This translation is provided for guidance. The governing text is the Arabic text.

Tourist Guiding Regulations

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وزارة السياحة
Ministry of Tourism

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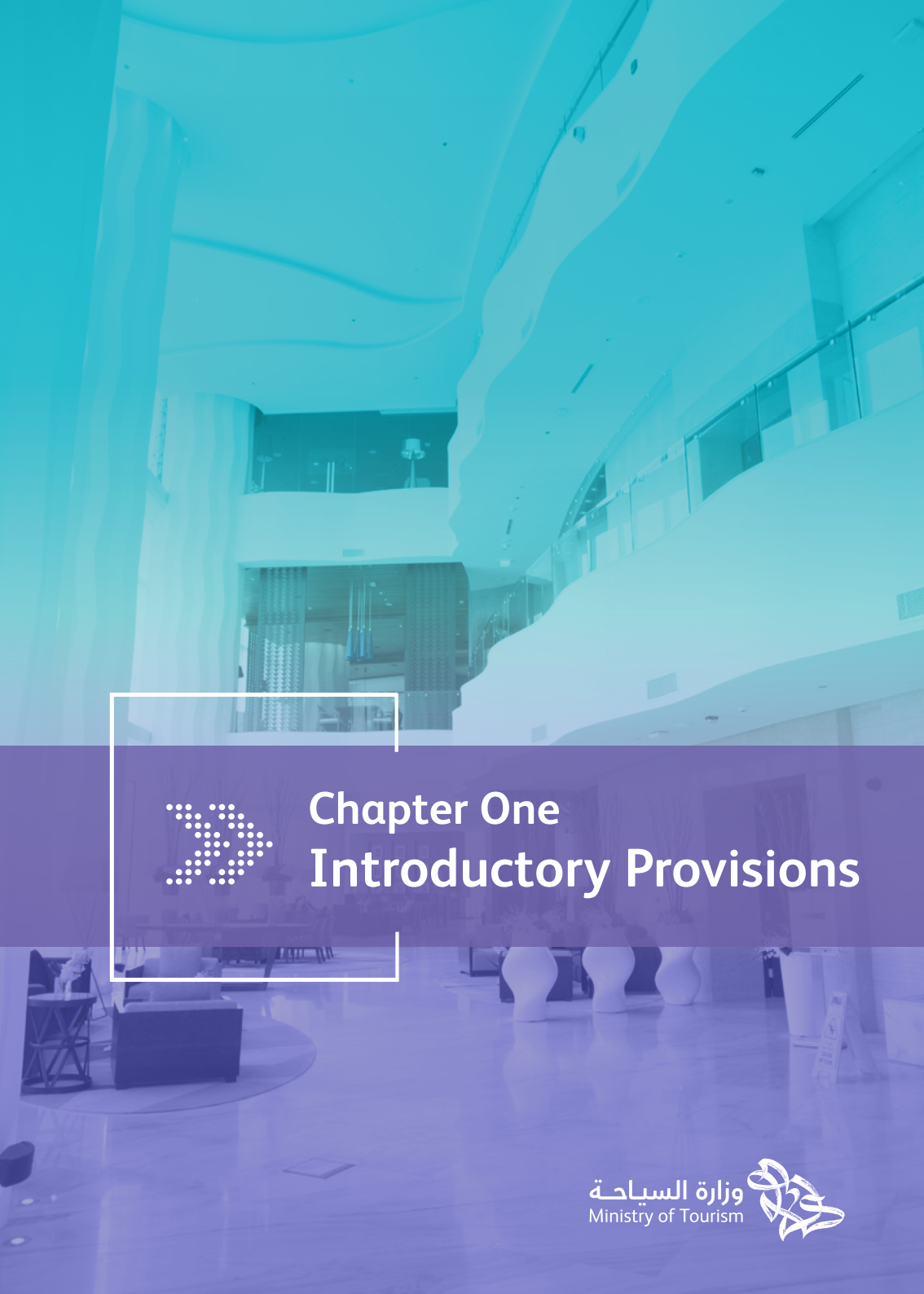

Chapter One
Introductory Provisions

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Article 1

In these Regulations, the following terms and phrases shall have the meanings assigned thereto, unless the context otherwise requires.

- **Law:** Tourism Law
- **Regulations:** Tourist Guiding Regulations.
- **Ministry:** Ministry of Tourism.
- **Minister:** Minister of Tourism.
- **Tourist Guiding:** The practice of tourist guiding at a tourist destination and other places.
- **License:** A document issued by the Ministry allowing its holder to practice tourist guiding.
- **Licensee:** Any person with a natural capacity who is licensed by the Ministry in accordance with the Law and its Regulations.
- **Travel and Tourism Services:** Arranging, organizing, and providing services in the field of tourism, including tourist trips and programs, selling and marketing travel tickets by licensed companies, providing visa issuance services or other services related to travel as well as arranging services for tourist activities or for accommodation facilities and the booking of such facilities, and other related services.
- **Tourist Destination:** Any geographical area or site in which tourist activities are practiced or targeted, or which contains tourist resources, as determined in Article 6 of the Law.
- **Tourist:** Any person with a natural capacity who lawfully stays for a period not less than one night outside his regular place of residence for tourism purposes, or who benefits from one or more of the services of tourism, complementary and specialized activities.
- **Procedural Guides:** A document that includes instructions, guidelines, criteria, or others to specify the detailed procedures complementary to these Regulations, in accordance with the provisions of the Law and its Regulations.

Official Address: The address registered in the license, the national address, or the contact information of the activity practitioner, whatever their types, as obtained by the Ministry.

Article 2

These Regulations set rules for regulating the activity of tourist guiding, and define the controls, terms, requirements, and procedures for obtaining the license necessary for practicing such activity, in addition to the ongoing obligations to be met by the licensee, and the general provisions.

Chapter Two
License

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Article 3

Tourist guiding activity may not be practiced without obtaining a license, nor after the expiry or cancellation of the license, nor during its suspension period.

Article 4

Tourist guiding categories shall be as follows:

1. **Specialized Tourist Guiding Category:** The provision of tourist guiding service in a specific field approved by the Ministry.
2. **Tourist Route Guiding Category:** The provision of tourist guiding service for a tourist route approved by the Ministry that passes across one or several areas.
3. **Tourist Site Guiding Category:** The provision of tourist guiding service at a specified tourist site approved by the Ministry.

Article 5

A license applicant shall satisfy the following requirements:

1. Be a Saudi national;
2. Be not less than 18 years of age;
3. Have no health problem hindering him from delivering the service;
4. Pass the courses, tests, and interviews approved by the Ministry for licensing as per the required category; and
5. Not be previously convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude or dishonesty, unless he has been rehabilitated

The applicant shall fill out the license application form designated by the Ministry.

Article 6

The Ministry shall issue the license upon the applicant's fulfillment of the requirements specified in Article 5 of these Regulations and his payment of the permit fees in accordance with the Fees Schedule attached to these Regulations.

Article 7

1. The license shall contain the licensee's data, license category, issuing and expiry dates of the license, and any other information determined by the Ministry.
2. The license term shall not exceed three years, and shall be renewable.

Article 8

1. 1. If the licensee intends to renew the license, he shall apply to the Ministry within 60 days prior to the license expiry and shall satisfy the following requirements for renewal:

   a. An undertaking to fulfil the requirements specified in Article 5 of these Regulations, as per the license category;

   b. Payment of the license renewal fee in accordance with the Fees Schedule attached to these Regulations.
2. 2. After satisfying the requirements stipulated in Paragraph (1) of this Article, the Ministry shall issue the renewed license, and such renewal shall take effect from the expiry date of the previous license for a period not exceeding three years.

Article 9

The licensee shall apply to the Ministry for approval upon intending to cancel or suspend the license temporarily, provided that he terminates any existing obligations related thereto.

Chapter Three
Exemptions

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Article 10

The Minister, or his designee, may, pursuant to his decision, issue exemptions from the requirements set forth in Article 5 of these Regulations, except for Paragraphs (2) and (5), in accordance with the following considerations:

1. Needs of the tourism sector in the area or tourist destination targeted in the license;
2. The distinguished and required qualifications, capabilities, skills, or experiences of the applicant for license; and
3. Any other considerations approved by a decision of the Minister.

Chapter Four
Ongoing Obligations

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Article 11

The licensee shall:

1. Abide by the terms of license throughout its validity period;
2. Prevent other persons from using the license;
3. Provide the tourist guiding services through a travel and tourism service provider licensed by the Ministry, unless his license category is issued for tourist site guiding;
4. Comply with the policies and controls approved by the management of the site covered by the license for receiving tourists and providing tourist guiding service to them within the site;
5. Provide tourist guiding services within the geographical scope of the tourist site or as per the license category;
6. Comply with the decisions, instructions, and circulars issued by the Ministry;
7. Allow inspectors to carry out their duties as stipulated by the Law and its Regulations, as well as cooperate with them and facilitate their work;
8. Avoid using the Ministry's name or logo in any promotional or marketing activity without obtaining its approval; and
9. Respond to the Ministry on a regular basis.

Article 12

To ensure the quality of the service provided, the licensee shall:

1. Wear the license badge whenever providing the tourist guiding service, and indicate the license data and number on all his official pages and websites;
2. Avoid using an expired license;
3. Speak the language(s) specified in the license upon practicing the tourist guiding activity;
4. Join qualifying and training programs designated by the Ministry;
5. Ensure accuracy of the information provided to tourists, and decline to provide any misleading information contradictory to facts or damaging to the reputation and interests of the Kingdom;
6. Perform the contracted tasks unless they conflict with the statutory provisions;
7. Avoid declining to provide the service without justification;

8. Dress in an appropriate uniform to the nature of the trip and public taste;
9. Show high morals and good values;
10. Avoid asking for a commission, reward, gift, or service from tourists or from the facilities he deals with while carrying out the tourist guiding activity;

Article 13

In order to ensure the integrity of the information and data submitted to the Ministry, the licensee shall:

1. Provide the Ministry, upon its request, with any information or data via any means it deems appropriate and within the specified time; and
2. Update all his relevant data registered with the Ministry's electronic system immediately after any change thereof.

Article 14

To ensure the safety and security of tourists upon providing the service, the licensee shall:

1. Maintain the confidentiality and privacy of the tourist's information, and avoid sharing or using same for any purpose whatsoever without obtaining his consent;
2. Abide by the laws and by the instructions of the competent authorities regarding security, health, and environmental aspects, as well as safety means, first aid, evacuation, and the like, and take all necessary measures and precautions in this regard;
3. Decline to provide tourist guiding service during a visit to military, border, or customs areas, without prior permission from the competent authorities, including instructions for taking photos in such sites;
4. Avoid driving a means of transport upon practicing the tourist guiding activity;
5. Report immediately and directly to the Ministry and the competent authorities any incident related to safety and security whether at the travel and tourism services office or upon the delivery of services;
6. Inform tourists of the instructions and directives to be followed upon the delivery of service, such as the rules relating to public decency, smoking, and the like.

Chapter Five
General Provisions

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Article 15

1. Any practitioner of the tourist guiding activity shall be subject to inspection in accordance with the Law and its Regulations, as well as the procedural guides prepared by the Ministry for this purpose.
2. Penalties shall be implemented against any violation of the provisions of the Law and its Regulations pursuant to the Table of Violations and Penalties referred to in Article 16(5) of the Law.

Article 16

Without prejudice to relevant laws, the Ministry may seek the assistance of specialized technical companies or agencies to carry out certain tasks entrusted thereto under the Law and its Regulations, provided that they have sufficient trained technical personnel and experience as per the tasks assigned thereto as specified by the Ministry, in accordance with the provisions of the Law and its Regulations.

Article 17

The procedural guides required to implement the provisions of these Regulations shall be issued pursuant to a decision of the Minister or his designee, upon the recommendation of the Ministry, and shall be updated in the same manner. These guides shall be published on the Ministry's official website, and shall enter into force as of the date of publication thereof.

Article 18

Any correspondence sent by the Ministry to the practitioners of the tourist guiding activity at their official addresses shall be deemed an official notification.

Article 19

These Regulations shall be issued pursuant to a decision of the Minister. They shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall enter into force as of the effective date of the Law.

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Fees Schedule for the Activity of Tourist Guiding

Service	License Duration		
	One Year	Two Years	Three Years
	Fees (SAR)		
License Issuance	500	750	1,000

Service	License Duration		
	One Year	Two Years	Three Years
	Fees (SAR)		
License Renewal	250	500	750

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