FEDERAL LAW NO. 4
Issued on 10/6/1974
Corresponding to 20 Jamadi El Awwal 1394 H.

ON STATE SECURITY

We, Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates State,
Pursuant to the perusal of the provisional Constitution; and
Federal Law no. 1 of 1972 on the Jurisdiction of Ministries and the Powers of the Ministers,
and its amending laws; and
Acting upon what was submitted by the Minister of Interior and the approval of the Cabinet
and the Federal National Council and the ratification of the Federal Supreme Council;
Have promulgated the following Law:

TITLE ONE
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1
In implementation of the provisions of this Law, the following words and expressions shall have the meaning stated opposite to each, unless the context otherwise require.

a - The State: The United Arab Emirates State.
b - Head of the State Security Organism: The Minister of Interior as well as the Minister of State for Interior Affairs.
c - The Organism: The State security organism.
d - The Director: The Director of the State security organism.
e - Organism Affiliates: Officers and the other grades.
f - Officers: whoever is titular of at least the grade of lieutenant as well as the candidate thereto.
g - Other Grades: Affiliates who are below the grade of officer.

Article 2
A regular force shall be instituted under the name of State Security Organism, answerable to the Ministry of Interior under the authority of the Minister and shall be armed in a manner consistent with the nature of its work.

Article 3
The Organism shall be composed of:
a - The Central Administration.

b - Branches to be established in the State member Emirates.

**Article 4**

The administration of the Organism shall be entrusted to a Director from among the State citizens, appointed by Decree upon nomination by the Head of the State Security Organism and the approval of the Cabinet. The Director of the State Security Organism shall be directly attached to the Head of the Organism and under his authority.

**Article 5**

The administration of the branches stated in paragraph (b) of Article 3 of this Law shall be entrusted to officers immediately attached to the Head of the State Security Organism and under his authority.

**Article 6**

The Head of the State Security Organism may delegate some of his authorities, specified in this Law, to the Deputy Minister by virtue of a decision to be issued by him in this respect on condition that it be for a limited period.

**Article 7**

Shall be allocated in the budget of the Ministry of Interior the necessary amounts to satisfy the work requirements of the State Security Organism commensurate with the secrecy with which this work is carried out.

The Director of the State Security Organism, through the directives of the Head of the State Security Organism or his deputy, shall keep special records to ensure the proper payment of these funds in order to achieve the objectives for which they were allocated for.

**TITLE TWO**

**JURISDICTION OF THE STATE SECURITY ORGANISM**

**Article 8**

The Organism shall protect the State security within the provisions of this Law and the other concerned laws and shall as well act in coordination with the local Security Organisms in the Emirates, member of the Union, within the framework of the Regulations issued by the Ministry of Interior after consulting the competent bodies in these Emirates.

**Article 9**

The State Security Organism shall exercise the functions and take the measures allowed to him by law that are necessary to protect the State security and safety. It shall also collect and evaluate the information in matters related to its activity, namely in the following domains:
1 - Any political activity of an organization, a party, an association or individual aiming at transgressing the State safety, its system of governance or undertaking subversive acts, destructive publicity or assassination attempts in the State.

2 - Any activity aiming at endangering the safety of the national unity.

3 - Draw up the necessary plans to combat espionage.

4 - Any activity that is detrimental to the State economy.

5 - Any action that may weaken the State position and provoke hostility against it or shake confidence in it.

6 - Whatever may be entrusted to the State Security Organism by any other law.

The Head of the State Security Organism has to charge the State Security Organism with the exercise of any other duties or functions provided that these functions and duties are related to State security.

Article 10

The State Security Organism, through its competent services, shall observe the existing social phenomena in the State, evaluate them and state their sources and the extent to which it may affect the State security and policy and shall submit its report in this respect to the competent authorities.

Article 11

The State Security Organism shall take all precautionary measures to protect each of:

a - The State President, vice-president and members of the Federal Supreme Council.

b - The Prime Minister, the ministers and those in their position.

c - Important State visitors, guests and incoming envoys.

d - Members of diplomatic and consular missions as well as missions of international and regional organizations operating in the State.

Article 12

The Head of the State Security Organism shall issue whatever instructions he deems necessary to implement the assignments of the State Security Organism in a manner ensuring the protection of the State security and safety. All concerned bodies and institutions shall abide by these instructions.

TITLE THREE

AFFILIATES COMPETENCES

Article 13
The Director shall be in charge of the administration of the State Security Organism and shall be responsible of the good performance of its affiliates and the fulfillment of the duties assigned to them, within the limits of their competences.

**Article 14**

The Director of the State Security Organism shall specify, within the policy set for the Organism, the competences and duties of its affiliates in a manner consistent with the provisions of this Law and the Regulations issued thereunder.

**Article 15**

The Director of the State Security Organism shall provide all State organizations with advice concerning taking necessary security measures whenever the matter so requires.

**Article 16**

Branch managers referred to in Article 5 of this Law are directly answerable to the Director of the State Security Organism as to the good administration of their branches and the performance of their subordinates and the accomplishment of what they have been asked to complete.

**Article 17**

With due regard to the restrictions and conditions set forth in the following Article, the affiliates to the Organism, in the exercise of the duties assigned to them, shall have the following competences:

a - Verify the identity.

b - Search persons.

c - Enter and search dwellings and public places.

d - Detention and arrest.

**Article 18**

The officers of the State Security Organism, with the permission of the Head of the State Security Organism, or the person delegated by him, shall have the right to verify the identity of any person, search or detain him under investigation should these officers have reasonable grounds to believe that the said person has participated in any of the activities stated in Article 9.

The period of detention, mentioned in the above paragraph must not exceed seventy two hours except by written authorization of the public prosecution.

**Article 19**

The Director of the State Security Organism, upon permission granted by the Head of the State Security Organism, has the power to arrest any person if he has reasonable grounds to believe
that such person participated in any of the activities stated in Article 9, and he has to inform the
Head of the State Security Organism of this matter.

The period of arrest must not exceed fifteen days.

TITLE FOUR

CLOSING PROVISIONS

Article 24
The security forces in the member Emirates, the government employees and any related person
have to extend the necessary assistance to the State Security Organism whenever need arises or
whenever they are so required.

Article 25
All affiliates to the Organism shall, as of the effective date of this Law, be confirmed in his
actual rank and actual period of service shall be considered as an extension of his past service.

Article 26
All decrees and instructions issued prior to the effective date of this Law, which are applied in
the State Security Organism, shall remain in effect until repealed or amended and those
violating the provisions of this Law shall be annulled.

Article 27
Without prejudice to any severer penalty provided for in any other law, any of the affiliates to
the Organism who discloses the secrecy of any work assigned to him, shall be penalized by
incarceration for a maximum period of five years and/or a fine not exceeding five thousand
Dirhams. The above shall not prevent taking adequate disciplinary measures against the
infringer.

Article 28
The affiliates to the Organism shall be subjected to the Law on Police and Security in all matters
not specifically provided for in this Law and the Regulations issued thereunder.

Article 29
The Ministry of Interior shall issue the necessary Regulations in implementation of this Law.

Article 30
This Law shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall come into effect as of the date of its
publication.

Promulgated at the Presidential Palace
On 20 Jamadi El Awwal 1394 H.
Corresponding to 10 June 1974
Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan

President of the United Arab Emirate State

This Federal Law has been published in the Official Gazette, issue no. 19, p. 20.