



شعبة الترجمة الرسمية
Official Translation Department

Statute of the General Authority of Civil Aviation

Council of Ministers Resolution No. 33
March 21, 2005

Translation of Saudi Laws



NOTE:

The translation of Saudi laws takes the following into consideration:

- Words used in the singular form include the plural and vice versa.
- Words used in the masculine form include the feminine.
- Words used in the present tense include the present as well as the future.
- The word “person” or “persons” and their related pronouns (he, his, him, they, their, them) refer to a natural and legal person.



Statute of the General Authority of Civil Aviation

Article 1

The following words and phrases shall have the meanings assigned thereto, unless the context requires otherwise:

Kingdom: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

GACA: General Authority of Civil Aviation.

Statute: Statute of the General Authority of Civil Aviation.

Board: GACA's board of directors.

Chairman: Board's chairman.

President: GACA's president.

Territory of the Kingdom: Kingdom's lands, territorial waters, and the airspace thereover.

Air Transport: Commercial transportation of passengers, mail, or goods carried out by a natural or legal person by investing in airlines.

Chicago Convention: Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation, ratified by Royal Decree No. M/24, dated 30/4/1381H, as well as annexes and amendments thereto.

Article 2

1. GACA shall have a public legal personality and financial and administrative independence and shall report to the Minister of Transport. GACA shall be headquartered in the City of Riyadh and it may open branch offices to carry out its duties.
2. Movable and immovable assets of the Presidency of Civil Aviation shall be transferred to GACA. GACA shall bear all obligations incurred by the Presidency of Civil Aviation.

Article 3

GACA shall operate according to commercial principles and standards. It shall have the powers necessary to carry out its duties and responsibilities in a manner that ensures the safety and security of civil aviation and the development and expansion of the air transport industry within the territory of the Kingdom.

Article 4

GACA shall aim to regulate, expand, and develop the civil aviation sector and air transport industry within the territory of the Kingdom in order to promote their national role and attract national and foreign private investments in a manner that contributes to the national economy. To that end, GACA may undertake



the following:

1. Setting the implementing regulations of the civil aviation sector and air transport industry within the territory of the Kingdom and overseeing the implementation thereof by relevant agencies.
2. Overseeing the implementation of civil aviation treaties and international agreements to which the Kingdom is party, within the territory of the Kingdom.
3. Building, developing, managing, operating, maintaining, and qualifying civil airports within the Kingdom and overseeing the performance of their employees, in a manner that ensures the smooth flow of passengers, goods, and mail within airport facilities, in accordance with the provisions of the Chicago Convention and its annexes. GACA shall issue licenses necessary to build helipads and runways for agricultural aircraft and the like.
4. Building, developing, managing, operating, and maintaining air navigation systems and providing them with support equipment, as well as conducting flight inspection thereon.
5. Planning and managing air traffic within the territory of the Kingdom in a manner that ensures the safety of aviation, the flow of air traffic, and the optimal use thereof, and coordinating with relevant agencies for such purpose; issuing aeronautical information and publishing such information through various mediums; and executing technical MOUs which aim to coordinate air traffic and exchange technical information with other countries.
6. Issuing licenses and certificates to the employees of the civil aviation sector as well as licenses to stations for the repair, maintenance, and manufacture of Saudi-registered civil aircraft within the Kingdom and abroad, and creating a register in which national civil aircraft and rights arising thereon are recorded.
7. Conducting a technical investigation on accidents and incidents of civil aircraft occurring within the territory of the Kingdom and accidents and incidents of Saudi registered aircraft occurring over international waters or above lands not owned by any country, as well as participating in the investigation of accidents and incidents of Saudi-registered aircraft occurring in the territories of other countries.
8. Participating in search and rescue operations relating to civil aviation in coordination with relevant agencies.
9. Overseeing the implementation of firefighting and rescue services in the Kingdom's airports and ensuring their conformity to the requirements provided for in national and international laws.
10. Executing air transport agreements concluded between the Kingdom and other countries, and approving air trade agreements concluded between national air carriers and foreign airlines.
11. Issuing necessary licenses to establishments and companies in the air transport and civil aviation industry within the Kingdom, including licenses for operating national and foreign airlines, as well as operating scheduled



and non-scheduled airlines.

12. Issuing licenses to establishments and companies involved in air freight, ground services, and support services within the Kingdom, and setting the regulatory rules therefor.
13. Regulating private air transport activities within the territory of the Kingdom.
14. Adopting air transport tariffs for passengers, mail, goods, and group trips, and setting procedures to ensure compliance therewith.
15. Carrying out relevant monitoring, inspection, and auditing activities on operations of national and foreign air transport and aviation industry establishments and companies operating in the Kingdom to ensure compliance with the laws and regulations and the licenses provisions, as well as imposing the prescribed penalties in case of violation.
16. Implementing international provisions and rules relating to civil aviation security in accordance with the Chicago Convention and its annexes as well as other relevant international agreements and conventions to which the Kingdom is party; ensuring the compliance of all agencies and companies operating within the Kingdom's territory with the rules and procedures provided for in the National Program for Civil Aviation Security; and issuing security guides, brochures, and reports relating to civil aviation.
17. Providing relevant training for manpower through civil aviation academies and institutions and qualifying them to work in various civil aviation sectors, as well as issuing the necessary technical licenses to such institutions in coordination with relevant agencies.
18. Representing the Kingdom in the International Civil Aviation Organization as well as relevant regional and international organizations and commissions.

Article 5

GACA's Board shall be composed of the following:

1. Minister of Transport, Chairman.
2. President of the General Authority of Civil Aviation, Vice-Chairman and member.
3. A representative from the Ministry of Finance, member.
4. A representative from the Ministry of Transport, member.
5. Three representatives from government agencies with a grade not lower than Grade 15 or its equivalent, members.
6. Three representatives from the private sector, members.

The representatives of government agencies and the private sector, referred to in paragraphs (5) and (6) of this Article, shall be appointed pursuant to a resolution by the Council of Ministers upon the Chairman's recommendation.

The membership term of the representatives of government agencies and the



private sector shall be three years, renewable once.

Article 6

The Board shall be GACA's highest authority. It shall be in charge of the management of GACA and the conduct of its affairs as well as setting its general policy. It shall, in particular, assume the following powers and duties:

1. Determining GACA's objectives, setting its policies, and approving and overseeing the execution of programs necessary to achieve such objectives.
2. Approving GACA's financial, operational, and investment regulations in agreement with the Ministry of Finance.
3. Approving GACA's administrative structure and organizational guide.
4. Approving GACA's business plan and operational plans which are in line with the State General Plan.
5. Approving GACA's budget and submitting it to the relevant agencies, in accordance with applicable procedures.
6. Approving GACA's final accounts and annual report as well as the auditor's report and submitting the same in accordance with applicable procedures.
7. Approving employment and administrative regulations relating to GACA's employees, in agreement with the Ministry of Civil Service and Ministry of Finance.
8. Approving the establishment of branch offices for GACA.
9. Approving rules governing licenses, services, and works provided by GACA and determining their fees.
10. Investing GACA's funds in a manner that serves its objectives.
11. Setting plans, rules, and procedures that ensure GACA's operation on competitive and commercial principles.
12. Approving the implementing regulations of this Statute.
13. Appointing an external auditor, or more, and a comptroller.
14. Setting the rules necessary to enhance GACA's efficiency in carrying out its duties.
15. Accepting gifts, aids, and donations, in accordance with the law.
16. Granting the President the powers necessary to achieve GACA's objectives.

Article 7

1. Board meetings shall be held at GACA's headquarters and may, if necessary, be held elsewhere in the Kingdom.
2. The Board shall convene upon a call by its Chairman at least twice a year or if requested by at least half of its members. The call for a meeting must include its agenda. Board meetings shall be valid only if attended by the



majority of its members, including the Chairman or Vice-Chairman. Board decisions shall be passed by the majority vote of attending members. In case of a tie, the meeting chairman shall have the casting vote. The Board may invite non-members to attend its meetings in a non-voting capacity.

3. The Board may form a committee, or more, from among its members to carry out certain tasks. It may also assign a certain task to any of its members.
4. Board deliberations and decisions shall be entered into minutes signed by the meeting chairman and attending members.

Article 8

First: GACA shall have a president with the rank of "Minister" appointed pursuant to a royal order. The President shall be GACA's executive officer and shall be in charge of its management and the conduct of its affairs in accordance with this Statute and Board decisions. He shall, in particular, assume the following powers and duties:

1. Overseeing the implementation of Board decisions and notifying the Board of actions taken thereon.
2. Proposing GACA's financial, administrative, technical, and operational regulations and submitting the same to the Board.
3. Overseeing GACA's employees and carrying out relevant administrative, financial, and technical powers assigned to him, in accordance with this Statute and the regulations.
4. Supervising the drafting of GACA's budget and submitting it to the Board.
5. Supervising the preparation of GACA's final accounts and the drafting of its annual report and submitting the same to the Board.
6. Approving payment orders in accordance with GACA's budget.
7. Submitting to the Board periodic reports on GACA's activities and achievements.
8. Proposing GACA's plans and programs and overseeing their implementation upon Board approval.
9. Overseeing the collection of GACA's revenues.
10. Representing GACA before other agencies and the judiciary within the Kingdom and abroad.

Second: GACA shall have a vice-president whose appointment and dismissal shall be pursuant to a Board decision. His remuneration, allowances, and other financial benefits shall be determined in accordance with GACA's approved cadre. The Vice-President shall undertake tasks assigned thereto by the President and act on his behalf in his absence.

Article 9

GACA's financial resources shall be as follows:



1. Funds allocated by the State in accordance with this Statute.
2. Revenues generated from the services rendered by GACA.
3. Gifts, aids, and donations accepted by the Board in accordance with the law.
4. Other resources the Board decides to add to GACA's funds in accordance with the law.

Article 10

1. GACA shall, without exception or discrimination to any agency or carrier, collect the fees charged against the use of airspace and civil aviation facilities as well as the use of GACA's services.
2. GACA's funds and revenues shall be deposited in a separate account opened under its name with the Saudi Central Bank. Disbursement from said account shall be made in accordance with GACA's approved budget. GACA may open other accounts with any of the banks licensed to operate in the Kingdom.
3. GACA shall retain its revenues and directly expend therefrom on its activities. It shall self-fund its operations and investments by developing its revenues through diversifying its sources of income and optimally investing its facilities and services.
4. GACA shall retain an annual reserve not exceeding 20% of its revenues in excess of investment and operational expenses. All amounts exceeding such percentage shall be transferred to the State Treasury.
5. GACA shall seek to balance its annual revenues with its investment and operational expenses. If the annual revenues exceed the expenses, GACA shall reconsider the fees of its services. Fees of aircraft passage shall be determined in a manner that increases civil aviation competitiveness in the Kingdom and attracts more air traffic into the territory of the Kingdom.

Article 11

GACA's fiscal year shall be the same as the State's fiscal year. As an exception, GACA's first fiscal year shall commence on the date this Statute enters into force and end on the date the State's fiscal year ends.

Article 12

GACA's employees, with the exception of the President, shall be subject to the Labor Law and the Social Insurance Law.

Article 13

Without prejudice to the jurisdiction of the General Court of Audit, the external auditor appointed by the Board shall audit GACA's accounts. The Board shall determine his fees. In case of multiple auditors, they shall be jointly liable before GACA for their work. The auditor's report shall be submitted to the Board and a copy thereof shall be provided to the General Court of Audit.



Article 14

This Statute shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall enter into force 180 days following the date of its publication.