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No. 72/2017

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INDEX

	Page
Law No. 72 of the year 2017:	
Promulgating the Investment Law	1
Part - 1: General provisions	4
Chapter - 1: Definitions	4
Chapter - 2: Investment objectives and principles	6
Part - 2: Investment guarantees and incentives	8
Chapter - 1: Investment guarantees	8
Chapter - 2: Investment incentives	11
Chapter - 3: Community responsibility of the investor	16
Part - 3: Investment systems	18
Chapter - 1: Internal investment system	18
Chapter - 2: System of investment in the investment zones	25
Chapter - 3: System of investment in the technological zones	27
Chapter - 4: System of investment in the free zones	28
Chapter - 5: Provisions of incorporation of companies and establishments and post-incorporation services	37
Chapter - 6: Allocation of the real estate required for the establishment of the investment projects	41
Part - 4: Bodies in charge of investment affairs	48
Chapter - 1: Supreme council for investment	48
Chapter - 2: General authority for investment and free zones	49
Part - 5: Investment dispute resolution	58
Chapter - 1: Appeal committee	58
Chapter - 2: Ministerial committee for settlement of investment disputes	59
Chapter - 3: Ministerial committee for settlement of disputes arising from investment contracts	60
Chapter - 4: Amicable ways of dispute resolution, arbitration and mediation center	61



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Law No. 72 of the Year 2017

Promulgating

The Investment Law



In the name of the people

The President of the Republic

The Parliament decreed the following law and it is hereby promulgated:

(Article One)

The provisions of the attached Law shall be enforced with regard to the investment in the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Its provisions shall apply to the local and foreign investment regardless of its size. The investment shall take place in accordance with the provisions of this Law whether through the internal investment system or the investment zones system or the technological zones system or the free zones system.

(Article Two)

The provisions of the attached Law shall not prejudice the tax privileges and exemptions and other guarantees and incentives established for companies and establishments existing at the time of enforcement of the present Law. These companies and establishments shall continue to maintain such privileges, exemptions, guarantees and incentives until expiry of their specified terms, as per the legislations and agreements wherefrom they have been emanated.

The provisions of the attached Law do not prejudice the provisions of Law No. 7 of the year 1991 on the State owned properties, the law on the economic zones of special nature promulgated by law No. 83 of the year 2002, Law No. 14 of the year 2012 on the integrated development in Sinai Peninsula and the law on facilitating the procedures of licensing the industrial establishments promulgated by Law No. 15 of the year 2017.

The provisions of the attached law do not also prejudice the basic conditions prescribed for granting the approvals, permits and licenses stipulated in other laws.



(Article Three)

The phrase "The Investment Law" shall replace the phrase "The Law on Investment Guarantees and Incentives" wherever it is stated in other laws and decrees.

(Article Four)

The joint stock companies subject to the provisions of this Law shall be excepted from applying the provisions of law No. 113 of the year 1958 concerning the appointment in posts of the joint stock companies and the public institutions.

In addition, the joint stock companies shall not be subject to the provisions of law No. 73 of the year 1973 concerning the determination of the conditions and procedures of electing the representatives of workers in the boards of directors of the units of public sector, the joint stock companies and the non-governmental organizations. The articles of association of the company shall define the method of the participation of the employees in its management.

(Article Five)

The disputes arising from the application of the provisions of this Law and the law attached thereto shall be excepted from compliance with the provisions of law No. 7 of the year 2000 on the establishment of the committees of resolving some disputes that the Ministries and public legal persons are party thereto.

(Article Six)

The grievances and claims considered by the existing investment dispute resolution committee and investment contracts dispute resolution committee shall be referred to the committees stipulated in articles (85 and 88) of the attached law upon the formation thereof without the need for any additional action.

(Article Seven)

The employees addressed by the provision of the third clause of article (20) of the investment law promulgated by law No. 230 of the year 1989 shall continue to enjoy the same positions prescribed therefor. These



provisions shall not prejudice the system of distributing the profits applied to the companies existing when this law comes into force if this is better for them.

(Article Eight)

The law on investment guarantees and incentives promulgated by law No. 8 of the year 1997 shall be repealed together with all provisions contradicting the provisions of this Law and the law attached thereto.

(Article Nine)

The Prime Minister shall issue the executive regulations of the attached law based on a proposition of the competent Minister and after obtaining the approval of the Cabinet within ninety days from the date of the enforcement of this Law. Pending the issue of these regulations, the regulations and decrees in force on the date of its enforcement shall continue in force where they do not contradict its provisions.

(Article Ten)

This Law shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall be enforced on the day following the date of its publication.

This Law shall be sealed by the State stamp and shall be enforced as one of its laws.

Issued at the Presidency of the Republic on Ramadan 5, 1438 (Islamic Calendar), corresponding to May 31, 2017 (Gregorian Calendar).



Abdel-Fattah Al-Sisi



The Investment Law

Part - 1

General Provisions

Chapter - 1 Definitions

Article: 1



In applying the provisions of this Law, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings stated next to each of them:

Investment: The use of money to establish, expand, develop, finance, own or manage an investment project to contribute to the integrated and sustainable development of the country.

Investor: All natural or legal persons, whether Egyptian or foreign, regardless of the legal system it is subject to, that invests in the Arab Republic of Egypt in accordance with the provisions of this Law.

Investment Project: Practicing an investment activity in the industry, agriculture, trade, education, health, transport, tourism, housing, construction, sports, electricity, energy, natural resources, water, communication and technology sectors.

The Minister concerned with the investment affairs, in coordination with the concerned Ministry/ Ministries, may add other sectors in accordance with the economic development plan of the State. The Executive Regulations of this Law shall define the conditions, scope and controls of practicing these activities.

Special Incentives: The incentives stipulated in article (11) of this Law.

Funds: All types of assets included in the investment project of any type that has a physical value whether monetary, in-kind or intangible, particularly:

1. Fixed or movable funds as well as any other original or dependent in-kind rights.



2. Stocks, incorporation shares and non-government bonds.
3. Intellectual property rights and intangible rights used in the establishment or expansion of projects such as the patent rights, the trademarks and trade names registered in one of the States of the World Intellectual Property Organization or in accordance with the international registration rules included in the international agreements in force in this regard.
4. The privileges or contracts granted under the laws on the public utilities concessions and the laws of similar nature together with all the other similar rights granted based on the law.

Supreme Council: The Supreme Council for Investment.

Competent Minister: The Minister concerned with the investment affairs.

Competent Ministry: The Ministry concerned with the investment affairs.

Authority: The General Authority for Investment and Free Zones.

Internal Investment: An investment system through which an investment project is established or operated in accordance with the provisions of this Law in other than the free zones.

Free Zone: Part of the State territory inside its borders and is subject to its administrative jurisdiction and in which transactions take place in accordance with special customs and tax provisions.

Investment Zone: A geographic region of fixed surface area and boundaries to be allocated for the establishment of a certain activity or more of the specialized investment activities and the other activities complementary thereto that the development and infrastructure of which are assigned to a developer for that region.

Developer: All legal persons licensed to establish or manage or develop an investment zone in accordance with the provisions of this Law.

Competent Bodies: The administrative bodies or public utilities companies concerned with issuing the approvals, permits or licenses.



Investor Service Center: An administrative unit established in the Authority or a branch thereof to be in charge of applying the system of simplifying and facilitating the procedures of granting the investors all the approvals, permits and licenses required for its investment project with the legal terms stipulated in this Law and provide the data and information required therefor.

Representative of the Competent Body: The responsible official seconded by the competent administrative bodies or assigned by the public utilities companies to work in the system of the Investor Service Center in the Authority or in a branch thereof to whom the authority of issuing the approvals, permits and licenses shall devolve under the provisions of this Law based on the technical requirements set forth in the governing laws and the investment procedures manual issued by the Authority together with all the powers prescribed for the competent authority in the field of allocating real estates and granting approvals, permits and licenses required for simplifying the work of the investor, promoting and developing investment.

Competent Authority: The Minister, governor, president, board of directors of the Authority or Organization or the board chairman or the board of directors of the public utilities company as the case may be.

Accreditation Offices: The offices licensed by the Authority to grant the approvals, permits and licenses for working in the field of examining the procedures and documents of the investment projects and provide the certificates of accreditation.

Chapter - 2
Investment Objectives and Principles

Article: 2



Investment in the Arab Republic of Egypt aims at raising the economic growth rates of the country, increasing the domestic production rates, providing job opportunities, promoting export and increasing competitiveness thus contributing to the integrated and sustainable development.

All competent State agencies work on attracting and stimulating the local and foreign investments.



The following principles shall govern investment:

1. Equality of investment opportunities and equalization of opportunities regardless of the size and place of the project and without gender discrimination.
2. State support of the emerging companies, leading businesses, micro, small and medium projects to enable youth and small investors.
3. Observing all aspects of social dimension, protection of environment and public health.
4. Freedom of competition, prevention of monopolistic practices and protection of consumers.
5. Follow the principles of governance, transparency and non-conflict of interests.
6. Work on the stability of the investment policies.
7. Speedy completion of the transactions of investors and simplifying things for them to achieve their legitimate interests.
8. The right of the State to maintain national security and public interest.

The investment principles referred to shall apply to the investor and the State each as far as it is concerned.





Part - 2

Investment Guarantees and Incentives

Chapter - 1 Investment Guarantees

Article: 3



All investments established in the Arab Republic of Egypt shall enjoy fair and equitable treatment.

The State shall guarantee for the foreign investor a treatment similar to that granted to the national investor. As an exception by a decree of the Cabinet, preferential treatment for foreign investors may be prescribed in accordance with the principle of reciprocity treatment.

The invested funds shall not be subject to any arbitrary measures or discriminatory decisions.

The State shall grant the non-Egyptian investors residence throughout the duration of the project without prejudice to the provisions of the governing laws and as stipulated in the Executive Regulations of this Law.

The State shall respect and enforce the contracts it concludes. The investment project established based on fraud or manipulation or corruption shall not enjoy the protection, guarantees, advantages or exemptions prescribed under the provisions of this Law. Proving that shall take place by means of a final court ruling issued by the competent judiciary or arbitration ruling.

In the field of applying the provisions of this Law, all decisions related to the affairs of the investment project shall be substantiated and the concerned parties shall be notified thereof as regulated by the Executive Regulations of this Law.

Article: 4

The investment projects may not be nationalized.



The funds of the investment projects may not be expropriated except for the public benefit and in return for a fair compensation to be paid promptly in advance and the value of which shall be equivalent to the fair economic value of the expropriated funds on the day preceding the issue of the expropriation decision. The compensations shall be transferable without restriction.

Those projects may not be sequestrated administratively. They may not be sequestrated except under a final court ruling. They may not be placed in receivership except under court order or ruling. All that shall take place only in the cases defined in the Law.

The funds of the investment projects may not be seized or confiscated or frozen except under a court order or final ruling with the exception of the tax debts and the social insurance contributions due to the State which may be collected by way of seizure of all types without prejudice to the stipulations agreed on in the contracts concluded by the State or the public legal persons with the investor.

No administrative body may issue public regulatory decisions which add financial or procedural burdens related to the establishment or operation of projects subject to the provisions of this Law or impose or modify fees or service charges thereon except after seeking the view of the board of directors of the Authority and the approval of the Cabinet and the Supreme Council.

Article: 5

The administrative bodies may not cancel or suspend the licenses issued for the investment project or withdraw the real estates allocated to the project except after warning the investor of the violations attributed thereto, hearing its viewpoint and granting it an appropriate period for removing the causes of violation.

In all cases, the view of the Authority shall be sought prior to issuing the decisions referred to in the first clause. The Authority shall express its opinion within seven days from the date of receiving the application fulfilling all the prescribed legal procedures.

The investor may appeal against this decision before the committee stipulated in article (83) of this Law.



The Executive Regulations of this Law shall organize the rules and controls of applying the provisions of this article.

Article: 6

The investor shall have the right to establish and expand the investment project, finance it from abroad without restriction and in foreign currency. It may also own, manage, use and dispose of the project, collect the profits thereof and transfer them abroad, liquidate the project and transfer all or some of the liquidation yields abroad without prejudice to the rights of third parties.

The State shall make all cash transfers related to the foreign investment available freely and without delay to its territory and abroad in a free convertible currency. In addition, the State shall allow the transfer of the local currency to a usable currency freely and promptly.

In case of liquidation, the competent administrative bodies shall notify the Authority and the company under liquidation of a statement of its obligations within a period not exceeding one hundred and twenty days starting from the date on which the liquidator submits a request for that accompanied by the required documentation. The lapse of this period without stating such obligations shall be considered a release of the company under liquidation without prejudice to the criminal and disciplinary liability of the one in charge of issuing a statement contrary to reality or who causes the lapse of the deadline referred to without responding to the request.

All that shall take place in accordance with the stipulations of the Executive Regulations of this Law.

Article: 7

Without prejudice to the provisions of the Laws, regulations and decrees reorganizing import activities, the investment projects subject to the provisions of this Law shall have the right to import by themselves or via third parties whatever they need for their establishment, expansion or operation, comprising raw materials, production input and requisites, machines, replacement and spare parts, and means of transport as suitable to the nature of their activities, without need for recording in the Register of Importers.



These projects shall have the right as well to export their products by themselves or through middlemen without being licensed therefor and without need for recording themselves in the Register of Exporters.

The investment projects which import or export in accordance with the provisions of this Article whether by themselves or through third parties shall notify the Authority of a quarterly report about the quantities and imported or exported types as the case may be.

Article: 8

The investment project may employ foreign employees within (10%) of the total number of the employees of the project. This percentage may increase at no more than (20%) of the total number of the employees of the project in case of the inability to employ qualified national labor in accordance with the controls and rules defined in the Executive Regulations of this Law.

Some strategic projects of special importance, the specification of which is issued by a decision of the Supreme Council, may be excepted from the percentages referred to subject to observing the training of the national labor.

The foreign employees who work in the investment project may transfer all or part of their financial dues abroad.

Chapter - 2
Investment Incentives

First: General Incentives

Article: 9

All investment projects subject to the provisions of this Law shall enjoy the general incentives set forth in this Chapter with the exception of the projects established under the free zones system.

Article: 10

The deeds of association of companies and establishments, the credit facilities and mortgage contracts connected with their works shall be





exempted from the stamp duty tax and the notarization and registration fees, for a period of five years, from the date of recording them in the Commercial Register.

Also, the registration contracts of the lands necessary for establishing the companies and establishments shall be exempted from the said tax and fees.

The provisions of article (4) of the law on regulating the customs exemptions promulgated by Law No. 186 of the year 1986 on collecting a customs tax at a uniform category of (2%) two percent of the value shall apply to the companies and establishments subject to the provisions of this Law on all the imports thereof of machinery, equipment and apparatuses required for the establishment thereof.

This uniform rate shall also apply to all the imports of the companies and establishments operating in the public utilities projects of machinery, equipment and apparatuses required for the establishment or completion thereof.

Without prejudice to the provisions of the temporary release stipulated in the customs law promulgated by law No. 66 of the year 1963, the investment projects of industrial nature subject to the provisions of this Law may import molds and other production requirements of similar nature without customs duties to be used for a temporary period in manufacturing the products thereof and re-export them.

The release and re-export shall take place by means of the arrival documents provided that the entry and reshipment documents shall be recorded in registers developed for this purpose at the Authority in coordination with the Ministry of Finance.

Second: Special Incentives

Article: 11



The investment projects established after the enforcement of this Law in accordance with the investment map shall be granted an investment incentive as a deduction of the net taxable profits as follows:

1. (50%) as a deduction of the investment costs for sector (A): It includes the geographic regions that need development the most in accordance



with the investment map and based on the data and statistics issued by the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics and according to the distribution of the investment activities therein as set forth in the Executive Regulations of this Law.

2. (30%) as a deduction of the investment costs for sector (B): It includes the rest of the Republic according to the distribution of the investment activities for the following investment projects:

- ▶ The labor-intensive projects in accordance with the controls stipulated in the Executive Regulations of this Law;
- ▶ Medium and small projects;
- ▶ The projects which depend on or produce the new and renewable energy;
- ▶ The national and strategic projects that the specification of which shall be issued by a decision of the Supreme Council;
- ▶ The tourism projects that the specification of which shall be issued by a decision of the Supreme Council;
- ▶ Electricity production and distribution projects that the specification of which shall be issued by a decree of the Prime Minister based on the joint proposition of the Competent Minister, the minister concerned with the electricity affairs and the Minister of Finance;
- ▶ The projects that the production of which is exported outside the geographic territory of the Arab Republic of Egypt;
- ▶ The automotive industry and the feeding industries thereof;
- ▶ Wood, furniture, printing, packing and chemical industries;
- ▶ Antibiotic industry, oncology drugs and cosmetics;
- ▶ Food industry, agricultural crops and agricultural wastes recycling;
- ▶ Engineering, metal, textile and leather industries



In all cases, the investment incentive may not exceed (80%) of the paid capital to the date of commencement of the activity in accordance with the provisions of the income tax law promulgated by Law No. 91 of the year 2005.

The deduction period may not exceed seven years from the date of the commencement of the activity.

The Prime Minister shall issue a decree based on the joint proposition of the Competent Minister, the Minister of Finance and the concerned Minister for the specification of the distribution of the sub-sectors of the investment activities in Sectors (A) and (B) referred to.

The Executive Regulations of this Law shall define the concept of the investment cost, the geographic scope of sectors (A) and (B), conditions and controls of granting the special incentives. The secondary investment activities included in the decree of the Prime Minister referred to shall be added thereto once it is issued.

New activities may be added to enjoy the special incentives by a decision of the Supreme Council.

Article: 12



For the enjoyment of the special incentives stipulated in article (11) of this Law by the investment projects, the following conditions shall be met:

1. A new company or establishment shall be incorporated for establishing the investment project.
2. The company or establishment shall be incorporated within a period not exceeding three years from the date of the enforcement of the Executive Regulations of this Law. This period may be extended once by a decree of the Cabinet based on a proposition of the Competent Minister.
3. The company or establishment shall keep regular accounts. If the company or establishment works in more than one zone, it may benefit from the percentage prescribed for each zone provided that each zone shall have separate accounts.



4. None of the shareholders, partners or establishment owners has offered, contributed to or used in establishing, incorporating or setting up the investment project which enjoys the incentive any of the physical assets of a company or establishment existing at the time of the enforcement of the provisions of this Law or has liquidated that company or establishment within the period set forth in item (2) of this article for establishing a new investment project to enjoy the special incentives referred to. The violation of that shall result in the lapse of the enjoyment of the incentive referred to and the company or establishment shall be obliged to pay all the due tax.

Third: Additional Incentives

Article: 13



Without prejudice to the incentives, advantages and exemptions stipulated in this Chapter, additional incentives may be granted to the projects stipulated in article (11) of this law by a decree of the Cabinet, as follows:

1. Allow the establishment of special customs outlets for the exports or imports of the investment project in agreement with the Minister of Finance.
2. The State shall incur the costs borne by the investor to extend utilities to the real estate allocated to the investment project or part thereof after the operation of the project.
3. The State shall incur part of the cost of the technical training of the employees.
4. Refund half the value of the land allocated to the industrial projects in the case of the commencement of production within two years from the date of receiving the land.
5. Allocate lands for free to some strategic activities in accordance with the controls legally prescribed in this respect.

By means of a decree of the Cabinet based on a proposition of the Competent Minister, other non-tax incentives may be created whenever needed.



The Executive Regulations shall define the rules of granting the additional incentives prescribed in this article, the controls and conditions thereof.

Article: 14

The chief executive officer of the Authority or his representative shall be concerned with issuing the certificate required for enjoying the incentives stipulated in articles (10, 11 and 13) to the companies and establishments subject to the provisions of this Law.

This certificate shall be final and enforceable by itself without the need for approval of other bodies. All bodies shall act accordingly and comply with the data included therein.

Chapter - 3
Community Responsibility of the Investor

Article: 15

For the objectives of integrated and sustainable development, the investor may allocate a percentage of its annual profits to be used in the establishment of a community development system outside its investment project through its participation in all or some of the following fields:

1. Take the necessary measures for environment protection and improvement.
2. Provide services or programs in the fields of health, social or cultural care or in any of the other areas of development.
3. Support the technical education or fund the researches, studies and awareness campaigns aiming at production development and improvement in agreement with a university or scientific research institution.
4. Training and scientific research.

The amounts paid by the investor in any of the fields stipulated in the previous clause at no more than (10%) of its annual net profits shall be considered among the deductible costs and expenses in accordance with the



stipulation of article (23) (item 8) of the income tax law promulgated by Law No. 91 of the year 2005.

The Competent Minister, in coordination with the concerned Ministries, may develop a list of the best investment projects which carry out community development activities whether geographically or sectorally or otherwise and announce it to the public.

In all cases, the projects, programs or services provided under the community responsibility system shall not be used to achieve political, partisan or religious purposes or involve discrimination among citizens.

The Executive Regulations of this Law shall define the other controls and rules required for the application of the community responsibility system.





Part - 3

Investment Systems

Chapter - 1 Internal Investment System

General Provisions

First: Investment Plan and Policies

Article: 16

The Competent Ministry shall propose the investment plan which includes the development of the investment policies to be applied and the targeted priorities of the investment projects in line with the general policy of the State, the economic and social development plan and the investment systems in force. It shall be approved by the Supreme Council.

Second: Investment Plan

Article: 17

The investment plan shall include the development of an investment map defining the investment type and system, the geographic regions and sectors thereof. It shall also define the real estates owned by the State or the other public legal persons prepared for investment, the system and method of disposal thereof according to the type of the investment system.

The Authority shall develop the draft investment map in full coordination and cooperation with all the concerned State agencies.

The investment plan and map shall be reviewed at least once every three years and when needed based on the proposal of the Authority.

Article: 18

The procedures and periods stipulated in this Law shall be enforceable upon obtaining the investment services without prejudice to the enforcement of any laws or procedures which allow the investor to obtain



the approvals, permits or licenses easier or within periods less than those stipulated in this Law and its Executive Regulations.

Article: 19

Within ninety days from date of the enforcement of this Law and after coordination with the Competent Bodies, the Authority shall issue a manual which includes the conditions, procedures and time limits prescribed for allocating the real estates and issuing the approvals, permits and licenses related to the investment activities subject to the provisions of this Law. This manual shall be available via the electronic website of the Authority and its various publications and the other bodies.

The Authority shall review and update this manual periodically and when needed in light of the amendments to the legislations in force in the State.

Within sixty days at most from the date of the enforcement of this Law, the various bodies shall provide the Authority with all the data, documents and forms required for the development of this manual.

The Executive Regulations of this Law shall define the necessary controls in this respect.

Article: 20

By a decree of the Cabinet, the companies incorporated to establish strategic or national projects which contribute to development or the partnership projects between the private sector and the State, the public sector or the public business sector in the activities of public utilities, infrastructure, new and renewable energy, roads and transport or ports may be granted one approval for the establishment, operation and management of the project including the building permits and the allocation of the real estates required therefor. This approval shall be enforceable by itself without the need to take further action.

This approval may include that one or more of the incentives set forth in this Law applies to the projects. The Executive Regulations of this Law shall define the conditions and procedures of issuing this approval.



Third: Investor Service Center

Article: 21

An administrative unit called (Investor Service Center) shall be established in the Authority and its branches to facilitate and simplify the investment procedures.

The Center shall provide the services of incorporating companies, establishing branches therefor, approving the minutes of the boards of directors and general assemblies, increasing the capital, changing the activity, the liquidation actions and the other issues related to companies.

The Center shall also receive the applications of the investors for issuing the approvals and permits, allocating real estates and the different types of licenses required for the establishment or management of the investment projects and deciding on them in accordance with the laws and regulations within the time limits stipulated in this Law.

The services of the Center shall be automated gradually and as soon as possible in accordance with the stipulations of the Executive Regulations via the electronic networks and the other necessary technical means.

The Center shall include representatives of the Competent Bodies in accordance with the governing laws. The representatives of those bodies shall be subject to the supervision of the Authority during their presence in the Investor Service Center and shall comply with the rules and controls developed by the board of directors of the Authority to organize the work of the Center.

Notwithstanding the provisions of other laws, the authority of issuing the approvals, permits and licenses shall devolve to the representatives of the Competent Bodies under the provisions of this Law and based on the technical requirements set forth in the governing laws and the investment procedures manual issued by the Authority together with all the powers prescribed for the competent authority in the field of allocating real estates, granting the approvals, permits and licenses required for the work of the investor and investment in accordance with the provisions of this Law.

The board of directors of the Authority shall define the governmental bodies and the public utility companies that the Investor Service Center



shall be made up of. The chief executive officer of the Authority shall coordinate with those bodies to define the required number of the main and substitute employees to represent them in the Center and their grade levels which allow them to perform their duties in the Investor Service Center. The Executive Regulations shall define the controls of selecting those employees and the method of employing them in the Center.

In other than the cases of providing the certificates of accreditation stipulated in the following articles, the representatives of bodies in the Investor Service Center and the responsible officials in the administrative bodies shall request the completion of the documents required for issuing the approvals, permits or licenses within two working days from the date they are submitted thereto otherwise they shall be considered complete. No additional documents may be requested from the investor after the lapse of that period.

In all cases, the investor may complete the technical and the other requirements and procedures necessary for investment through the accreditation offices or resort directly to the Competent Bodies or through the representatives thereof at the Investor Service Center.

Fourth: Accreditation Offices

Article: 22



The investment applicant or its representative may assign the accreditation offices licensed by the Authority to examine the documents related to obtaining the approvals, permits and licenses required for establishing, operating and expanding the investment project to determine the degree of their fulfillment of the technical and financial requirements and the other procedures stipulated in the provisions of this Law and the laws which govern granting the approvals, permits and licenses.

In carrying out the work, the accreditation offices shall comply with the rules of professional responsibility defined in the Executive Regulations, particularly:

- ▶ Comply with the provisions of the related laws and decrees.
- ▶ Due diligence in the examination, completion and accreditation.
- ▶ Avoid the conflict of interests.
- ▶ Maintain the confidentiality and privacy of the information of the accreditation applicants.



The accreditation offices may work individually or jointly with a group of specialized accreditation offices.

The Executive Regulations of this Law shall define the legal form of the accreditation offices.

The license shall be issued to the accreditation offices which have the experience required for practicing this activity in accordance with the conditions, rules and procedures defined in the Executive Regulations of this Law including the commitment to conclude an annual insurance policy to cover the risks and damages resulting from the activities carried out by these offices and the bases of determining the charges of the services they provide.

A special register shall be developed in the Authority to record the licensed accreditation offices. The competent administrative bodies shall be provided therewith.

Licensing the accreditation offices shall be in return for a fee not exceeding twenty thousand pounds that the categories of which are defined in the Executive Regulations. The license shall be renewed annually. Renewal of the license shall be subject to the same fees prescribed for granting the licenses.

On their responsibility, the accreditation offices shall issue to the investor a certificate of accreditation valid for one year which includes the degree of the fulfillment of the investment project of all or some of the requirements thereof in accordance with the laws and regulations governing the issue of the approvals, permits and licenses and shall send a copy thereof to the Competent Body through the way defined in the Executive Regulations of this Law. The certificates submitted after the lapse of one year from the date of its issue shall not be reckoned with.

This certificate shall be acceptable by the Competent Body, its representative at the Investor Service Center and the other administrative bodies. This does not prevent the Competent Body or its representative from presenting a substantiated objection to the certificate referred to within no later than ten working days from the date of its submission. In case this period lapses without response, this shall be considered an acceptance of the investor's application that the approval of which shall be issued by the chief executive officer of the Authority as stipulated in article (25) of this Law.



This certificate shall be considered an official document in applying the provisions of the Penal Code.

Without prejudice to the civil or criminal liability as the case may be, the issue of this certificate to the contrary of the truth or in violation of the rules stipulated in article (25) of this Law shall result in the maturity and payment of the insurance amount to the beneficiaries thereof and the removal of the office which issued the certificate from the recording register at the Authority for a period not exceeding three years by a decision of the board of directors of the Authority. In case of recurrence of the offence, the removal from the register shall be final.

That shall take place as defined in the Executive Regulations of this Law.

Article: 23

The investor shall pay to the Authority all the fees and the other amounts imposed by the laws for the account of the bodies which provide the investment services.

The Authority shall be entitled to charges in return for the actual services it provides to the investors. The board of directors of the Authority shall issue a decision to define the categories of these charges as well as the rules, conditions and procedures organizing the collection thereof.

Article: 24

Without prejudice to the periods prescribed for deciding on the application to which a certificate issued by an accreditation office is attached, the Competent Bodies shall examine the investment applications submitted thereto through the Investor Service Center and ensure that they meet the conditions required for the acceptance thereof as set forth in this Law. They shall be decided on within a period not exceeding sixty days from the date of submitting the application duly fulfilled. In the case of the lapse of this period without a decision therefrom, it shall be considered an acceptance of the investor's application that the approval of which shall be issued by the chief executive officer of the Authority as stipulated in article (25) of this Law.



In all cases, the applicant shall be notified of the decision issued with regard to its application whether by acceptance or rejection by means of a registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt within seven days from the date of the lapse of the period stipulated in the first clause of this article.

The concerned parties may appeal against the rejection decision before the committee stipulated in article (83) of this Law.

Article: 25

The chief executive officer of the Authority shall issue the approvals stipulated in articles (22 and 24) of this Law on the forms prepared for this purpose as set forth in the Executive Regulations of this Law.

Article: 26

Within the framework of the economic development plan of the State or for the completion of the investment map, the Authority may issue the approvals, permits or licenses required for the establishment of the activity on the pieces of land allocated for investment prior to allocating them to investors. In this case, the fees and the other financial burdens due to the account of the Competent Bodies in return for these approvals, permits or licenses shall be collected from the investor upon the completion of the land allocation procedures. These bodies shall simplify the procedures of granting these approvals, permits or licenses in accordance with the procedures and time limits defined in the Executive Regulations of this Law.

Article: 27

The employees in charge of the enforcement of the provisions of this Law in all the related Competent Bodies shall observe the objectives, principles, procedures and time limits set forth in this Law and its Executive Regulations.

The simplification of the procedures for the investors and the speedy completion of their legitimate interests shall be among the key indicators to measure the performance of these employees and one of the methods of defining the responsibilities of their jobs.



Chapter - 2
System of Investment in the Investment Zones

Article: 28



By means of a decree of the Prime Minister based on a proposal of the board of directors of the Authority and a proposition of the Competent Minister and the concerned Minister, investment zones specialized in the various fields of investment may be established including the logistic, agricultural and industrial zones provided that the decree of the establishment of the zone shall include its location and coordinates, the nature of the activities practiced therein and the period within which the procedures required for the establishment of the zone shall be completed in addition to any general conditions related to practicing those activities.

The developer in charge of the investment zone shall take the necessary procedures towards its establishment in accordance with the implementation timeline specified in the license or the license shall be considered as if it does not exist.

By means of a decree of the Prime Minister or his representative, the licensee may be granted an additional period in light of the justifications submitted thereby after the approval of the board of directors of the Authority.

The provisions of Parts One and Two of this Law shall apply to the projects operating inside the investment zones where they do not contradict the nature of work in accordance with the provisions of this system.

The rules of the temporary customs admission and drawback set forth in the governing laws, regulations and decrees shall also apply thereto.

Other activities may be added by means of a decree of the Prime Minister based on a proposition of the Competent Minister.

Article: 29

Each investment zone shall have a board of directors that the formation of which is issued by a decree of the Competent Minister in agreement with the Concerned Minister according to the type and specialization of the zone.



The board of directors of the zone shall be concerned with the development of the business plan of the zone, the controls and standards required for practicing the activity and get them approved by the board of directors of the Authority. It shall also be concerned with the approval of the establishment of the investment projects within the boundaries of the zone. The board of directors shall also submit quarterly reports to the Authority in accordance with the stipulations of the Executive Regulations and send the minutes of meetings of the board of directors to be approved by the Authority.

The board of directors of the zone may license private sector companies to develop, manage or promote the investment in these zones.

The members of the board of directors shall disclose all their money. This disclosure shall be submitted and reviewed annually by an independent body to verify the non-existence of violation or actual or potential conflict of interests. A report about that shall be presented to the Supreme Council through the Competent Minister.

Article: 30

The investment zone shall have an executive office of the employees of the Authority to be defined by means of a decision to be issued by the chief executive officer of the Authority after being approved by the Competent Minister. The office shall be responsible for the implementation of the decisions of the board of directors of the zone with regard to the required approvals, permits and licenses, following-up the implementation thereof and issuing the building permits for the projects within the boundaries of the zone.

The investor shall pay to the Authority the charges of each actual service provided by the executive office at no more than one per thousand of the investment costs for all the provided services as defined in the Executive Regulations of this Law.

Article: 31

In addition to what is assigned to it, the board chairman of the zone shall be responsible for licensing the projects within the boundaries of the investment zone to practice their activity.



The license shall include a statement of the purposes for which it is granted and its validity period. The license may not be waived wholly or partially without the approval of the board of directors of the investment zone. Rejection of granting the license or the non-acceptance of waiving it shall take place by a substantiated decision. The concerned party may appeal against it before the committee stipulated in article (83) of this Law.

This license shall suffice upon dealing with the various State agencies to obtain the services, facilitations, advantages and exemptions for the project without having to be recorded in the industrial register unless the investor requires otherwise along with notifying the Competent Body of a copy of the license for inventory purposes. No other administrative body may take any action inside the investment zones or the projects operating therein without obtaining the approval of the Authority.

The licensee shall not enjoy the guarantees, incentives and advantages stipulated in this Law except within the limits of the purposes defined in the license.

Chapter - 3

System of Investment in the Technological Zones



Article: 32

Based on a proposal of the board of directors of the Authority and a request of the Minister concerned with the communication and information technology affairs, the Prime Minister may license the establishment of a technological zones in the field of information technology and communication industry including the industrial activities related thereto, electronics design and development, data centers, outsourcing activities, software development, technological education and the other related or complementary activities as defined in the Executive Regulations of this Law.

Other activities may be added by means of a decree of the Prime Minister based on a joint proposition of the Competent Minister and the Minister concerned with the communication and information technology affairs.

All tools, equipment and machinery required for practicing the licensed activity of the projects located inside the technological zone of all



types shall not be subject to the tax and customs duties in accordance the conditions and procedures set forth in the Executive Regulations.

The projects established in the technological zones shall enjoy the special incentives stipulated in article (11) of this Law based on the sector they are established in.

Each zone shall have a board of directors that the formation of which is issued by a decree of the Minister concerned with the communication and information technology affairs in agreement with the Competent Minister. The board of directors of the zone shall be concerned with the development of the controls and standards required for practicing the activity and approving the establishment of the projects within the boundaries of the zone.

The members of the board of directors shall disclose all their money. This disclosure shall be submitted and reviewed annually by an independent body to verify the non-existence of violation or actual or potential conflict of interests. A report about that shall be presented to the Supreme Council through the Competent Minister.

The provisions of Parts One and Two of this Law shall apply to the investment under the technological zones system where they do not contradict the nature of work of this system.

The Executive Regulations of this Law shall define the requirements and controls of work therein and the method of management thereof.

Chapter - 4 **System of Investment in the Free Zones**

Article: 33

A free zone covering an entire city shall be established by a law.

The Cabinet of Ministers may, upon a proposal of the competent minister after obtaining the approval of the board of directors of the Authority, establish public free zones to set up licensed projects, the main objective of which is exporting commodities abroad, regardless of their legal forms. The decree establishing the free zone shall indicate its location and boundaries.



The public free zone shall be managed by a board of directors that the formation of which and the appointment of its chairman shall be issued by means of a decision of the chief executive officer of the Authority approved by the Competent Minister. The members of the board of directors shall disclose all their money. This disclosure shall be submitted and reviewed annually by an independent body to verify the non-existence of violation or actual or potential conflict of interests. A report about that shall be presented to the Supreme Council through the Competent Minister.

The board of directors of the public free zone shall be concerned particularly with proposing the regulations and systems required for the management of the free zone and get them approved by the board of directors of the Authority and enforcing the provisions of this Law, its Executive Regulations and the decisions issued by the Authority.

Based on a proposition of the Competent Minister, the Cabinet may approve the establishment of private free zones that each of them is limited to one or more projects in similar activities when their nature requires that. The Executive Regulations shall regulate all the working conditions in the private free zones to ensure the proper functioning and governance.

Article: 34

Without prejudice to the provisions of law No. 133 of the year 2010 on licensing the oil refining projects to work under the free zones system, and subject to the legal positions of the companies licensed to establish projects under the free zones system existing at the time of the enforcement of this Law, the establishment of projects under the free zones system in the field of petroleum processing, fertilizer industries, iron and steel, natural gas processing, liquefaction and transport, energy-intensive industries defined by a decision of the Supreme Council of Energy, liquors and alcohol industries, arms, ammunition and explosives industries and the other industries related to national security may not be licensed.

Article: 35

Without prejudice to the stipulations of the first clause of article (10) of this Law, all projects investing under the free zones system shall be subject to the customs and tax control in accordance with the rules issued by a decision of the board of directors of the Authority in coordination with the Customs Authority and Egyptian Tax Authority.



The board of directors of the free zone shall notify the bodies specified by the Minister concerned with the industry affairs of all the data related to the industrial productive projects established in the free zones. The Competent Minister in agreement with the Minister concerned with the industry affairs shall develop the controls of practicing the activities by the industrial productive projects particularly the export rates these projects are committed to.

Article: 36

Subject to the provisions of the Capital Market Law promulgated by law No. 95 of the year 1992, the Law on the Central Bank, the Banking Sector and Money, promulgated by Law No. 88 of the year 2003 and Law No. 10 of the year 2009 Regulating Supervision over Non-banking Financial Markets and Instruments, the board of directors of the public free zone shall be concerned with the final approval of the establishment of projects inside in the zone or in the private free zone located within its geographical scope. The chairman of the board of directors of the zone shall be concerned with licensing them to practice their activities.

The license shall include a statement of the purposes for which it is granted, its validity period, amount and type of the financial guarantee paid by the licensee at no more than two percent (2%) of the investment costs in accordance with the percentages defined in the Executive Regulations of this Law. The license may not be waived wholly or partially without the approval of the board of directors of the zone.

The licensed project shall not enjoy the exemptions or advantages stipulated in this Law except within the limits of the purposes specified in the license. This license shall suffice upon dealing with the various State agencies to obtain the services, facilitations and advantages for the project without having to be recorded in the industrial register unless the project requires that, along with notifying the Competent Body of a copy of this license for inventory and statistics purposes.

Article: 37

The allocation of the real estates required for the establishment of the projects to work under the public free zones system shall take place under the usufruct license system in accordance with the rules and provisions set forth in the Executive Regulations of this Law.



The investor shall appear before the management of the zone within thirty days from the date it is notified of the approval to establishing its project to receive the land to implement the project, sign the usufruct contract and pay the prescribed value.

The approval to the project shall lapse if the investor does not take serious action in implementing the project within ninety days from the date it is notified to receive the land in accordance with the conditions agreed upon in the usufruct contract. This period may be extended for another period in light of the justifications provided by the investor or its representative and appreciated by the board of directors of the free zone.

The Executive Regulations of this Law shall define the controls and procedures required for the enforcement of these provisions.

Article: 38

The investor shall hand over the land allocated thereto to the management of the zone upon the cancellation of the project or the lapse of the approval issued thereto free of occupancies. In case there are buildings, facilities or assets on site, it shall evacuate them at its own expense within the period specified by the board of directors of the zone no later than six months from the date it is notified thereof by means of a registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt.

If it is not evacuated within that period, the board of directors of the zone shall issue a decision to recover the land administratively with the building and facilities thereon. In case there are assets on site, the management of the zone and the Customs shall undertake inventory thereof and hand them over to the Customs management to keep them temporarily or sell them in accordance with the provisions of the Customs Law related to the neglected or abandoned items and deposit the price thereof to an account at the Authority in favor of the investor after deducting the dues of the Authority and then the governmental debts as defined in the Executive Regulations of this Law.

The dues of the Authority, in applying the provisions of this article, shall be considered among the preference debts following the judicial expenses and the dues of the public treasury.



Article: 39

Without prejudice to the provisions prescribed in laws and regulations prohibiting dealing in certain goods and materials, goods exported by free zone projects or imported by same for performing their activities, shall not be subject to the rules governing import and export activity, nor to the customs procedures on exports and imports. Such goods shall also not be subject to customs duties, the value-added tax or other taxes and duties.

Exporting the production requirements from the local market to the productive projects in the free zones shall take place in accordance with the rules issued by a decree of the Minister concerned with the foreign trade affairs in agreement with the Competent Minister and the Minister of Finance.

With the exception of passenger cars, all tools, equipment, machines and the necessary means of transport of different kinds, as required for exercising the activity licensed for all kinds of projects existing in the free zones, shall be exempted from the customs duties, the value-added tax and the other taxes and duties even if the nature and exigencies of exercising this activity require their temporary exit of the tools, equipment and machines from the free zone into the country and their return to it, in the cases, and with the guarantees, conditions, and procedures to be issued by decree of the cabinet upon the proposition of the competent Minister and the Minister of Finance.

The Executive Regulations of this Law shall determine the procedures for goods transport and insurance, from beginning to unload them until their arrival at the free zones, and vice versa.

The Authority shall have the power to allow the entry of local and foreign goods, materials, spare parts, and raw materials as owned by the project or by third parties, from inside the country to the free zone temporarily for repairing them or for carrying out industrial processes on them then returning them inside the country, without such goods and materials being subject to the import rules which are applicable thereto as indicated in the Executive Regulations of this Law.

The customs duties shall be collected on the repair value according to the provisions of Customs Law.



Article: 40

Import into the country from the free zones shall be in accordance with the general rules on import from abroad.

With exception of the foregoing, the entry of materials, wastes and scraps resulting from the activities of the projects operating in free zones shall be allowed if the intention for their entry into the country is either disposal or recycling thereof, through the safe disposal methods prescribed as per the Environment Law promulgated by law no. 4 of the year 1994. All this shall be done at the expense of the party concerned.

The provisions of the Environment Law referred to shall be enforced with regard to the prohibition of importing hazardous wastes from abroad.

The customs duties on goods imported from the free zone to the local market shall be paid as if they were imported from outside the country.

With regard to the products imported from the free zones projects and comprising local components as well as other foreign components, the customs duties basis in their respect shall be the value of the foreign components at the prices ruling at the time of their exit from the free zone into the country, providing the customs duties due on the foreign components shall not exceed the tax payable on the end-product imported from abroad.

The foreign components are represented in the imported foreign parts and materials according to their condition at their entry into the free zone, without reckoning the operating costs in this zone. The free zone, with regard to the freight, shall be considered the country of origin concerning the products manufactured thereat.

Article: 41

Projects which are established in the free zones, and the profits as distributed by them shall not be subject to the provisions of taxes and duties Laws applicable in Egypt.





However these projects shall be subject to the following treatment:

First - The projects in the public free zones shall be subject to:

1. A fee of two percent (2%) of the value of the commodities upon entry (CIF) for warehousing projects and a fee of one percent (1%) of the value of the commodities upon exit (FOB) for the manufacturing and assembly projects. Trade of transit goods of specified destination shall be exempted from the fee.
2. A fee of one percent (1%) of the total revenues realized with regard to the projects that the main activity of which does not require the entry or exit of commodities based on the financial statements approved by a chartered accountant.

Second - The projects in the private free zones shall be subject to:

1. A fee of one percent (1%) of the total revenues realized with regard to the manufacturing and assembly projects upon exporting the commodities abroad and two percent (2%) of the total revenues of these projects upon the entry of the commodities to the country. Trade of transit goods of specified destination shall be exempted from the fee.
2. A fee of two percent (2%) of the total revenues realized with regard to the other projects set forth in the previous item.

The proceeds of the fees set forth in item (First) of this article shall devolve to the Authority and the proceeds of the fees set forth in item (Second) of this article shall be divided equally between the Ministry of Finance and the Authority.

In all cases, the projects established in the public and private free zones shall pay annual service charges to the Authority not exceeding (one per thousand) (0.001%) of the capital at a maximum of one hundred thousand pounds in accordance with the percentages defined in the Executive Regulations of this Law. The equivalent of its value may be paid in the currency specified by the Competent Minister.

These projects shall submit the financial statements approved by a chartered accountant to the Ministries of Finance and Investment.



Article: 42

Maritime transport projects which are established in the free zones shall be exempted from the conditions concerning the nationality of the ship owner and of those working on the ship, as prescribed in Law No. 84 of the year 1949 concerning the registration of merchant ships and the Maritime Trade Law promulgated by law no. 8 of the year 1990.

Ships which are owned by those projects shall be exempted from the provisions of Law No. 12 of the year 1964 concerning the establishment of the Egyptian General Organization for Maritime Transport.

Article: 43

The investor shall abide by the comprehensive insurance over the buildings, machines and equipment against all accidents and risks resulting from exercising the licensed activity.

The board of directors of the zone shall issue a decision for the removal of the project facilities in the case of the occurrence of the accident or the risk insured against. The decision shall be substantiated and notified to the investor or its representative within one week from the date of its issue by means of a registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt. The management of the zone may reduce this time limit when necessary.

The investor shall implement the removal decision at its expense within the time limit specified by the management of the zone.

In case the investor fails to implement the decision, the board of directors of the zone may suspend or cancel the activity of the project based on the gravity of the offense.

Article: 44

In all the cases in which the consignments are received from abroad and released by Customs under the free zones fee, they shall be examined by a tripartite committee of the zone, the Competent Customs and the concerned party or its representative inside the project headquarters. A statement signed thereby shall be drawn up to state the result of the examination after reconciling them with the invoices or the package





statement. The consignment shall be delivered to the concerned party. It shall be kept in its custody and under its full responsibility. The Customs Authority shall assess the value of this consignment and notify the management of the zone thereof.

The Customs director for the free zone shall notify the Chief of the Zone of the unjustified "Under & Over" cases other than what is indicated in the Bill-of-Lading, in the number of parcels or their contents, or the conserved or bulk goods.

A resolution of the board of directors of the Authority shall be issued regulating the responsibility for the cases prescribed in the previous clause and the percentage of tolerance in them.

Article: 45

The projects in the free zones shall not be subject to the provisions of law No. 113 of the year 1958 on the appointment in the posts of the joint stock companies and the public institutions.

The provisions of the Labor Law shall apply to the work relations, safety and occupational health in these zones. The rights of the workers included in these provisions shall be considered the minimum that may be agreed on in the individual or collective employment contracts concluded with the employees in the projects licensed to operate in these zones.

The projects in the free zones shall develop by-laws of the system of work therein and they shall be bound thereby. They shall be presented to the chief executive officer of the Authority or its representative for approval. These by-laws shall be complementary to the individual or collective employment contracts.

The chief executive officer of the Authority may object to the provisions included in the by-laws which violate the public order or if they include advantages less than those prescribed in the Labor Law.

The provisions of the social insurance law promulgated by law No. 79 of the year 1975 shall apply to the employees of the projects which practice their activities in the free zones and the law on the insurance of employers and the like promulgated by law No. 108 of the year 1976.



Article: 46

No person may practice a profession or craft in the public free zone for its own account permanently unless it obtains a permit therefor from the chairman of the board of directors of the zone in accordance with the terms and conditions defined in the Executive Regulations of this Law after the payment of an annual fee not exceeding five thousand pounds.

Whoever violates the provision of the first clause of this article shall be liable to a fine not less than five thousand pounds and not exceeding twenty thousand pounds. The criminal lawsuit shall not be filed in this case without the permission of the Competent Minister. In all cases, the establishment of projects practicing the liberal professions and consultations shall be prohibited in the free zones. The entry into the free zones shall take place in accordance with the conditions issued by a decision of the board of directors of the Authority.

Article: 47

The objectives, principles, guarantees and article (11) of this Law shall apply to the investment under the free zones system where they do not contradict the nature of work of this system.

The projects operating under this system may shift to work under the internal investment system. The Executive Regulations of this Law shall define the shifting conditions and controls, the customs treatment of the equipment, machinery, production devices and lines and spare parts required by the activity licensed thereto.

Chapter - 5 Provisions of Incorporation of Companies and Establishments and Post-Incorporation Services

Article: 48

Subject to the provision of article (71) of this Law, the Authority shall provide the incorporation, post-incorporation services and Investor Service Center to the companies subject to the provisions of this Law, the law on joint stock companies, partnerships limited by shares and limited liability companies promulgated by Law No. 159 of the year 1981 together





with the automation and consolidation of the procedures thereof. The electronic incorporation procedures shall be exclusively enforceable once they are activated in the Authority. In this respect, the Authority shall not be restricted to any procedures stipulated in the other laws.

The Executive Regulations of this Law shall define the provisions governing the publication of the articles of association of the company, procedures of amending them, the controls of work under the electronic incorporation system and the services for the companies and establishments subject to the provisions of this Law and the law on joint stock companies, partnerships limited by shares and limited liability companies referred to.

Article: 49

By means of a decree of the Competent Minister, a contract form shall be issued for each type of companies and its articles of association as the case may be.

The incorporation applicant shall pay to the Authority a lump sum for all prescribed fees imposed by the legislations and the other amounts due to the bodies providing the services related to incorporation and post-incorporation. The Authority shall collect these fees to the account of those bodies.

The Authority shall be entitled to charges in return for the actual services it provides to the investors. The board of directors of the Authority shall issue a decision to define the categories of these charges as well as the rules, conditions and procedures organizing the collection thereof.

Article: 50

The Competent Bodies shall adjust their positions to activate the electronic service system at the Authority by providing it with all the documents, forms and data, connect the work systems and databases at those bodies to the electronic service system at the Authority and its database within ninety days from the date of the enforcement of the provisions of this Law.

The Competent bodies shall reckon with the electronic signatures, the documents and forms developed by a technological means and accept



the electronic payment of all its dues as defined in the Executive Regulations of this Law.

Article: 51

The Authority shall decide on the incorporation application within no more than one working day after its submission duly fulfilled. The company shall obtain the legal personality once it is recorded in the commercial register. A certificate of incorporation shall be issued therefor that the data of which shall be specified by a decision of the chief executive officer.

All Competent Bodies, banks and related bodies shall reckon with this certificate as an official document in the transactions thereof once it is issued.

The companies incorporated in accordance with the provisions of this Law shall submit a certificate proving the deposit of the securities of the company with a central depository company.

The Authority shall develop a system which allows the issue of a certificate to the investment project that the regulation of which is issued by a decision of the chief executive officer of the Authority.

Each establishment or company, whatever its legal form is, shall have a unified national number approved for all the transactions of the investor with all the State agencies and bodies once it is activated.

All that shall take place in accordance with the stipulations of the Executive Regulations of this Law.

Article: 52

The capital of the companies to be governed by the provisions of this law may be determined by any convertible currency with their financial statements to be drawn up and published in such currency provided that the subscription to their capital shall be made in the same currency. As for the association of capitals, the specified percentage of the paid-up capital shall be settled according to the provision of the law on joint stock companies, partnerships limited by shares and limited liability companies promulgated by Law No. 159 of the year 1981.





Furthermore, the title of the capital of such companies may be changed from the Egyptian Pound to any convertible currency at the exchange rates applicable on the date of conversion by the Central Bank of Egypt.

The Executive Regulations of the present law shall determine the guidelines regulating same.

Article: 53

Notwithstanding the provisions of article (45) of the law on joint stock companies, partnerships limited by shares and limited liability companies promulgated by Law No. 159 of the year 1981, the incorporation shares and stocks of the associations of capital subject to the provisions of this Law may be traded in within the first two financial years of the company with the approval of the Competent Minister.

Article: 54

The Authority shall issue the decisions which simplify things for the investors and achieve the speedy provision of the services therefor with regard to all the procedures it is concerned with. In order to achieve that, and without being bound by any procedures stipulated in other laws, it may develop the controls that ensure the separation of the organization of the investment procedures from the subsequent control of the companies without prejudice to the principles of transparency, governance and accountability through the following:

1. Simplify all the procedures related to the general assemblies, the board of directors of companies and approval of the minutes thereof including the use of the modern technology ways within no more than fifteen days from the date they are submitted duly fulfilled.
2. The ledgers and documents shall be replaced by electronic means in line with the technological development.
3. Develop, consolidate and simplify the procedures of increasing or reducing the capital, the financial assessment systems and procedures of verifying whether the values specified therefor are correctly assessed without prejudice to the competence legally prescribed for the Financial Supervisory Authority.



All that shall take place in accordance with the stipulations of the Executive Regulations of this Law.

Chapter - 6
Allocation of the Real Estates Required for the Establishment of the
Investment Projects

Article: 55

The investor shall have the right to obtain the real estates required for practicing or expanding its activity, regardless of its partnership or shareholding percentage in the capital, subject to the rules of some real estates located in the geographic regions governed by special laws, either through the body of jurisdiction over the real estates in accordance with the rules stipulated in its laws and regulations after the announcement thereof or through the Authority in accordance with the disposal provisions stipulated in this Law.

Article: 56

The administrative bodies of jurisdiction shall, after coordination with all the competent bodies and the National Center for Planning State Land Use, within ninety days from the date of the enforcement of this Law, provide the Authority with detailed maps on which all the real estates subject to its jurisdiction and available for investment are shown in addition to a complete database which contains the location, surface area, prescribed heights, assessed price, the investment activities suitable for the nature thereof and method of disposal thereof. These bodies shall update this data periodically semi-annually or when the Authority requests that.

After the approval of the Cabinet, the President of the Republic shall issue a decree to transfer the ownership or jurisdiction or supervision of some real estates from the administrative bodies of jurisdiction to the Authority when this is required for the implementation of the investment plan. The Authority shall dispose thereof in accordance with the provisions of this Law.





Article: 57

Disposal of real estate privately owned by the State, or owned by other public legal persons, to investors shall be for the purpose of investment, as per the provisions, controls, regulations and procedures set forth in this Law, provided that the State investment plan and the size of the investment project shall be taken into consideration, as well as the nature of its activity and the amount of funds invested therein.

The Law regulating Tenders and Bids promulgated by law no. 89 of the year 1998 shall not apply to dispositions of the real estate referred to above, except where no special provision is made in the present Law, and provided that the provisions of said Law shall not conflict with those of the present Law.

The investor shall adhere to the schedule submitted thereby and approved by the Competent Body for the completion of the investment project as long as that Body has honored its obligations towards the investor.

The investor may not introduce any modifications to the investment project by modifying its purpose, expanding it, increasing its size or any other modifications unless it obtains the approval of the Competent Body in writing either directly or through its representative at the Investor Service Center.

Article: 58

Subject to the provision of article (37) of this Law, disposal of real estate necessary for investment projects subject to the provisions of the present Law, may be conducted in any of the following forms: sale, lease, lease ending with ownership and usufruct license.

This shall be effected upon a request of the investor, or upon an invitation or an announcement of the Authority, in accordance with the provisions of this law.

The administrative bodies of jurisdiction over the real estates may participate in the investment projects with those real estates as an in-kind share or in partnership in the cases to be issued by a decree of the Cabinet. The Executive Regulations of this Law shall define the positions,



procedures and method of participation of these bodies with the real estates in the investment project.

Article: 59

In the cases in which the investor requests State-owned real estates establish an investment project, it shall state in its request the purpose, surface area and location in which it wishes to establish the project. The Authority shall offer the real estates available therewith or with the administrative bodies of jurisdiction which are suitable for the investment activity of the investor, state the nature of the real estate, the requirements related thereto, state whether it is equipped with utilities, method of disposal thereof, the value thereof and the other necessary requirements and data.

Article: 60

Real estate privately owned by the State may be disposed of freely, and exclusively for development purpose and according to the investment map, in the areas to be determined by a Presidential decree, after approval of the Cabinet, to those investors that meet the technical and financial requirements to be determined by a Cabinet decree. This shall apply to any form of disposal referred to in Article (58) of the present Law.

In all cases of free disposal of real estate, the investor must submit a cash guarantee, or its equivalent, to the disposing entity of no more than 5% of the value of the project investment costs, as per the criteria and controls set out in the Executive Regulations of this law. Such guarantee shall be recovered after the lapse of three years, starting from the actual production of the projects of productive nature, or from commencing the activity, in case of other projects, providing that the investor shall comply with the disposition conditions.

Article: 61

In cases where disposition of real estate takes the form of license of usufruct against payment, the term of license shall not exceed fifty years, to be renewed on the agreed conditions, so long as the project continues its activity, and provided that such renewal shall not infringe the right of the body of jurisdiction to adjust the value of such usufruct right upon renewal.





License shall be awarded to investors that meet the technical and financial requirements to be set by the Authority, in coordination with the administrative body of jurisdiction.

The same previous provisions shall apply to lease disposition cases.

Article: 62

In cases where disposition of real estate takes the form of sale, every investor may, for the purpose of establishing investment projects or expanding thereof, submit an application for contracting on same, provided that the investor should meet the technical and financial requirements to be set by the Authority, in coordination with the administrative body of jurisdiction.

Ownership of the real estates shall not be transferred to the investor in such instances unless the price is paid in full, and the actual production commences in projects of productive nature, or completing the implementation of real estate or tourism projects or the activity commences for other projects. The contract entered into with the investor must include a provision to this effect.

The Authority may, upon the request of the investor, after obtaining the approval of the administrative body of jurisdiction, agree to postpone the payment of the price in full, or part thereof, or any other facilities, till the actual operation of the project. Should it be the case, the contract must determine the necessary guarantees and procedures.

The same previous provisions shall apply to the lease ending with ownership system.

Article: 63

When investors' applications compete for dealing in real estate necessary for establishing investment projects, whether under the system of sale, lease, lease ending with ownership, or license for usufruct, comparison shall be made among those who meet the technical and financial requirements necessary for investment, through a points-based system, according to trade-off criteria including the offer submitted by the investor or the other technical or financial specifications.



If the trade-off between the applicants according to the points system is difficult, it may be carried out according to the highest price offered by them.

The Executive Regulations of this Law shall set forth the cases of competing and specify the rules for conducting the trade-offs and the bases upon which they are based.

Article: 64

In applying the provisions of this Chapter, valuing the sale price, rental value or usufruct charges shall take place through one of the following bodies: General Authority for Governmental Services, the Higher Commission for Valuation of State Land at the Ministry of Agriculture, New Urban Communities Authority, General Authority for Tourism Development or Industrial Development Authority, in accordance with the nature of the activity targeted to be established.

The valuation body shall include experienced representatives in the membership of the valuation committees and complete the valuation process within a period not exceeding thirty days from the date of submitting the valuation application thereto.

The Executive Regulations of this Law shall define the standards, controls and procedures required for carrying out the valuation process, its validity period and the fees to be paid to the pricing body by the body of jurisdiction upon the completion of the allocation.

Article: 65

A committee or more shall be formed by a decision of the chief executive officer of the Authority and the approval of the Competent Minister which include technical, financial and legal cadres that the posts and experience thereof are suitable for the importance and nature of the contracting subject, to decide on the applications for disposal of real estates to the investors, in the different cases, in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter, within a period not exceeding thirty days from the date of receiving the technical opinion on the application of the investor from the jurisdiction body. The jurisdiction body shall submit the technical opinion within one week from the date of receiving the application. Its decision



shall be approved thereby. The Authority shall notify the applicant of its decision.

The Executive Regulations of the present Law shall prescribe the work rules and procedures of the aforesaid committees, the method of notification, and the method of paying the prices, the rental value or usufruct fee, as the case may be, as well as the method of reimbursement of the amounts due to the entities concerned in full. The Executive Regulations shall also set the procedures of drawing up contracts in each case, according to the contract forms approved by the board of directors of the Authority, after being reviewed by the State Council.

Article: 66

In all the cases in which the real estates owned by the State or the public legal persons are disposed of, the investment project shall adhere to the purpose based on which the real estate is disposed of. This purpose may not be changed without obtaining the written approval of the administrative body of jurisdiction, in the cases where the nature and location of the real estate allow that change, after the payment of the amounts that the Executive Regulations define the standards of determining the value thereof.

This body shall respond to the application for changing the purpose within thirty days from the date it is submitted thereto or the non-response shall be considered a rejection of the application.

The investor may appeal against this decision before the committee stipulated in article (83) of this Law.

In all cases, the application for changing the purpose shall not be accepted before the lapse of one year from the date of the commencement of production or practicing the activity.

Article: 67

The administrative body of jurisdiction may, based on the follow-up reports submitted thereto and prepared by personnel of the administrative bodies of jurisdiction, concerning the follow up of the phases of implementing the timetable for the establishment of the investment project facilities, and after obtaining the approval of the authority board of



directors, rescind the contract of sale, lease, lease ending with ownership or license for usufruct, and withdraw the real estates from the investor upon the occurrence of any of the following events:

- 1- Refraining from receiving the real estate for ninety days, commencing from the date of notification of receipt;
- 2- Failing to initiate the implementation of the project within ninety days from the date of his receiving the real estate free of impediments or encumbrances, without a justifiable excuse, and the continuation of his failure for a similar period, after being served a warning notice in writing;
- 3- Breach of the terms of paying the financial due amounts and timetable;
- 4- Altering the purpose of use of the real estate allocated to the investor, or mortgaging same or arranging for a right in rem thereof, without obtainment of a prior consent of the administrative body of jurisdiction or before ownership of the real estate is transferred to him, pursuant to the provisions of this Law; and
- 5- Material breach of the terms of the contract/license for usufruct, in any phase of the project, and failure to remove the causes of breach, after being served a warning notice in writing.

The Executive Regulations shall determine the material breaches referred to above, as well as the procedures for restoration of the real estate, in case of refrain or failure of the investor to complete the execution of the project. The Authority in this case may redispense the real estate.





Part - 4

Bodies in Charge of Investment Affairs

Chapter - 1
Supreme Council for Investment

Article: 68



A supreme council for investment shall be established under the Presidency of the President of the Republic to be concerned with the following in addition to the responsibilities prescribed therefor in this Law:

1. Take the necessary action to create a better climate for investment and issue the required instructions in this respect.
2. Develop the general framework for the legislative and administrative reform of the investment environment.
3. Approve the investment policies and plan which define the targeted priorities of the investment projects in line with the general policy of the State, the economic and social development plan and the applied investment systems.
4. Follow up the implementation of the investment-related plans and programs by the State agencies, the progress of work in the major economic projects and the position of the projects of partnership with the private sector.
5. Follow up updating the investment map and implementing it at the level of the specialized sectors and the various geographic regions within the framework of the economic development plan of the State.
6. Review the investment opportunities available in each sector and discuss the problems related thereto.
7. Follow up the progress of Egypt rating and ranking in the international reports and indicators on investment.



8. Follow up the mechanisms of resolving investment disputes and the position of the international arbitration cases.
9. Study and develop solutions to investment constraints and remove the obstacles to the enforcement of the provisions of this Law.
10. Activate the corporate responsibility of all the Ministries, public authorities and governmental agencies concerned with investment and achieve harmony in their performance.
11. Resolve the disputes and differences that may arise between the State agencies in the field of investment.

The formation and system of work of this Council shall take place by means of a decree to be issued by the President of the Republic.

All State agencies shall implement the decisions issued by the Council.

Chapter - 2
General Authority for Investment and Free Zones

Article: 69



The General Authority for Investment and Free Zones is an economic public authority having a legal personality, and reports to the competent Minister. It is responsible for regulating and promoting investment inside the country, and developing and running its affairs, in a way that achieves the economic development plan of the country.

The Authority's Head Office shall be located in the city of Cairo, and it may have branches and offices inside the Arab Republic of Egypt, or outside the country to be established by virtue of a resolution of its board of directors within the commercial representation missions.

Article: 70

Without prejudice to the provisions of the Capital Market Law promulgated by Law No. 95 of the year 1992, Law No. 95 of the year 1995 on Financial Leasing, Real Estate Finance Law promulgated by Law No. 148 of the year 2001, Law on the Central Bank, the Banking Sector and



Money promulgated by Law No. 88 of the year 2003 and Law No. 10 of the year 2009 Regulating Supervision over Non-banking Financial Markets and Instruments, the Authority shall be the competent administrative body solely concerned with the enforcement of the provisions of this Law and the law on joint stock companies, partnerships limited by shares and limited liability companies promulgated by Law No. 159 of the year 1981.

The Authority shall not be restricted by governmental rules and regulations when handling financial and administrative matters. To perform its tasks, the Authority may seek the assistance of the best qualified and expertise elements, be they local or international, without prejudice to the provisions of law no. 63 of the year 2014 on the maximum limit of income of the waged workers at the state bodies. Such matters shall be regulated by virtue of a resolution of the board of directors of the Authority.

To achieve its purposes, the Authority may enter into contracts, and make whatever disposals and acts, at its own discretion. In addition, real estates privately owned by the State may be allocated or reallocated to the Authority for the purpose of using such real estates in its administrative affairs.

Article: 71

In order to achieve its purposes, the Authority may carry out the following competences in addition to what is stipulated in this Law:

1. Develop the draft investment plan in coordination and cooperation with all the competent State agencies which includes the investment type and system, geographic regions and sectors, the real estates owned by the State or the other public legal persons prepared for investment, the system and method of disposal thereof according to the type of the investment system.
2. Develop the plans, studies and systems to ensure the attraction and encouragement of the national and foreign capitals to invest in the various fields according to the investment plan of the State, and take the necessary action in this respect.
3. Develop a database and map of the available investment opportunities, the targeted investment projects and activities, follow up the update thereof and make these information and data available to the investors.



4. Issue the required certificate for the investor to enjoy the incentives and guarantees stipulated in this Law.
5. Develop an investment promotion plan and take all actions required therefor in all the means and publish same locally and abroad.
6. Consolidate all the official forms related to the investment affairs in coordination with the Competent Bodies and provide them for use via the international information network and the other means.
7. Develop a system for the management of the free and investment zones in order to serve the national economy.
8. Study the investment-related legislations, propose the necessary action in their respect and review them periodically.
9. Hold conferences, seminars, training, workshops and fairs related to the investment affairs and organize them locally and abroad.
10. Cooperate with the international and foreign institutions and organizations operating in the field of investment and its promotion.
11. Control and inspect the companies subject to the provisions of this Law in accordance with the rules and procedures defined in the Executive Regulations of this Law and the other laws.

Article: 72

For the purposes of the implementation of its plan in the field of promoting the available investment opportunities locally and abroad, the Authority may assign this task to specialized companies to be contracted to carry out this purpose without being bound by the provisions of the law on organizing tenders and bids promulgated by Law No. 89 of the year 1998, in accordance with the rules defined in the Executive Regulations of this Law.





Article: 73

The Authority shall have a board of directors which shall develop the general policy therefor and supervise its implementation. It shall be formed by a decree of the Prime Minister as follows:

1. The Competent Minister, as chairman
2. The chief executive officer of the Authority
3. The executive vice-presidents of the Authority
4. Three representatives of the related bodies and agencies.
5. Two experienced persons; one of them is experienced in the field of investment in private sector and the other in the field of law.

The term of membership shall be three renewable years.

The Board shall convene at least once monthly. The meeting of the Board shall not be valid unless attended by two thirds of its members at least. The Board may form a committee or more from among its members, to be assigned with a certain task. The Chairman of the Board may, at his discretion, invite for the meetings any experts, where necessary.

Decisions of the Board shall be made by majority vote of present members. In the event of a tie, the Chairman shall have a casting vote. The Executive Regulations shall organize the work procedures of the Board.

The members of the board of directors shall disclose all their money. This disclosure shall be submitted and reviewed annually by an independent body to verify the non-existence of violation or actual or potential conflict of interests. A report about that shall be presented to the Supreme Council through the Competent Minister.

Article: 74

The Board of Directors of the Authority shall be the supreme authority governing and managing its affairs. The Board may, at its own discretion, take whatever decisions necessary for achieving the purposes for which the Authority has been established, in accordance with the provisions of this Law and its Executive Regulations. The Board may, in particular:

- 1- Set plans and programs for the Authority's activity within the framework of the investment policy of the State;



- 2- Lay down mechanisms of activation of Investor Service Center, and follow up its implementation;
- 3- Determine the fees of the services rendered by the Authority;
- 4- Approve the bylaws and executive decisions pertaining to financial, administrative and technical affairs of the Authority, and lay out its organizational structure;
- 5- Approve the annual draft budget of the Authority and its final accounts;
- 6- Set regulations governing the formation, competencies and work procedures of the boards of directors of investment and free zones. Formation and competencies of such boards shall be determined by a decision of the Chairman of the Authority's Board of Directors;
- 7- Approve regulations and systems and the forms necessary for the establishment, development and management of investment and free zones, and set the regulations and mechanisms governing the cancelation of projects established under various investment regimes, and set as well the terms established for expiry of approvals issued in their regard;
- 8- Endorse the conditions of granting licenses, and occupying real estates and their restoration, along with the buildings and constructions, and whatever objects inside them, particularly in respect of investment and free zones, pursuant to the provisions of this law;
- 9- Endorse the regulations governing the ingress and egress of goods and the provisions of their recording, charges for occupancy of places where such goods are deposited, in addition to examination of documents, auditing, the system of controlling and guarding free zones and collection of the due fees, in coordination with the Customs Authority;
- 10- Approve the set-up of branches and offices of the Authority to activate the Investor Service Center prescribed by this law and to render the various investment services;
- 11- Develop a system for the automation of the investment services provided through the Authority.



- 12- Develop the systems and rules which ensure the application of the principles of governance and the post-inspection and control works of the companies and take the necessary action in this respect as defined in the Executive Regulations of this Law.
- 13- Develop a system to ensure the provision of the statistics, data and information required for the investment project to practice its activity without prejudice to the considerations of national security or the right of privacy and confidentiality of information or the protection of the rights of others. All Competent Bodies shall provide the Authority with the requirements of developing this system.

Article: 75



The Authority's resources shall consist of:

- 1) Appropriations to be allocated by the State;
- 2) Service charges and fees collected by the Authority, with the exception of those collected for the account of other entities;
- 3) Local and foreign donations, grants and loans approved by the board of directors of the Authority, pursuant to the rules established in this regard;
- 4) Amounts received against occupancy of real estate owned or allocated to the Authority; and
- 5) Any other resources, for which a decision shall be issued by the Authority's Board of Directors, after approval of the Cabinet of Ministers.

Article: 76

The Authority shall have a separate budget, to be prepared following the pattern of budgets of economic authorities. The financial year of the Authority shall begin with that of the State and shall end with its end. The Authority's accounts, balances and funds shall be under the regulation of the Central Auditing Organization. All the resources of the Authority shall be deposited at a special account under the Treasury Single Account in the Central Bank of Egypt. The surplus of the budget shall be carried forward, from one year to another, to the special account. Disbursement from said



account shall be effected by a decision of the Authority's Board of Directors.

Article: 77

The appointment of the chief executive officer of the Authority and its executive vice-presidents and the determination of their financial treatment shall be issued by a decree of the Prime Minister based on a proposition of the Competent Minister for three years to be renewable for once. The number of the executive vice-presidents may not exceed five. Responsibilities of the executive vice-presidents shall be defined by a decree of the Competent Minister.

The chief executive officer of the Authority shall represent it before the Judiciary and third parties. He shall run its affairs and implement the decisions of its board of directors. In order to do that, he may take the necessary action to facilitate the procedures of the services the Authority provides to the investors and take the necessary action to activate the control, transparency and governance system and the good management.

The chief executive officer may authorize one of his vice-presidents to carry out some of his responsibilities but that shall not include representing the Authority before the Judiciary or third parties.

The Executive Regulations shall define the responsibilities and other duties of the chief executive officer.

Article: 78

The chief executive officer shall develop an annual plan and a sustainable strategy for the Authority every five years and semi-annual report which includes a statement on its work results and its progress towards the simplification of the procedures of investment and promotion thereof to be presented to the board of directors of the Authority.

The Competent Minister shall submit to the Supreme Council and the Cabinet the annual plan of the Authority and the report referred to with the results it includes in light of the annual plan or the five-year strategy of the Authority, its progress in the field of the simplification of the procedures of investment and promotion thereof, the most prominent obstacles to investment, the policies, procedures and legislative



amendments proposed by the Competent Ministry to improve the investment climate in the country.

When necessary and after obtaining the approval of the board of directors of the Authority, the chief executive officer may approve the completion or development of the elements of the infrastructure of the public free zones not-owned by the Authority provided that the amounts it incurs shall devolve thereto in deduction from the usufruct charges collected from the projects established in these zones in favor of the body which owns the land.

The Executive Regulations of this Law shall define the controls of the completion or development referred to and the bases of determining the amounts paid and ways of refunding them.

Article: 79

The Authority shall annually publish a list of the companies benefiting from the incentives stipulated in this Law in a report to be published on its electronic website which includes the nature of the activity, location, nature of incentives, names of the partners or shareholders or owners of the company.

The Authority shall annually publish a list of the companies benefiting from the State lands under the provisions of this Law in a report which includes the purpose of using the land, its nature, dimensions and location accurately, the evaluation of experts, names of the partners and shareholders or owners of the company.

The companies shall submit a statement of the size of their investments, their annual financial statements, a statement of the number of employees, positions, nationalities, total wages thereof and the other data defined in the Executive Regulations of this Law.

Article: 80

The employees of the Authority whose specifications shall be issued by a decree of the Minister of Justice in agreement with the Competent Minister, shall have the judicial officer capacity in evidencing the crimes committed in violation of the provisions of this law and the law on joint stock companies, partnerships limited by shares and limited liability



companies promulgated by Law No. 159 of the year 1981 and the decrees issued in implementation thereof. In order to do that, they may enter the investment projects subject to the provisions of this Law, to review their documents and records, by a decision of the chief executive officer, provided that a report on the results of their work shall be presented thereto. The concerned investment projects shall facilitate their task.

Article: 81

In case the companies or establishments violate the provisions of this Law, the Authority shall warn the companies or establishments forthwith, to remove the causes of violation within a period not exceeding fifteen working days from the date of the warning.

The warning shall include the period set for removing the causes of violation. If this period lapses without doing that, the chief executive officer of the Authority, after obtaining the approval of the board of directors, may issue a decision to suspend the activity of the company or establishment for a period not exceeding ninety days. If the company or establishment continues to commit the violation or the continuation thereof or commits another violation within one year from the first violation, one of the following actions may be taken:

- a) Stop the enjoyment of the prescribed incentives and exemptions.
- b) Shorten the period of the enjoyment of the prescribed incentives and exemptions.
- c) End the enjoyment of the prescribed incentives and exemptions with the resulting consequences with regard to the decisions and licenses issued to the companies and establishments.
- d) Cancel the license of practicing the activity.

With regard to the violations which threaten the public health or security of citizens or the national security, the chief executive officer of the Authority, after notifying the board of directors of the Authority, may issue a decision to suspend the activity for ninety days. If the company or establishment continues to commit the violation or commits another violation within one year from the first violation, it may cancel the license.



Part - 5

Investment Dispute Resolution

Article: 82

Without prejudice to the right to litigation, any dispute arising between the investor and a governmental body or more with regard to the capital of the investor or the interpretation or enforcement of the provisions of this Law may be resolved amicably without delay through negotiations between the parties to the dispute.

Chapter - 1 Appeal Committee

Article: 83



A committee or more shall be established at the Authority to investigate the grievances filed against the decisions issued in application of the provisions of the present Law by the Authority or the Competent Bodies concerned with issuing the approvals, permits or licenses.

The Grievance Committee shall be formed under the chairmanship of a counselor from one of the judicial bodies to be elected by the special councils of those bodies and the membership of a representative of the Authority and one member with expertise.

Formation of the Committee, its system of work and its technical secretariat shall be determined by a decree of the competent minister.

Article: 84

Grievances shall be submitted to the Committee within fifteen working days from the date of notification or knowledge of the decision subject matter of the grievance raised. Submitting the grievance shall result in the interruption of the appeal schedule. The Committee may contact the relevant parties and the administrative bodies concerned, and demand clarifications, explanations and documentation and to answer the queries it finds necessary. Additionally, the Committee shall be entitled to seek the



assistance of those with various expertise and specialties in the Authority, and in other administrative bodies.

The committee shall decide on the grievances presented thereto by a substantiated decision, within thirty days from the date of the completion of hearing the parties and expressing their views. Its decision in this respect shall be final and binding to all the Competent Bodies without prejudice to the right of the investor to resort to the Court.

The Executive Regulations shall define the place of the convention of the committee and the method of notification of its decisions.

Chapter - 2 Ministerial Committee for Settlement of Investment Disputes

Article: 85



A ministerial committee shall be established, named "Ministerial Committee for Settlement of Investment Disputes". The Committee shall be responsible for examining any requests, complaints, or disputes filed or submitted thereto, that may arise between investors and the State, or to which one of the bodies, authorities or companies affiliated thereto is a party.

The Committee shall be constituted by virtue of a decree of the Prime Minister. The Committee's membership shall include a deputy of the President of the State Council, to be elected by the administrative affairs Council at the State Council. The decisions of the Committee shall be endorsed by the Cabinet. The ministers who are members in the Committee may, when necessary, delegate representatives thereof to attend the Committee's meetings and vote on the decisions taken thereby.

The Committee shall have a technical secretariat, the formation and work procedure of which shall be determined by a decree of the competent minister.

Article: 86

The quorum of the Committee shall consist of the Committee's chairman and at least half of its original members. Decisions of the



Committee shall be made by majority vote. In the event of a tie, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

The administrative body concerned shall promptly submit the clarifying notes and necessary documentation upon request. If this body is from among the members of the committee, it shall not have a counting vote in deliberations regarding the issue related thereto.

The Committee shall issue a substantiated decision on the issues submitted thereto within thirty days from completion of hearing the parties concerned and expressing their opinions.

Article: 87

Without prejudice to the investor's right to resort to courts, decisions of the Committee, after endorsement of the Cabinet shall be enforceable and binding on the administrative bodies concerned. Decisions of the Committee shall have the force of the writ of execution. Refraining from implementing them shall result in applying the provisions of article 123 of the penal code and inflicting the penalty prescribed therein. Submitting the grievance against the decisions of the committee shall not result in suspending their implementation.

Chapter - 3
Ministerial Committee for Settlement
of Disputes Arising from Investment Contracts

Article: 88

A ministerial committee shall be established at the Cabinet, named "Ministerial Committee for Settlement of Disputes Arising from Investment Contracts". The Committee shall be responsible for settling the disputes arising from investment contracts to which the State, authorities or an affiliate thereof, is a party.

This Committee shall be constituted by virtue of a decree of the Prime Minister. The Committee's membership shall include a deputy of the President of the State Council, to be elected by the administrative affairs Council at the State Council. The decision of the Committee shall be endorsed by the Cabinet. No delegation shall be allowed for attendance of the Committee's sessions.



The quorum of the Committee shall consist of the Committee's chairman and at least half of its original members. Decisions of the Committee shall be made by majority vote. In the event of a tie, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

The Committee shall have a technical secretariat, the formation and work procedure of which shall be determined by a Prime Minister decree.

Article: 89

The Committee shall investigate and examine the disputes arising between the parties to investment contracts. To this end, it shall have the right, with the consent of the contracting parties, to conduct the necessary settlement for rectifying the imbalances of such contracts, and to extend maturities, terms or grace periods stipulated therein.

The Committee shall also, if necessary, reschedule the financial dues or rectify the procedures preceding the signing of contracts. All this shall be done in a manner that achieves a contractual balance as much as possible, and ensures the attainment of the best economic position to preserve public funds and the investor right in light of the circumstances of each event.

The Committee shall submit a report about the results reached concerning the settlement and displaying all its relevant elements to the cabinet. Such settlement shall be enforceable and binding on the concerned administrative bodies after endorsement of the Cabinet and shall have the force of the writ of execution.

Chapter - 4
Amicable Ways of Dispute Resolution,
Arbitration and Mediation Center

Article: 90

The investment disputes, related to the enforcement of the provisions of this Law, may be resolved by the way to be agreed on with the investor or in accordance with the provisions of the Law on Arbitration of Civil and Commercial Matters, promulgated by Law No. 27 of the year 1994.



At any time during the dispute, the parties may agree on seeking the resolution ways of all kinds, in accordance with the rules in force for dispute resolution including recourse to the non-institutional (free) arbitration or the institutional arbitration.

Article: 91

An independent center for arbitration and mediation called (The Egyptian Center for Arbitration and Mediation) shall be established. It shall have the legal personality and its headquarters shall be Cairo Governorate.

The Center shall be responsible for resolving the investment disputes, that may arise between the investors or between them and the State or a body affiliated thereto whether public or private if they agree, in any phase, on resolving the dispute through arbitration or mediation before this Center subject to the provisions of the Egyptian laws governing arbitration and dispute resolution.

The management of the Center shall be carried out by a board of directors of five members who have the experience, specialization, efficiency and good reputation and shall be appointed by a decree of the Prime Minister.

The term of the board of directors shall be five years that may be renewed once. A board member may not be removed from office throughout this term unless it loses the medical fitness required to perform its duties or loses trust or consideration or seriously breaches its duties in accordance with the articles of association of the Center.

The board members shall elect the board chairman from among themselves. The Center shall have an executive manager who shall be appointed and the financial treatment thereof shall be determined by a decision of the board of directors.

The articles of association of this Center, the system of work therein, the professional rules and procedures governing that, the charges of the services provided thereby, the list of arbitrators and mediators and the remuneration thereof shall be issued by a decision of the board of directors of the Center. The articles of association of the Center shall be published in Al-Wakaye Al-Mesreya (Government Bulletin).



The financial resources of the Center shall be made up of the charges of the services it provides in accordance with the stipulations of the Articles of association thereof.

During the first three years of the enforcement of this Law, sufficient financial resources shall be provided to the Center by the State Public Treasury. Other than the above, the Center may not obtain any funds from the State or any of its agencies.

Article: 92

In the cases where the crime is committed in the name of the legal person and for its account, the official in charge of the actual management may not be punished unless it is proved aware of the crime and attempted to commit it for his benefit or the benefit of others, without prejudice to the provisions of the civil liability.

In the case where the natural person is not held accountable as defined in the previous clause, the legal person shall be liable to a fine not less than four times the fine legally prescribed for the crime and not exceeding ten times the value thereof. In the case of recurrence, it shall be sentenced to cancel the license or dissolve the legal person as the case may be. The sentence shall be published in two daily widely circulated newspapers at the expense of the legal person.

Article: 93

In other than the cases of catching red-handed, applying for filing a criminal lawsuit in the crimes stipulated in the Customs Law, promulgated by Law No. 66 of the year 1963, the Income Tax Law, promulgated by Law No. 91 of the year 2005 and the Value Added Tax Law, promulgated by Law No. 67 of the year 2016 shall take place after seeking the opinion of the Competent Minister if the accused of committing the crime reports to an investment project subject to the provisions of this Law.

The Competent Minister shall express its opinion in this respect within seven days from the date of receiving the survey letter or the lawsuit may be filed in accordance with the rules prescribed in the laws referred to.





Article: 94

Without prejudice to the provision of article (131) of the Law on the Central Bank, the Banking Sector and Money, promulgated by Law No. 88 of the year 2003 and article sixteen of Law No. 10 of the year 2009 Regulating Supervision over Non-banking Financial Markets and Instruments, the criminal lawsuit may not be filed and no investigation action may be taken vis-à-vis the investor in the crimes stipulated in Part Four of Book Two of the Penal Code unless the opinion of the Competent Minister is sought as stipulated in article (93) of this Law and according to the same rules.

