

Ministerial Decree No. 229 of 2019
Concerning the Issuance of the Falcon's Document

Minister of Climate Change and Environment

Pursuant to the Federal Law No. (1) of 1972 regarding ministries competencies, ministers' powers and laws amending thereto,

and the Federal Law No. 6 of 1979 concerning Veterinary Quarantine and its amendments,

and the Federal Law No. 24 of 1999 on the Protection and Development of the Environment, its amendments and Executive Regulations,

and the Federal Law No. 11 of 2002 on Regulating and Controlling International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and its Executive Regulations,

and the Federal Law No. 16 of 2007 on Animal Welfare State, its amendments and executive regulations,

and the Federal Law No. 8 of 2013 on the Prevention and Control of Contagious and Epidemic

Animal Diseases,

and in line with the Ministry's keenness to organize the issuance of the falcon's document and its cross-border passage and to support international efforts to implement the conventions on the international trade in endangered species,

and based on the requirements of the public interest,

It was decided:

Article 1

Definitions

In implementation of the provisions of this decree, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings assigned thereto unless the context requires otherwise:

State: The United Arab Emirates.

Ministry: The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment.

Minister: The Minister of Climate Change and Environment.

CITES Convention: The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, which the State has acceded.

Scientific Authority of the Convention: The Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi.

Competent Department: The Biodiversity Department at the Ministry.

CITES certification: An official document used to obtain permits to import, export, re-export or import by sea of any specimen of the species listed on the CITES appendices.

Falcon Document: The falcon's ownership document used to transfer the falcon between the countries which accept the use of the document without the need for CITES certificates.

Falcon Owner: The person whose details are registered in the falcon's Document.

Falcon Holder: The person assigned by the falcon owner to carry, look after and care for the falcon and to clear the transport and transit procedures.

Personal Belongings: All belongings that do not have commercial aspects in any way.

Falcons of Unknown Origin: Falcons whose production or reproduction origins are not known or are not accompanied by the documents mentioned in Article 2 of this decree.

Electronic Chip: A small electronic chip that is installed under the skin to identify the falcons with numbers and symbols.

Identification Ring: A metal piece in a ring shape that is placed on a falcon's leg and contains numbers and letters to identify the falcon.

Article 2

Issuing the falcon's document

The Ministry shall issue the falcon's document according to the following requirements:

1. The falcon's owner must be a citizen of the state or a resident holding a valid state ID.
2. The falcon's owner must have obtained the falcon in a legal manner and is registered in the Ministry's electronic system.
3. The falcon must be identified by an identification ring, and the falcon's owner may have an electronic identification chip put in place according to his/her wishes without breaching the conditions of the identification ring.
4. The falcon must be brought to the customer service centres or to one of the establishments accredited by the ministry in order to ensure that the data is compatible with the falcon.

Article 3

Registering falcons of unknown origins

1. To register falcons of unknown origins, a request must be submitted to the competent department enclosed by the following documents:

- A. An official document or letter showing that the falcon has been obtained in a manner that does not violate the State laws or the international obligations.
- B. A medical report containing the descriptive details of the falcon and the test results from a Ministry accredited laboratory stating that the falcon is free from any epidemic and infectious diseases.

2. If the competent department approves the request, the falcon owner must register the falcon in the electronic system of the Ministry.

3- The falcon must be brought to a customer service centre or to one of the establishments accredited by the ministry in order to ensure that the data is compatible with the falcon.

Article 4

Registration of falcons bred in private farms and houses

1- To register falcons bred in private farms and houses, an application must be submitted to the competent department, enclosed by documents or photocopies of CITES certificates, or a copy of the parent falcon document proving that the falcon owner has obtained it legally and does not violate the State's legislations or international obligations.

2 - Registration of falcons bred in private farms and houses requires:

- Falcon owners must notify the competent department about the laid falcon eggs well before hatching, and the ministry will deliver the identification ring within five days of hatching.
- Falcons to be registered must be for personal purposes.
- Three pairs of falcon per person are allowed to be registered during the year.
- The Ministry and the Scientific Authority or whoever is authorized to do so may verify the existence of falcons eggs according to the methods used by them, keeping that the methods are not contrary to the legislation in force.

3. If the competent department approves the request, the falcon owner must register the falcon in the Ministry's electronic system.

Article 5

Validity of the falcon's document

The validity of the falcon's document is three years from the date of issue and shall be renewed for similar periods at the request of the owner or his appointee. The falcon must be brought to the customer service centres or to one of the establishments accredited by the ministry.

Article 6

Transfer of the falcon's document

The ownership of the falcon may be transferred from one owner to another according to the following requirements:

1. The transferred falcon must be registered in the Ministry's electronic system.
2. The new owner must have an account in the Ministry's electronic system.
3. The current owner must transfer ownership of the falcon from his account to the new owner's account electronically.
4. The falcon must be brought to the customer service centres or to one of the establishments accredited by the ministry in order to ensure that the data is compatible with the falcon.
5. The competent employee shall review and approve the application after ensuring that the data is compatible with the falcon.
6. The original falcon's document must be submitted if it is still valid.

Article 7

Cancellation of the falcon's document

The falcon's document shall be cancelled in the following cases:

1. Death of the falcon, and the identification ring must be delivered to the ministry (if any).
2. Escape or loss of the falcon from the owner.
3. Transferring the falcon out of the State permanently for any purpose, and as a result of issuing an export or re-export CITES certificates.

The falcon owner must return the previous falcon document to the ministry if it still valid.

Article 8

General provisions

1. The falcon's document is for personal purposes only.
2. If any amendments are done to the falcon's document, a new falcon's document shall be issued for a period of three years from the date of issue.

3. It is prohibited to use the falcon's document either inside or outside the State for other than the specified purposes.
4. The falcon owner or the falcon holder, authorized by the owner through either an authorization document, an official letter, a labour card or proof of work at the concerned party, may use the falcon documents across international borders of countries that accept the falcon documents.
5. The competent department at the ministry shall review and issue the list of countries accepting the falcon's document in coordination with the CITES Secretariat.
6. The owner of the falcon shall not change or remove the (identification ring) used by the ministry to identify the falcon, and the falcon owner must consult the ministry if this was necessary for health reasons or others.
7. The ministry may withdraw, amend or cancel any issued falcon's document, if proved that the falcon's document was issued on the basis of incorrect or misleading data from the applicant.
8. If an amendment or addition to the falcon's document is requested, a new falcon document will be issued.
9. For countries that do not accept the falcon's document, the falcon owner must issue CITES certificates for export or re-export to be used at the State's exit ports. The original falcon document must be kept to be used when entering the State's ports.
10. It is not allowed to release any kind of falcons in the State without obtaining an approval from the competent authority.
11. The ministry may conduct a DNA examination of the falcon as needed.

Article 9

All incoming and outgoing consignments shall be subject to applicable legislation, regulations and procedures enforced in the State regarding veterinarian quarantine, regulating and control of international trade in endangered animals and plants.

Article 10

This decree shall be effective from the date of its issuance and whoever is concerned shall do what is necessary for its implementation and it shall be published in the Official Gazette.

Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi
Minister of Climate Change and Environment

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Corresponding to 14/ Shawwal/1440 H