Draft Amendment to paragraph (1) of Article (50) of THE CODE OF LAW PRACTICE issued by Royal Decree No. (M/38) dated 28/7/1422 AH

11/1445 AH – 05/2024 AD

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First: Overview

The Royal Decree No. (M/66) dated 15/7/1443H approved amendments to The Code of Law Practice issued by Royal Decree No. (M/38) dated 28/7/1422H, which included the addition of a fifth chapter to regulate the licensing of foreign law firms to practice law in the Kingdom; in order to regulate the practice of foreign law firms in the Kingdom and determine their responsibilities, in a way that achieves the national interest and objectives. Then the Royal Decree No. (M/52) dated 14/4/1445 approved amendment to Article (51) of the Code of Law Practice to allow the branch of a foreign law firm to provide legal consultations in the Saudi Law through registered lawyers.

Furthermore, to enhance the Law's competitiveness, and achieve the objectives of licensing foreign law firms to practice the legal profession in the Kingdom, there has been a need to amend some provisions of the law to allow a foreign law firm to establish a professional company wholly owned by non-Saudis.

Second: Objective of the draft

The draft contributes to achieving the following policies and objectives:

1. Developing the legal profession, improving the quality of practice and the efficiency of practitioners, and localizing global expertise.
2. Enhancing the Kingdom's competitiveness and improving its business environment.
3. Improving the efficiency of the justice system by enhancing the quality of legal services.
4. Achieving the Kingdom's objectives in incentivizing foreign investments and relocate regional headquarters within the Kingdom.
5. Creating high-quality job opportunities for citizens of the Kingdom, both directly and indirectly.

Third: Public consultation target groups

- Lawyers and foreign law firms.
- Specialists from practitioners and academics.
- The private sector and business owners.
- Public.

Fourth: Duration of public consultation

30 days from the date of publication.

For inquiries and suggestions regarding this project, you can contact us via email:

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Fifth: The amendment draft

Article proposed to be amended	Amendment	Explanation of amendment
Article: Fifty "With the exception of the foreign law firm holding the temporary license referred to in Article (46) of this Law, the licensed foreign law firm must take one of the following forms before practicing law profession in the Kingdom: 1- Establishing a professional company with a Saudi lawyer (or more) registered in the list of practicing lawyers, in accordance with the professional companies Law and in accordance with the conditions specified by the implementing regulations of this Law. 2- Opening a branch (or more) in the Kingdom in accordance with the provisions specified by the Implementing Regulations of this Law."	**Article: Fifty** "With the exception of the foreign law firm holding the temporary license referred to in Article (46) of this Law, the licensed foreign law firm must take one of the following forms before practicing law profession in the Kingdom: 1. Establishing a professional company in accordance with the relevant statutory provisions, and in accordance with the controls specified by the implementing regulations of this Law. 2- Opening a branch (or more) in the Kingdom in accordance with the provisions specified by the Implementing Regulations of this Law."	The proposed amendment aims to allow a licensed foreign law firm to establish a professional company wholly owned by non-Saudis, and it will be permitted to provide legal consultations in the Saudi Law and plead before the courts in accordance with the controls specified by the regulations, including providing consultations in the Saudi Laws and pleading before the courts through registered lawyers.

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