Republic of Yemen Council of Ministers Environment Protection Council

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English translation of the original Arabic text.

This translation has no legal status and serves for information purposes only.

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Part One - The General Rules and Principles

Chapter One - Citation and definitions

Article (1)

This law shall be cited as the Environment Protection Law.

Article (2)

For the objectives of implementing this law, the terms and expressions appearing herein under shall have the meanings assigned to each of them, unless the context¶ should indicate to the contrary thereof:

- 1- **Republic:** The Republic of Yemen.
- 2- **The Council:** The Environment Protection Council (EPC).
- 3- The Environment: The biosphere that encompasses living organisms including substances and its surrounding air, water and, soil. This biosphere consists of two elements, cosmic (natural) element which includes living creatures and organisms ~of human beings, fauna, flora, and natural resources of air, water and soil, also organic and non organic materials as well as ecosystems. Human element which includes all that which is augmented ,by human beings to the Natural environment as fixed and non fixed establishments roads, bridges, airports and transportations means and systems, as well as what is created and produced from industries, inventions and technologies.
- 4- **Polluting substances and factors:** Any solid materials, liquid or gaseous materials, smoke, steam, odors, noise radiation, heat, spark, vibrations introduced by human beings' that lead directly or indirectly to environmental pollution or deterioration to the living creatures.
- 5- **Environmental Pollution:** Any changes in the environmental properties that may result intentionally or unintentionally by human beings that will lead to any hazards to the humans, fauna, flora, ecosystems, resources or cause any effect and influence on the lawful uses and utilization of the environment or influence by any' way or mean of the

- recreation of human beings and make use and benefit of the properties.
- 6- **The ecosystems:** The comprehensive system that comprise all the components and elements of the natural environment which comply and interact together.
- 7- **Natural Resources:** All material resources which mankind has nothing to do with its existence and creation.
- 8- **Environmental Protection:** Protecting and promoting the environmental components and properties and preserving the natural balance and preventing, mitigating or control their deterioration or conservation and rationalization of natural resources consumption and protection of the living organisms and creatures, especially those listed as endangered and endemic species.
- 9- **The environmental impact:** Changes in the, environment caused by human activities.
- 10- The environmental damage: Damages inflicted to the environment which affects directly or indirectly . its natural end organic characteristics and ;components or that affects its functions through mitigation of its capabilities or losing its capabilities. The damage that affects human kind and other living organisms and natural resources due to the changes of the environment components, characteristics and properties.
- 11- Conservation of natural resources: The rational and wise management of the renewable and non-renewable resources which include the good use and rational exploitation and utilization and to maintain and conserve its sustainability and 'continuity of its productive capacity for the present and future generations.
- 12- The environmental impact assessment: The study which evaluates, analyses and assesses the planned activities to secure and ensure environmentally safe development and sustainable development as well as to forecast and foresee all the possible consequences and results and measures that to be proposed in order to reduce and mitigate of such effects or to avoid an annul it effects.
- 13- The environmental impact statement: The statement which includes description of the environmental impact of such art activity and its alternatives in case that-such activity has not been accepted.

- 14- Preliminary assessment of the environmental impact: A relatively brief and quick review of a proposed project for development which aims to ensure of the possible major in effects and impacts and to determine whether it is probable that such impacts may be greater to the extent that it is essential to prepare a comprehensive assessment of the environmental impact.
- 15- Comprehensive. assessment of the environmental impact: A detailed environmental feasibility study to the impacts that arise out of proposed development projects.
- 16- Waste: Materials or substances of mobile things to be disposed or intended to dispose or it is required according to the prevailing rules of the law to get rid of, or that owner and possessor desires to recycle it or neutralize it or to dispose of it.
- 17- **Hazardous waste:** Any waste that is generated from industrial, chemical or radiation operations and becomes hazardous due to its contents of materials or concentrations of materials or due to its chemical reactions or due to its toxic character or being liable to explosion or to create corrosion or any other characteristics that arise danger to human being, fauna and flora or to the environment whether independently or intermixed with other waste.
- 18- **Handling of hazardous waste:** All the operations that initiate with the generation of waste until the safe disposal of it and which include the collection of waste or storing it, or removing or handling or disposing of it, or its destruction including the maintenance of the landfills and its dumping.
- 19- **Pollution-free area:** This area is the territorial sea, the contiguous zone, the exclusive economic zone and the continental shelf or any other areas 'to be specified by laws.
- 20- The natural protected areas: Land or water areas whether inland or coastal or both that enjoys special protection to maintain its environment or to protect kinds or species of flora or fauna or birds or marine species that are threatened or endangered of extinction the protection of the archaeological places.
- 21- **Wildlife:** Any specie or species of flora and fauna or birds that take the territory of the Republic of Yemen as its home

- and sheltering also the birds that take territory or its coasts as rest stations or for breeding or for living.
- 22- **Marine ecosystem:** Marine creatures that live in the territorial sea or the exclusive economic zone and the continental shelf or in the soil Land subsoil of these waters inclusive the coral reefs.
- 23- **The project:** Any establishment or construction or activity of whatsoever nature that might be a source of pollution or deterioration to the environment.
- 24- **Environmental Health:** The health condition of the human being, fauna or flora and all that relate to the life of the human being living in the environment.
- 25- **Environmental quality standards:** The maximum limits or pollutants concentrations that is not allowed to exceed in the components of the natural environment (air, water, soil).
- 26- **The source standard:** The limitations or quantities of pollutants or degrees of its concentrations emitted. from a point source or mobile one or from a particular substance within a' certain time frame or during the operational session
- 27- **The operational standards:** It is a collection of specifications and conditions that must be provided in some establishments for the protection of the environment.
- 28- **Standards and specifications of the products:** That includes the natural and chemical characteristics -of a product due to its contents of pollutants or harmful materials:.
 - The special rules of storing or packing or displaying -or wrapping.
 - The standard of pollution that is emitted out of special products (motor cars etc.).
- 29- The fuel: Any material used for energy generation.
- 30- **Hazardous Materials:** The materials and substances of high toxic or radioactive characteristics or' that which is liable tot explode or that which causes corrosion or any other properties that affect human being or living organisms or the environment.
- 31- **Disposal:** The discharge, leakage, dumping or emission to the environment of pollutants in the air, soil pr into the inland and the territorial waters whether directly or indirectly.
- 32- **Toxic substance:** Any substance introduced or might be introduced to the environment in quantities or 'concentrations

- which lead to the deterioration of the natural environment that is essential for human life and other 7 organisms whether such effect is immediate or of long term ·effect or which exposes risks to human health and life.
- 33- Competent bodies: Any ministry or department or a corporation which performs' or exercises specific duties and responsibilities that relate to some issues of the environment protection or the conservation of the natural resources and control of pollution or such responsible parties and bodies who issue licenses to practice any activity or to establish any project which has an environmental impact which is stipulated and provided for in this law or any other effective and prevailing laws.
- 34- **Pollution control officer or environmental Inspector:** The appointed employees and officials who have functions and responsibilities of judicial and juridical nature who are authorized from the competent bodies to implement the rules and provisions of this law and its executive regulation.
- 35- **Handling of pesticides:** Any commercial, industrial, agricultural or technical operation which requires importation and export, transport, storage, packing, fractioning, preparation or use of pesticides of insects and plant blights and pests.
- 36- Registration of pesticides: The measures and formalities to be adopted by the concerned authorities before granting the approval of pesticides handling and after its inspection of its specifications and compositions to ensure that it is harmless to human health and that it is environmentally safe and sound.

Chapter Two - The Objectives and General Basis

Article (3)

This law shall aim to fulfill the following objectives:

- 1- The protection of the environment and the conservation of its safety and balance and the maintenance of its natural ecosystems.
- 2- Combating all types of pollution arid to avoid any damages or negative impacts, direct or indirect of long term or immediate

- resulting from implementation of economic, agricultural, industrial, construction development programs or others of development programs which aim to improve the standard of living and to increase its welfare.
- 3- The protection of the natural resources and its development, and the conservation of the species and kinds of life in the national environment and the rational utilization and exploitation for the benefit of the present and future generations.
- 4- Protection of the society and health of the human being and other living organisms from all environmentally damaging activities and acts or that which interfere with or. obstruct the fair and justifiable us and enjoyment of natural environment.
- 5- Protection of the national environment from the damaging effects due to activities performed out off the national territory and its territorial waters.
- 6- The implementation of the international obligations which relate to the protection of the environment and combating pollution and the conservation of the natural resources that Yemen ratifies in accordance with the prevailing legislations.
- 7- The contribution through the measures provided for and stipulated in the rules of this law in protecting the elements of the international environment including the ozone layer and the climate.

Article (4)

For the purpose of fulfilling the above mentioned objectives as mentioned in the previous article, the concerned bodies shall undertake its responsibilities and functions and perform its duties in accordance with the assigned jurisdictions for the implementation in accordance to the following basis:

- Human being is an important and influential part in the natural environment in which he lives and utilizes its resources.
- 2- Every individual has the basic right to live in a healthy and balanced environment that concurs and complies with the human being integrity which ensure intellectual, mental, physical and healthy growth, whereby each person natural and juridical adheres to and abides to the protection of the

- environment and its natural resources and to prevent the damage to the environment and pollution control.
- 3- The official authorities, public and private institutions as well as the individuals shall be responsible for the I protection of the environment and it natural resources and pollution control and the conservation of wild life and marine ecosystem.
- 4- The Yemeni Environment Comprises the land areas and the internal and maritime waters and its seabed and subsoil and the atmosphere above it of the air which the Republic of Yemen has jurisdiction in accordance with the rules of the public international law and the UN convention on the law of the sea of 1982, and any other international convention which is to be ratified by the Yemen for the purpose of the protection of the marine environment. The state authorities shall enjoy and perform the jurisdiction provided for in the UN convention on the law of the sea for the protection of the marine environment under the state sovereignty as well as the areas within the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).
- 5- The official authorities and public and private institutions, whether national or foreign as well as individuals shall comply and abide when performing any activity or action of whatever nature to give the priority and preference to the principle of the protection of the environment from pollution and not just to the mete of the removal of damages after its occurrence or to compensate for it.
- 6- The official authorities, especially those who perform and practice the preparation of the economic development plans shall take the environmental considerations in the economic development plans in all levels and stages of planning and to ensure that the environmental planning is an essential part of the comprehensive development planning in all aspects, industrial, agricultural, construction and tourism and others to avoid the negative effects to the environment in future.
- 7- The Official authorities and its public, private and cooperative institutions especially those authorized to issue licenses for new or existing projects as well as the foreign companies, that practice -and carry out their activities within Yemen's borders, shall take into consideration the principle of environmental assessment of projects so that the

performance of the environmental assessment studies shall not contradict with that of the economic feasibility studies.

8-

- (1) It shall not be permissible to issue the license for new projects and establishments that damage or pollute the environment its deterioration. or cause (2) All new projects and establishments shall adhere and oblige to comply to use the best available technologies to protect the environment and to control pollution. As to the existing projects and establishments shall comply with the standards and norms of the protection of the environment to be issued by the Environment Protection Council or any other concerned body, or to be supplied with equipment and technologies that prevent the occurrence of any substantial damage to the environment.
- 9- Anyone who damages the environment shall be responsible for all the costs and expenses arising out of removing the damage in addition to the compensation for it.
- 10- All state organs which have responsibility for information, education and culture shall adhere and abide to undertake the task of enhancing raising the level of awareness of the individual and society in relation to the issues of environment and the importance of its protection as including the environmental protection sciences within the school syllabuses and courses for the different education levels.

Chapter Three - The Environment Protection Council (EPC)

Article(5)

- 1- The council shall be established to be named as the Environmental Protection Council (EPC) that follows the Council of Ministers. The Cabinet shall issue a decree of its establishment and to determine its functions and jurisdictions and its executive duties.
- 2- The Council is. the official organ of the state and shall undertake the preparation of the general national policy for the environment protection and its control and shall carry out

the coordination with concerned bodies to execute such policy after the approval of the cabinet. Each concerned body shall adhere to and be obliged to implement the decisions, resolutions and recommendations that are issued by the Council.

Part Two - Protection of Water, Soil and use of Pesticides

Chapter One - Protection of Water, Soil and establishment of Natural Protected Areas

Article (6)

The concerned body shall protect the surface and groundwater and to undertake the development of the water resources, and limitations of the issuance of licenses for drilling of ground water wells and impose strict regulations and restrictions to prevent the misuse and overuse of the water resources or contaminating it. The use and storage of water shall be subject to the conditions that to be determined by the concerned body.

Article (7)

The concerned bodies shall prepare the necessary policies and plans in relation to the construction of dams, canal, water catchement areas and storage to develop such resources and to support and encourage the local community initiatives towards such projects in accordance with the studies and scientific specifications which shall be prepared by the concerned body or to be approved by it.

Article (8)

The responsible authorities for land use planning, shall take into considerations the environmental factors whenever they prepare and implement the land use planning.

Article (9)

- 1- It shall be prohibited to exercise any activity that contributes directly or indirectly to the damage of the soil or polluting it or affect its natural characteristics and components in a way that it influences and affects its productive capacity.
- 2- It shall taken into consideration, the requirements for the protection of the soil and the preservation of its fertility, whenever applying the special provisions the environmental standards and environmental impact assessment to the environmentally damaging activities and licenses for projects.

Article (10)

- 1- It shall not be permissible to have the construction expansion or urban and rural development at the expense of the agricultural lands, except that such action is provided for in the prevailing laws and resolutions.
- 2- It shall be prohibited to establish or construct any industrial or commercial activity on the agricultural lands or in the water basins and aquifers with the exception of industries that are related to agriculture (agro-industries) subject to the prevailing laws and resolutions.

Article (11)

- 1- Without prejudice to the owners rights and the principle of respect of the private ownership that is stipulated in the and the prevailing laws, it shall be permissible for the chairman of the cabinet to issue a resolution on a proposal submitted by the council or any other concerned body to establish natural protected in areas of unique and distinguished environmental nature for the purpose of protection of the environment or to maintain and conserve its resources or to protect the wild life.
- 2- The resolution shall specify and determine the prohibited activities, actions and practices in the protected area that cause the damage, the destruction or deterioration of the natural environment or damage the wild life or the marine organism or affect its quality and beauty. It is particularly prohibited:
 - To hunt, transport, kill or disturb the fauna or marine creatures organisms that are not harmful or to carry out activities that lead to their destruction and extinction.
 - Degradation, destruction and transportation of flora within the protected areas.
 - Degradation or destruction of the geographical and geological structures and compositions or the places that are considered as shelters for certain species of fauna and flora or for their reproduction and breeding.
 - Introducing foreign genera within the protected area.
 - Polluting the soil, water or the air of the protected area.
 - Military maneuvers and live shooting training.

Cutting trees or exposing the soil.
 It is prohibited, to construct roads or transporting vehicles and equipment or exercising and practicing any agricultural, commercial or industrial activities except with a permission front the competent body which shall be specified by the cabinet.

Article (12)

- 1- All fauna and birds that have their habitat in Yemeni territories as well as the migratory birds that arrive in the territories or the coasts for resting, breeding or habitat shall have the legal protection.
- 2- However, it is permissible to allow hunting for commercial or other purposes through a resolution by the prime minister based upon a proposal by the council or any other competent body to determine and specify locations, times kinds and genera of fauna and birds.

Article(13)

It is prohibited to destroy, or damage rare and endemic species of flora which exist in the Yemeni territories. The council in co-ordination with any other competent body shall determine and specify the kinds and species of such plants. Such regulation shall be issued by a resolution from the Cabinet.

Article(14)

- 1- It is prohibited to exercise any activity which affects the quantity and quality of the vegetation in any area causing desertification or to deface and mar the natural environment.
- 2- It is prohibited to cut, remove or damage any tree, shrub or bush from the forests unless a permission from the competent bodies is granted.

Chapter Two - The Use of Pesticides

Article (15)

It is not permissible to handle pesticides without a license from the competent body and in accordance with the prevailing laws.

Article (16)

The competent body shall, in coordination with the Council shall propose the regulations that define and control the following issues:

- 1- The types of pesticides for plant pests and other types of pesticides and chemicals that it is permissible to handle and determination of its specifications and their handling conditions.
- 2- Conditions and procedures the pesticides handling licenses and their import permissions.
- 3- Procedures for pesticides registration and re-registration.
- 4- The method of selection samples of pesticides and its analysis and the means of challenging and objecting results of the analysis.
- 5- The method of the disposal of the expired pesticides and empty bottles and packages.

Article (17)

In cause that approval for registration of any pesticide is granted, the period of registration of such pesticide shall be determined for five years period and may be re-registered or canceled as the competent body deems it necessary.

Article (18)

The competent body shall stipulate the pesticides specifications and its handling conditions with the coordination of the, council and they shall take into consideration the specifications and conditions that are issued by the WHO and FAO and Arab organization for industrial development.

Article (19)

1- The warehouses and storage places of pesticides must be far away from the populated areas or the commercial zones

or animal sheds or factories and storage of food stuffs, beverages and juices. It must be well-ventilated and satisfies the health, safety and technical requirements and conditions or any other requirements to be specified and determined by the competent body.

- 2- It is a condition that the person responsible for pesticide handling should have experience and is acquainted with pesticides and the methods of their handling.
- 3- Each warehouse and storage of pesticides must maintain and keep a registry, whereby he must record the quantity of pesticide and its origin and its validity and the sale, purchase. transaction movement and the names of the purchasers and their addresses.

Article (20)

It is prohibited to import or use the highly toxic pesticides or those with special restrictions to use or those which might constitute a potential threat and danger to the environment or human health or animals except through the competent body and after notification of the Council.

Article (21)

Officers for judicial investigations of the competent body having judicial order shall be entitled and have the right to enter places where pesticides are stored as provided for in of this law, or suspected to be stored. They have the right to take limited free samples of such pesticides for its analysis and to investigate its validity or to investigate that conditions and specifications that are determined by the law. or its executive regulations have been complied with.

Part Three - Environmentally Damaging Activities

Chapter One - Control of Environmentally Damaging Activities

Article (22)

It is not permissible for any ministry or authority or corporation or public or private company or a co-operative as well as any individual to use the Yemeni environment for dumping or discharge or. dispose any pollutants to the environment with the types and quantities that damage and affect the environment or contribute to its deterioration or inflict damage to the natural resources or the living organisms or infringes and violates or prevent the justified and equitable use and exploitation of the environment.

Article (23)

Any person who is responsible for designing or operating any project or performing any activity shall abide and comply with the provided rules in this law, as well as comply and adhere to the stated and determined specifications, standards, criterias of the protection of the environment in this respect.

Article (24)

Any person natural or juridical desires to establish any project or activity or work of whatever nature, which might cause negative effects to the . environment, shall undertake environmental assessment study or any other mean to have the knowledge of such possible effects and to take all suitable preventive measures with the assistance of the appropriate equipment or technologies to prevent the occurrence of such effects.

Article (25)

Any person or authority or corporation or company shall immediately notify the technical secretariat of the council or to one of its branches of any discharge in violation of this law or its executive regulation or of any incident which may arise in or cause pollution of the environment or may constitute a threat or danger to it or contravening or infringing any other obligation provided for and stated in the license permitting the practicing and exercising the, activity. Also to provide a

statement of the causes and the nature of the incident or the discharge in violation and the measures which had been taken to correct and rectify the situation and to remove and eliminate the dangers.

Article (26)

The implementation of the above mentioned measures and procedures referred to in the previous article, shall not exempt the person causing the act that damages the environment. He shall be liable for the damage and will bear the responsibility. of incurring and inflicting damages to the environment arising out and due to his act or negligence.

Article (27)

The council may determine and specify pollution-free areas, green belts and spaces free of pollution in Yemeni Territory, whereby it is prohibited to perform and carry out any constructional, agricultural or industrial activities if it will cause damages and pollution to the environment and without prejudice to the respect of private ownership and the compensation for it when it is necessary in accordance with the constitution and the prevailing laws.

Article (28)

All ministries and governmental institutions, with the coordination of the council must take all measures and arrangements which ensure the safety of the environment and control of pollution and the conservation of the natural resources and the protection of wild life and marine organisms especially those endangered and threatened of extinction.

Article (29)

1- In case of environmental disasters, any person whether natural or juridical who utilize or intend to utilize establishments or to use materials or to perform and undertake activities which at abnormal conditions might cause dangerous and serious damages to the environment or the human beings, a necessary contingency plan must be prepared for the environment and the protection of the population. He must adhere to and abide by choosing and selecting a safe place ,for his establishment or activity and to

- respect the necessary safety distance zone and to place an observance system on his establishment or activity and to establish early warning system.
- 2- The activities or the usage of some materials or the methods of manufacturing are prohibited if it appears that there are no means to ensure an effective protection to the population and the environment.
- 3- All public and private bodies and the individuals shall abide and adhere to render all assistance and facilities that is required to confront the environmental disasters.

Chapter Two - The Environmental Technical Standards, Criterias and Specifications

Article (30)

- 1- The council shall, with the consultation of the competent bodies, undertake the preparation the issuance, reviewing and improving standards, criterias and specifications for the protection of the environment and in particular those which are related to surface and ground water, sea waters, air and noise as well as the standards concern the source in order to regulate the discharge, disposal and emission of pollutants to the air, water and land from its point and mobile sources.
- 2- All resolutions in relation to the standards, criterias and specifications shall be issued and published in the official gazette.

Article (31)

It shall be taken into consideration when determining and specifying the standards, criterias and specifications, the attainment and the achievement of balance between the available technical facilities and the necessary economic cost of it provided that such thing shall not violate and infringe the requirements, for the protection of the environment and control pollution.

Article (32

It is not, permissible to increase this pollution degree in the elements of the natural environment more than that of the standards, criterias and specifications which are determined by the council and which are internationally recognized and accepted.

Article (33)

1- The council shall from time to time and during reasonable periods and after the consultations with the concerned governmental bodies, update and modernize the standards, criterias and specifications referred to an Article (30) and on the light of technical and scientific advancement and based upon the field studies and experimental research that are performed locally and internationally.

2- The amendments to the standards, criterias and specifications shall be by a resolution from the council and to be published in the official gazette.

Article (34)

It is permissible in case of necessity not to comply with the standards and specifications that are issued for implementation of the rules of this law, if the objective is to protect human lives or to ensure the safety of the establishment or the working area. It is also permissible to exceed the illegal discharge, provided that such had occurred as a result of an accident defect in the operations or equipment or materials of the establishment or the activity. All that shall be conditional and subject, that the responsible person in charge has taken all necessary measures to remedy the defect.

Chapter Three - The Licenser for Projects and Environmental Impact Assessment

Article (35)

It is not permissible for any competent body to give permission license to establish or operate or amend projects or establishments that affect and damage the environment or contribute to its deterioration or causing its pollution or participate in occurring such effect or harm human health or other living organisms, only in accordance to the standards or citerias or specifications or conditions that are determined and specified by the council.

Article (36)

It is not permissible to issue licenses for projects and establishments which are by its nature a source of an environmental pollution or that is potentially causing environmental impacts and damages arising out of its activities, unless an environmental impact .assessment statement referred to in this law is undertaken.

Article (37)

1- For the purpose of the environmental impact assessment, the cabinet shall issue a decree for the determination of the standards criterias, specifications, conditions and procedures through which to ascertain and find out whether such proposed project or establishment affects substantially the

environment or not. Some of these standards and criterias are:

- a. Determination of lists of projects and their categories which are by its nature liable to create such effects (cement industry - oil refineries - preliminary treatment of minerals facilities - pesticides industry - Hazardous waste treatment and storage ... etc.).
- Determination of lists of special environmental sensitivity of areas and locations (The historical and archaeological places - wet lands -coral islands. natural protected areas public parks).
- c. Determination of lists of the resources units (water, equatorial range lands) and environmental problems (increased erosion of the soil and desertification) of importance from an environmental point of view.
- 2- The decree referred to in Paragraph (1) of this article shall determine the elements that shall compose the statement and study of the environmental impact assessment, which shall include:
 - a. Description of the proposed activity (map of the location use of the neighboring lands -the project's requirements of water. Energy, drainage and roads - description of manufacturing operations of the project - raw materials handling - incidents and risks and safety methods and measures - disposal of waste ...etc.).
 - b. Description of the environment that potentially might be affected.
 - c. Description of alternatives to proposed project (e.g. using materials of least pollution).
 - d. Evaluation and assessment of the probable environmental impact and effects of the proposed activity and the alternatives, including those direct and indirect effects, and short and long term accumulations and contains (solid and liquid waste – gas emissions - land uses - noise levels - socioeconomic factors).
 - e. The extent to which areas outside the national sovereignty may be affected by the proposed activity.

Article (38)

- 1- The competent body shall undertake the determination of the applications submitted to it within three months from the date of the application. The applicant shall be notified of the result of the inspection either of its approval or its rejection. In case of rejection, the applicant shall be notified and shall be given the reasons for determination of it's application.
- 2- The applicant may complain of the rejection decision before the council within sixty days starting from the date of his notification if the rejection of his application is related to non-compatibility of the project to the environmental standards and specifications, the applicant and the concerned body shall be notified of the council's decision.
- 3- Appeal before the competent court of first-instance may be submitted within sixty day as maximum from the date of the notification. The concerned court of first instance shall decide the subject matter of the appeal within six months as a maximum and its decision in this respect shall be considered as final for implementation.

Article (39)

It shall be taken into consideration when deciding either with the approval or rejection of the statement of the environmental impact assessment. The following considerations:

- A- The present state of the environment in which the project or the proposed activity to be established.
- B- The environment impact that may occur due to the project or establishment.
- C- Any other development that may be reasonably expected in the area where the project or establishment is proposed to be carried out there and which is considered important from an environmental point of view.
- D- The objections that arc arisen or which may arise out of such project.

Article (40)

1- The owners of projects establishments or activities that :are existing before the implementation of the rules of this law must submit to the competent body within a year at most

- beginning once this law comes into force, the statement and study of the environmental impact assessment.
- 2- The competent bodies shall undertake the inspection of such studies and to ensure its compatibility with the present situation and so to approve it in accordance with this law within three months from the date of its receipt of the statement and study and then to submit it to the council inclusive with its observations and remarks.
- 3- The competent body shall decide within a period that will not exceed five months the measures and precautions which must be carried out by the owner of the establishment so that to comply with the environmental standards and specifications that are applied and also the time period which is necessary for such implementation.

Article (41)

- 1- The owners of projects, establishments or activities who had obtained licenses of approvals for, may be obliged to buy monitoring equipment for disposal specifications and pollution emitted from such projects, establishments or activities and to maintain and keep permanent records for such monitoring and to send reports of these results to the competent body and the council.
- 2- The competent body may issue the license subject to the condition of delivering a financial guarantee, or bond to ensure the compliance with the implementations of the obligations which the owner of the project establishment or activity must comply with or to fulfill the liability and responsibility for the damages. that occur due to the project establishment or activity.
- 3- The executive regulations shall specify the validity periods of licenses that are issued by the competent bodies.
- 4- The owner of the project or establishment shall be obliged to pay compensations for the damages amounts arising out or which that may be inflicted as a result of consequence of operations.

Article (42)

On the probability of an occurrence of a hazardous pollution and substantial deterioration as a result of the operation of any project or

establishment, the competent body shall undertake directly the field survey to make sure of its occurrence, and whether the legal measures and conditions of the license have been fulfilled and to what extent the owner of the project executed and carried out the necessary measures in accordance with this law.

Article (43)

All competent bodies shall provide the council with copies of the licenses that they issue attached of the environmental impact studies of the project or establishment.

Chapter Four - Handing of Hazardous Wastes and Materials

Article (44)

- 1- It is prohibited, without a prior permission from the competent body, to handle toxic or hazardous materials or that which may be toxic or hazardous.
- 2- The council shall, with the consultation of the concerned body and the scientific specialized-bodies, prepare a list of toxic and hazardous materials or those material which are probable to be as such. This list shall be named the toxic and hazardous materials list. A decree by the cabinet shall be issued to prohibit the handling of these materials.
- 3- The council shall, with the consultation of the parties referred to in paragraph (2) of this article, review the list of the proposed materials and to amend, add or up-date the list referred to. in accordance with the scientific and technical progress in this field. The amendments shall be issued by a decree from the cabinet.
- 4- In the determination of the materials to be contained in the list, assistance of any national or foreign experience may be sought as well as to make use and benefit of the lists which are issued by the international governmental and nongovernmental organizations that are related to these toxic materials.

Article (45)

- 1- Any natural or juridical person may apply in writing of the council and request to add a material or more to the list giving the reasons and motives for that .
- 2- The council shall perform the study of such request within a period to be specified by the executive regulation and the applicant shall be notified of the result and the reasons to support it. In case of approval to add one material or more to the list, the amendment or addition shall be subject to and in accordance to the provisions of the previous article.

Article (46)

1- It shall be permissible for the competent body for the sake of assessment of the extent of risk of the composition of the toxic materials or products that contain such material, to require and ask any public or private party the following information:

The compositions of the material or product, its quantity and its different uses and such to be through the official laboratories and also the following:

- The composition of the toxic materials and the produced materials.
- The spread or the remaining of such material in the environment and its resistance to decompositions.
- To what extent it is capable to integrate in the organic tissue and structure and its capability to inflict damages to the organic operations.
- The available means to reduce the produced and used quantities or that is disposed of in the environment.
- The environmentally safe methods and means of disposed and treatment.
- Any other information, the council may see it essential.
- 2- The competent body shall undertake the analysis, and assessment of the obtained information and to publish the results of the research of the relevant experiments of toxic or hazardous materials or which may be as such or the product which contain this material.
- 3- The competent body shall submit recommendations in relation to toxic or hazardous materials or which may be such

or any product that contain such material to any public or private party for the purpose to take the measures and arrangements that should be undertaken in order to prevent or reduce its existence or spread of this material in the environment.

Article (47)

- 1- In case the cabinet decides to include any material in the list specialized for the toxic and hazardous materials or which are probable to be as such, then the cabinet shall decide the necessary measures that shall be taken in the respect. The cabinet shall in particular decide in the following:
 - The complete or partial prohibition to import, manufacture, utilize sale, distribute and handling of this material.
 - The permission to import, manufacture, use, sale or distribute or any handling of this material.
 - The quantities and concentration of these materials that may be contained in the products that are exported, imported or exhibited for sale.
 - Method and conditions and locations for disposals.
 - Conditions of storage or transportation of the material or the product which contains it.
 - Packing and labeling this material.
 - Any other measures, the council may see it necessary to implement the rides of this law and its executive regulation.
- 2- The cabinet may, if there are reasons to it, cancel any condition or prohibition that had been previously decided.
- 3- The decisions issued in relation to the above mentioned two paragraphs shall be published in the Official Gazette.

Article (48)

Any natural or juridical person who holds a license shall abide to be notify competent body, when importing, manufacturing, transferring, selling; distributing or handling of a toxic or hazardous materials or that which is probable to be as such, of all information available to him or under his responsibility which shall facilitate the determination of whether such material is hazardous or toxic or not.

Article (49)

The competent body shall issue regularly measures for the handling of hazardous and toxic materials or the products that contain such materials and which are not provided for in this law and in particular:

- To specify the materials and groups that shall be subject to the obligation of submitting the information.
- Dates for the submission of information and the method to be followed and adopted
- Determination of the responsible persons for the hazardous and toxic materials.
- The limits of quantities that are allowed to be circulated.
- The procedures that are to be followed for the purpose of assessment of the risk or the extent of toxic composition of the material
- The laboratories and research centers where the determination of toxic materials or risks is undertaken.

Article (50)

- 1- It is prohibited for any natural or juridical person or any other party to dispose or discharge in the environment any toxic or hazardous materials or products that are probable to be as such and to take all necessary measures and precautions to prevent any risk of such disposal and discharge or to reduce the risk arising out of it in relation to and in connection with the environment or to human health or to the other living organisms.
- 2- If the responsible person for, the discharge and disposal is not able to take to or would not be able to take the measures provided for in the previous paragraph or he fails to take such measures, the council or any other competent body shall lake the measures that are required due to the conditions and circumstances or to assign and delegate any person or any other party to carry out such measures. The competent body may reimburse and recover all costs removing the damages or of the other measures from the person responsible and liable or from those concerned persons who are related to and connected with the damages.

Article (51)

The state shall bear the direct and indirect expenditures which arise from the measures provided in the previous article. The competent body shall recover these expenditures through administrative means from the violator or through the submission of judicial case.

Article (52)

- 1- Any person who presents to the council or any other competent body information concerning hazardous or toxic materials or which is probable to be as such, can request in writing that such information submitted should be considered as confidential.
- 2- However, it is permissible to reveal the submitted information by the competent bodies in cases to be determined by it. and in particular in the following cases:
 - The general information concerning the use of such material.
 - Safety precautions measures for the handling add treatment of this material.
 - The natural physical and chemical characteristics of this ,material in such a way that it shall not permit its determination.
 - Method for the destruction of this material or its safe disposal.
 - The environmental, medical and toxic studies for it.
 - If the reveal of such information shall benefit the interest of public health or of the environment more than the loss and damage to be caused as a result of keeping the information confidential.

Article (53)

It shall be absolutely prohibited for any public or private party or any natural or juridical person to import, enter, dump, bury or store toxic, radioactive and hazardous wastes or the disposal of it by any means in the Yemeni environment.

Article (54)

It is prohibited for vessels or aircraft or any other means to enter the territorial waters or to land at airports or to use the Yemeni territory as a transit passage if they carry radioactive, toxic or hazardous wastes, except that to be in accordance with the international conventions

and agreements and with prior permission from the cabinet and approval from the parliament.

Article (55)

The competent body shall undertake the study and the evaluation of the condition of public cleanliness, and the risk of the extent of the compositions of the types of garbage materials and the discharge of the sewage and solid and liquid wastes and shall in particular take the following:

- 1- The determination of landfills the disposal of garbage with the co-ordination of the concerned authorities for the affairs of environment.
- 2- The methods and conditions for the disposal of solid and liquid waste and its discharge or burying or transferring it or disposal by any means in the territorial waters.
- 3- The council shall over precautions which it deem necessary to prevent any risk to such disposal.
- 4- The competent body must inform the council of the results of the study and the assessment.

Chapter Five - The Protection of the Environment and the Economic Development

Article (56)

- 1- All competent bodies especially those concerned with the development and economic planning, shall adhere to include the considerations of the protection of the environment and control of pollution and the rational consumption and utilization of the natural resources of the projects and national economic development plans.
- 2- All responsible bodies who grant licenses to the national and foreign investments shall not accept or agree to have projects or investments that will lead to or result in damages to the environment or to increase the rates of pollution.
- 3- The concerned bodies shall abide to include the conditions of the protection of the environment and control of pollution in all the projects and contracts that are to be concluded with the national and foreign investment corporations and establishments, or for the existing projects.

Article (57)

The Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources and those concerned public institutions must adhere to the following:

- 1- To include the conditions of the protection and maintenance of the environment within the oil contracts that are to be concluded with the national and foreign companies who have been granted permission to explore and exploit and utilize the oil fields and other mineral resources including oil and gas transportation, or to have the treatment of all that is disposed of either of materials, or wastes. These companies must use the safe methods which shall not affect and damage the environment.
- 2- The contracts shall contain the penalty conditions and the obligation and liability to pay the costs for removing the damages on the environment as well as compensation for it, in addition to the punishment as stipulated and provided for.

Chapter Six - The Environmental Monitoring

Article (58)

- 1- The council shall, with the participation of any competent body or bodies, undertake the establishment and operation of the environmental monitoring networks.
- 2- These networks shall be composed of stations and equipment that are capable to monitor the elements of the natural environment and the different forms of pollutions that interact within it and the changes that inflict its natural properties and characteristics and to observe the conditions of the climate and weather.
- 3- The council may seek the assistance of national and foreign research centers and the scientific organizations and institutions for the purpose of operating monitoring stations and collection of data and information obtained from these stations and to record them.

Article (59)

The environmental monitoring networks shall abide to inform the council and any other competent body immediately of any excess to

the limits permissible in the level of pollution of the elements of the natural environment.

Article (60)

- 1- The council may, in addition to the public network for environmental monitoring to oblige the owners of projects or the activities to operate the equipments for specifications of discharge of pollutions that are generated from these projects and activities and to keep permanent records of the results of such monitoring and to send reports of these results every three months to the council.
- 2- The council may consider to assist the public and private projects to purchase and construct the monitoring equipment mentioned in the previous paragraph and to train the appropriate personnel for their operations in the country and abroad, at the expense of such projects.

Article (61)

The council with the participation of competent shall work to integrate the national system in accordance with that of the international systems for environmental monitoring especially the framework of World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and World Health Organization (WHO).

Part Four - Marine Pollution

Chapter One - Pollution of the Sea Waters

Article (62)

It is not be permissible for any vessel, ship or submarine or any other means to sail in the Yemeni waters, if there will be violations to the Yemeni laws or the international standards and rules that are applied in relation to the vessels sea worthiness for navigation.

Article (63)

It is not permissible for any vessel, submarine, aircraft or equipment for oil and gas transportation to discharge any polluting material in the territorial waters of the Republic of Yemen, the continental shelf or the exclusive economic zone and each discharge of this kind shall be considered as an offense and in case of continuous discharge. each day of violation and causing the prohibited discharge shall be considered a separate offense.

Article (64)

It is not be permissible to pollute the marine environment from land resources as from river estuaries and problems and sanitation discharge outlets and from industrial establishments, constructions and furnaces. If such pollution occurs, it must be controlled and mitigated in accordance with the internationally accepted standards and criteria.

Chapter Two - Recording, Notification and Conditions of Insurance

Article (65)

- 1- Any vessel that will transport oil or load from any port facilities or to it, or from oil transportation equipment within the pollution-free area, must keep an oil register and to comply with the specified time intervals and for every vessel owner or any other responsible person of the vessel, must abide the following:
 - a. Recording the name of the vessel, registration number, capacity of the tanks and oil contents in the vessel.

- b. To record the date; the goods and the geographical location of the vessel at the time undertaking the following operations:
 - 1) Loading and unloading operation or any other oil transportation and shipment and also giving a statement particularly on the type of oil.
 - 2) To supply the ballast in the oil tanks and to discharge the ballast from the oil tanks and to clean these tanks in permitted locations with a statement of the type of oil which is transported or particularly utilized by the vessel that is before the supply of the ballast and after its discharge.
 - 3) Separation of oil from water or from any other materials in any solution that contains oil.
 - 4) Discharge of oil or oil solution from the vessel to ensure the safety of the vessel or the goods without incurring damage to any vessel or goods or for the purpose of saving the shipment with a statement of the type of the concerned oil in particular.
 - 5) discharge of oil or oil solutions from a vessel as a consequence of collision or an accident, with a statement of the type of oil in particular.
- c. To notify the council and competent body immediately if any of the environmental operations, mentioned in the previous paragraphs, occur while the vessel is navigating in the pollution-free area.
- d. To submit the register for inspection on demand from the competent bodies to determine the route and location of the vessel, when such vessel is harboring at any part in Yemen or within the territorial waters of the Yemen.

Article (66)

Any owner or operator of a land location or of oil transportation equipment within tile territorial waters of Yemen must notify competent bodies immediately in case of discharge of polluting material in the pollution-free area of such discharge. The notification shall include the type of the polluting material, the time, the date and the specified geographical location where the discharge had occurred.

Article (67)

Owner of any vessel registered in Yemen or not registered and which carry quantities of pollution materials from any Yemeni or to any port in Yemen must submit to the competent body a financial liability certificate in the form of an insurance or compensation bond or other guarantee of a financial liability and responsibility that meet the satisfaction and approval of the competent body subject to and in accordance with the rules of this law and prevailing laws and international agreements and conventions.

Chapter Three - The Management and The implementation

Article (68)

The officer of pollution control at the competent body shall undertake the study and review of the facts in relation to any infringement to the rules of this law and shall submit a report of this conclusion offer the completion of this. study which include the following:

- 1- If any violation to this law has occurred and what are the punishments which should be imposed to such violation?
- 2- If a civil liability has been established which requires compensation as a: result of discharge occurrence from a vessel an aircraft, or a land location or an oil transportation equipment.

Article (69)

.The competent body or one of its branches in co-ordination with the concerned bodies may carry out the following:

- 1- Building or the maintenance or determining reception facilities of local polluting materials in land or within the territorial waters of Yemen.
- 2- Issuing decisions and instructions that shall determine the conditions that vessels using Yemeni ports or navigating in the pollution-free area must comply with, when discharge of polluting materials or any ballast that shall take place in these facilities.

Article (70)

The competent body or one of its branches in coordination with the concerned bodies may determine the types of equipment that must

be equipped by all vessels registered in Yemen, or for some types of vessels that are not registered in Yemen that use Yemeni ports or navigate in the pollution-free area for the purpose of mitigating the risks of pollution.

Article (71)

The pollution control officer shall have the right to board any vessel or oil transportation facilities in the pollution-free area, or to enter any inland location in Yemen for the purpose of inspection of the equipment or records or to oblige one of the persons to answer to any question which is related to the obligations of this law for the purpose of undertaking contingencies measures that are necessary to prevent pollution.

Article (72)

In case of the occurrence of an accident of a vessel or in it or to an inland location or inside it, or to oil transportation equipment or inside it which cause pollution to the pollution-free area, the competent body must take all necessary measures to prevent pollution or its risks, mitigation or prevention with all reasonable means. It shall have the legal right to recover all costs from the owner responsible for the accident. It has the right to order the owner, the master, the operator or the person in charge of the vessel or the inland location or the oil transportation equipment, to take all necessary measures. In case of the failure of such measures than this should be submitted to the competent court to issue its decision for its sinking or destruction or the oil transportation equipment or to take its decision of seizure or to destroy the inland location if it deems to be necessary in accordance with the decision of those having experience and the court decision shall be final.

Article (73)

It is permissible for the competent body to seize any vessel within the pollution-free area when the vessel's owner or it's master or the person responsible for such vessel commits a violation punishable of fine and that he does not pay such fine or submitting a guarantee for payment or he refuses to execute the instructions issued to the vessel in accordance with the provisions of Article (72) of this law, when the owner or the master or the person responsible for the vessel becomes liable for payment of compensation or time damages

or the costs and expenses and does not pay thee compensation amount or submit a guarantee bond for its payment, subject to, that such seizure decision must be presented to the competent court immediately to decide whether the seizure is lawful or not or to cancel it in accordance with the rules of this law and the prevailing laws. The competent body must return the vessel to its master immediately on payment of the entitlement or in case the court revokes the seizure and releases the vessel.

Article (74)

In the event of the seizure to any vessel in accordance with Article (73) and the non-payment of the fine amount or any other obligations subject to this law and within forty five days starting from the date of decision justifying the seizure, it shall be permissible for the competent court to sell the vessel and its cargo or both in a public auction and that is to be undertaken after taking its measures and the due publication about it in accordance with this law. All entitlements shall be paid and the excess amounts shall be returned and paid to its owner.

Part Five - The Violations and Compensation for the Environmental Damages

Chapter One – Judicial and Apprehension Authorities

Article (75)

The environmental inspectors shall be entitled to perform the capacity of judicial apprehension.

Article (76)

Inspectors of all concerned environmental bodies who have the judicial capacity in accordance with the provision of the previous article shall undertake the checking of violations and crimes related to the environment, and shall write the minutes of apprehension specifying the type of violation or the crime and the offender of such, and the dale of the apprehension and its findings including the place of its occurrence. They shall also be entitled to inspect the establishments and installations if there are evidences that one of the following cases exist:

- Activity that will harm the environment.
- An establishment or project that it is operating without obtaining the environmental license.
- Discharge in contravention to the law.
- Assault on marine and terrestrial life or terrestrial flora or the natural protected areas.
- Having not obtained the license, the documents and records that are related to the implementation of the rules of this law.

Article (77)

If the activities which have been exercised or the equipment or the materials or the documents that are required to be apprehended are available in a private residence or a house, then it shall not be permissible for the environmental inspector to enter such places without having permission from the concerned judicial bodies.

Article (78)

Owners of projects or activities or materials or the wastes shall allow environmental inspectors to undertake their functions and to provide them the essential information and data which are related to the

implementation of the rules of this law. In particular they have to enable the inspectors the following:

- A- To inspect the materials and products that are found in places of inspection and inspect anything else that may be useful for the sake of the implementation of the rules of this law and its executive regulation.
- B- To open and inspect the packages that contain these materials or products and to take samples of it for inspection.
- C- Inspection of the documents and records or any other documents that contain information which are related to the application of provisions of this law and its executive regulation.

Chapter Two - The Liability and the Compensation for the Environmental Damages

Article (79)

Any person who causes by his action or negligence an occurrence of damage to the environment or to others as a consequence of violating the rules which are provided for in this law or the regulations or the resolutions that are issued for its application, or of the valid laws, shall be responsible and liable severally or jointly with others for all costs that arise as a result of the remedies or eliminating these damages, as well as be liable to pay compensation which may entail from these damages that comprises the components:

The components of the environmental damage are as following:

- A- Costs of eliminating the environmental damage and the environmental cleansing.
- B- The compensations for the damages that affect the properties and persons.
- C- The compensations for the damages that affect the environment itself and that prevent the lawful utilization whether the damage is temporary or permanent or damage its quality and uniqueness.

Article (80)

Excluding the general rules; the cause that may arise as a result of the activities that harm the environment, shall not be barred with the elapse of specified period in the law.

Article (81)

It shall be permissible for the competent body to oblige those projects that are susceptible lo cause the occurrence of damages for the environment, to deposit a financial bond which shall be sufficient to cover the damages that may occur.

Article (82)

It shall be permissible for the Yemeni societies for the protection of the environment and for any person to proceed with the civil suit and case against any natural or judicial person who caused through his action or negligence damages to the environment and its natural properties or contributed in the environment deterioration and degradation. In case of judgment to pay compensations, such shall be deposited in a fund for the protection of the environment and the amount of the compensations shall be allocated for the expenses on the conservation, improvement and development of the environment.

Article (83)

The rules of liability for risk in relation to the compensation for the damages that arise because of the polluting materials substances to the environment, shall be applied in accordance with the rules of the Sharia Islamic Law and the valid laws.

Article (84)

In the event of discharge of any polluting material from a vessel, aircraft, or an inland establishment or from oil transportation equipment in the pollution-free area, the owner of such vessel or aircraft or operator of that station or such equipment for oil transportation shall be liable to pay the entitled compensations with the specified punishment in accordance with the rules of the law.

Chapter Three - The Penalties

Article (85)

Without prejudice to any stronger penalty provided for in the Sharia Islamic Law and other valid laws and the executive regulations of the rules of this law and other laws.

Any person whether natural or juridical who caused the discharge of a polluting material deliberately in the waters soils or air of the

Republic of Yemen and consequently affected the environment, shall be punished of imprisonment for a period not exceeding ten years along with judgment to pay reasonable amounts of compensation.

Article (86)

It shall be permissible for the individual and societies for the protection of the environment to notify on any violations that may occur to the rules of this law or any other valid laws that are related to the protection of the environment and to assist the concerned bodies in case of the environmental disasters or to eliminate the damages on the environment.

Chapter Four - Final Rules

Article (87)

All .responsible bodies for education in all different stages as well as those units concerned with the planning of syllabi and courses for education, must abide to include the environmental science and subjects in all stages of education. They shall undertake to establish and develop specialized institutes for environmental science to graduate experienced and qualified padres to work for environmental activities.

Article (88)

All responsible bodies for information, guidance and direction must adhere to the enhancement of environmental awareness programs in different means of media that is the radio, the television or the press. They shall direct all general and special programs to serve and benefit the objectives of the protection of the environment.

Article (89)

All concerned bodies for culture must adhere to prepare programs, books, publications, and periodicals for the purpose of achieving environmental culture development.

Article (90)

It shall be permissible for the council for the purpose of motivating the concerned parties or the individuals to implement and execute the rules of this law and its executive regulations, to perform the following:

- 1- To train cadres and employees of the projects and corporations for the objective of improving and increasing their knowledge and experience in relation to their handling of the environmental issues and problems.
- 2- To encourage the scientific research and studies.

Article (91)

The provisions stipulated in this law as well as the regulations and resolutions that are issued to implement it shall be considered as basic rules for the protection of the environment and control of pollution and the conservation of the natural resources in the Republic of Yemen.

Article (92)

The Environmental Protection Council shall establish by a resolution to be issued by the prime minister, a fund to be named the Yemeni Environment Protection Fund, whereby all funds allocated by the state for the protection of the environment shall be deposited there as well as all funds, grants, contributions and donations which are approved by the council from national and international corporations or the individuals. The council shall allocate the fund resources to spend on the objectives and aims that achieve the protection of the environment in accordance with the resolution of the prime minister which shall specify and determine the purposed and the regulatory issues of the fund.

Article (93)

The executive regulation of this law shall be issued by a cabinet resolution and the council and competent authorities shall as well issue the resolutions and instructions for the implementation of its rules each according to its jurisdiction.

Article (94)

Any rule or provision which is inconsistent with the rules and provisions of this law shall be repealed in particular law no (8) of 1984 concerning the establishment of the National Council for the Environment enacted in Aden.

Article (95)

This law shall come into force from the date of its issuance and shall be published in the Official Gazette.

Issued at the Presidency of the Republic of Yemen, Sana'a 5 Jamad Al-Thani, 1416 AH., corresponding to: 29 October 1995, General Ali Abdulla Saleh, President of the Republic.