

Voluntary Service Law

Article 1

In this Law, the following terms and phrases shall have the meanings assigned thereto, unless the context requires otherwise:

1. **Voluntary Service:** Any effort or work voluntarily carried out by a natural or legal person to serve the community.
2. **Law:** Voluntary Service Law.
3. **Committee:** The National Committee for Voluntary Service.
4. **Volunteer:** A person who carries out voluntary service without requiring financial or moral compensation.
5. **Beneficiary:** Any public or private non-profit entity which benefits from voluntary service.
6. **Volunteer Team:** A group of individuals who, under a unified leadership, carry out voluntary service to achieve common and specific objectives in accordance with specific policies and procedures supervised by the beneficiary.

Article 2

This Law aims to:

1. regulate and develop voluntary service;
2. promote voluntary service in the community;
3. regulate the relationship between the parties to voluntary service, and determine their rights and duties;
4. promote patriotism, humanitarian work, and social responsibility in the community; and
5. develop the capabilities of volunteers to serve national priorities.

Article 3

Under this Law, a committee named the National Committee for Voluntary Service shall be established. Said committee shall be chaired by the Minister of

Labor and Social Development and its members shall comprise a representative from:

1. the Ministry of Labor and Social Development;
2. the Ministry of Education;
3. the Ministry of Health;
4. the Ministry of Hajj and Umrah;
5. the Ministry of Media;
6. the Saudi Red Crescent Authority;
7. the General Directorate of Civil Defense;
8. the National Risk Unit;
9. the Saudi Arabian Scouts Association;
10. a civil voluntary association to be appointed by the Minister of Labor and Social Development; and
11. a person involved in voluntary service to be appointed by the Minister of Labor and Social Development.

The committee shall have a secretariat at the Ministry of Labor and Social Development. The Minister shall select the committee rapporteur and secretary from among Ministry employees.

Article 4

Committee membership term shall be four years, renewable once. The Committee Chairman shall select a deputy from among the representatives of government agencies in the Committee other than the representative of the Ministry of Labor and Social Development. The Committee may invite a non-member to attend its meetings in a non-voting capacity.

Article 5

The Committee shall meet at least twice a year upon a call by its Chairman.

Committee meetings shall be deemed valid if attended by more than half of its members, provided the Chairman or his deputy is among the attendees. Committee decisions shall be passed by majority vote of attending members; in case of a tie, the meeting's chairman shall have the casting vote. The Committee may hold extraordinary meetings if requested by the Chairman or by at least three of its members.

Article 6

The Committee shall, subject to this Law, coordinate between beneficiaries with regard to voluntary service, as well as:

1. develop voluntary service strategies;
2. set mechanisms for regulating and developing voluntary service;
3. supervise volunteer databases;
4. support the organization of conferences and seminars, and promote research and studies related to voluntary service and apply the findings thereof in coordination with relevant agencies;
5. highlight voluntary efforts in the Kingdom at the national, regional, and international levels;
6. prepare an annual report on voluntary service in the Kingdom; and
7. set rules for licensing and registering volunteer teams.

Article 7

The beneficiary shall, in accordance with the provisions of this Law, strive to facilitate voluntary service; in particular, it shall:

1. receive, review, and decide on voluntary service applications;
2. recruit volunteers from among its employees or others to participate in volunteer programs within or outside its premises, subject to relevant instructions;
3. create volunteer programs that serve its purposes;
4. train volunteers and enhance their skills in their field of specialty; and
5. follow up on the performance of volunteers, as well as guide and motivate

them.

Article 8

Volunteer teams may, upon registration and approval by the beneficiary, engage in voluntary service.

Article 9

The beneficiary shall maintain a register named "Register of Volunteers and Volunteer Teams", in which the names of volunteers, the number of volunteering hours, and the voluntary services they have performed with the beneficiary are entered.

Article 10

A volunteer shall, in accordance with the provisions of this Law and within the powers and resources of the beneficiary, be entitled to the following from the beneficiary:

1. Training required for volunteer service.
2. Devices, tools, and clothes required for voluntary service.
3. Meals, transportation, and accommodation if voluntary service is carried out outside his area of residence.
4. Treatment if he is injured during training or voluntary service or during his commute to and from voluntary service.
5. An identification card from the beneficiary.
6. A volunteering certificate issued by the beneficiary indicating the type and duration of voluntary service, number of service hours, and experience gained therefrom.

Article 11

A volunteer must:

1. adhere to the beneficiary's code of ethics;
2. carry out voluntary service with honesty and integrity and in accordance

- with relevant laws, regulations, and instructions;
3. comply with the beneficiary's regulations, instructions, and rules;
 4. return items handed over to him in the condition they were received;
 5. comply with the measures which ensure the safety and protection of volunteers during field work, in coordination with the beneficiary;
 6. refrain from disclosing any confidential information related to voluntary service even after service is completed; and
 7. refrain from disclosing any information to the media without obtaining permission from the beneficiary; the beneficiary may take any measure necessary to ensure compliance with the requirements and principles of voluntary service.

Article 12

1. If, due to voluntary service, a volunteer dies or sustains a disability that renders him permanently unable to work, the beneficiary shall compensate him or his heirs in accordance with the Labor Law.
2. If, due to voluntary service, a volunteer sustains a partial or permanent disability that does not affect his ability to work, he shall be compensated according to the degree of the disability in accordance with the Labor Law. The degree of disability shall be determined by the competent medical commission.

Article 13

The beneficiary may honor volunteers annually at national or international events. The beneficiary may grant volunteers non-monetary incentives.

Article 14

1. The beneficiary may terminate a volunteer's service according to its rules and conditions. An employer may rescind his approval for an employee's leave if the employee's voluntary service interferes with official working hours, upon coordination with the beneficiary in writing.
2. A volunteer may terminate his voluntary service, provided the beneficiary

is notified in a timely manner and the voluntary service is not adversely affected.

Article 15

For-profit private entities may not recruit volunteers.

Article 16

The beneficiary must review volunteer complaints and take any necessary action.

Article 17

Each government agency shall issue decisions relating to its implementation of this Law.

Article 18

This Law shall enter into force 90 days following the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.