



## ***The Royal Commission for AlUla Statute***

**Arabic is the official language of the Commission**



## The Royal Commission for AlUla Statute

Royal Order No.: A/38  
Date: 29/ 1 /1442H

With the aid of Almighty Allah,

**We, Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud,**

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

After perusal of the Basic Law of Governance issued by Royal Order No. A/90 dated 27/8/1412H.

After perusal of the Council of Ministers Law issued by Royal Order No. A/13 dated 3/3/1414H.

After perusal of the Royal Order No. A/296 dated 26/10/1438H.

After perusal of the Council of Ministers Resolution No. (131) dated 03/03/1439H;

And having reviewed all relevant laws, regulations, Royal orders and decrees, and related resolutions

Have ordered the following:

**First:** Approval of the Royal Commission for AlUla Statute in the form attached.

**Second:** The Statute referred to in the first paragraph of this Order shall replace the Interim Regulations of the Royal Commission for AlUla, issued pursuant to the Council of Ministers Resolution No. (131) dated 3/3/1439H.

**Third:** All responsibilities and authorities related to tourism, culture, arts, antiquities, museums, urban heritage, environment, water, agriculture, wildlife, nature reserves, municipal and rural affairs and entertainment that fall within the administrative boundaries for AlUla County, and such other areas under the jurisdiction of the Royal Commission for AlUla shall be transferred from the relevant government entities to the Royal Commission for AlUla. Such government entities shall continue to exercise their responsibilities and authorities in the sectors referred to herein, until the Royal Commission for AlUla begins to exercise these authorities.

**Fourth:** The phrase "Royal Commission for AlUla" shall replace references to the relevant entities concerning the sectors referenced in the third paragraph of this Order. The phrase "the Board of Directors of the Royal Commission for AlUla" shall also replace the Boards of Directors of such entities, in case of the existence of Boards of Directors in such entities. Moreover, "Governor of the Royal Commission for AlUla" shall replace the relevant Minister or Head of the Independent Arm related to such entity. Furthermore, "Representative of the Royal Commission for AlUla" shall replace representatives of such authorities, wherever that may be in relevant laws, regulations, royal orders and decrees, resolutions, and decisions as applied within the boundaries of AlUla County, as well as the cultural and heritage sites in the County of Khaybar, Al-Muazzam Fort, and other sites which fall or shall fall within the jurisdiction of the Royal Commission for AlUla.



**Fifth:** The Board of the Royal Commission for AlUla shall annually raise to the Prime Minister a budget that commensurate with the need to provide the necessary financial support, in order to enable the Royal Commission for AlUla to achieve its objectives towards the development of AlUla County. This budget shall aim to achieve the economic and cultural interest, commensurate with its historical value - the objectives upon which the Kingdom's Vision 2030 was established - and highlight the human heritage gifted to it by Almighty Allah.

**Sixth:** All government entities having jurisdiction or responsibilities within the administrative boundaries of AlUla County, the cultural and heritage sites in the County of Khaybar, Al-Muazzam Fort and any other sites, which may be added to the jurisdiction of the Royal Commission for AlUla, must coordinate with the Royal Commission for AlUla to obtain its approval before issuing or granting any licenses or approvals or planning or executing any projects or activities.

**Seventh:** Where a text is provided in its internal bylaws and approved guidelines, the Royal Commission for AlUla shall be excluded from the application of the following for a period of twenty years from the date of this Order:

1. The Government Tender and Procurement Law issued by Royal Decree No. (M/128) dated 13/11/1440H.
2. Law of State Leasing and Vacating of Property issued by Royal Decree No. (M/61) dated 18/9/1427H.
3. The Regulation for Disposal of Municipal Real Estate issued by Royal Decree No. (M/64) dated 15/11/1392H.
4. State Revenue Law issued by Royal Decree No. (M/68) dated 24/2/1439H.
5. High Order No. (46650) dated 14/9/1439H, which directs ministries and government agencies to use the Etimad Platform.

**Eighth:** A committee within the Bureau of Experts shall be established and shall comprise of representatives from the Royal Commission for AlUla and entities that will be transferring their responsibilities and authorities referred to in the third paragraph of this Order, and the Committee shall be responsible for the following:

1. Review the laws, regulations, Royal Orders and Decrees, and the decisions that are affected by the above paragraphs, and suggest the required amendments in order to complete the regulatory process in its respect.
2. Make the necessary arrangements – in conjunction with the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development – for the process of transferring authorities and any necessary consequential processes related to transferring vacant and occupied jobs, employees, documents, assets, agreements, financial approvals and the like, set the required processes to resolve the affairs of those related to such authorities, and propose the required legal measures in that regard.

**Ninth:** Competent entities shall be notified of this Order to endorse and implement it.

**Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud**



## The Royal Commission for AlUla Statute

### Definitions

#### Article One:

The following phrases and terms, wherever mentioned herein, shall have the meanings ascribed thereto unless the context requires otherwise:

1. **Commission:** The Royal Commission for AlUla.
2. **Commission Statute:** The Royal Commission for AlUla Statute.
3. **Board:** Board of Directors of the Commission.
4. **Chairman:** Chairman of the Board.
5. **Governor:** Governor of the Commission.
6. **County:** AlUla County falling within the administrative borders pursuant to the applicable laws and regulations.
7. **Specified Sectors:** All activities relating to health, safety, education, technical and vocational training, labor, events, media, sports, equestrian, real estate, local and foreign investment, commerce, industry, intellectual property, infrastructure, quarries, social sectors and other development and service sectors and related works, services, and projects, excluding the area of security affairs.
8. **Geographical Boundaries:** The County, the heritage and cultural sites of the County of Khaybar, and Al-Muazzam Fort, as well as any areas outside of the Commission's boundaries to be added to the jurisdiction of the Commission at a later stage.

### The Commission, its Regulatory Status, its Competencies and Responsibilities

#### Article Two:

1. The Commission shall have its own legal personality, financial, and administrative independence, and shall be administratively affiliated with the Prime Minister.
2. The Commission shall have the flexibility and authorities that enable it to carry out its functions in accordance with its financial and administrative bylaws and instructions approved by the Board.
3. The headquarter of the Commission shall be in the city of Riyadh, and it may establish branches or offices inside or outside of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as resolved by the Board.



#### Article Three:

1. The Commission shall have competency in activities related to tourism, culture, arts, archaeology, museums, urban heritage, environment, water, agriculture, wildlife, nature reserves, municipal and rural affairs, and entertainment within the Geographical Boundaries.
2. The Commission aims to develop the County and elevate works and services related to the activities that fall within the jurisdiction of the Commission and the Specified Sectors, and other development and service sectors within the Geographical Boundaries. The Commission aims to do so in accordance with the County's historical value, and what it contains from natural and heritage sites, in order to ensure that citizens, residents, and visitors are guaranteed the highest level of services.

#### Article Four:

The Commission shall be the highest dominant authority in relation to the works, services, and projects that are carried out within its Geographical Boundaries. It shall also have the right to fully supervise works, services, and projects that are related to the Commission from administrative and operational perspectives within the Geographical Boundaries. It may do all that is necessary to achieve its objectives, and in particular, the following:

1. Set the master policies for the development of Geographical Boundaries.
2. Approve the masterplan and the building code for the Geographical Boundaries.
3. Approve plans and programs for the development of Geographical Boundaries.
4. Supervise projects, programs, activities, and events within the Geographical Boundaries.
5. Manage and develop activities that fall within the jurisdiction of the Commission and the activities relating to the Specified Sectors within the Geographical Boundaries. The Commission may, on its own, manage and develop such activities, or through cooperation with other bodies.
6. Establish centers administratively affiliated with the Commission to undertake some of the Commission's authorities and responsibilities, and to arrange its financial and administrative matters. This includes granting such centers administrative and financial independence from the Commission, and determine the ways and procedures for the execution of its authorities and responsibilities - provided that the budget of such centers shall form part of the budget allocated to the Commission.
7. Issue, revoke and cancel licenses and permits, set the necessary special controls and requirements, and suspend them in whole or in part, permanently or temporarily, in relation to the activities that fall within the jurisdiction of the Commission in the Geographical Boundaries and in accordance with the necessary regulatory procedures.
8. Monitor entities that perform activities that fall within the jurisdiction of the Commission within the Geographical Boundaries to ensure their compliance with the provisions of the Commission Statute and the decisions issued pursuant to the same, as well as the laws and regulations that fall within the competence of the Commission.
9. Prepare, approve, execute, revise, plan, update, and monitor the County's development plan, which includes the following:



- (a) The necessary studies required for the development of the Geographical Boundaries.
  - (b) Plans, programs, initiatives, and any rights related to the development of the Geographical Boundaries, including, but not limited to, joint ventures, co-investment, and public-private partnership projects.
  - (c) Construction projects necessary for the development of the Geographical Boundaries, including infrastructure, urban areas, archaeological, heritage and tourism sites, exhibitions, museums, nature reserves, wildlife projects, hotels, resorts and other tourist accommodation facilities.
10. Encourage and facilitate investment in the Geographical Boundaries by creating partnership or direct investment opportunities through joint ventures with investors from the public and private sectors, investment funds, and local and international institutions.
  11. Establish non-profit entities and companies, inside and outside of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on its own or in partnership with others, and buy and sell shares, stocks, and interests in companies or joint ventures.
  12. Provide guarantees related to obligations and loans of entities owned by the Commission and submit those to complete the regulatory procedures.
  13. Grant loans to entities that are fully owned by the Commission.
  14. Coordinate efforts, cooperate, and share information between ministries and other government entities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to achieve the objectives of the Commission.
  15. Own and dispose of real estate.
  16. Provide donations, gifts (*Hiba*), purchase, sell, use, mortgage, *hikr*, *waqf*, *iqta*, and lease for any term real estate and immovable and movable property and other assets, and transfer and assign the rights related thereto.
  17. Seek assistance from studies and planning centers, specialists, specialized firms, experts, and consultants.
  18. Cooperate and exchange expertise with regional and international bodies and organizations, inside and outside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
  19. Represent the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in relevant regional and international bodies and organizations.
  20. Enter into agreements and memorandums of understanding relating to the Commission's activities with the relevant concerned bodies in countries and international organizations.
  21. Organize events, local and international exhibitions, or participate in them in relation to the activities that fall within the jurisdiction of the Commission and those related to the Specified Sectors within the Geographical Boundaries in coordination with the relevant entities.
  22. Request any information, data, or reports from ministries and other governmental departments that relate to the nature of the Commission's works, services, and projects, do what it deems fit in light of the objectives of the Commission, and submit what it deems necessary.



23. Enter into memorandums of understanding with the ministries and government entities that work within the Geographical Boundaries to coordinate the carrying out of works, services, and operations of granting and revoking approvals, licenses, and permits, as well as impose fines and penalties. In so doing, it may suggest amendments to regulations and procedures related to such ministries and government entities in relation to their works and services within the Geographical Boundaries.
24. Any other responsibilities to achieve the objectives for which the Commission was established.

**Article Five:**

1. All ministries and other government entities that carry out works or provide services related to the Specified Sectors within the Geographical Boundaries shall execute decisions and instructions issued by the Commission.
2. The Commission may undertake the works and services set out in paragraph (1) of this Article on its own.

**The Board of Directors of the Commission and its Responsibilities**

**Article Six:**

The Commission shall have a Board of Directors whose Chairman and members shall be appointed by an order from the Prime Minister, in which the Board - after its appointment - shall select its secretary from among its members or elsewhere.

**Article Seven:**

The Board shall be the highest authority within the Commission. It shall be responsible for the management of the Commission's affairs and conducting its works. It shall take all the necessary decisions to achieve its objectives and to choose the method it deems appropriate to accomplish the said objectives. In particular, it shall have the following powers:

1. Approve the Commission's master policies, action plan, and operational plans.
2. Approve the County's development plan and submit what is required from it pursuant to regulatory procedures.
3. Approve entering into agreements and contracts that the Commission is a party to, including financing agreements for projects within the Commission's authorities in accordance with regulatory procedures. The Board may also provide financial returns it receives that are referred to in paragraph (19) of this Article to guarantee such contracts.
4. Approve implementing regulations and rules effective within the Geographical Boundaries, in relation to the activities that fall within the jurisdiction of the Commission, issue decisions, policies, procedures and provisions associated therewith to achieve the Commission's objectives and the performance of its functions hereunder, and carry out any other responsibilities consistent with the nature of the Commission's work or the purpose for which the Commission was established.
5. Approve regulations, rules, circulars, instructions, and provisions in relation to the Specified Sectors, and submit them to the competent authorities to complete the necessary regulatory procedures.



6. Propose draft laws, propose to amend any applicable laws, and submit such proposals to complete the necessary regulatory procedures.
7. Approve the organizational structure of the Commission.
8. Approve the charters for the Board and its Committees.
9. Appoint the Chief Executive Officer of the Commission, based on the recommendation of the Governor, and determine their salary and benefits.
10. Approve the Commission's financial and administrative bylaws, including those relating to the affairs of the Commission's employees, securing its purchases and executing its projects.
11. Approve the controls for appointing employees of the Commission and other representatives as members of boards of companies or other entities owned, or participated in by the Commission, and determine their remunerations, rights, and duties towards the Commission.
12. Approve the Commission's budget and submit it in accordance with regulatory procedures.
13. Approve the Commission's final account statement, annual and auditor reports, and submit them accordance with the regulatory procedures.
14. Appoint an External Auditor and an Internal Financial Controller.
15. Approve the regulations of state property that falls within the Geographical Boundaries as it relates to selling, buying, leasing, investing, benefiting from, and *waqf*, and in doing so, it may approve rules and guidelines as it sees fit in relation thereto.
16. Approve building guidelines, land use, land plans, and subdivisions.
17. Approve the investment, purchase and sale of shares and stocks for the benefit of the Commission, the establishment of companies, contributions to the establishment thereof, entering therein as a shareholder, increasing the capital thereof, and granting loans and guarantees to companies owned by the Commission or companies in which the Commission holds shares.
18. Approve the acquisition and ownership of land including all types of dealings with the land, such as the sale, purchase, encumbrance, use, mortgage, *hikr*, *waqf*, *iqta*, and the leasing of real estate and movable and immovable assets, for the benefit of the Commission, as well as approve the transfer and assignment of rights associated therewith to third parties.
19. Determine the financial dues which the Commission charges in consideration for the licenses and permits it issues within the Geographical Boundaries.
20. Approve the regulations that determine the number of fines on persons and legal entities that violate the provisions of the laws, for all activities that are within the Commission's jurisdiction - provided that such numbers do not exceed the maximum limit stipulated by the law.
21. Approve accepting donations, gifts (*Hiba*), wills, *awqaf*, and subsidies offered to the Commission.
22. Approve giving donations, gifts (*Hiba*), wills, *awqaf* and subsidies to charities, and social development initiatives.



In exercising the above powers, the Board may form permanent or temporary committees from among its members or other local and international experts, entrusted with such tasks as the Board deems appropriate. The decision forming each committee shall stipulate the Chairman, members and their remuneration and the committee's competencies thereof. Thus, the committee shall have the right to seek the help of those whom it deems necessary to perform the tasks entrusted thereto.

The Board may also delegate all or some of its powers and competences to its Chairman, the Governor or to any of its members, the Commission's employees or others.

#### **Article Eight:**

1. The Board shall meet at least once every three months, and whenever the need arises at the discretion of the Chairman, or when at least one third of its members so requests. The Chairman may delegate other Board members to chair meetings in his absence, with the Chairman sending meeting invitations. To be quorate, the majority of the members thereof shall attend Board meetings, including the Chairman or Deputy thereof. Board resolutions shall be adopted by a majority vote of those present with the Chairman or Deputy having the casting vote in case of a tie.
2. The Board may pass resolutions by circulation, in accordance with regulations issued thereby governing its affairs.

#### **The Governor of the Commission and his Responsibilities**

#### **Article Nine:**

The Commission shall have a Governor - with a ranking of a Minister - appointed by a Royal Order. The Governor shall be responsible for the administration of the Commission's affairs, and his responsibilities shall be subject to the Commission Statue and the powers granted thereto by the Board, which shall include:

1. Executing the Board's decisions.
2. Preparing the Commission's master policies, action plans, and operational plans, and submitting them to the Board and follow up on the implementation thereof after the Board's approval.
3. Supervising the work progress of the Commission through the approved regulations and programs.
4. Proposing the Commission's organizational structure, as well as financial and administrative bylaws, including bylaws relating to the affairs of the Commission's employees, securing its purchases, executing its projects and submitting them to the Board.
5. Preparing regulations, rules, circulars and guidelines for the activities that fall within the Commission's jurisdiction in the Geographical Boundaries and submitting them to the Board.
6. Preparing the County's development plan, which shall contribute to the development of the Geographical Boundaries, achieving the Commission's objectives, and submitting it to the Board.
7. Appointing and supervising the Commission's employees in accordance with the powers granted thereto and as specified in the regulations.



8. Issuing the Commission's disbursement orders in accordance with the approved annual budget.
9. Opening and managing bank accounts on behalf of the Commission.
10. Submitting periodic reports to the Board on the works, achievements, and activities of the Commission.
11. Submitting proposals to the Board on matters within the Board's authorities.
12. Signing agreements and contracts which the Board authorizes him to sign.
13. Supervising the preparation of the Commission's budget project, annual report and final account statement, and submitting the same to the Board for approval, in preparation for taking the appropriate measures in relation thereto.
14. Representing the Commission before judicial, administrative and other bodies inside and outside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
15. Issuing the necessary decisions to implement the provisions of the Commission Statute and decisions of the Board as per the powers delegated thereto.
16. Any functions, powers and competences assigned thereto by the Board.

The Governor may delegate all or some of his powers to any of the Commission's employees or third parties.

Within four months from the beginning of each fiscal year, the Governor shall submit to the Board an annual financial report and a report on the Commission's achievements, the difficulties faced by the Commission during the past fiscal year, and proposals to improve current fiscal year business.

#### **Nature Reserves Areas, Archaeological and Heritage Sites and Public Tourist Places**

##### **Article Ten:**

Notwithstanding any other provision, areas designated as nature reserves areas, archaeological and heritage sites, and public touristic places within the Geographical Boundaries shall solely be determined pursuant to a decision by the Board. The Board shall prepare plans and procedures for the development of these areas, sites, and places and invest in them in accordance with the terms and conditions approved by the Board.

#### **Establishment of Centers**

##### **Article Eleven:**

The Commission may establish comprehensive service centers inside the County. Such centers shall be subjected to the supervision and administration of the Commission, while representing the Commission as well as government entities and other bodies, to provide all types of services to developers, operators, investors, workers, citizens and residents as needed within the Geographical Boundaries. Such entities shall authorize their representatives with entities that guarantee the quick delivery of services in accordance with what the Board determines.



#### **Article Twelve:**

The Commission shall establish, as needed and without prejudice, to the competencies of the concerned authorities, centers for security, fire and rescue services, and emergency and health care response services to operate in the Geographical Boundaries. Such centers shall be responsible for providing those services or shall appoint other entities, as the Commission deems fit, to carry out such tasks. The Commission and those centers or the relevant parties appointed by the Commission shall coordinate with the concerned entities with respect to those services in the Geographical Boundaries.

#### **Article Thirteen:**

The Commission shall establish a center to protect natural and archaeological sites, or appoint a body from the private sector as it sees fit to protect natural and archaeological sites, wildlife, and nature reserves in order to enforce the laws and regulations that are within the Commission's jurisdiction in the Geographical Boundaries.

### **Financial Resources of the Commission**

#### **Article Fourteen:**

1. The Commission's resources shall consist of the following:
  - (a) Amounts allocated thereto from the general budget of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
  - (b) Any financial dues collected for licenses, permits, fines, fees, works, and services provided.
  - (c) Donations, gifts, wills, endowments, and awqaf accepted by the Board.
  - (d) Returns on investments of the Commission including dividends and repayment of shareholders loans owed to it from companies and entities that the Commission owns shares, stocks, or units therein.
  - (e) Any other resources approved by the Board in a manner that does not contravene the laws and instructions.
2. Commission funds shall be deposited in an account in the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency. It may also open other accounts for this purpose in any of the banks licensed to operate in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Commission shall retain its financial revenues and dispose of them on its projects in accordance with its regulations.

#### **Article Fifteen:**

1. The Commission shall have an independent annual budget.
2. The Commission's fiscal year shall be the same as that of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

### **Final Provisions**

#### **Article Sixteen:**

Commission employees – except for the Governor - shall be subject to the Labor Law and the Social Insurance Law.



**Article Seventeen:**

Without prejudice to the jurisdiction of the General Court of Audit, the Board shall appoint one or more external auditors from among those licensed to conduct business in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to audit the Commission's accounts, transactions, statements, annual budgets, and final account. The Board shall determine auditor fees and refer the Auditor's Report to the Board for approval prior to submitting the same to the General Court of Audit.

**Article Eighteen:**

1. The Commission may transfer its rights and obligations under contracts that it enters into with the public or private sectors to companies or other legal entities which the Commission owns shares, stocks, or units in, or has a financial interest in.
2. The Commission shall enjoy the exemptions and privileges prescribed for the benefit of public institutions in accordance with the applicable rules. Imports of companies owned by the Commission shall be treated, in terms of exemptions from customs duties, in accordance with rules followed in relation to imports of government departments.

**Article Nineteen:**

The issuance of Commission Statute shall not affect the rights and obligations of the Commission arising prior to the date of the Commission Statute coming into force.

**Article Twenty:**

The Commission Statute shall come into effect as of the date of issuance thereof, and all provisions that contradict with it shall be repealed.