

**Royal Decree  
No. 63/2008  
Promulgating The Disabled Care and Rehabilitation Law**

We, Qaboos Bin Said, Sultan of Oman

After Perusal of the State Basic Law issued by Royal Decree No.101/96,

The Financial Law issued by Royal Decree 47/1998,

The Royal Decree 6/2002 defining the competences of the Ministry of Higher Education and approving its organizational structure,

The Royal Decree 38/2002 defining the competences of the Ministry of Health,

The Royal Decree 32/2003 defining the competences of the Ministry of Social Development and approving its organizational structure,

The Labour Law issued by Royal Decree No. 35/2003,

The Royal Decree 32/2003 in regard of the application of the GCC Unified Customs Law,

The Civil Service Law issued by the Royal Decree No.120/2004,

The law of the private bodies operating in the sports field issued by Royal Decree No. 81/2007,

The Royal Decree 37/2008 defining the competences of the Ministry of Education and approving its organizational structure,

And upon exigencies of the public interest

Decree as follows:

**Article (1):** The provisions of the attached Law shall apply in respect of the Disabled Care and Rehabilitation.

**Article (2):** The Minister of Social Development shall issue the regulations and decisions necessary to implement the provisions of the attached law.

**Article (3):** There shall be repealed all that is contrary to the attached law.

**Article (4):** This Decree shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall come into force as from its publication.

**Issued on:** 16 Rabee Al-Thani 1429

**Corresponding to:** 22 April 2008

Qaboos bin Saeed Sultan of Oman

**The Disabled Care and Rehabilitation Law**

## **Part I**

### **(Definitions and General Provisions)**

#### **Article (1)**

In the application of the provisions of this Law the following expressions and words shall have the meanings assigned to each of them unless the context otherwise requires:

- A. The Ministry:** Ministry of Social Development.
- B. The Minister:** Minister of Social Development.
- C. The Disabled:** Disabled: Persons who suffers from a shortage of some sensory or physical or mental abilities congenitally or as a result of a genetic factor, or illness, or an accident, thus limiting their ability to perform their natural role in life compared to those at their age, with the need for care and rehabilitation to play their role in life.
- D. Care:** Efforts and services that must be made or provided to take the disabled to the best level.
- E. Rehabilitation:** A systematic and continuous process based on scientific foundations aimed at orienting and developing the disabled's abilities a through comprehensive programs and activities to ensure the highest level of performance and enable them to self-reliance and adapt to the community psychologically and socially.
- F. Rehabilitation Centers:** Centers that are licensed by the Ministry to provide programs of care, rehabilitation and training for the disabled, including associations concerned with the care and rehabilitation of the disabled.
- G. The Committee:** National Committee for the Welfare of the Disabled.

#### **Article (2)**

The prosthetic and rehabilitative tools and devices necessary for disabled persons imported by the rehabilitation centers brought by the disabled shall be exempted for their personal use, taking into consideration the provisions stipulated in the Annex attached to the Royal Decree n regard of the application of the GCC Unified Customs Law.

The requirements of the rehabilitation centers necessary for the exercise of their activities shall be exempted from all taxes and duties, subject to the provisions of the Financial Law.

#### **Article (3)**

The State shall prepare and train specialists in the field of disability to enable early detection of disabilities and to provide appropriate assistance and services to the disabled.

**Article (4)**

The obligations of the Ministry and other governmental entities, wherever mentioned in this law, shall be within the limits of the financial allocations included in the annual general budget of the State.

**Part II**  
**(Rights of the Disabled)**

**Article (5)**

Persons with disabilities shall enjoy preventive and curative health care provided by the State, including rehabilitative and prosthetic devices that assist them in movement, education, training, etc., in accordance with the rules and procedures issued by a decision of the Minister after coordination with the concerned authorities.

**Article (6)**

The Ministry shall assist in providing suitable equipment for the disabled in the homes of families who are unable to provide such equipment in accordance with the rules and procedures issued by a decision of the Minister.

**Article (7)**

The State shall provide educational services for the disabled in proportion to their sensory, physical and mental abilities.

**Article (8)**

The Ministry shall, in coordination with the concerned authorities, provide the appropriate vocational rehabilitation requirements for the disabled and adopt the qualification certificates granted to them by the rehabilitation centers that support them in the labour market.

**Article (9)**

Government agencies and employers employing 50 or more workers are obliged to appoint candidates nominated by the Ministry of Manpower for qualified persons from the National Labor Force Register by a percentage of the jobs or occupations to be filled.

This percentage shall be determined After taking the minister's opinion by a decision of the Civil Service Council in respect of the governmental bodies and a decision of the Minister of Manpower in respect of the private sector.

In the case of the appointment or hiring of a disabled person without its nomination, the Ministry of Manpower, shall be notified within 30 days from the date of receipt of the work.

The person to be appointed in accordance with the provisions of this article shall enjoy the rights and benefits of the employees and other workers.

#### **Article (10)**

The concerned government agencies shall take the necessary measures to ensure that the disabled benefit from public services, including:

A) Adherence to engineering specifications for places, public roads, buildings, places of worship, entertainment houses, market entrances, car parks and other facilities frequented by disabled persons.

B) Providing public transportation means to facilitate their movement in airports, ports, roads and others.

#### **Article (11)**

The parties concerned with to social, sports and cultural activities are committed to facilitate the participation of the disabled in the local, regional and international sports camps and competitions and to provide the means of enriching their culture.

#### **Article (12)**

The Ministry shall issue a card for the disabled that shall be considered as an official document in dealing with the scope of application of the provisions of this law, in accordance with the rules and procedures issued by a decision of the Minister.

### **Part III**

#### **(The National Committee for the Welfare of the Disabled)**

#### **Article (13)**

A committee called "The National Committee for the Welfare of the Disabled" shall be established under the chairmanship of the Minister and with the membership of representatives of the concerned governmental bodies, the private sector, rehabilitation centers and representatives of the disabled.

#### **Article (14)**

The Committee shall be responsible for studying and preparing the general plan for the care and rehabilitation of the disabled, establishing programs for their care,

rehabilitation, employment and advancement, as well as promoting plans and programs related to awareness and prevention of all types of disabilities, in particular:

**A.** Coordination and cooperation with the concerned authorities to carry out studies and research and publish their results to benefit from planning and awareness.

**B.** Collecting and recording data and statistics on disabilities and classifying them and facilitating their exchange for the widest possible use in the development of plans and programs for care, rehabilitation and others.

**C.** Enlightening the community of the problems of disability and its reasons to modify the negative behaviors towards them.

**D.** Facilitating the access of persons with disabilities to aids, rehabilitation and prosthetic devices and to remove obstacles to their access to public services.

**E.** Following up the implementation of rehabilitation programs and encouraging modern technologies.

**F.** Preparing follow-up reports on the implementation of the plan for the employment of the disabled.

**G.** Proposing legislation to address disability issues and proposing amendments to ensure the rights of the disabled and determine their roles and the roles of the community institutions towards them.

**H.** Cooperation with government agencies and others at the local, regional and international levels through official channels to benefit the disabled.

**I.** Supporting the spread of sport exercise and other among the disabled.

**J.** Supporting training programs for workers in the care of the disabled.

**K.** Receipt of donations, grants, subsidies, wills and any unconditional amounts after the approval of the Minister, provided that they are placed in a special account.

The organization of this account and the statement of objects of expenditure and rules of exchange shall be issued by the Minister without prejudice to the financial law and the applicable financial regulations.

#### **Article (15)**

A decision issued by the Minister after the approval of the Committee shall be issued by an internal regulation for the organization of the work of the Committee. The Committee may form subcommittees of its members and others, which shall be assigned some of the powers stipulated in the previous article.

### **Part IV**

#### **(Rehabilitation centers for the disabled)**

#### **Article (16)**

Rehabilitation centers for disabled persons may only be established with a license from the Ministry. The rules and conditions of granting such license shall be issued by a decision of the Minister.

The centers existing at the date of the implementation of this law are required to adjust their conditions and obtain this license within one year from the date of issuance of the decision referred to.

#### **Article (17)**

The center is obliged to provide the disabled person who has been rehabilitated with a certificate of qualification without charge, provided that this certificate indicates the specializations or professions that qualify the disabled to practice them.

#### **Article (18)**

The disabled person who received the qualification certificate shall be registered in the registration register for eligible disabled persons prepared for this purpose by the Ministry, provided that the registration of this record is recognized in this register.

### **Part V (Penalties and compensation)**

#### **Article (19)**

Any person who contravenes the provisions of Article (9) of the employers shall be punished by a fine not less than two hundred riyals and not more than five hundred riyals, and the penalty shall be doubled when the violation is repeated.

In the same judgment, the Court shall require that the employer shall pay the disabled person an amount equal to the basic wage prescribed for the work for which he is nominated, as of the date of abstinence.

#### **Article (20)**

The court shall, at the request of the employer, terminate the financial obligation that is determined according to the second paragraph of the previous article if he appoints the disabled person or if the disabled person is appointed to another job from the date of joining the work.

#### **Article (21)**

Any person who contravenes the provisions of Article (16) shall be punished by a fine not less than one thousand riyals and not more than three thousand riyals, and the penalty shall be doubled when the violation is repeated.

Article (22):

The fines imposed by virtue of Articles 19 and 20 shall be allocated to finance the care and rehabilitation services of the disabled.

The Minister shall determine the services that need to be financed and the rules and conditions of such financing.