

## The Constitution of the United Arab Emirates of 1971

It was published in the Official Gazette, Issue 1, the first year, on 12/31/1971, and it was implemented on 12/2/1971

We are the rulers of the emirates of Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm Al Quwain and Fujairah.

Given that our will and the will of the people of our Emirates have converged to establish a union between these Emirates, in order to provide a better life, possible stability, and a higher international status for them and for all of their people. Desiring to establish closer ties between the Emirates in the form of an independent and sovereign federal state capable of preserving its entity and the entity of its members, cooperating with brotherly Arab countries, and with all other friendly countries that are members of the United Nations Organization, and in the international community in general, on the basis of mutual respect And the exchange of interests and benefits.

Desiring as well to establish the rules of federal government during the coming years on sound foundations, consistent with the reality of the Emirates and its capabilities at the present time, and freeing the hand of the Union in a way that enables it to achieve its goals, and preserves the autonomy of its members in a manner that does not contradict those goals, and prepares the people of the Union at the same time for constitutional life Free and generous, while moving

forward with it towards a full-fledged representative democratic government in an Arab Islamic society free from fear and anxiety.

Whereas achieving this is one of our dearest desires, and one of the greatest of our resolve, in our keenness to advance our country and its people to the status that qualifies them to occupy their rightful place among civilized nations and their nations.

And for all of this, and until the permanent constitution of the Union is prepared, we announce before the Creator, the Most High, the Almighty, and before all the people, our approval of this temporary constitution that accompanies our signatures to be implemented during the transitional period referred to in it.

God is the Grantor of success, and He is the best of the Lord and the best of the helper.

## Chapter One: The Union, its basic components and objectives

### Article 1

The United Arab Emirates is an independent and sovereign federal state, and hereinafter referred to in this constitution as the Union.

The federation consists of the following Emirates:

Abu Dhabi - Dubai - Sharjah - Ajman - Umm Al Quwain - Fujairah.

Any independent Arab country may join the federation, when the Federation's Supreme Council approves this by consensus.

**The final text of the article on: 30-03-1972**

The United Arab Emirates is an independent and sovereign federal state, and hereinafter referred to in this constitution as the Union.

The federation consists of the following Emirates:

Abu Dhabi - Dubai - Sharjah - Ajman - Umm Al Quwain - Fujairah - Ras Al Khaimah \*.

Any independent Arab country may join the federation, when the Federation's Supreme Council approves this by consensus.

Upon acceptance of a new member joining the federation, the Federal Supreme Council determines the number of seats to be allocated to this member in the Federal National Council in excess of the number stipulated in Article 68 of this Constitution.

\* The Federal Supreme Council approved the accession of the Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah and its annexes to the United Arab Emirates in accordance with its Resolution No. 2 of 1972 issued on 2/10/1972 and published in the Official Gazette No. 2 on 3/30/1972.

## Article 2

In the affairs entrusted to it by the provisions of this Constitution, the Federation exercises sovereignty over all lands and territorial waters located within the international borders of the member Emirates.

## Article 3

The member Emirates exercise sovereignty over their territories and territorial waters in all matters not to which the Union is concerned under this Constitution.

## Article 4

The Union may not relinquish its sovereignty, or give up any part of its lands or waters.

## Article 5

The federation shall have its own flag, emblem, and national anthem, and the law determines the flag and slogan, and each emirate maintains its own flag for use within its territory.

## Article 6

The union is part of the great Arab world, linked to it by ties of religion, language, history and a common destiny. And the people of the union is one people, and it is part of the Arab nation.

## Article 7

Islam is the official religion of the federation, and Islamic law is a main source of legislation, and the official language of the union is Arabic.

## Article 8

Citizens of the Union shall have one nationality determined by law. And abroad they shall enjoy the protection of the Federal Government, in accordance with applicable international principles.

Citizens may not be deprived of their nationality, or withdrawn from them, except in exceptional cases stipulated by law.

## Article 9

1 - The capital of the Union shall be established in an area granted to the Union by the Emirates of Abu Dhabi and Dubai on the borders between them, and it is called "Dignity".



2- The budget of the Union for the first year shall be allocated what is sufficient to cover the expenses of technical studies and planning for the establishment of the capital, provided that the work of its construction begins as soon as possible and that it is established within a period not exceeding seven years from the date this Constitution comes into effect.

3- Until the capital of the federation is established, Abu Dhabi shall be the temporary seat of the federation.

**The final text of the article on: 12/31/1996, the city of Abu Dhabi shall be the capital of the federation.**

## Article 10

The objectives of the Union are to preserve its independence, sovereignty, security and stability, to ward off any aggression against its entity or the entity of the Emirates that are members in it, to protect the rights and freedoms of the people of the Union, and to achieve close cooperation between its emirates for their common interest for these purposes, and for their prosperity and progress in all fields and the provision of a better life To all citizens, with each member emirate respecting the independence and sovereignty of other emirates in their internal affairs within the scope of this constitution.

## Article 11

- 1- The Emirates of the Union form an economic and customs unit, and federal laws regulate the appropriate progressive stages for achieving that unity.
- 2- The freedom of capital movement and the passage of all goods between the Emirates of the Union is guaranteed and may not be restricted except by a federal law.
- 3- All taxes, fees, royalties and excises imposed on the movement of goods from one emirate to another from the member Emirates shall be canceled.

## Article 12

The Union's foreign policy aims to support Arab and Islamic causes and interests, and to strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation with all states and peoples, based on the principles of the United Nations Charter and international ethics.

## Chapter Two: The basic social and economic pillars of the Federation

## Article 13

The Federation and the Emirates that are members of it shall cooperate, each within the limits of his powers and

capabilities, in implementing the provisions of this Chapter.

## Article 14

Equality, social justice, providing security, reassurance and equal opportunities for all citizens, are among the pillars of society, mutual support, compassion, and a close bond between them.

## Article 15

The family is the basis of society, its pillars are religion, morals and love of the homeland. The law guarantees and safeguards its existence and protects it from deviation.

## Article 16

With its care, society includes childhood and motherhood and protects minors and other persons who are unable to care for themselves for any reason, such as illness, disability, old age or compulsory unemployment, and it assists and rehabilitates them for their benefit and the interest of society.

Laws of public aid and social security regulate these matters.



## Article 17

Education is a fundamental factor for the advancement of society and it is compulsory in its primary stage and free in all its stages within the Union, and the law sets the necessary plans to spread and generalize education in its various degrees, and to eliminate illiteracy

## Article 18

Individuals and bodies may establish private schools in accordance with the provisions of the law, provided that they are subject to the supervision and directives of the competent public authorities.

## Article 19

Society guarantees for citizens health care, and means of prevention and treatment of diseases and epidemics. And it encourages the establishment of public and private hospitals, clinics, and treatment centers.

## Article 20

Society values work as a cornerstone of its progress. And he works to provide it to citizens and qualify them for

it. And he creates the appropriate conditions for this by setting up legislations that protect workers' rights and the interests of employers, in light of advanced global labor legislation.

## Article 21

Private property is inviolable. The law specifies the restrictions that are included in it. No one shall be deprived of his property except in cases necessitated by the public interest in accordance with the provisions of the law, and in return for a fair compensation.

## Article 22

Public funds are inviolable, and their protection is a duty of every citizen. The law defines the cases in which the violation of this duty is punishable.

## Article 23

The wealth and natural resources in each emirate are publicly owned by that emirate. Society is based on preserving them and making good use of them for the benefit of the national economy.

## Article 24

The national economy is based on social justice and its foundation is sincere cooperation between public and private activity, and its goal is to achieve economic development, increase production, raise the standard of living, and achieve prosperity for citizens within the limits of the law.

The union encourages cooperation and savings.

## Chapter Three: Public Freedoms, Rights and Duties

## Article 25

All individuals are equal before the law, and there is no discrimination between citizens of the Union on the basis of origin, nationality, religious belief or social status.

## Article 26

Personal freedom is guaranteed to all citizens. No one may be arrested, searched, detained or imprisoned except in accordance with the provisions of the law.

No one shall be subjected to torture or degrading treatment.

## Article 27

The law defines crimes and penalties. There shall be no penalty for what was done or left before the law providing for it was issued.

## Article 28

Punishment is personal. The accused is innocent until proven guilty in a legal and fair trial. The accused has the right to appoint someone who has the ability to defend him during the trial. The law specifies the circumstances in which the presence of a lawyer on behalf of the accused is required. Harming an accused physically or mentally is prohibited.

## Article 29

Citizens' freedom of movement and residence is guaranteed within the limits of the law.

## Article 30

Freedom of opinion and expression thereof through speech and writing, and all other means of expression is guaranteed within the limits of the law.



## Article 31

Freedom of postal and telegraphic correspondence and other means of communication are guaranteed in accordance with the law.

## Article 32

The freedom to perform the rites of religion in accordance with the established customs is safeguarded, provided that it does not violate the public order or contradict public morals.

## Article 33

Freedom of assembly and association are guaranteed within the limits of the law.

## Article 34

Every citizen is free to choose his job, profession or profession within the limits of the law, and with observance of the legislation governing some of these professions and trades. It is not permissible to impose compulsory work on anyone except in exceptional cases

stipulated by law, and on the condition of compensation for him. No one shall be enslaved.

### Article 35

The door to public office is open to all citizens, on the basis of equality between them in circumstances, and in accordance with the provisions of the law. Public jobs are a national service entrusted to those in charge. The public servant shall, in performing his job duties, target the public interest alone.

### Article 36

Homes are inviolable, and it is not permissible to enter them without the permission of their residents except in accordance with the provisions of the law and in the cases specified therein.

### Article 37

Citizens may not be deported or exiled from the Union.

### Article 38

Handover of citizens and political refugees is prohibited.

## Article 39

General confiscation of property is prohibited, and the penalty for private confiscation is only based on a court ruling, and in the cases stipulated by law.

## Article 40

Foreigners in the Federation shall enjoy the rights and freedoms stipulated in the applicable international conventions, or in treaties and agreements to which the Union is a party, and they shall have the corresponding duties.

## Article 41

Every person has the right to file a complaint to the competent authorities, including the judicial authorities, about the abuse of rights and freedoms stipulated in this chapter.

## Article 42

Paying the taxes and public costs legally determined is the duty of every citizen.



## Article 43

Defending the Union is a sacred duty on every citizen, and performing military service is an honor for citizens regulated by law.

## Article 44

Respecting the constitution, laws and orders issued by the public authorities to implement them, observance of public order and respect for public morals is a duty of all residents of the Federation.

## Chapter Four: Federal Authorities

## Article 45

The federal authorities consist of:

- 1- The Federal Supreme Council.
- 2- The President and Vice President of the Federation.
- 3- The Federation Council of Ministers.
- 4- The Federal National Council.
- 5- The federal judiciary.



## Chapter One: The Federal Supreme Council

### Article 46

The Federal Supreme Council is the supreme authority in it. It shall consist of the rulers of all the emirates that make up the federation, or those who take their place in their emirates, in their absence or if they are unable to attend.

Each emirate has one vote in the council's deliberations.

### Article 47

The Federal Supreme Council undertakes the following matters:

- 1- To formulate the general policy in all matters entrusted to the Federation by virtue of this Constitution, and to consider everything that would achieve the objectives of the Federation and the common interests of the member Emirates.
- 2- Ratifying the various federal laws before their issuance, including the laws of the annual general budget of the federation and the final account.
- 3- Ratification of decrees related to matters that are subject under the provisions of this constitution to ratification or approval by the Supreme Council, prior to the issuance of these decrees by the President of the Federation.



- 4- Ratification of international treaties and agreements, and this ratification shall be effected by decree.
- 5- Approving the appointment of the President of the Council of Ministers of the Union, accepting his resignation, and removing him from his post, based on the proposal of the President of the Union.
- 6- Approving the appointment of the President and Judges of the Federal Supreme Court, accepting their resignations and dismissing them in the cases stipulated in this Constitution, and all of this is done by decree.
- 7- Supreme control over the affairs of the Federation in general.
- 8- Any other competencies stipulated in this constitution or in federal laws.

## Article 48

- 1 - The Supreme Council lays down its bylaws, including the system of work in it, the method for voting on its decisions, and the Council's deliberations are confidential.
- 2- The Supreme Council establishes a general secretariat for it that is provided with a sufficient number of employees to assist it in performing its duties.

## Article 49

The decisions of the Supreme Council on substantive matters are issued by a majority of five of its members, provided that this majority includes the votes of the emirates of Abu Dhabi and Dubai. The minority is bound by the opinion of the aforementioned majority. As for the decisions of the Council on procedural matters, they are issued by the majority of votes, and the internal regulations of the Council determine these issues.

## **Article 50**

The Supreme Council shall hold its meetings in the capital of the Federation. It may be held in any other place agreed upon in advance.

## **Chapter Two: The President and Vice President of the Federation**

### **Article 51**

The Federal Supreme Council elects from among its members a president of the federation and vice president of the federation, and the vice president of the federation exercises all the powers of the president in his absence for any reason.

### **Article 52**

The term of the President and Vice President is five Gregorian years, and they may be re-elected to the same position, and each of them, upon assuming the duties of office, takes the following oath before the Supreme Council:

"I swear by Almighty God to be loyal to the United Arab Emirates, to respect its constitution and its laws, to take care of the interests of the people of the Union, to perform my duty faithfully and sincerely, and to preserve the independence of the Union and its territorial integrity."

### **Article 53**

When the position of the president or his deputy becomes vacant due to death, resignation, or the termination of the ruling of either of them in his emirate for any reason, the Supreme Council shall be called within a month from that date of the meeting, to elect a successor to fill the vacant position for the period stipulated in Article 52 of this Constitution.

When the positions of the Chairman of the Supreme Council and his deputy are both vacant, the Council shall meet immediately upon an invitation from any of its members, or from the Prime Minister of the Union, to elect a new president and deputy chairperson to fill the vacant positions.

## Article 54

The President of the Federation assumes the following competencies:

- 1- Presiding over the Supreme Council and directing its discussions.
- 2- He calls the Supreme Council to meet, and adjourns its meetings, in accordance with the procedural rules established by the Council in its bylaws, and the Council must be called to meet whenever one of its members so requests.
- 3- He calls for a joint meeting between the Supreme Council and the Council of Ministers of the Union whenever necessary.
- 4- Sign and issue federal laws, decrees and decisions approved by the Supreme Council.
- 5- He appoints the Prime Minister of the Union, accepts his resignation, and relieves him of his post with the approval of the Supreme Council. He also appoints the Deputy Prime Minister and the Ministers and accepts their resignations and relieves them from their posts based on the proposal of the Prime Minister of the Union.
- 6- He appoints diplomatic representatives of the Union to foreign countries and other senior federal employees, both civil and military (except for the President and Judges of the Federal Supreme Court) and accepts their resignations and dismisses them based on the approval of the Council of Ministers of the Union, and this



appointment or acceptance of resignation or dismissal is made by decree and in accordance with federal laws.

7 - He signs the credentials of the diplomatic representatives of the Union with foreign countries and bodies and accepts the accreditation of diplomatic and consular representatives of foreign countries with the Union and receives their credentials, as well as signs the documents of appointment and accreditation of the representatives.

8- He supervises the implementation of federal laws, decrees and decisions through the Council of Ministers of the Union and the competent ministers.

9- It represents the Union internally and towards other countries, and in all international relations.

10 - Exercise the right to pardon or reduce punishment and approve death sentences, in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution and federal laws.

11- Conferring military and civil decorations and medals of honor, in accordance with the laws pertaining to these medals and medals.

12- Any other powers that the Supreme Council conferred on or conferred upon it under the provisions of this Constitution or federal laws.

### **The final text of the article on: 24-05-2009**

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- 4- Sign and issue federal laws, decrees and decisions approved by the Supreme Council.
- 5- He appoints the Prime Minister of the Union, accepts his resignation, and relieves him of his position with the approval of the Supreme Council. He also appoints the Vice-Presidents of the Council of Ministers of the Union and the Ministers and accepts their resignations and relieves them from their posts based on the proposal of the Prime Minister of the Union.
- 6- He appoints diplomatic representatives of the Union to foreign countries and other senior federal employees, both civil and military (except for the President and Judges of the Federal Supreme Court) and accepts their resignations and dismisses them based on the approval of the Council of Ministers of the Union, and this appointment or acceptance of resignation or dismissal is made by decree and in accordance with federal laws.
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12- Any other powers that the Supreme Council conferred on or conferred upon it under the provisions of this Constitution or federal laws.

## Chapter Three: The Council of Ministers of the Union

### Article 55

The Federal Council of Ministers consists of the Prime Minister, his deputy, and a number of ministers. Final text of the article on: 24-05-2009 The Federal Council of Ministers consists of the Prime Minister, his deputies, and a number of ministers.



## Article 56

Ministers shall be chosen from among citizens of the Union known for their competence and experience.

## Article 57

Before assuming the burdens of their positions before the President of the Union, the Prime Minister, his deputy and the ministers shall swear the following oath: "I swear by God Almighty to be loyal to the United Arab Emirates and to respect the constitution and laws of the Union, to perform my duties in trust and to fully take care of the interests of the people of the Union, and to maintain full conservatism on The entity of the Union and its territorial integrity. "

**The final text of the article on: 24-05-2009**

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## Article 58

The law defines the functions of the ministries and the powers of each minister, and the first Federal Council of Ministers includes the following ministries:

- 1- External 2- Internal.
- 3- Defense 4- Finance, Economy and Industry.
- 5- Justice 6- Education.
- 7- Public Health 8- Public Works and Agriculture.
- 9- Transportation, post, telegraph and phone 10- Labor and social affairs.
- 11- Information 12- Planning.

## Article 59

The Prime Minister presides over the Council's sessions, invites it to convene, manages its discussions, follows up the activities of the ministers, and oversees the coordination of work between the various ministries and in all the executive bodies of the Union. The Deputy Prime Minister exercises all the powers of the President in his absence for any reason. The final text of the article dated 05-24-2009, the Prime Minister shall preside over the Council's sessions, invite it to convene, manage its discussions, follow up on the ministries 'activities, and supervise the coordination of work between the various

ministries and in all the executive bodies of the Union. A deputy prime minister exercises all the powers of the president when he is absent for any reason, as assigned by the President of the Union based on the recommendation of the Prime Minister.

## Article 60

The Council of Ministers, in its capacity as the executive body of the Federation and under the supreme control of the President of the Federation and the Supreme Council, shall manage all the internal and external affairs of the Federation under this Constitution and federal laws.

In particular, the Council of Ministers exercises the following powers:

- 1- Follow up the implementation of the general policy of the Union government at home and abroad.
- 2- Proposing draft federal laws and referring them to the Federal National Council before submitting them to the President of the Union for presentation to the Supreme Council for approval.
- 3- Preparing the federation's annual general budget project, and the final account.
- 4- Preparing various draft decrees and decisions.
- 5- Laying down the necessary regulations for the implementation of federal laws in a manner that does not include amendment, suspension, or exemption from their implementation, as well as control regulations, and



regulations for arranging public administrations and interests, within the limits of the provisions of this constitution and federal laws. The competent federal authority or any other administrative body to issue some of these regulations.

6- Supervising the implementation of federal laws, decrees, regulations and decisions by all concerned authorities in the federation or the Emirates.

7- Supervising the implementation of federal court rulings, and international treaties and agreements concluded by the Federation.

8- Appointing and dismissing federal employees, in accordance with the provisions of the law, from those whose appointment or dismissal does not require the issuance of decrees.

9 - Monitoring the functioning of federal public administrations and interests, and the conduct and discipline of the Union's employees in general.

10- Any other powers conferred upon it by law or the Supreme Council within the limits of this Constitution.

## Article 61

The deliberations of the Council of Ministers are confidential and its decisions are issued by the majority of all its members. When votes are equal, the side in which the president is headed will prevail.

The minority is bound by the majority opinion.

## Article 62

It is not permissible for the Prime Minister, his deputy, or any federal minister, during his tenure, to engage in any professional, commercial or financial business, or to enter into a commercial transaction with the federal government or the governments of the Emirates, or to combine his position with membership in the board of directors of a commercial company Or financial. It is also not permissible for him to combine to his position more than one official position in one of the Emirates while giving up all his other local official positions, if any.

### **The final text of the article on: 24-05-2009**

It is not permissible for the Prime Minister, his deputies, or any federal minister, during his tenure to engage in any professional, commercial or financial work, or to enter into a commercial transaction with the federal government or the governments of the Emirates, or to combine more than one official position in the government to his position. One of the Emirates.

## Article 63

The members of the Council of Ministers should target their behavior towards the interests of the Union, uphold the word of public interest, deny self-interests completely, and not exploit their official positions. In any way for

their benefit or for the benefit of those with whom they have a special relationship.

## Article 64

The Prime Minister and the Ministers are collectively responsible politically before the President of the Federation and the Supreme Council of the Federation for the implementation of the Federation's general policy at home and abroad. Each of them is personally responsible to the President of the Federation and the Supreme Council for the activities of his ministry or his position. The resignation of the Prime Minister, his removal from office, his death, or the vacancy of his position for any reason whatsoever leads to the resignation of the entire cabinet. The President of the Union may request the ministers to remain in their positions temporarily, to discharge urgent matters until the formation of the new cabinet.

### **The final text of the article on: 24-05-2009**

The Prime Minister, his deputies and the ministers are politically responsible before the President of the Federation and the Supreme Council of the Union for the implementation of the Union's general policy at home and abroad. Each of them is personally responsible to the President of the Federation and the Supreme Council for the activities of his ministry or his position. The resignation of the Prime Minister, his removal from office, his death, or the vacancy of his position for any reason

whatsoever lead to the resignation of the entire cabinet. The President of the Union may request the ministers to remain in their posts temporarily, to discharge urgent matters until the formation of the new cabinet.

## Article 65

The Council of Ministers submits to the President of the Union for presentation to the Supreme Council, at the beginning of each fiscal year, a detailed report on the work carried out at home, and on the Union's relations with other countries and international organizations, coupled with the ministry's recommendations on the best means to consolidate the foundations of the Union, enhance its security and stability, and achieve its goals and progress In all fields.

## Article 66

- 1- The Council of Ministers sets its internal regulations, including the system for its workflow.
- 2- The Council of Ministers establishes a general secretariat for it, which is provided with a number of employees to help it perform its duties.

## Article 67



The law shall determine the salaries of the prime minister, his deputy, and all other ministers.

**The final text of the article on: 24-05-2009**

The law shall determine the salaries of the Prime Minister, his deputies, and all other ministers.

## Chapter Four: The Federal National Council

The first branch: general provisions

### Article 68

The Federal National Council is made up of 34 members, and the number of council seats is distributed among the member Emirates as follows:

Abu Dhabi - 8 seats

Dubai - 8 seats

Sharjah - 6 seats

Ajman - 4 seats

Umm Al Quwain - 4 seats

Fujairah - 4 seats

**The final text of the article on: 30-03-1972**

The Federal National Council is made up of 40 members, and the number of council seats is distributed among the member Emirates as follows:

Abu Dhabi - 8 seats

Dubai - 8 seats



Sharjah - 6 seats

Ajman - 4 seats

Umm Al Quwain - 4 seats

Fujairah - 4 seats

Ras Al Khaimah - 6 seats

## Article 69

Each emirate is left to determine the method for selecting the citizens to represent it in the Federal National Council.

## Article 70

A member of the Federal National Council:

- 1- He shall be a citizen of one of the Emirates of the Union, and permanently resident in the emirate he represents in the Council.
- 2- His age shall not be less than twenty-five years of the Gregorian calendar when chosen.
- 3- He must be of good civil capacity, of good conduct, and of good reputation. He has never been convicted of a dishonorable crime, unless he has been rehabilitated according to the law.
- 4- To have sufficient knowledge of reading and writing.



## Article 71

It is not permissible to combine membership of the Federal National Council with any public office in the Federation, including ministerial positions.

## Article 72

The term of membership in the Council is two Gregorian years, starting from the date of its first meeting, after which the Council determines a renewal for the remaining period until the end of the transition period referred to in Article 144 of this Constitution. Members may re-select those whose membership has expired.

**The final text of the article on: 24-05-2009**

The term of membership in the Council is four Gregorian years, starting from the date of its first meeting.

## Article 73

Before a member of the Federal National Council begins his work, the Council and its committees shall take the following oath before the Council in an open session:

"I swear by God Almighty to be loyal to the United Arab Emirates and to respect the constitution and laws of the

Union, and to perform my duties in the Council and its committees honestly and sincerely."

## **Article 74**

If the place of a member of the council becomes vacant before the end of his term of membership for any reason, then a replacement shall be chosen within two months from the date of the council announcing this vacancy, unless the vacancy occurs during the three months preceding the end of the term of the council. The new member completes the term of membership of his predecessor.

## **Article 75**

The Council shall hold its sessions at the headquarters of the capital of the Union, and it may be held anywhere else within the Union, based on a decision taken by the Council with the majority of votes of all its members and with the approval of the Council of Ministers.

## **Article 76**

The Board shall decide on the validity of the representation of its members, and the revocation of membership from them if they lose one of its conditions, by a majority of all its members based on the proposal of

five of them. He is the competent authority to accept resignations from membership, and the resignation is considered final from the date of the Council's acceptance of it.

## Article 77

A member of the Federal Council represents the entire people of the Union, not just the emirate he represents within the Council.

The second branch: the work system in the council

## Article 78

The Council holds a regular annual session of no less than six months' duration, starting in the third week of November of each year, and it can be called to meet in an extraordinary session whenever the need arises. As an exception to the provisions of the previous paragraph, the President of the Federation calls the Federal National Council to hold its first regular session within a period not exceeding sixty days from the date this Constitution comes into force, and this session ends on the date determined by the Supreme Council by decree.

**The final text of the article on: 24-05-2009**

The Council holds an ordinary annual session of no less than seven months, beginning in the third week of October of each year, and it can be called to convene in

an extraordinary session when the necessity arises, and the Council in an extraordinary session may not consider matters other than those that are invited from Put it off.

## Article 79

Calling the council to convene and closing the session shall be by a "decree" issued by the president of the union with the approval of the council of ministers of the union, and every meeting held by the council without an official call to convene, or in a place other than the legal place decided to hold its meetings under this constitution is considered null and has no effect. Nevertheless, if the Council is not convened for its annual ordinary session before the third week of November, it shall convene on its own accord on the twenty first of the said month.

## Article 80

The President of the Union opens the regular annual session of the Council, and delivers a speech in it that includes the conditions of the country, the most important events and important affairs that took place during the year, and the projects and reforms that the Union government intends to undertake during the new session. The President of the Union may delegate his deputy or the President of the Council of Ministers of the Union to open or deliver a speech. The Federal Council must choose a committee from among its members to

prepare a draft response to the opening speech, including the council's observations and wishes, and the response, after its approval, is submitted by the Council to the President of the Union, for presentation to the Supreme Council.

## Article 81

Members of the Council shall not be held accountable for the ideas and opinions they express while carrying out their work within the Council or its committees.

## Article 82

It is not permissible during the session of the Council, and in cases other than flagrante delicto, to take any penal measures against any of its members without the permission of the Council, and in the event that such measures are taken in the absence of the Council, he must be notified of them.

## Article 83

From the date of taking the oath before the Council, the Chairman of the Council and all its members shall be entitled to a reward specified by law, and a transportation allowance from their place of residence to the seat of the Council's meetings.

## Article 84

The council shall have a bureau body consisting of a president, a first deputy and a second deputy, and two observers, all of whom are chosen by the council from among its members. The term of the chairman and his two deputies ends with the end of the term of the council or its dissolution in accordance with the provisions of the second paragraph of Article (88).

The term of the observers ends with the selection of new observers at the beginning of the next regular annual session, and if one of the positions in the bureau becomes vacant, the council chooses the one to occupy it for the remaining period.

## Article 85

The Council shall have a Secretary General, assisted by a number of employees who report directly to the Council. The internal regulations of the council determine the conditions of their service and their specializations. The Council shall draw up its internal regulations, and it is issued by decree issued by the President of the Union with the approval of the Council of Ministers. The internal regulations define the terms of reference of the council chairman, his two deputies, observers and in general everything related to the affairs of the council, its committees, members, its secretariat

and its employees, the rules and procedures for discussion and voting in the council and committees, and other matters within the limits of the provisions of this constitution.

**The final text of the article on: 24-05-2009**

The Council shall have a general secretariat headed by a Secretary General, and the internal regulations define its terms of reference, and the Council undertakes the drafting of its bylaws, and it is issued by a decision of the President of the Federation upon the approval of the Federal Supreme Council.

**Article 86**

Council sessions are public. The sessions are held in secret if the representative of the government, the speaker or one-third of its members so request.

**Article 87**

Council deliberations are not valid unless attended by at least the majority of its members. Decisions are issued by the absolute majority of the votes of the attending members, in other than cases where a special majority is required, and if the votes are equal, the side in which the session chair is cast shall prevail.



## Article 88

By decree issued by the President of the Union with the approval of the Council of Ministers of the Union, meetings of the Council may be postponed for a period not exceeding one month, provided that this is not repeated in one session except with the approval of the Council and for one time. The postponement period is not counted within the period of the regular session.

In addition, by decree issued by the President of the Federation with the approval of the Supreme Council of the Union, the Federal National Council may be dissolved, provided that the dissolution decree includes calling the new council to convene within a period not exceeding sixty days from the date of the dissolution decree. The council may not be dissolved again for the same reasons.

The third branch: the powers of the council

## Article 89

Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 110, draft federal laws, including draft financial laws, shall be presented to the Federal National Council before they are submitted to the President of the Union for submission to the Supreme Council for approval. The Federal National Council discusses these projects and may approve, amend or reject them.



## Article 90

The council considers during its regular session the draft annual general budget bill of the federation and the final account bill in accordance with the provisions contained in Chapter Eight of this Constitution.

## Article 91

The government shall inform the Federal Council of international treaties and agreements that it concludes with other states and various international organizations, accompanied by an appropriate statement.

### **The final text of the article on: 24-05-2009**

The government is responsible for informing the Federal National Council of international treaties and agreements that it concludes with other countries and various international organizations, accompanied by appropriate statements, and the international treaties and agreements that the Federal National Council must discuss before ratifying them are determined by a decision of the President of the Union.

## Article 92

The Federal National Council may discuss any of the general topics related to the affairs of the Union unless the Council of Ministers informs the Federal National Council that discussing that topic is contrary to the supreme interests of the Union, and the Prime Minister or the competent minister attends the debate, and the Federal National Council may express its recommendations and specify the topics it discusses and if The Cabinet did not approve those recommendations and notified the Federal National Council of the reasons for this.

## Article 93

The Federal Government shall be represented in the sessions of the Federal National Council by the Prime Minister or his deputy, or at least one of the members of the Federal Ministry. The prime minister, his deputy, or the competent minister answers the questions that any member of the council addresses to inquire about matters falling within their competencies, in accordance with the procedures established in the council's internal regulations.

**The final text of the article on: 24-05-2009**

The government of the Union is represented in sessions of the Federal National Council, the Prime Minister or one of his deputies or at least one of the members of the Federal Ministry. The prime minister, one of his deputies,

or the competent minister answers the questions that any member of the council asks them to inquire about matters falling within their competencies, in accordance with the procedures established in the council's internal regulations.

## Chapter Five: The Judiciary in the Federation and the Emirates

### Article 94

Justice is the basis of ruling. Judges are independent, and they are subject to no authority but the law and their conscience in the performance of their duties.

### Article 95

The Federation shall have a Supreme Federal Court and Federal Courts of First Instance, as indicated in the following articles.

### Article 96

The Federal Supreme Court shall be made up of a president and a number of judges not exceeding five, all of whom are appointed by a decree issued by the President of the Federation after the approval of the Supreme Council. The law determines the number of court

departments, their system, procedures, conditions of service and retirement for its members, and the conditions and qualifications that must be met by them.

## Article 97

The President and Judges of the Federal Supreme Court are not dismissed while assuming the judiciary, and their term does not end except for one of the following reasons:

- 1- Death.
- 2- Resignation.
- 3- The termination of their contractual contracts or the term of their secondment.
- 4- Reaching the retirement age.
- 5- It is proved that they are unable to carry out their duties for health reasons.
- 6- Disciplinary dismissal based on the reasons and procedures stipulated in the law.
- 7- Assigning other positions to them with their approval.

## Article 98

Before assuming their duties, the President and Judges of the Federal Supreme Court swear an oath before the President of the Federation, in the presence of the Federal

Minister of Justice, that they rule with justice without fear or favoritism, and that they are loyal to the constitution and laws of the Union.

## Article 99

The Federal Supreme Court shall have jurisdiction over the following matters:

- 1- Various disputes between Emirates members of the Federation, or between any one or more emirates and the Union government, whenever these disputes are referred to the court upon the request of any of the parties concerned.
- 2- Examine the constitutionality of federal laws, if they are challenged by one or more emirates for violating the constitution of the Union. And examine the constitutionality of legislation issued by one of the Emirates, if it is challenged by one of the federal authorities, because it violates the constitution of the Union, or federal laws.
- 3- Examine the constitutionality of laws, legislations and regulations in general, if this request is referred to it by any of the country's courts during a case pending before it, and the aforementioned court must abide by the Federal Supreme Court's decision in this regard.
- 4- Interpretation of the provisions of the constitution if requested to do so by one of the authorities of the

Federation or the government of one of the Emirates, and this interpretation shall be deemed binding on all.

5- Accountability of ministers and senior officials of the Union appointed by decree for their actions in the performance of their official duties, upon the request of the Supreme Council and in accordance with the relevant law.

6- Crimes that directly affect the interests of the Federation, such as crimes related to its security at home or abroad, crimes of forging documents or official seals of a federal authority, and crimes of counterfeiting currency.

7 - Conflict of jurisdiction between the federal judiciary and local judicial bodies in the Emirates.

8 - Conflict of jurisdiction between a judicial body in an emirate and a judicial body in another emirate, and the rules for this shall be regulated by federal law.

9- Any other competencies stipulated in this constitution or that may be referred to it according to a federal law.

## **Article 100**

The Federal Supreme Court holds its sessions at the headquarters of the capital of the Union. It may exceptionally convene when necessary in any capital of the Emirates.

## Article 101

Judgments of the Federal Supreme Court are final and binding on all. If the court decides, when ruling on the constitutionality of laws, legislations and regulations, that whatever federal legislation is contrary to the constitution of the federation, or that the local legislation or regulation under consideration includes a violation of the constitution of the federation or a federal law, the relevant authority in the federation or in the Emirates, as the case may be, shall take the initiative. To take the necessary measures to remove or correct the constitutional violation.

## Article 102

The Federation shall have one or more Federal Courts of First Instance that meet in the permanent capital of the Federation or in some capitals of the Emirates to exercise jurisdiction in the area of its jurisdiction in the following cases:

- 1- Civil, commercial and administrative disputes between the federation and individuals, whether the union is a plaintiff or a defendant therein.
- 2 - Crimes that are committed within the boundaries of the permanent federal capital, with the exception of what the Federal Supreme Court has jurisdiction to consider under Article 99 of this Constitution.



3- Personal status, civil, commercial and other issues between individuals that arise in the permanent federal capital.

### **Article 103**

The law regulates everything related to the federal courts of first instance in terms of their arrangement, composition, departments, and spatial jurisdiction, the procedures to be followed before them, the oaths that the judges of these courts take, the terms of service related to them, and the methods for challenging their judgments. The law may provide for the appeals of the rulings of those courts to one of the departments of the Supreme Federal Court in the cases and with the procedures it specifies.

### **Article 104**

The local judicial bodies in each emirate shall handle all judicial matters not entrusted to the federal judiciary under the provisions of this constitution.

### **Article 105**

A federal law issued upon the request of the concerned emirate may transfer all or some of the powers that its local judicial bodies assume in accordance with the

previous article to the federal courts of first instance. A federal law shall also determine the cases in which the decisions of the local judicial authorities in criminal, civil, commercial and other cases may be appealed before the federal courts, provided that their serving when deciding on this appeal is final.

## Article 106

The Union shall have a General Prosecutor appointed by a federal decree issued with the approval of the Council of Ministers, and the Public Prosecutor shall be assisted by a number of members of the Public Prosecution. The law regulates the affairs related to the members of the Federal Public Prosecution, in terms of the method of appointing its members, their ranks, promotions, retirement, and the qualifications they must meet. The Federal Criminal Procedures and Trials Law also regulates the powers and procedures of this body, and the powers of its officers, including public and police officers.

## Article 107

The President of the Federation may pardon the execution of a sentence imposed by a federal judicial authority, before the execution of the ruling, or during the execution, or to reduce this penalty, based on the proposal of the Federal Minister of Justice, and after the approval of a committee formed by the Minister, from six members

selected by the Council of Ministers of the Union For a period of three years, renewable, from among the opinion and sufficiency citizens in the country. Membership in the committee is free of charge, its deliberation is confidential, and its decisions are issued by the majority of votes.

### Article 108

A final death sentence issued by a federal judicial authority shall not be executed except after the president of the federation has approved the verdict, and he may substitute it with another punishment that is lighter, taking into account the procedures stipulated in the previous article.

### Article 109

A blanket amnesty for a specific crime or crimes can only be granted by law. As a result of the issuance of the amnesty law, those crimes are considered as if they did not exist, and exemption from the execution of the punishment or the remainder of it.

Chapter Five: Federal legislation and decrees and the authorities concerned with them

## Chapter One: Federal Laws

### Article 110

1- Federal laws are issued in accordance with the provisions of this Article and other appropriate provisions of the Constitution.

2- The bill shall become law after taking the following measures: -

A- The Council of Ministers prepares the bill and submits it to the Federal National Council.

B - The Council of Ministers shall submit the draft law to the President of the Union for approval and to present it to the Supreme Council for approval.

C - The President of the Federation signs the law after its approval by the Supreme Council and promulgates it.

3- a - If the Federal National Council introduces an amendment to the draft law and this amendment is not acceptable to the President of the Federation or the Supreme Council, or if the Federal National Council rejects the draft, the President of the Federation or the Supreme Council may return it to the Federal National Council. In this regard, any amendment that was not acceptable to the President of the Federation or the Supreme Council, or the Federal National Council decided to reject the project, the President of the Union had to issue the law after the Supreme Council approved it.

B - The phrase "draft law" in this paragraph means the draft submitted to the President of the Union by the

Council of Ministers, including the amendments made to it by the Federal National Council, if any.

4- Nevertheless, if the situation requires the issuance of federal laws in the absence of the Federal National Council, the Council of Ministers of the Union may issue them from the Supreme Council and the President of the Union, provided that he notifies the Federal Council about them at its first meeting.

## **Article 111**

Laws are published in the official gazette of the federation within two weeks at most from the date of their signature and promulgation by the president of the federation, after ratification by the supreme council, and they shall come into force one month after the date of their publication in the aforementioned newspaper, unless another date is stipulated in the same law.

## **Article 112**

The provisions of the laws do not apply except to what occurs from the date of their enforcement, and they have no effect on what occurs before this date, and it is permissible when necessary, and in other than the penal provisions, to stipulate otherwise in the law.

## Chapter Two: Laws Decrees

### Article 113

If something occurs between the sessions of the Supreme Council, which necessitates the speedy issuance of federal laws that cannot be delayed, then the President of the Union and the Council of Ministers together may issue the necessary of them, in the form of decrees that have the force of law, provided that they are not contrary to the constitution.

These decrees must be presented to the Supreme Council within a week at most, to consider their approval or repeal. If approved, it confirms the force of law they had, and the Federal National Council shall be notified of them at its first meeting.

However, if the Supreme Council does not approve it, then the force of law it possessed shall vanish, unless it deems it to be enforced in the previous period, or to settle the effects arising therefrom in another way.

## Chapter Three: Ordinary Decrees

### Article 114

No decree is issued unless it is approved by the Council of Ministers and approved by the President of the Federation or the Supreme Council, each according to his competence. The decrees are published after their signature by the President of the Federation in the Official Gazette.

## Article 115

The Supreme Council may authorize the President of the Union and the Council of Ministers collectively to issue what is required to be issued in the absence of the Supreme Council of decrees that the aforementioned Council has the authority to ratify, provided that this authorization does not include approval of international treaties and agreements, declaring martial law and raising them, declaring a defensive war or designating President or judges of the Federal Supreme Court.

## Chapter Six: The Emirates

## Article 116

The UAE assumes all the powers not assigned to the federation by this constitution, and they all participate in its construction and benefit from its existence, services and protection.

## Article 117

The ruling in each emirate aims in particular at maintaining security and order within its territories, providing public facilities, and raising the social and economic level in it.

## Article 118

The member Emirates of the Federation shall all work to coordinate their legislations in various fields with a view to unifying them as much as possible.

Two or more Emirates may, after approval by the Supreme Council, agglomerate into a political or administrative unit or unify all or some of its public facilities, or establish a single or joint administration to carry out any of these facilities.

## Article 119

A federal law shall regulate matters relating to the execution of judgments and judicial deputations, the announcement of judicial papers, and the handover of fugitives from justice between the Emirates members of the Federation, with the greatest possible consideration.

Chapter Seven: Distribution of legislative, executive and international powers between the Federation and the Emirates

## Article 120

The Federation is unique for legislation and implementation in the following matters: -



- 1- Foreign affairs.
- 2- Defense and the Federal Armed Forces.
- 3- Protecting the Union's security from what threatens it from outside or inside.
- 4- Security, order and governance affairs in the permanent capital of the federation.
- 5- The affairs of the employees of the Federation and the Federal Judiciary.
- 6- Federal finance, taxes, fees and federal revenues.
- 7- Federal public loans.
- 8- Postal, telegraphic, telephone and wireless services.
- 9 - Construction of federal roads that the Supreme Council determines are major roads, and their maintenance and improvement, and regulating traffic on these roads.
- 10- Air traffic control and issuance of licenses for pilots and pilots.
- 11- Education.
- 12- Public health and medical services.
- 13- Cash and currency.
- 14- Measures, weights and measures.
- 15- Electricity services.
- 16- Federal nationality, passports, residence and immigration.
- 17- Union property and everything related to it.

18- Census and statistical affairs related to the Federation's purposes.

19- Federal Media.

## Article 121

Without prejudice to what is stipulated in the previous article, the Federation shall have the exclusive legislation in the following matters:

Labor and worker relations and social insurance - Real estate ownership and expropriation for the public benefit - extradition of criminals - banks - insurance of all kinds - protection of agricultural and animal wealth - major legislation related to penal laws, civil and commercial transactions and companies, procedures before civil and penal courts - protection of literary, artistic and industrial property and the rights of authors - Publications and publishing - Importing weapons and ammunition unless they are for use by the armed forces or security forces of any emirate - Other aviation matters that do not fall within the Union's executive powers - Defining territorial waters and organizing navigation in the high seas.

### **The final text of the article on: 31-01-2004**

Without prejudice to what is stipulated in the previous article, the Federation is unique to legislate in the following matters: -

Labor relations, workers and social insurance - real estate ownership and expropriation for the public benefit -

extradition of criminals - banks - insurance of all kinds - protection of agricultural and animal wealth - major legislation related to penal laws, civil and commercial transactions, companies and procedures before civil and penal courts - protection of literary, artistic and industrial property and the rights of authors. Publications and publications - import of weapons and ammunition unless they are for the use of the armed forces or security forces of any emirate - other aviation affairs that do not fall within the executive powers of the union - delineation of territorial waters and the regulation of navigation on the high seas - the organization and method of establishing financial free zones and the scope of their exclusion from the application of provisions Federal legislation.

## Article 122

The Emirates shall have jurisdiction over everything that is not unique to the federal authorities in accordance with the provisions of the two previous articles.

## Article 123

As an exception to the text of Article 120, Clause 1, regarding the federation's uniqueness in the first place in foreign affairs and international relations, the member Emirates of the Union may conclude limited agreements of a local administrative nature with neighboring states and countries, provided that they do not conflict with the

interests of the Union or with federal laws, provided that the Federal Supreme Council is notified in advance. If the Council objects to the conclusion of such agreements, the matter must be postponed until the Federal Court decides on this objection as soon as possible. The UAE may also retain its membership in the OPEC and the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries, or join them.

## Article 124

The competent federal authorities shall, before concluding any treaty or international agreement that may affect the private status of one of the Emirates, seek the opinion of this emirate in advance and in case of disagreement the matter shall be submitted to the Federal Supreme Court for a decision.

## Article 125

The governments of the Emirates shall take all necessary measures to implement the laws issued by the Federation and the international treaties and agreements entered into, including issuing laws, regulations, decisions and local orders necessary for this implementation. The federal authorities shall supervise the implementation of the laws, decisions, international treaties and agreements, and federal judicial rulings by the UAE governments. The competent administrative and judicial authorities in the

Emirates shall provide all possible assistance to the Union authorities in this regard.

## Chapter Eight: Financial Affairs of the Union

### Article 126

The general revenue of the Federation consists of the following resources:

- 1- Taxes, fees, and royalties imposed by virtue of a federal law in matters falling within the jurisdiction of the Federation in terms of legislation and implementation.
- 2- Fees and wages collected by the Federation in return for the services it performs.
- 3- The share that the member Emirates of the Federation contribute to its annual budget in accordance with the following article.
- 4- Revenue of the Union from its own properties.

### Article 127

The member Emirates of the Federation allocate a certain percentage of their annual resources to cover the annual general budget expenditures of the Federation in the manner and to the extent specified by the budget law.

### Article 128

The law defines the rules for preparing the Federation's general budget, the final account, and determines the start of the fiscal year.

## **Article 129**

The draft annual budget of the federation, including estimates of revenues and expenditures, shall be submitted at least two months before the start of the fiscal year to the Federal National Council for discussion and comments on it before submitting the draft budget to the Federal Supreme Council, accompanied by these observations for approval.

## **Article 130**

The annual general budget is issued by law. In all cases in which the budget law is not issued before the start of the fiscal year, a federal decree may approve temporary monthly appropriations, on the basis of part of twelve of the appropriations of the previous fiscal year, and the revenues and expenditures are collected in accordance with the laws in effect at the end of the previous fiscal year.

## **Article 131**

Every expense not included in the budget, or in excess of the estimates stated therein, and every transfer of any

amount from one chapter to another of the budget chapters, must be made by law. Nevertheless, in case of urgent necessity, this exchange or transfer may be decided by decree-law in accordance with the provisions of Article (113) of this Constitution.

## Article 132

The Federation allocates in its annual budget amounts from its revenues to spend on construction and reconstruction projects, internal security and social affairs according to the urgent need of some emirates, and these projects are implemented and spent on them from the appropriations of these amounts by the competent federation bodies and under their supervision in agreement with the authorities of the concerned emirate. The Federation may establish a special fund for these purposes.

## Article 133

No federal tax may be imposed, modified, or abolished except by law. No one may be exempt from paying these taxes in cases other than those stipulated in the law. It is also not permissible to assign anyone to pay federal funds, fees, or royalties except within the limits of the law and in accordance with its provisions.

## Article 134

It is not permissible to contract public loans or commit to obligations that entail spending sums from the Federation's public treasury in a year or years to come, except by a federal law.

## Article 135

The final account of the financial management of the federation for the past fiscal year, it is submitted to the Federal National Council during the four months following the end of the aforementioned year to make its observations on it, before it is submitted to the Supreme Council for approval, in light of the report of the General Auditor.

## Article 136

An independent federal administration shall be established, headed by a general auditor, whose appointment shall be by decree, to audit the accounts of the federation and its subsidiary bodies and bodies, as well as to audit any other accounts entrusted to the aforementioned administration to audit, in accordance with the law.



The law organizes this administration and defines its functions, the powers of its employees, and the guarantees that must be provided to it, its head and its employees, in order to carry out their duties in the best way possible.

## Chapter Nine: Armed Forces and Security Forces

### Article 137

Every assault on any of the emirates that are members of the federation is considered an assault on them all, against the federation entity itself, and all federal and local forces shall cooperate to push it, by all possible means.

### Article 138

The Federation shall have armed land, sea, and air forces, unified in training and leadership, and the commander in chief of these forces and the Chief of General Staff shall be appointed and relieved of their positions by a federal decree. The federation may also have federal security forces.

The Council of Ministers of the Union is responsible directly to the President of the Federation and the Supreme Council of the Union for the affairs of all these forces.

### Article 139

The law regulates military service, general or partial mobilization, the rights and duties of members of the armed forces, rules for their discipline, as well as regulations for federal security forces.

## Article 140

The declaration of the establishment of a defensive war shall be by a decree issued by the President of the Federation after the approval of the Supreme Council. As for the offensive war, it is forbidden pursuant to the provisions of international covenants.

## Article 141

A Higher Defense Council shall be established under the chairmanship of the President of the Union, and among its members shall be the Vice President of the Union, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Union, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Defense, Finance and Interior, Commander-in-Chief, and the Chief of the General Staff, in order to give opinion and advice in everything related to defense affairs, preserve the safety and security of the Union, and prepare and equip the armed forces And developing it, and determining its places of residence and camps.

The council may invite to its sessions those who see their invitation from military advisors, experts and others,

without having a counted opinion in the deliberations. The law regulates everything related to this council.

## Article 142

The member Emirates shall have the right to establish local armed forces that are capable and equipped to be joined by the defense apparatus of the Union when necessary to defend against any external aggression.

**The final text of the article is dated 11/15-1976**

The state alone shall have the right to establish the armed, land, sea and air forces.

## Article 143

Any emirate of the Emirates has the right to request the assistance of the armed forces or the federal security forces to maintain security and order within their territories if they are exposed to danger, and this request shall be immediately submitted to the Supreme Council of the Union, to decide what it deems necessary.

The Supreme Council may seek, for this purpose, the local armed forces of an emirate, subject to the approval of the emirate requesting assistance and the emirate to which those forces are affiliated. The President of the Union and the Federal Council of Ministers collectively, if the Supreme Council is not in session, may take the

necessary urgent measures that cannot be delayed and call the Supreme Council to convene immediately.

## Chapter Ten: Final and Temporary Provisions

### Article 144

1- Subject to the provisions of the following paragraphs, the provisions of this Constitution shall be enforced during a transitional period of five Gregorian years starting from the date of its entry into force in accordance with the provisions of Article (152).

2- a) If the Supreme Council deems that the supreme interests of the Union require the amendment of this constitution, then a draft constitutional amendment shall be submitted to the Federal National Council.

B) The procedures for approving a constitutional amendment are the same as procedures for approving a law.

C) For the Federal National Council to approve a draft constitutional amendment, the approval of two-thirds of the votes of the attending members is required.

D) The President of the Union shall sign and issue the constitutional amendment in the name of the Supreme Council and on his behalf.

3- During the transition period, the Supreme Council shall take the necessary measures to prepare a draft permanent constitution to replace this temporary constitution. The draft permanent constitution is

presented to the Federal National Council for discussion prior to its issuance.

4- The Supreme Council calls for an extraordinary meeting of the Federal National Council no later than six months before the expiration of the period of validity of this temporary constitution,

The permanent draft constitution will be presented at this meeting, and the procedures stipulated in the second paragraph of this article shall be followed in issuing it.

**The final text of the article is dated 12-31-1996**

A) If the Supreme Council considers that the supreme interests of the Union require the amendment of this constitution, then a draft constitutional amendment shall be submitted to the Federal National Council.

B) The procedures for approving the constitutional amendment shall be the same as procedures for approving the law.

C) For the Federal National Council to approve a draft constitutional amendment, the approval of two-thirds of the votes of the attending members is required.

D) The President of the Union shall sign and issue the constitutional amendment in the name of the Supreme Council and on his behalf.

## Article 145

In no case may any of the provisions of this Constitution be suspended, except while martial law is in force and within the limits specified by the law regulating those provisions. However, the meeting of the Federal National Council may not be suspended during that time, or the immunity of its members may be infringed.

## Article 146

The proclamation of martial law shall be by a decree issued with the approval of the Supreme Council based on the proposal of the President of the Union and the approval of the Council of Ministers of the Union in cases of necessity specified by the law, and this decree shall be communicated to the Federal National Council at its first meeting. Martial law is lifted by decree issued with the approval of the Supreme Council as well, whenever the necessity that necessitated its declaration ceases.

## Article 147

The application of this constitution shall not prejudice the treaties or agreements that the Emirates members of the Union have bound with the states and international bodies, unless they are amended or canceled by agreement between the parties concerned.

## Article 148

Everything decided by laws, regulations, decrees, orders and decisions in force upon the entry into force of this Constitution, in the various member Emirates of the Union and according to the conditions prevailing in them, shall remain in effect unless amended or repealed in accordance with what is decided in this Constitution. The measures and regulations prevailing therein shall also continue to be enforced until amending laws are issued in accordance with its provisions.

## Article 149

As an exception to the provisions of Article 121 of this Constitution, the Emirates may issue the necessary legislation to regulate the affairs indicated in the aforementioned Article, without prejudice to the provisions of Article 151 of this Constitution.

## Article 150

The federal authorities shall work to obtain the laws referred to in this constitution with the necessary speed, in order to replace the current legislation and situations, especially those that contradict its provisions.

## Article 151

The provisions of this constitution shall have sovereignty over the constitutions of the Emirates that are members of the Federation. Federal laws issued in accordance with its provisions take precedence over legislation, regulations, and decisions issued by the Emirates authorities. In the event of conflict, what contradicts the supreme legislation shall be nullified to the extent that removes that conflict, and in case of disagreement the matter shall be submitted to the Federal Supreme Court for a decision.

## Article 152

This constitution shall be enforced as of the date specified by a declaration issued by the rulers signatories to this constitution.