

Law No 223 of 1989

Amending Certain Provisions of Law No (13) of 1979 regarding the Establishment of Egyptian Radio and Television Union

In the name of the People and the President of the Republic;

The People's Assembly shall hereby decree the following Law,

Article One

The legal texts of Articles (1), (4), (8), (10), (12), (28) of Law No (13) of 1979 regarding the Establishment of the Egyptian Radio and Television Union shall hereby be replaced by the following provisions:

Article (1): A public organization shall hereby be established under the name of the 'Radio and Television Union' (RTU). The RTU shall maintain a legal status, and shall be based in Cairo. The Radio and Television Union shall solely take responsibility for all the functions associated with the audio-visual media and broadcasting services. In addition, the Radio and Television Union shall be the sole authority to establish and possess audio and visual broadcasting stations in the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The organization shall be solely responsible for providing oversight and control on the audio and visual materials transmitted and broadcast by the apparatuses thereof, and shall exercise control and censorship on the products developed by the RTU-owned companies. The Radio and Television Union shall create the guidelines and rules required to regulate and standardize the control and censorship process.

Article (4): The Minister of Information shall be mandated to exercise oversight on the performance of the Egyptian Radio and Television Union, and to monitor the goals and national services performed thereby, as well as other functions and tasks as stipulated under the present Law, in a manner that shall foster closer connections between such goals and services on one hand, and the sovereign policies and goals of social peace and national unity and the state-wide media and information plan, on the other hand.

The Egyptian Radio and Television Union shall establish a board of trustees (BoT); a board for managing directors; and, a general assembly (GA). The Radio and Television Union shall consist of specific functionality-based sectors, as follows:

The composition of the ERTU Board of Trustees shall be as follows: Presidency of Radio and Television Union; Broadcasting Engineering Sector; Production Sector; Financial and Economic Sector; and General Secretariat.

Additional sectors may be established and mandated, in response to the operational needs and requirements, by the virtue of a decree from the Board of Trustees.

Article (8): The Board of Trustees shall hold its regular sessions at least once every month. In addition, the Board of Trustees may convene extraordinary sessions, upon the call of the Minister of Information, or otherwise at the request of at least half the members of the

Board of Trustees or the managing directors. The Board meetings shall not be deemed legally valid unless the minimum quorum is secured. A meeting without a quorum shall be invalid, and the decisions taken therein shall be invalidated. The quorum shall be achieved by securing the attendance of at least half the members thereof. The decisions of the Board of Directors shall be made by a majority vote. The Chairperson of the Board of Trustees shall hold the tie-breaking or casting vote, if there shall be a vote tie.

The decisions reached by the Board of Trustees shall be communicated to the Minister of Information for review and approval, within thirty days, as of the date of the communication. Such decisions shall be deemed as valid and enforceable upon the lapse of the specified period.

In the event that the Minister of Information shall raise objections to the BoT decisions, whether in its entirety or in part, such objections shall be transmitted back to the Board of Trustees for review and re-consideration.

The Minister of Information may opt to attend the sessions and meetings convened by the Board of Trustees, and shall chair these meetings under such circumstances. The Board of Trustees shall lay out the internal statutes or bylaws regarding the regulation of the functions, operations, and meetings thereof, as well as the assignment of roles and functions among its members.

Article (10): The Minister of Information shall hereby undertake to select and designate a deputy chairperson from among the BoT members, who shall act in the stead of the Chairperson, in his/ her absence.

Article (12): By the virtue of a decree to be issued by the President of the Republic, a managing director shall be designated and recruited on the Board of Trustees for a renewable term of three years. The respective managing director shall manage one of the sectors of the Radio and Television Union, in conformity with the existing policy framework, operational systems, and guidelines defined by the Board of Trustees, and shall assume all the financial and administrative functions, as deemed necessary, to enable him/her to fulfil the professional duties and mandated effectively. The managing director shall be required to develop and present monthly status reports on the overall performance of the respective sector to the Board of Trustees. The managing director may delegate or transfer some of the powers and functions entrusted to him, as deemed appropriate.

All designations or appointments in the core functions at the Radio and Television Union, in abidance by the human resources regulations and systems, shall be mandated and decreed by the Minister of Information, upon recommendations from the BoT Chairperson.

Article (28): The General Assembly of the Radio and Television Union shall be chaired by the Minister of Information. The membership of the RTU General Assembly shall be composed of the following:

- Ministers of Planning, Foreign Affairs, Transportation, Health, Economy, Foreign Trade and Commerce, People's Assembly and Shura Council Affairs, Education, Finance, Culture, Religious Endowment, and social Affairs, or the representatives thereof
- Chairperson and members of Board of Trustees
- Chairperson of Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, or the representative thereof
- Deputy Chairperson of Al-Azhar, or the representative thereof

- Other experts and subject specialists with demonstrated expertise in the fields of media, and other related areas of focus, to be designated and mandated under a ministerial decree by the Minister of Information

Article (30): The General Assembly of the Egyptian Radio and Television Union shall convene its regular sessions twice at least every year, at the call of the Chairperson thereof. The General Assembly may convene an extraordinary session, upon the call of the Chairperson thereof or otherwise at the request of at least half the members of the General Assembly.

The general assembly meeting may not be deemed or considered as legally valid unless attended by no less than two thirds of the General Assembly members. In the event that the specified quorum cannot be achieved at the specified date, the general assembly meeting shall be postponed for another session. In this case, the second session of the general assembly shall be deemed as valid with the attendance of the majority of members.

Article Two

The present Law shall hereby be published in the official Gazette, and shall take effect as of the date of the promulgation thereof.

The present Law shall be stamped by the State Seal, and shall be fully enforced.

Issued at the Presidency on July 5th, 1989

Hosni Mubarak