

Foreign Schools Regulation

The Council of Ministers' resolution No 26, dated 4/2/1418H(1)

Article 1

The following terms shall carry the meanings shown in front of each, respectively, as follows:-

Foreign Schools: Are the schools, which apply non-Saudi educational curricula.

Minister: Minister of Education.

Ministry: Ministry of Education.

Article 2

This Regulation shall organize the status of schools of foreign communities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to provide appropriate education for their children under specified controls in such a manner that enables such children to resume their education when they go back to their countries.

Article 3

The Ministry shall undertake licensing and supervision over foreign schools and their branches through its competent department/directorate.

Article 4

Foreign Schools are private educational institutions funded by tuition fees, donations and grants.

Article 5

Saudi students may not be admitted to foreign schools unless necessity requires their admission and such students include arrivals from aboard whose academic circumstances do not permit their admission to Saudi Schools. In such case the Minister shall consider approval of their admission for a period determined by the case of each student, every year, provided that it shall not exceed three years.

Article 6

License to open a foreign school shall be by the consent of the Minister, based on a proposal of the Supervisory council stipulated in Article (8) hereof.

Article 7

The educational level of the foreign schools shall be restricted to kindergartens, elementary, intermediate, secondary and equivalent stages.

Article 8

There shall be formed a Supervisory council over foreign schools under the chairmanship of the Minister of Education and the membership of the following:-

The Undersecretary of the Ministry of Interior.

The Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education.

Deputy President General of Girls' Education.

The Supervisor over foreign schools at the Ministry shall be the secretary of the council.

Article 9

The Supervisory council shall set the necessary instructions controls and rules to execute such regulation, and he may particularly approve the following:-

- 1- Rules and procedures necessary for granting the license.
- 2- Applications Submitted applications for opening foreign schools.
- 3- Educational program and curricula.
- 4- Tuition fees.
- 5- Donation and grants granted to the foreign schools.

Article 10

Meeting of the Supervisory Council shall be twice a year, at least, and the council may be invited to convene upon the request of its chairman or a proposal of one of the members and the approval of the chairman.

Article 11

Each foreign school shall assume the responsibility of organizing various aspects of functions within the school in addition to issues related to defining its standard among the various educational and academic circles.

Article 12

Each foreign school shall have board of directors to take care of its interests wherein the students' parents shall be represented, and the Ministry shall be entitled to attend its meetings.

Article 13

Each foreign school shall teach subjects of the principles of Arabic language, Islamic culture and history and geography of the Kingdom for no less than one hour per week.

Article 14

Each foreign school shall submit to the Supervisory council the annual estimated budget in Arabic language, and such shall be before the beginning of each academic year including a statement of administrative, technical and financial needs and the sources of securing and financing them.

Article 15

Each foreign school shall submit an annual report to the Council of Supervisory on the course of action at the school, execution of its budget, and statement of reasons of violation, and infringements if applicable.

Article 16

The violator of the provisions of this regulation or decisions issued in execution of such provisions and decisions, shall be punished with one or more of the punishment hereunder:-

- 1- Warning directing the attention to remove the violation.
- 2- Financial fine not exceeding fifty thousand riyals.
- 3- License cancellation.

The Minister shall have, in all cases, the right to order removal of the violation causes within two weeks at most as of the notification of removal order date.

Article 17

The Ministry shall have a committee formed by a decision of the Minister under the chairmanship of the Ministry Undersecretary and the membership of:

- 1-A representative of the Ministry of Interior.
- 2-A representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- 3-The Supervisor of the foreign schools at the Ministry.
- 4-One specialist in the Islamic Shari'a.

This committee shall assume the investigation of violations of the provisions of this regulation or the decisions issued to execute it and inflict the appropriate punishment.

Article 18

Punishment shall be imposed by a decision from the Minister based on the recommendation of the committee stipulated in Article 17 of this regulation, and grievances against decisions

issued with a fine punishment or license cancellation may be made before the Broad of Grievance.

Article 19

Under the supervision of the Ministry, any foreign school may in case of exhaustion of its purpose or the license cancellation, be liquidated in coordination with the relevant competent authorities.

Article 20

Statuses of the foreign schools existing on the date of this regulation commencement shall be reconciled pursuant to its provisions within twelve months as of its commencement date.

Article 21

This regulation shall be published in the official gazette (Umm Al-Qura) and shall become effective after ninety days as of its publishing date and shall cancel all contradictory provisions.

(1) 10 Jun 1997.