

**Law No (25) of the Year 2005 on  
Combat of Covering up Illegal Practices  
Carried out by Non-Qataris**

We, Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani, Deputy Emir of the State of Qatar,

Having examined the amended interim provisional consultation particularly, Articles (22), (23), (51) hereof, and

Law No (11) of the year 1962 establishing system of Commercial Register and laws amending it, and

Law Decree No : (22) of the year 1993 of organization of Ministry of Finance and Economy and determinations of its mandates, and Law No (14) of the year 1995 establishing Doha Securities Market, amended by Law Decree No (26) of the year 2002, and

Law No (13) of the year 2000 on regulating Foreign Capital Investment in Economic Activities and,

Commercial Companies Law issued under Law No (5) of the year 2002, and

Law No (8) of the year 2002 on regulating the business of Commercial Agents, and

Law No (9) of the year 2002 on trademarks, commercial data and titles, geographic indicators and the industrial fees, and models, and

The Emiri Order No : (1) of the year 2002 or reshuffling the Cabinet of Ministers and proposal submitted by Minister of Economy & Commerce, and

The Draft Resolution submitted by The Cabinet, and

Having consulted the Advisory Council,

## **Have decided the following law :**

### Article (1)

Non-Qatari nationals shall not practice any commercial, economic or vocational business except in sectors where they are permitted to do so in accordance with applicable laws.

### Article (2)

No natural person or body corporate shall be allowed to cover up non-Qatari national through enabling him, by whatsoever means, to practice any commercial, economic or vocational business in volitional business in violation of applicable laws whether such assistance be through using conniver's name license commercial registration or otherwise and whatever the business is being done for the account of the harboured person or for the account of the conniver or enagement the third party

### Article (3)

There shall be formed in the Ministry of Economy & Commerce a committee named "anti Cover up Committee" and carried by Director of Commercial Affairs at the Ministry and member representatives from :

- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Finance

Each party shall nominate its representative in the committee Chairman and members shall approved by a decision made by the Minister. The committee shall have a secretary whose designation and duties shall be determined by a decision issued by the Minister.

### Article (4)

The committee is authorized to receive reports on the violation of provisions of this law, inspect and verify such reports and then, refer them to the Public Prosecution to do the needful in respect to violation.

#### Article (5)

The Chairman, and the two members of the Committee as well as the employees of the Ministry of Economy & Commerce, designated by virtue of prosecutors decisions in association with the Minister, shall have the capacity of judiciary police in seizing and proving crime committed in violation of provisions of this law. To achieve their mission, said parties shall have access to places, shops and institutions where violators practices his business.

#### Article (6)

Without prejudice to any other server penalty stipulated by any other law, violators of Articles (1), (2) hereof, shall be subject to an imprisonment not exceeding one year and a fine not less than Qr. 20,000 and not exceeding Qr. 500,000/- or one on these two penalties.

In all cases, the court shall pass the verdict confiscating money used in or generated from the crime taking into consideration rights of parties of good will.

In addition, the court may pass a verdict canceling the license, annulling registration in the commercial register, closing the shop, or to hold conniver's business for a period not exceeding one year.

#### Article (7)

The harbouring and the harboured parties shall jointly pay all fees, taxes and any other liabilities arising from parties of illegal business.

#### Article (8)

Ministry of Economy & Commerce shall issue decision necessary for implementation of provisions of this law.

Article (9)

All competent authorities, each within its own competence shall execute this law which shall be published in the official gazette.

**Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani**  
**Deputy Emir of the State of Qatar**

Issued at Emiri Diwan on 25/05/1425 A.H.  
Corresponding to : 13/07/2004 A.D.