council of Ministers' Charter issued under Decree No.38 dated 22.10.1377,

In view of Decree No.144 dated 26.11.1380 approving the Anti-Forgery Law, and Decree No.12 dated 20.7.1379 approving the Penal Regulations for Forgery and Imitation of Currency;

In consonance with the Council of Ministers' Decision No.550 dated 3.11.1382, and

In view of what the Prime Minister has submitted to us.

**Ordain the following:**

**Article 1**

The text of Article 4 of the Regulations for the Anti-Forgery Law, issued under Decree No. 114 dated 26.11.1380, shall be substituted by the following:

Any person who imitates or forges bank papers or corporate bonds, whether such banks or corporations are Saudi or foreign; or if he imitates or forges Saudi Postal or revenue stamps and payment orders drawn on the treasury and treasury receipts; or if he makes or acquires instruments for forging said bonds and stamps with the intention of using them for himself or by others, shall be subjected to imprisonment for a term of three to ten years and a fine ranging from RIs. 3,000 to RIs 10,000.

In addition to the aforementioned penalties, the actual perpetrator and accomplice shall be fined with all the losses caused by them to the treasury, companies, banks or individuals. Any person about the crimes mentioned under this Article prior to their completion, shall be exempted from punishment. Whoever notifies about the perpetrators or accomplices, after the start of prosecution, his punishment shall be reduced to one-third of the minimum penalty and the fine may be limited to minimum, provided that he should return all money earned by him as a result of the forgery .

#### **Article 2**

The forgery of currency in circulation and all crimes related thereto shall be punishable in accordance with the provisions of the Penal regulations regarding the forgery and imitation of currency, issued under Decree No.12 dated 20.7.1379 H.

#### **Article 3**

The text of Article 11 of Decree No.12 dated 20.7.1379 shall be substituted by the following:

All forged and imitated currencies as well as instruments and materials used or acquired in the crime shall be seized, or confiscated and handed over to SAMA; and no compensation shall be paid under any circumstances.

#### **Article 4**

The Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance and National Economy and the Minister of Interior shall put these Regulations into effect, each within his own jurisdiction. The

Regulations shall come into force as from their publication date in the official gazette.

**Signature**

### **ROYAL DECREE**

No.114

Date: 26.11.1380

**With the help of God Almighty,**

**We, Saud Ibn Abdul Aziz Al Saud**

**King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,**

In view of Article 19 of the Council of Ministers' Charter issued under Decree No.38 dated 22.10.277,

In accordance with the Council of Ministers' Decision No.653 dated 25.11.1380, and

In consonance with what has been submitted to us by our Prime Minister,

**Ordain the following:**

**First:** We approve the Anti-Forgery Law in its attached text.

**Second:** The Prime Minister and Ministers shall put into effect our present Decree as from its publication date.

**ROYAL SIGNATURE**

**THE ANTI -FORGERY LAW**

**Article 1**

Any person who imitates, with the intention of forgery, the Royal seals and signatures, the seals of the Kingdom, or the signature and seal of the Prime Minister, and any person who uses, or facilitates the use of these seals and signatures, with his knowledge that these are forged, shall be liable to imprisonment for a term of five to ten years and to a fine ranging from RIs 5,000 to RIs 15,000.

**Article 2**

Any person who forges or imitates a seal, an insignia or a mark pertaining to any public department in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, or any of the Saudi Missions in foreign countries, or pertaining to any foreign state or any of its public departments; and any person who uses or facilitates the use of the said forged signatures, marks or seals, shall be liable to imprisonment for a term of three to five years, and to a fine ranging from RIs. 3,000 to RIs. 10,000.

**Article 3**

If the perpetrator of the acts specified under the first and second Articles of these regulations or the accomplice therein is a Government servant, or one who receives his pay from the State's treasury , he shall be liable to the maximum penalty.

However, if the actual perpetrator or the accomplice destroys the forged materials, referred to in the preceding Articles, before using them, or if he reports thereof before prosecution, he shall be exempted from punishment and penalty.

**Article 4**

Any person who forges gold, silver or metal currency, or imitates bank notes of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia or any foreign state; or circulates them inside or outside the Kingdom, or forges or imitates bank papers or corporate bonds, whether the banks and corporations are Saudi or foreign; or imitates or forges Saudi postal and revenue stamps, payment orders drawn on the treasury and treasury receipts; or makes or acquires instruments for the forgery of currencies, bonds and stamps with the intention of using them himself or by others shall be liable to imprisonment for a period extending from three to ten years, and to a fine ranging from RIs 3, 000 to RIs 10,000.

The actual perpetrator and the accomplice promoting the forged items shall, in addition to the said penalties, be fined with all the losses caused to the treasury ,corporations, banks or individuals.

Any person who informs about the crimes mentioned under this Article prior to their commitment shall be exempted from punishment. But if any person from among the perpetrators or accomplices therein informs the authorities of the crime after the start of prosecution, his penalty shall be reduced to one-third of the minimum penalty. The minimum fine may also be considered sufficient, provided that the person involved should return all the money he has earned as a result of the forgery and counterfeiting.

**Article 5**

Any employee who commits forgery, during his employment by making a false deed or a false manuscript, or by altering the real one, or if he fixes a signature, a seal or a false finger print, or destroys an official deed or papers of legal authority, whether the destruction is in full or in part, or forges an academic certificate, or a Government or private service certificate, or misuses a signature on blank forms entrusted to him, or enter false events and statements as authentic and valid; or records information or statements other than what have been stated by persons, or makes alterations in official papers, records and documents through scratching, crossing or addition, deletion or omission of words by intention; or causes a change in names written in official papers and records, an alteration in the figures in official papers and records in addition to deletion and alteration, he shall be liable to imprisonment for a term from 1 to 5 years.

**Article 6**

Ordinary persons who commit the crimes set forth in the preceding Article, or those who use the forged documents and papers mentioned therein, with the knowledge that they are forged, shall be subjected to the penalties specified in the said Article and a fine ranging from RIs. 1 ,000 to RIs. 10,000.

**Article 7**

Financial papers issued to their bearers or in favor of other persons; or financial bonds and shares, the issuance of which has been licensed in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia or in

foreign countries and the circulation of which is not banned in the Kingdom, as well as all financial bonds in general, whether they are issued to their bearers or are transferred by endorsement, shall be deemed and considered as official papers and documents with regard to all acts indicated under Article 5 of these Regulations.

**Article 8**

Any employee or person entrusted with public service or a medical or health service who issues a document, a certificate or a statement contrary to the truth and resulting in an illegal benefit or inflicting a damage upon any person, shall be liable to imprisonment for a term extending from 15 days to one year.

**Article 9**

Any person who assumes the name or signature of any of the persons specified in the preceding Article, to forge an attested document; or alter or forge an official document, an identity card, a passport, a residence permit or entry, transit, residence or exit visas from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, shall be subjected to imprisonment for a term of six months to two years and a fine ranging from RIs 100 to RIs 1,000.

**Article 10**

Any person who imitates or forges a signature or a seal of another person, or alters by scratching, crossing or changing a deed or any private document, shall be subjected to imprisonment for a term of one to three years .

**Article 11**

The persons indicated in Articles 8 and 9 shall be exempted from penalty if they confess the crimes prior to the use of forged documents and before the start of prosecution.

**ROYAL DECREE**

Date: 20.7.1379

( 19.1.1960)

**We, Saud Ibn Abdul Aziz Al Saud**

**King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,**

To ensure the circulation of genuine currency in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, safeguard the public interest in a proper manner and to protect the currency inside and outside the Kingdom,

Having regard to Articles 19 and 20 of the Charter of the Council of Ministers,

In view of the Council of Ministers' Decision No.104 dated 7-7-1379, and

In view of what has been submitted to us by the Prime Minister,

**Ordain the following:**

**Article 1**

The word "Currency" referred to in these Regulations means metal coins in the various forms irrespective of the metal they are minted of, as well as paper bank notes legally in circulation inside or outside the Kingdom.

**Article 2**

Any person who forges or imitates the currency legally in circulation inside or outside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; or brings currency in circulation which is forged or imitated, or issues, deals or promotes it by any means or method, or makes, acquires or owns without justification all or some of the machines, instruments, materials or means of forgery, in bad faith, shall be liable to imprisonment with hard labor for a period of 5 to 15 years and a fine not less than SR 30,000 and not exceeding SR 100,000.

**Article 3**

Any person who intends, in bad faith, to change the features of the currency legally in circulation inside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, or distorts, tears or washes it with a chemical material, or reduces its weight or volume, or partially destroys it by any means, shall be liable to imprisonment for a period extending from 3 to 5 years and to a fine not less than SR 3,000 and not exceeding SR 10,000, or to any of these penalties.

**Article 4**

Any person who makes or acquires, with the intention of sale, for cultural, industrial or commercial purposes, coin pieces or paper currency similar in their appearance to the currency legally in circulation inside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and if such similarity is intended for entrapping the public, by cheating, shall be subjected to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 1 year and a fine not exceeding SR 2,000, or to any of these two penalties.

**Article 5**

Any person who prints or circulates or uses, for the purposes set forth in Article 4 of these Regulations, copies representing the face or partial face of any paper currency legally in circulation in Saudi Arabia,

without having obtained a license from the authorities concerned; and if he does not abide by the restrictions stipulated in such a license, shall be liable to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 1 year and a fine not exceeding SR 1,000 or to either of these two penalties.

#### **Article 6**

Any person who accepts, in good faith, imitated or forged currency and deals with it after he has become aware of its defect, shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 1 year and a fine not exceeding SR 2,000, or to either of these two penalties.

#### **Article 7**

Any person who takes part in committing any of the crimes specified in these Regulations, whether by way of instigation, participation or assistance, shall be subjected to the same penalties as specified for that crime,

#### **Article 8**

Any person who commences to commit any of the crimes as specified in these Regulations, shall be subjected to half the penalty specified for the crime.

#### **Article 9**

The penalties as specified by these Regulations shall be applicable to crimes whether they have been committed inside or outside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

#### **Article 10**

If the perpetrators of the crimes, specified under these Regulations, inform the authorities concerned of such crimes before their completion, and if they facilitate the arrest of their accomplices, they shall be pardoned by a Royal Order on the recommendation of the Prime Minister.

#### **Article 11**

All forged and imitated currencies shall be seized, confiscated and handed over to SAMA; no value thereof shall be paid in compensation thereto in all circumstances.

#### **Article 12**

The Government shall have the right to collect the fine by obligatory execution from the fixed or movable assets of the convicted person, or in the way of coercion by imprisoning

the convicted person one day for every SR 5, provided that imprisonment should not exceed a period of 6 months.

#### **Article 13**

The Government or any person affected by the crimes specified in these Regulations may claim from the convicted person compensation for the inflicted material or moral harm.

#### **Article 14**

The Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance and National Economy and the Minister of Interior shall carry out these Regulations, each within his own jurisdiction.

#### **Article 15**

These Regulations shall be in effect as from the date of their publication in the official gazette.

#### **Royal Signature**