

Lebanese Republic
Chamber of Deputies
Law No. 422 of 6/6/2002
(Official Gazette No. 34/2 of 13/6/2002)
(Implementation decrees have been issued)

Law
On the Protection of Juveniles in Conflict with the Law or at Risk

Single Article

The draft law set out in Decree No. 1727 on the Protection of Juveniles in Conflict with the Law or at Risk, as amended by the Justice and Administration Committee, the Women and Children Committee, the Human Rights Committee, and the Chamber of Deputies, has been ratified.

This Law shall come into effect upon its publication in the Official Gazette.

Law
On the Protection of Juveniles in Conflict with the Law or at Risk

Introductory Section I: General Norms

Article (1)

The juveniles to whom this law shall apply are persons who have not yet reached eighteen years of age, if they commit a crime punishable under the law or are at-risk in the situations set out subsequently herein.

Age shall be established by proper official records or based on medical expertise sought out by the judicial authority handling the case. If the records do not mention the day and month of birth, the person shall be deemed to have been born on the first day of July of the year specified for their birth. The matter shall be handled in such manner if it is not possible to determine the day and month using medical expertise where it must be relied on. The juvenile's age on which a ruling is based shall be deemed to be final with regard to enforcement of the measures or penalties imposed under the ruling.

Article (2)

The following basic principles shall be observed in the application of the provisions of this law:

1. Juveniles are in need of special rehabilitary assistance in order to play their role in society.
2. In all cases, the interests of the juvenile must be taken into consideration so as to protect them from delinquency.
3. Juveniles who violate the law shall benefit from equitable and humane treatment, and prosecution, investigation, and trial procedures with juveniles shall be subject to certain special rules. To the extent possible, an attempt is made to avoid judicial procedures by relying on settlements, amicable solutions, and non-custodial measures. Judges shall have the greatest extent of discretion acceptable within the scope of the law to adopt the most appropriate measures for the juvenile's circumstances and the possibility of their reform, with the right to amend or withdraw such measures, based on the apparent enforcement outcomes for the juvenile. Custodial measures shall be the last resort. Juveniles shall not be detained with adults.
4. The juvenile judiciary is entrusted with juvenile affairs and is the proper authority for the enforcement of this law and the concerned ministries shall direct all means available to secure such enforcement.

Section II: Juveniles in Violation of the Law

Chapter I: Measures and Penalties

Article (3)

Anyone who has not reached seven years of age at the time they commit the crime shall not be criminally prosecuted.

Article (4)

Juvenile crimes shall be defined according to the penal laws. However, for juveniles the penalties observed in these laws or other laws shall be reduced in accordance with the provisions of this Law, which notes special measures that shall be applied.

(Article 5)

The measures and penalties imposed on juveniles are:

- Non-custodial measures, including:
 1. Censure
 2. Placement under probation
 3. Protection
 4. Judicial supervision
 5. Community service work or work to compensate the victim.These measures are listed from the mildest, censure (item 1), to the most severe (item 5).
- Custodial measures, from the mildest to the most severe, are deemed to be more severe than the non-custodial measures:
 1. Reform
 2. Correction
- Reduced penalties

In all cases, the judge may adopt precautionary measures in accordance with the provisions of this law.

(Article 6)

The following rules shall be observed in adopting the measures provided in Article 5 hereof:

1. If the juvenile is at least seven and not yet twelve on the date the crime was committed, any of the measures provided under Article 5 shall be imposed excluding correction and a reduced penalty. For felonies, censure shall not be adequate.
2. If the juvenile is at least twelve years old and not yet fifteen on the date the crime was committed, any of the measures provided under Article 5 shall be imposed, excluding a reduced penalty. For felonies, censure shall not be adequate.
3. If the juvenile is at least fifteen years old and not yet eighteen on the date the crime was committed, any of the measures provided under Article 5 or a reduced penalty shall be imposed for all crimes that do not constitute a

felony. For felonies, custodial measures or reduced penalties shall be imposed, with the exception of felonies punishable by death, in which case only reduced penalties shall be applied.

In all cases, the judge shall provide sufficient reasoning for their decision and state the reason for adoption of the measure with respect to the interests of the juvenile and the conditions under which the crime was committed.

First: Non-Custodial Measures

Article (7)

Censure is a rebuke directed by the judge to the juvenile to point out the violation that they committed. Such shall be done orally and pursuant to a decision supporting this censure.

Article (8)

Placement under probation, in accordance with the situations specified by the judge, is a ruling that suspends adoption of any other measure against the juvenile for a period ranging from three to one year during which time the juvenile is subject to observation by a social worker. This measure shall be adopted when it is clear that the minor's circumstances and personality justify this measure. If the juvenile violates the terms of the probation set out by the judge or commits another crime during the probation period, whether misdemeanor or felony, the probation order shall be legally dropped and the judge shall adopt a stricter measure.

Article (9)

The measure of protection is placement of the juvenile in the care of one or both parents, the juvenile's legal custodian, or their family on condition that such person(s) provide the ethical guarantee and ability to raise the juvenile under the supervision of the social worker assigned to the case. When none of these persons are present in Lebanon or fail to meet the aforementioned conditions, the juvenile may be placed in the care of a trustworthy family or a social or health institution approved by the relevant ministries or other institutions if the approved institutions do not provide the required specializations.

Article (10)

Judicial supervision is placing the juvenile under the observation of a social worker or authority appointed for this purpose under the judge's supervision.

- This measure includes observing the minor's conduct, history, and work, and offering correct guidance and monitoring their health, psychological, social, and vocational affairs.
- The period of judicial supervision shall be from one to five years.
- Juveniles placed under supervision must listen to the guidance and follow all instructions of the social worker and present themselves at their office whenever requested.

Article (11)

With the agreement of the minor and the victim, the judge may rule for the minor to perform work for the injured party or community service for a period of time and for a specified

number of hours each day. The work shall be performed under the supervision of the authorized social worker.

If the juvenile fails to complete the work in accordance with the stipulated conditions, the judge may replace the measure after hearing the juvenile. In this event, the juvenile will be prosecuted for the crime of failure to fulfill a judicial order.

Article (12)

The period of a non-custodial penalty may be extended, with the exception of placement under probation, until the age of twenty-one, if the minor's personal circumstances and upbringing require such extension.

The juvenile judge shall adopt an extension decision after hearing the juvenile, the social worker, and the person responsible for the juvenile or into whose care the juvenile was placed.

Second: Custodial Measures

Article (13)

The measure of reform is a ruling to place the juvenile in a reformatory for a period of at least six months, where they will receive lessons and vocational training, and their health, psychological, and ethical affairs will be monitored in accordance with the system observed by the institute and set out in a regulatory decree.

If a ruling for a reform measure is given for a period that extends beyond the date the juvenile reaches eighteen years of age, the judge may decide, after hearing the juvenile, to either suspend the reform measure when the juvenile reaches said age and release them under the supervision of a social worker for a period specified by the judge, or place them in a correctional facility until the end of the prescribed measure.

The director of the facility must inform the relevant judge of the approach of the juvenile's eighteenth birthday at least two months prior to such date, under penalty of being subject to legal prosecution for unprofessional conduct at the request of the judge and a fine of LBP 500,000 to LBP 1,000,000,000, delivered in a final ruling by the judge after hearing the director.

Article (14)

Juveniles shall be placed in a correctional facility for a period of at least three months. If a juvenile reaches the age of twenty-one and is still in said facility, the judge may, at the request of the juvenile or social worker, and after obtaining a social investigation and report from the institute director and hearing the juvenile, release the juvenile and place them under judicial supervision, if required, for a period of no more than a year; otherwise the juvenile shall remain in the correctional facility until the ruling issued against them by the juvenile judge is served or they shall be transferred to a juvenile or ordinary prison, as decided by the judge.

Article (15)

Reduced penalties shall be issued for juveniles in accordance with the following:

1. For petty offenses and misdemeanors, the penalties mentioned in the law, including fines, shall be reduced by half.
2. For felonies, if the felony is punishable by death or a life sentence with hard labor, the penalty shall be reduced to imprisonment from five to fifteen years. The maximum and minimum limits of imprisonment for other felonies shall be reduced by half. Penalties shall be enforced by placing the juvenile in a correctional facility or in a juvenile prison, in accordance with the judge's decision.

Article (16)

If a juvenile rebels or escapes from a reformatory or correctional facility, the facility director shall file a report to the court that adopted the measure. After hearing the juvenile, if they appear, and the social worker, the judge may decide to extend the period of the measure or replace the remaining period with a more severe measure. In exceptional circumstances, the measure may be extended to a maximum limit not exceeding age twenty-one, and the grounds justifying this extension must be stated.

Article (17)

A juvenile judge may suspend, in whole or in part, the enforcement of the reduced penalty provided under this Law, whether a fine or penalty of imprisonment not exceeding five years at most before reduction. In this event, the enforcement suspension must be combined with a non-custodial penalty other than censure.

The convicted juvenile shall lose the grant of an enforcement suspension if they, within four years from the date the ruling takes force, are convicted of a misdemeanor or felony or if they violate the conditions imposed by the judge in the enforcement suspension.

Third: Preventative Measures

Article (18)

Regardless of the type of crime committed by the juvenile, a juvenile judge may order preventative measures, which are detention in a temporary shelter or specialized institution, barring them from frequenting certain locations, barring residence and expulsion from the country if the juvenile is not Lebanese, barring travel, barring engaging in a certain work, barring them from carrying weapons and sharp instruments, confiscating property, and barring driving machinery and vehicles. A judge may decide to extend these measures until the age of twenty-one, if the juvenile's circumstances require such.

The judge shall determine the term of the custodial and rights restricting preventative measures, provided they do not extend past the juvenile's eighteenth birthday. Exceptionally, the judge may, under a reasoned decision and in light of the nature of the measure adopted and the interests of the juvenile, extend this measure until they reach twenty-one years of age.

For preventative measures relating to property, such as confiscation of items, the provisions found in the penal code shall be applied.

Chapter II: Shared Provisions on Penalties and Measures

Article (19)

Based on the report of the person responsible for the juvenile, such as the director of the institution or facility into whose care they are placed, and on the social investigation, and after hearing the juvenile, a juvenile judge may replace the adopted measure with another stricter or lighter measure provided herein and may cancel or suspend the measure with conditions stipulated thereby, if there is benefit to such.

Article (20)

Measures adopted under Chapter I that remove the juvenile from the care of their parents or guardian shall suspend the rights of such persons to care for and raise the child. In this case, the juvenile judge shall exercise the right of care and upbringing in their personal name or the director of the institution in whose care the juvenile is placed. The social worker shall supervise the juvenile's upbringing.

Article (21)

The social worker shall monitor the juvenile and submit a report on their status every three months to the authority that adopted the measure.

Article (22)

The social worker's report shall be joined to the juvenile's file with the judicial authority that orders the measures. This authority may, within the powers entrusted to it under this law, based on the aforementioned reports and after hearing the juvenile, adopt the measures required in the juvenile's interests.

Article (23)

Persons in whose care the juvenile was placed or officials from the social institutions entrusted with the care of the juvenile shall be subject to a fine ranging from LBP 600,000 to LBP 1,000,000 if the juvenile commits a felony or misdemeanor while in their care as a result of their negligence in supervising and raising them. Such matters shall be heard by the juvenile court that ruled to place the juvenile in their care. In these cases, prosecution shall be pursued at the request of the office of the public prosecutor, and the ruling issued shall be subject to appeal. This excludes any criminal and civil liability that they may be exposed to as a result of their negligence.

Section III: Juveniles At Risk

Article (24)

The provisions of this Section shall apply to juveniles regardless of age.

Article (25)

A juvenile shall be deemed to be endangered in the following circumstances:

1. If they are found in an environment that exposes them to exploitation or endangers their health, safety, morals, or the circumstances of their upbringing.

2. If they are exposed to sexual assault or physical violence exceeding the bounds permitted by customary unharmful disciplinary methods.
3. If they are found begging or homeless.

A juvenile shall be deemed to be begging under this Law if they work by begging for alms in any way. A juvenile shall be deemed to be homeless if they leave their residence to live in the streets and public places or if they do not have a residence and are found in the state described above.

Article (26)

In any of these circumstances, the judge may, in the interest of said juvenile, adopt the measures of protection, judicial supervision, or reform, as required.

In these circumstances, the judge shall intervene based on the complaint of the juvenile, one of their parents, guardians, custodians, responsible persons, social worker, or the office of the public prosecutor, or based on a report. The judge shall intervene automatically in cases requiring urgent action. The office of the public prosecutor or juvenile judge shall order a public investigation and hear the juvenile and one or both parents or the legal guardian or other responsible persons, prior to adopting any measure against the juvenile unless it is an urgent matter, in which case the appropriate measure may be adopted prior to completion of the aforementioned procedures. The assistance of the judicial police may be entrusted to investigate the information in question.

No report submitted to the competent authority by anyone who, by virtue of their status, job, speciality, or familiarity with the circumstances of an at risk juvenile in the situations set out under Article 25 of this Law, shall be deemed to be a disclosure of professional secrets or to be punishable under the Penal Code.

Article (27)

After hearing one or both parents, the judge may keep the juvenile, to the extent possible, in their normal environment, provided that a person or social institution is appointed to supervise and give advice and counsel to the family and guardians to help with the juvenile's upbringing. This person or institution must submit a periodic report to the judge on the development of their situation. If choosing to keep the juvenile in their environment, the judge may impose on the juvenile and the persons responsible therefor specific duties, such as entering a school or specialized health or social institution [or] performing a given job.

The judge may impose the measures referred to above if the juvenile becomes out of the control of their family or guardians and acquires bad behaviors that put them at the previously mentioned risks, based on a complaint made by such persons or at the social worker's request.

Article (28)

If there is a risk of delinquency along with elements of penal crime, as might happen in cases of begging or homelessness, the juvenile judge shall adjust the measures they prescribe to this situation.

Article (29)

In all of the aforementioned situations in Sections II and III, regardless of the measure imposed on the juvenile, the juvenile's parents and others who are obliged to support the juvenile shall remain responsible for payment, and the judge that imposed the measure may, after hearing the concerned person, decide which of the expenses they must pay to cover the costs of the prescribed measures, and this decision shall not be admissible to any form of review. Such shall be enforced in accordance with the rules observed in cases of maintenance, including recourse to mandatory imprisonment.

Section IV: The Juvenile Judiciary

Article (30)

The juvenile judiciary shall be composed of a single judge hearing petty offenses and misdemeanors in the relevant cases under Section III of this Law, and of the first instance chamber at the court of first instance in hearing felonies.

Article (31)

Prosecution of juveniles and investigation into crimes in which they are being prosecuted shall take place in accordance with the rules provided under the Code of Criminal Procedure, and their trials shall take place in accordance with the rules followed before the Criminal Court of First Instance whatever the type of crime, without prejudice to the exceptions set out in this law.

Article (32)

Territorial jurisdiction of judicial authorities in juvenile cases shall be determined as follows:

1. Place and location of the crime.
2. The juvenile's place of residence or dwelling, their family's dwelling, or the place where they were arrested.
3. Location of the reformatory, correctional facility, or institution in which they were placed or the person into whose care they were entrusted.

Article (33)

If a juvenile is a participant with non-juveniles in a crime or related crimes, the juvenile shall be subject with the adults to prosecution, investigation, and trial procedures before the ordinary authority. This authority shall, with regard to the juvenile, apply the procedural guarantees provided under this Law, including the confidentiality of trial procedures when questioning the juvenile.

The role of the ordinary court here shall be limited to determining attribution of the crime to the juvenile, their responsibility, and the legal description and civil liabilities. The juvenile shall be returned to the juvenile court after the ordinary court establishes its ruling against the juvenile to hear the juvenile and impose measures and penalties as required under this Law.

Rulings issued on juvenile cases by the ordinary court shall be subject to the same types of review provided under the Code of Criminal Procedure. Judgments issued by the juvenile court on measures and penalties in accordance with this Article shall be subject to the types of review provided under this Law.

Article (34)

When a juvenile appears for investigation before the public prosecutor's office or the judicial police in a crime apprehended in *flagrante delicto*, the person responsible for the investigation must immediately inform the juvenile's family, guardians, or responsible persons, if feasible, and immediately contact and call the authorized social worker to attend the investigation. This worker must appear within six hours of the call. The investigation may not commence unless the worker is present, under penalty of prosecution for unprofessional conduct. If for any reason the worker is unable to attend, the public prosecutor's office or the Department for Minors at the Ministry of Justice shall appoint a social worker from one of the associations listed with this department to appear with the juvenile during the investigation. The attendance of the social worker is not sufficient; the social worker must initiate a community study and submit the results to the person investigating the juvenile.

Article (35)

When starting the investigation with the juvenile, the investigating magistrate may follow the procedures set out in the preceding article. The judge may, depending upon the circumstances and the needs and soundness of the investigation, and in order to preserve the evidence and prevent a possible escape, hold a juvenile who is at least twelve years of age at the locations designated for holding juveniles, in crimes punishable by at least one year of imprisonment. The judge may also place the juvenile in an observation home in accordance with the provisions of Article 41 of this Law.

The investigating magistrate may release the juvenile if they have a fixed place of residence or entrust them to the care of a person with a place of residence who undertakes to present the juvenile to the judicial authorities whenever requested, after informing both of the contents of Article 36 of this Law. The judge may decide to release the juvenile while temporarily barring them from travel for the period the judge deems appropriate. The decision barring travel shall legally be cancelled if a final decision is issued to bar the trial or by a decision issued by a judge to whom the case was transferred.

Juveniles who are not yet twelve years of age may not be held unless they are found in the situation in item 3 of Article 25, and such individuals shall be held in a specialized social institution.

The fixed place of residence mentioned in this Article must be within the jurisdiction of the competent juvenile court. The juvenile's presence shall be established, as required, by a report prepared by security officers.

Article (36)

The juvenile shall be notified of the date of the trial and the rulings issued against them through their guardian or the person legally responsible for them. If this is not possible, the juvenile shall be notified directly, or a special custodian shall be appointed by the court for the purposes of the trial and related procedures when there are rights of review open before the juvenile through notification that requires the relevant legal capacity in order to be exercised. If it is not possible to notify the minor and their guardian or custodian, the rules on serving notices provided under the Code of Criminal Procedure shall apply.

Article (37)

If the juvenile is placed in the care of one of the persons under a bond and the latter does not bring the juvenile on the specified date, despite having been notified thereof, they shall be fined between LBP 500,000 and LBP 1,000,000. They shall not be exempted from the fine unless they present a legitimate excuse.

The decision issued by the court in this matter is not subject to any form of review. If the juvenile fails to appear, the court may issue an in absentia arrest warrant for the juvenile.

Article (38)

A personal right case shall be filed before the juvenile court following the general case in accordance with the rules provided under the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Article (39)

If the personal claimant is notified of the date of the trial and fails to appear without a legitimate excuse, the trial against them shall proceed in absentia. Juveniles are not entitled to challenge a ruling issued against them *in absentia* except with regard to personal compensation. However their absence shall not prevent a ruling in their favor for the necessary personal compensation if their claim was made in their pleading. If the claimant attends the trial, then is absent without an acceptable excuse, they shall be tried as if present.

Article (40)

Juvenile trials shall be conducted confidentially and only attended by the juvenile, their parents, guardian or person in whose care they were placed, personal claimant, witnesses, the authorized social worker, lawyers, and any person the court authorizes to attend. The court shall issue its ruling in a public session. The prosecution and investigation procedures shall be kept confidential.

Article (41)

If the juvenile does not have a social file from prior procedures, the juvenile court shall, prior to issuing the ruling, request that a social investigation be performed by the authorized social worker or a person tasked by the court for such with workers in the social field. The investigation shall include the necessary information about the juvenile's material and social situation, and their social, school, and professional surroundings, and about their ethics, level of intelligence, health and mental condition, and prior criminal record, with the measure appropriate for their reform. This shall be based on the conditions when the crime was committed and when the trial procedures take place.

The court may, as required, order a medical examination, whether physical, psychological, or mental.

The court may place the juvenile in an observation facility for a period of three months at most prior to issuance of the ruling if the social investigation or examination require such measure. This period can not be extended except by a reasoned decision.

Article (42)

The presence of a lawyer alongside the juvenile is compulsory in criminal and other trials. If the juvenile's family or those concerned with their affairs do not attempt to secure a lawyer where required, the court may assign a lawyer or request such from the lawyer's syndicate.

Article (43)

The court must hear the juvenile individually, and may exempt them from attending the trial or from certain procedures thereof, legally, if it deems such to be required by their interests and in that case it is sufficient for their guardian, custodian, or representative to attend and the juvenile shall be deemed to be present for the trial. Following the trial procedures against the juvenile individually shall not be prevented if their interests require urgently adopting the appropriate measure; the trial in this case shall be deemed to be conducted with the juvenile present if the juvenile's guardian, custodian, or representative are absent from the trial after being duly invited thereto.

Article (44)

Without prejudice to Article 33 of this Law, juvenile judges shall issue their rulings in the last degree with regard to public right cases. These rulings shall remain subject to appeal by retrial in accordance with the rules provided in the Code of Criminal Procedure. Rulings issued on felonies shall be subject to review before the Court of Cassation in the conditions provided under the ordinary law. Rulings on civil liabilities may be appealed before the Court of Appeals by the deadline in accordance with the rules on appeals provided for such cases in the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Article (45)

A convicted juvenile may, through their guardian or the person responsible therefor, challenge *in absentia* rulings issued against them by the deadline in accordance with the ordinary rules provided in the Code of Criminal Procedure, excluding felony cases.

In these last cases, an *in absentia* ruling shall be considered as though it had never been made as of the date the juvenile turns themselves in to the authorities or is arrested, and their trial takes place again. If the juvenile is absent again, without a legitimate excuse, their trial shall be deemed to be conducted with them present.

Article (46)

The criminal rules mentioned previously in this Section IV, and that presume a crime has occurred that was committed by the juvenile, are not binding if the juvenile judiciary takes action in the situations set out in Section III to protect the juvenile from risks. In these situations the judge, public prosecutor or individual judge, as required, may follow the procedures they believe necessary to become familiar with the circumstances and reality of the risks by hearing anyone they find necessary, such as the juvenile, their family, and others, or to utilize the assistance of the persons and institutions that can shed light on these circumstances and the right measures possible to adopt, assist in enforcing these measures, and insure the desired objective, however, the final report on the measure to be adopted remains one of the powers of the individual judge.

The judge's decisions under Section III are not subject to any form of review. However, the measure prescribed is subject to review at any time as required, at the initiative of the judge or based on the review of the rights holder in question.

Article (47)

If several criminal rulings are issued against them, a juvenile may request joinder of the penalties or measures ordered, in accordance with the Penal Code. The request shall be submitted to the court that issued the last ruling.

Article (48)

Publication of a picture of the juvenile and publication of the facts of the investigation and trial or summary thereof in books, newspapers, movies, and any other media is prohibited. The final ruling may be published, provided that only the first letters of the defendant's name, nickname, and surname are mentioned. Each violation of these provisions make the violator subject to a penalty of imprisonment from three months to a year and a fine of LBP 1,000,000 to LBP 5,000,000 or to one of these penalties.

Article (49)

The juvenile court shall enforce the rulings that are issued through their department and task the authorized social worker to supervise the juvenile at the facility or institution in which they are to be placed under the ruling, unless this is not possible or if the juvenile has become an adult, in which case members of the Internal Security Forces shall be tasked with such.

Article (50)

Rulings issued against the juvenile that include a penalty shall be filed in the criminal registry and only Statement No. 2 and 3 of this record shall appear.

The measures adopted against the juvenile shall not be recorded in the criminal registry.

Section V: Closing and Transitional Provisions

Article (51)

A disciplinary institute shall be established pursuant to this Law and its organization and duties shall be set out under a decree adopted by the Council of Ministers based on a proposal from the Minister of Justice. Any institutes or institutions required by the implementation of this Law shall also be established and organized in the same way.

Article (52)

The Department for Minors at the Ministry of Justice shall manage the work on all affairs of the juveniles concerned under this Law, establish and oversee appropriate preventative and rehabilitative plans and coordinate with any other concerned ministries and with the public sector authorized by this Department in accordance with the approved standards, all pursuant to regulatory decrees adopted by the Council of Ministers based on a proposal by the Minister of Justice.

After issuance of the regulatory decrees and in accordance therewith, the Ministry of Justice shall, under a decision issued thereby, specify the associations authorized by the Department for Minors.

Article (53)

Until said Department completes its organization, the Union for the Protection of Juveniles in Lebanon shall continue to perform the duties entrusted thereto according to previous laws and those required by the provisions of the present law, without such preventing the Ministry of Justice from making direct agreements with other specialized institutions or associations to perform some of the aforementioned tasks in accordance with the general standards set out under decrees issued based on a proposal from the Minister of Justice.

Article (54)

Legislative Decree No. 119 of 16 September 1983 and amendments thereto shall be repealed and any other texts that contradict the provisions of this Law or do not accord with its content shall be repealed.

Article (55)

This Law shall come into effect upon its publication in the Official Gazette.

***On 3/7/2004, Decree No. 12832 on the definition of the general standards and conditions for assigning to associations certain tasks provided under Article 53 of Law No. 422 of 6/6/2002 was issued.**

This decree was published in the Official Gazette Vol. 39 of 15/7/2004.