

**Federal Law No. (9) of 2021**  
**Concerning the Prohibition of Using Scientific Certificates Issued by**  
**Unlicensed Entities**

**We Khalifah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan**

**President of the UAE,**

- Having reviewed the Constitution;
- Federal Law No. (1) of 1972 on the Competencies of the Ministries and the Powers of the Ministers, as amended;
- Federal Law No. (8) of 1980 Regulating the Labour Relationships, and its amendments;
- Federal Law No. (3) of 1987 Issuing the Penal Code, as amended;
- Federal Law No. (35) of 1992 Issuing the Penal Procedure Law, as amended;
- Federal Law by Decree No. (11) of 2008 Concerning Human Resources in the Federal Government, and any amendments thereof;
- Upon the proposal of the Minister of Education as approved by the Cabinet and the Federal National Council, and as ratified by the Federal Supreme Council,

**Have issued the following law:**

**Article (1)**

**Definitions**

- State** : In application of the provisions of this Law, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings assigned to each of them, unless the context otherwise requires:: United Arab Emirates.
- Ministry** : Ministry of Education.
- Minister** : Minister of Education.
- Scientific Certificates** : Official document proving that the person passed a specific academic study or stage, or to prove that such person acquired a scientific, professional or craftsmen qualification and such document is issued by an educational or training entity inside or

outside the State, duly exists and is licensed to carry out such activity allowing the entity to give this certificate.

- Scientific certificate issued by unlicensed entity** : A document issued by an educational or training entity that does not have a legal existence inside or outside the State, or issued by an entity that is not licensed to issue such certificate.
- Competent Authority** : Ministry of Education and any other authority determined by the Executive Regulation.
- Employers of the State** : Any governmental or non-governmental employer, whatever its nature or competency at any zone of the State, including free zones.

## **Article (2)**

### **Objectives of the Law**

This law aims at prohibiting the use of scientific certificates issued by an unlicensed entity to use it to work for any employer in the State or to use it to accomplish any other purpose.

## **Article (3)**

### **Scope of application for this law**

Provisions of this law shall be applicable to every region of the State, including the free zones.

## **Article (4)**

### **Requirements of Scientific Certificates**

The following requirements shall be available in the scientific certificates:

- a. All data included shall be valid and correct.
- b. The competent authority shall decide that the certificate is issued by an entity that is duly exist and is licensed to issue such certificate.

- c. Any other requirements stipulated by the Executive Regulation.

## **Article (5)**

### **Non-recognition of scientific certificate issued by unlicensed entity**

Any scientific certificate issued by unlicensed entity pursuant to requirements stipulated in article (4) of this Law and its Executive Regulation shall not be recognised or accepted. No person is allowed to use such certificate for any purpose inside the State. All employers in the State shall not employ any person based on such certificate, to hire him temporarily or permanently, or to enable such person to benefit from that certificate under any capacity.

## **Article (6)**

### **Penalties**

- a. The application of the penalties stipulated in this Law shall not in prejudice of any more severe penalty provided by any other law.
- b. Whoever commits by mistake any of the following actions shall be punished with imprisonment for a period that is not more than three months and a fine that is not more than (AED 30.000) thirty thousand Dirhams, or one of these two punishments:
1. If he submits a scientific certificate issued by an unlicensed entity in order to obtain the approval of the competent authority subject to article (4) of this Law.
  2. If he submits a scientific certificate issued by an unlicensed entity to get any job or to be temporarily or permanently hired at any employer in the State.
  3. If he publishes a scientific certificate issued by a licensed entity at any publication means.
- c. The penalty, stipulated in Clause (b) of this Article, shall be doubled in case the person attempts to get work, obtain a material or moral benefit due to this certificate.
- D. Whoever commits deliberately any of the following actions shall be punished with imprisonment for a period that is not more than a year and a fine that is not more than (AED 500.000) fifty thousand Dirhams, or one of these two penalties:
1. If he submits a scientific certificate issued by an unlicensed entity in order to obtain the approval of the competent authority subject to article (4) of this Law.

2. If he submits a scientific certificate issued by an unlicensed entity to get any job or to be temporarily or permanently hired at any employer in the State.
  3. If he publishes a scientific certificate issued by a licensed entity at any publication means.
  4. If he obtains, by virtue of a scientific certificate issued by an unlicensed entity, an academic title or any other moral benefit.
- e. Any employee working for any employer in the State accepts a scientific certificate issued by an unlicensed certificate within any transaction relevant to such employer, while he recognises the fact of such certificate, shall be punished with imprisonment for a period that is not more than two years and a fine that is not less than (AED 100.000) a hundred thousand Dirhams and not exceeding (AED 1.000.000) one million Dirhams, or by one of these two penalties:
- F. Whoever commits deliberately any of the following actions shall be punished with imprisonment for a period that is not more than two years and a fine that is not less than (AED 500.000) fifty thousand Dirhams and is not exceeding (AED 1.000.000) one million Dirhams, or one of these two penalties:
1. If he issues or participates by any means in issuing a scientific certificate from an unlicensed entity to do so.
  2. If he announces or promotes for any unlicensed entity that issues such certificates inside or outside the State.

## **Article (7)**

In all cases, the court shall decide to remove all aspects of benefit obtained by the person who is punished by any penalty stipulated by this Law, without prejudice to the right of the entity from which he obtained such benefit to claim refunding the benefit such person unlawfully acquired.

## **Article (8)**

### **Remedies**

The Cabinet may issue any resolution to remedy the status, before the enforcement of this

Law, resulting from using scientific certificates issued by unlicensed entities.

## **Article (9)**

### **Repeals**

Any provision that violates or contradicts the provisions of this Law shall hereby be repealed.

## **Article (10)**

### **The Executive Regulation**

The Cabinet shall issue the Executive Regulation upon a proposal from the Minister within six months from the date it is published.

## **Article (11)**

### **Law Publication and Enforcement**

This Law shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall come into force six months following the date of its publication.

**Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan**

**President of the UAE,**

Issued by us at the Palace of the Presidency in Abu Dhabi:

On 17/Ramadan/1442 AH

Corresponding to: 29/April/2021 AD