

## The Mass Media Law of Afghanistan, 2006

### Activities of Foreign Media Organizations

#### Article Eight:

- (1) Afghan nationals are entitled to establish mass media referred to in Article 3 according to provisions of this law.
- (2) Foreign diplomatic missions in Afghanistan can print and distribute their news bulletins according to diplomatic norms.
- (3) Branch offices of international or intergovernmental organizations can run periodical or non-periodical publications dealing with their fields of activities with the agreement of the Ministry of Youth and Culture.
- (4) Foreign NGOs established in accordance with law can run periodical and non-periodical publications within their professional fields after receiving permission from the Ministry of Youth and Culture .The publications are to be edited by Afghan Nationals.

## **Chapter Nine**

### **Miscellaneous provisions**

#### Foreign

#### Article Thirty-Sven:

Foreign nationals can make cinematographic films in Afghanistan provided that they get prior permission from the Ministry of Youth and Culture.

#### Information about Changes in Constitution

#### Article Thirty-Eight:

- (1) Those responsible for mass media publishing firms, organizations for training journalists, translation bureaus, printing houses, and publicity and advertising agencies are obliged to inform the Ministry of Youth and Culture about all kinds of changes in their type of activity , address and other characteristics referred to in this law or enshrined in their own constitutions.
- (2) Those responsible for mass media publishing firms organizations for training journalists, translation bureaus, printing houses , and publicity and advertising agencies are obliged to inform the Ministry of Youth and Culture at the beginning of each year about the continuation or discontinuation of their activities for recording purposes of the ministry .

#### Obligations of Representatives of Foreign News Agencies and Media

#### Article Thirty-Nine:

- (1) Representatives of foreign news agencies and mass media intending to operate inside Afghanistan are obliged to get work permits the Media Relations Department Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of

Afghanistan and inform in writing the Ministry of Youth and Culture about the names of the related countries in question, kind of activities, duration thereof and the venue of operations.

- (2) News agencies and mass media referred to in paragraph (1) of this article are obliged to observe the provisions of article 31.

#### Registration of Book, Pamphlet and Publisher

##### Article Forty:

Books or pamphlets after being published by the publisher are to be registered with the Ministry of Youth and Culture and their proprietors are obliged to send two copies each from the books and pamphlets to the Ministry of Youth and Culture and to the Public Library.

#### Paying Tax

##### Article Forty-One:

The revenues of mass media are taxable according to tax laws.

#### Article Thirty-One:

- (1) In order to better organize the affairs of the Bakhtar Information agency, a three-person commission will be created for 4 years composed of one lawyer, one professional engineer and one journalist.
- (2) The commission referred to in paragraph (1) of this article will have the following powers:
1. Proposing the appointment or dismissal of the general director of the Bakhtar Information Agency (BIA) to the president of the Republic.
  2. Confirming those responsible for department of the BIA proposed by its general director.
  3. Preserving the independence, impartiality and professional status of the agency.
  4. Supervising the financial, administrative and dissemination affairs of the agency.
  5. Preparing the budget proposal.
  6. Approving the editorial objectives of the agency.
  7. Submitting the annual report on activities of BIA to the Media High Council.
  8. Discussing with the government, civil organizations and donors to attract assistance.
  9. Supervising implementation of the dissemination policy of the agency determined by the Media High Council.
- (3) Members of the BIA Commission are entitled to appropriate salaries paid from the budget of the Ministry of Youth and Culture.