

Decree-Law No. 13 of 2003 Amending Certain Provisions of Law No. 8 of 1983 Concerning Compounding of Crimes Relating to Entry and Residence by Foreigners in Qatar 13 / 2003

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We, Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar,

Having perused the Amended Provisional Constitution, in particular Articles 23, 27 and 34 thereof;
Law No. 3 of 1963 concerning the regulation of entry and residence of foreigners in Qatar, and its amendments;
Law No. 8 of 1983 concerning compounding of crimes relating to entry and residence by foreigners in Qatar;
Decree-Law No. 20 of 1998 determining the categories and rules for fees and penalties imposed by the Ministry of Interior and the fines payable for offences committed by expatriates in connection with their entry to and residence in the State of Qatar and for which compounding can be conducted;
The proposal of the Minister of Interior; and
The draft Law submitted by the Council of Ministers;
Hereby promulgate the following:

Articles

Article 1

The expression "Competent Department" shall be replaced with the expression "Directorate of Immigration, Passports and Nationality" wherever mentioned in Law No. 8 of 1983 referred to above.

Article 2

The texts of Articles 4 and 5 of Law No. 8 of 1983 referred to above shall be replaced with the following texts:

"Article 4

1. Where a foreign defendant refuses compounding, or refuses to implement such compounding within the prescribed period, or is unable to pay the fine imposed for compounding, or the compounding has not been approved by the Competent Department within the prescribed period, the defendant shall be summoned to the competent court and the claim shall be settled.
2. The Minister of Interior may, in the cases stipulated in the previous paragraph, rather than summoning the defendant to court, order the cancellation of the foreign defendant's residence and his deportation from the State.

Article 5

1. Any person charged with one of the crimes stated in Law No. 3 of 1963, referred to above, shall not leave the State unless such person has paid the fine imposed for compounding, or has been acquitted in a final judgment, or has served the sentence imposed on him, as the case may be.
2. The Minister of Interior or his delegate may, where the defendant's circumstances so require, permit the defendant to leave the State after the defendant has either deposited with the treasury of the Competent Department an amount equal to the fine specified for him for compounding as a guarantee against any verdict which may be issued against him, or he has presented a sponsor to guarantee his bail."

Article 3

All competent authorities, each within its own jurisdiction, shall enforce this Law from the date of its publication in the *Official Gazette*.

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