#### Decree-Law No. (8) of 2017 on General Education

#### President of the State of Palestine Chairman of PLO Executive Committee

In accordance with the provisions of the Amended Basic Law of 2003 as amended, in particular the provisions of Article (43) thereof,

#### And after having reviewed:

The provisions of the Education Law No. (1) of 1933 as amended, in force in the Southern Governorates;

The provisions of Education Law No. (16) of 1964 as amended, in force in the Northern Governorates;

The provisions of Civil Service Law No. (4) of 1998 as amended;

AND based on the recommendation of the Council of Ministers dated 07/03/2017;

And in accordance with the powers vested in us,

And in pursuit of the public interest,

And in the name of the Palestinian Arab People,

We hereby promulgate the following Law:

## CHAPTER ONE DEFINITIONS

#### Article (1)

The terms and expressions mentioned in this Decree-Law shall have the meanings ascribed thereto below, unless the context indicates otherwise:

Ministry	The Ministry of Education and Higher Education
Minister	The Minister of Education and Higher Education
Directorate	The Directorate of Education in the relevant educational district
Educational Institution	Kindergartens, public and non-public schools, or cultural centers providing educational services
Kindergarten	Any educational institution providing early childhood education prior to the basic education stage
School	Any educational institution comprising one or more levels of basic or secondary education, where students receive formal instruction delivered by one or more teachers

Cultural Center	Any educational institution that provides students with training in any form of knowledge or skills, regardless of age or duration
Vocational Education School	Any educational institution offering one or more educational subjects and vocational skills, administered by the Ministry or any other public institution under the supervision of the Ministry
Public Educational Institution	Any educational institution administered by the Ministry or any other public institution under its supervision
Private Educational Institution	Any licensed non- governmental educational institution that provides education based on the Palestinian curriculum
Foreign Educational Institution	Any licensed non-governmental educational institution that provides education based entirely or primarily on non-Palestinian curriculum
Student	Any person receiving education or an educational service in any educational institution
Dropout Student	A student who withdraws from school permanently and without an official transfer certificate as per the Ministry's regulations, before completing all stages of general education
Teacher	Any person engaged in teaching or providing specialized educational services in any educational institution
General Secondary Education Certificate	The certificate granted by the Ministry to a student upon successfully passing the General Secondary Education Examination
Educational Curriculum	The totality of educational experiences provided within and outside the educational institution to promote the holistic development of the learner, as approved by the National Curriculum Center
Textbooks	All books approved for instruction in educational institutions, including original manuscripts and printing versions
Inclusive Education	Education that excludes no student, regardless of difficulty, disability, gender, or race, while considering individual differences and needs through fundamental reforms in the education system, consistent with internationally agreed principles
Supportive Education	Education aimed at supporting low-achieving and slow-learning students
School Health	Strategies and activities designed to promote the physical, emotional, social, and educational well-being of students
Council	The Advisory Council for Education established pursuant to this Decree-Law
National Curriculum Center	The center established in accordance with the provisions of this Decree-Law
Board of the National Curriculum Center	The board responsible for managing the National Curriculum Center in accordance with this Decree-Law and the regulations issued pursuant thereto

National Center for Examinations	The National Center for Examinations, Assessment, and Educational Evaluation, established in accordance with this Decree-Law
Board of the National Center for Examinations	The board responsible for formulating the policies of the National Center for Examinations in accordance with this Decree-Law and the regulations issued pursuant thereto

- 1. The definition of "Educational Curricula" was amended, and the definitions of "National Curriculum Center" and "Board of the National Curriculum Center" were added to this Article pursuant to Article (2) of Decree-Law No. (27) of 2021 amending Decree-Law No. (8) of 2017 on General Education as amended.
- 2. The definitions of "National Examinations Center" and "Board of the National Examinations Center" were added to this Article pursuant to Article (2) of Decree-Law No. (36) of 2022 amending Decree-Law No. (8) of 2017 on General Education as amended.

#### Article (2) Scope of Application

The provisions of this Decree-Law shall apply to:

- 1. Educational institutions operating in Palestine.
- 2. Palestinian educational institutions operating abroad and licensed by the Ministry, provided they do not contradict the laws and regulations of the host countries.

# Article (3) Objectives of the Educational System

The educational system aims to achieve the following:

- 1. Enhance the scientific and social status of the teacher, in recognition of their vital role in building individuals and society.
- 2. Develop the student's personality, talents, mental and physical abilities, and promote positive engagement with cognitive, technological, and informational changes.
- 3. Prepare students to be active members in the development of their communities; foster objective critical thinking skills; encourage the adoption of scientific approaches to learning, research, and problem-solving; and promote scientific and practical readiness.
- 4. Promote religious and moral values, behavior, respect for human rights and freedoms, the principles enshrined in international conventions, and national legislation governing human rights, while strengthening citizenship values.
- 5. Provide a safe and supportive environment for education and school health.

## Article (4) Duties of the Ministry

The Ministry shall undertake the following responsibilities:

- 1. Develop public policies and plans to advance educational work in line with the national development plan.
- 2. Formulate policies that strengthen the relationship between educational institutions and their local communities, establish community education councils and parent-teacher associations, and promote activities that serve the community and reinforce the institution's role in its social environment.
- 3. Establish or support centers for planning, development, innovation, and research to keep pace with scientific and educational advancements.
- 4. Employ information and communication technology to create an educational environment that utilizes modern pedagogical methods.
- 5. Establish and develop public educational institutions of various types and levels.
- 6. Provide educational opportunities for students with varying individual differences, interests, and performance levels, including persons with disabilities, juveniles, abused children, and school dropouts due to social circumstances, and foster an environment that encourages innovation.
- 7. Provide appropriate educational tools, teaching materials, and facilities for all students, including gifted and outstanding learners and those with disabilities.
- 8. Provide buildings that meet required standards and are suitable for educational institutions, based on criteria related to age groups, students with disabilities, student characteristics, and curriculum and educational objectives.
- 9. Provide academically and professionally qualified human resources to operate and manage public educational institutions.
- 10. Supervise non-governmental educational institutions.
- 11. Conduct national, diagnostic, and evaluative examinations to improve the educational process.
- 12. Ensure equal opportunities for teachers in educational institutions to enhance their scientific and pedagogical skills, in coordination with relevant authorities.
- 13. Encourage students to participate in activities and competitions at the national, Arab, and international levels.
- 14. Provide psychological counseling, health awareness, and career guidance services to all students in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and relevant institutions.
- 15. Prevent the use of violence as a disciplinary tool and ensure protection for all students.

## Article (5) Compulsory Education

- 1. Education shall be compulsory until the end of the tenth grade.
- 2. Education shall be free of charge at all public educational institutions.

## Article (6) Stages of Education

The general education system shall consist of the following stages:

- 1. Kindergarten: A period not exceeding two years prior to the basic education stage.
- 2. Basic Education: A stage for nine years.
- 3. Secondary Education: A stage for three years.

#### Article (7) Kindergarten

- The Ministry shall establish kindergartens and centers for training and qualifying kindergarten educators, in accordance with specific standards. These standards shall be defined by a decision issued by the Minister.
- 2. All kindergartens must obtain a license from the Ministry.
- 3. The Minister shall issue the necessary instructions regarding licensing requirements and the administrative and technical organization of kindergartens.
- 4. The Ministry shall work on expanding its services in the kindergarten stage toward achieving compulsory and free education at this level, in accordance with a unified methodological framework approved by the Ministry.

# Article (8) Objectives of Kindergarten Education

The kindergarten stage aims to:

- 1. Provide an environment that contributes to the development of the child's physical, mental, emotional, and social aspects, and prepares them for enrollment in the basic education stage.
- 2. Train children in basic life skills and instill healthy habits.
- 3. Introduce children to their surrounding environment and provide sufficient opportunities to develop their abilities.

## Article (9) Basic Education

- 1. The basic education stage begins in the first grade and ends at the conclusion of the ninth grade.
- 2. Every guardian or custodian is obligated to enroll the children under their guardianship or custody in basic education institutions.
- 3. The Ministry shall integrate vocational and technical education into the curriculum from the sixth to the ninth grade, to ensure that students acquire the necessary technical skills and experiences.

#### Article (10) Admission Age

- A student shall be admitted to the first grade of basic education if they have completed five years and seven months of age by the end of August of the year in which they are to enroll in school.
- 2. The admission age for students with disabilities shall be determined by instructions issued by the Minister, in accordance with relevant international standards and conventions, and in coordination with the competent authorities.
- 3. The Ministry shall request the Ministry of Interior to provide it with all birth records to monitor children eligible for school enrollment, in coordination with the relevant authorities.

## Article (11) Secondary Education

- 1. The secondary education stage includes grades ten, eleven, and twelve, with their various tracks.
- 2. Secondary education is divided into:
  - a. Academic track.
  - b. Vocational and technical track.
- 3. The Minister shall issue the necessary instructions to determine the specializations and admission requirements for the different tracks of secondary education.

## Article (12) General Examinations

- 1. In accordance with the provisions of this Decree-Law, a center shall be established under the name: "National Center for Examinations, Measurement, and Educational Evaluation," affiliated with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. It shall form an integral part of its organizational structure and shall enjoy legal personality and the professional independence necessary to carry out its functions. Its budget shall be listed as a line item within the budget of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. The functioning of the Center shall be governed by regulations issued by the Council of Ministers.
- 2. The policies of the National Center for Examinations shall be set by a council consisting of nine members who are experts and specialists in relevant fields. The Council shall be chaired by the Minister of Education and Higher Education, and the remaining members shall be appointed by a decision of the Council of Ministers based on the recommendation of the Minister of Education and Higher Education.
- 3. The National Center for Examinations shall undertake the following tasks:
  - a. Develop and implement the general secondary school examination system.
  - b. Participate in the development and implementation of administrative, supervisory, and teaching staff selection tests for the Ministry.
  - c. Participate in the development of national and international assessments that serve general education.
  - d. Participate in the development of various aptitude tests to improve the quality of education.

- e. Produce high-quality educational data.
- f. Supervise educational research and studies.
- g. Conduct comparisons between school evaluations according to standards set by the Council of the National Center for Examinations.
- 4. The Head of the National Center for Examinations shall be appointed by a decision of the President of the State of Palestine at a degree of (A1–A2), based on the recommendation of the Council of Ministers and the nomination of the Minister of Education and Higher Education. The Center shall have an administrative body composed of a sufficient number of employees subject to the applicable Civil Service Law.
  - 1. <u>The word "Al-INJAZ" was deleted from this Article pursuant to Article (2) of Decree-Law No.</u> (6) of 2020 amending Decree-Law No. (8) of 2017 on General Education.
  - 2. <u>This Article was amended pursuant to Article (3) of Decree-Law No. (36) of 2022 amending Decree-Law No. (8) of 2017 on General Education as amended.</u>

# Article (13) Accelerated Learning

- 1. The Ministry, in cooperation with educational institutions, shall identify gifted and outstanding students and determine the appropriate programs to support and educate them.
- 2. Accelerated learning and the reduction of academic years for certain students who demonstrate cognitive abilities exceeding their chronological age, qualifying them to advance to a higher grade or educational stage, shall be approved by a decision of the Minister.
- 3. The Minister shall issue the necessary instructions to define the criteria and procedures for accelerated learning.

## Article (14) Inclusive Education

The Ministry shall adopt a policy of inclusive education and supportive education that meets the needs of all students by providing:

- 1. Quality education for students most at risk of exclusion and marginalization, such as students with disabilities.
- 2. Inclusive school buildings, educational resources, and qualified and specialized teaching staff.
- 3. Appropriate educational curricula and flexible evaluation mechanisms that are responsive to the individual needs of students to ensure quality education.

## Article (15) Licensing of Private and Foreign Educational Institutions

1. Private and foreign educational institutions must obtain a license from the Ministry before being established.

- 2. The conditions for establishing and licensing private and foreign educational institutions shall be determined by a regulation issued by the Council of Ministers.
- 3. A private or foreign educational institution must have an independent facility. No new facilities may be added, nor residential accommodations established within the institution, nor may the institution be relocated without a decision by the Minister.

# Article (16) Licensing Procedures

- 1. The Minister shall issue a decision to license the private or foreign educational institution, and the license shall be issued in the name of the institution's owner.
- 2. An application for the establishment and licensing of a private or foreign educational institution shall be submitted to the Directorate in the relevant educational district at least six months before the start of the academic year.
- 3. The Ministry must respond in writing to the application within thirty days from the date of its submission. If the application is rejected, the rejection decision must be justified.
- 4. A decision rejecting the application to establish a private educational institution may be challenged before the High Court of Justice.

# Article (17) Obligations of Private and Foreign Educational Institutions

- 1. Private and foreign educational institutions must:
  - a. Abide by the legal age for student admission into basic education as stipulated in this Decree-Law.
  - b. Comply with the educational, health, and occupational safety standards set by the Ministry.
  - c. Provide quality education to all students, taking into account their abilities and needs.
- 2. Private educational institutions must adhere to the curricula, textbooks, and examinations approved by the Ministry as applied in equivalent government institutions.

# Article (18) Curriculum Compliance

- 1. Private and foreign educational institutions may teach more than one foreign language and introduce additional curricula, textbooks, and examinations at all educational levels, provided they obtain prior written approval from the Ministry.
- 2. By a decision of the Minister, private and foreign educational institutions may be exceptionally exempted from adhering to the legal age requirement for admission to basic education as specified in Article (10/1) of this Decree-Law, provided that the age difference does not exceed three months.
- 3. Private educational institutions may prepare students for foreign certificates equivalent to the General Secondary Education Certificate, upon obtaining prior written approval from the Ministry.

## Article (19) School Attendance in Educational Institutions

- The actual number of school days in private and foreign educational institutions shall not be less than (180) days, taking into account their specific characteristics and subject to adherence to holidays declared by the Ministry.
- 2. The Minister shall issue instructions regarding the details of the school day in private and foreign educational institutions.

# Article (20) Ministry Supervision

The Ministry shall supervise and monitor private and foreign educational institutions through:

- 1. Monitoring compliance with the provisions of this Decree-Law and the regulations issued pursuant to it.
- 2. Monitoring these institutions' adherence to the educational policy and Ministry guidelines.
- 3. Authenticating the certificates and academic degrees issued by them.

#### Article (21) Ministry Structure

- 1. The Ministry shall establish administrative units and general directorates as needed and in accordance with applicable legal procedures.
- 2. These administrative units and general directorates shall assist the Minister in conducting the affairs of the Ministry.
- 3. The Minister may delegate some of his/her powers to the Deputy-Minister or to other senior administrative staff within the Ministry, within the limits of the rules governing administrative delegation.

# Article (22) Specialized Committees for the Development of Education

- 1. The Ministry shall establish specialized committees to contribute to the development of education and to achieve the objectives of the educational process. The duties and composition of each committee shall be defined by instructions issued by the Minister or by whomever he/she delegates.
- 2. These committees shall submit their recommendations to the Minister for approval.

## Article (23) Establishment of Directorates

1. The Ministry shall, as needed and in accordance with its approved organizational structure, establish a Directorate in each educational region, headed by a Director of Education, assisted by administrative and technical staff.

#### Article (24) School Structure

The Ministry shall recognize each school as an administrative unit with its own organizational structure. Each unit shall have a principal, supported by qualified staff selected in accordance with the school's organizational structure and professional standards.

## Article (25) Teacher Appointment

- University graduates with educational qualifications shall be appointed to teaching positions
  that involve direct engagement with students and the curriculum. Diploma holders may be
  appointed as needed by the Ministry.
- 2. School principals, vice principals, and educational supervisors shall be selected from individuals with the required educational experience and qualifications, in accordance with instructions issued by the Minister.
- 3. The Ministry shall determine the conditions and experience required for teachers, as well as the standards for administrative positions.

# Article (26) Probationary Period

- 1. A newly appointed teacher shall be placed under probation during the first year (Initial Induction Year). If the teacher receives an evaluation below "Good," their service shall be terminated. If the evaluation is "Good" or higher, the teacher shall proceed to a second induction year.
- 2. The new teacher shall be promoted to the rank of Teacher upon obtaining a "Good" evaluation at the end of the second year. If the evaluation is below "Good," the teacher shall be given one additional year. If the evaluation remains below "Good" at the end of the third year, the Minister shall have the right to terminate the teacher's service.

# Article (27) Teaching License

- 1. A teacher must obtain a teaching license from the Ministry and take the professional oath before the competent authority within the Ministry, committing to the rules and ethics of the profession.
- 2. Teachers in government educational institutions and their supporting staff shall be classified into ranks according to a licensing system issued by the Council of Ministers for this purpose.

#### Article (28) Duties of Teachers

Teachers in government educational institutions shall undertake the following:

- 1. The responsibilities of teaching, education, and evaluation in accordance with the objectives set by the Ministry's official programs.
- 2. Participation in the development of educational programs and continuous professional development.
- 3. The production of educational materials to be used in school activities.

# Article (29) Qualifying Staff Educational Staff

The Ministry shall, within its capabilities, provide opportunities and means for staff in government educational institutions to develop their scientific and educational skills and raise them to the required level.

#### Article (30) Nature of Work Allowance

- 1. Teachers at the Ministry of Education and Higher Education shall be granted a nature of work allowance based on their rank.
- 2. The Ministry shall, in coordination with the competent authorities, prepare a list defining the nature of work for its staff, to be issued by the Council of Ministers.

# Article (31) Criminal Record Requirement

No person shall be appointed to an educational institution if he/she has been convicted by a final judgment issued by a competent court for a felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude or breach of trust, unless he/she has been rehabilitated.

#### Article (32) Code of Conduct

All individuals working in education shall adhere to the ethics of the teaching profession issued by the Ministry and the Code of Conduct issued by the Council of Ministers.

#### Article (33) Advisory Council

1. An Advisory Council for General Education shall be established pursuant to the provisions of this Decree-Law.

- 2. The Council shall consist of eighteen members representing various educational, social, and economic sectors, as well as relevant government institutions. Members shall be appointed by a decision of the Council of Ministers based on the recommendation of the Minister.
- 3. The Minister shall chair the Advisory Council.

# Article (34) Duties of the Advisory Council

- 1. The Council shall provide recommendations and necessary consultations to the Minister to enhance the educational process.
- 2. A regulation shall be issued by the Council of Ministers to define the functions and operational mechanisms of the Council.

#### Article (34 bis)

- Pursuant to the provisions of this Decree-Law, a center shall be established under the name "National Curriculum Center," affiliated with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. The Center shall enjoy legal personality and the independence necessary to carry out its duties. Its budget shall be included within the budget of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education.
- 2. The National Curriculum Center shall develop and approve Palestinian educational curricula for all educational stages and keep pace with developments in scientific, technological, economic, and cultural fields to advance the educational process in educational institutions.
- 3. The National Curriculum Center shall be administered by a board consisting of fifteen members representing various educational, social, and economic competencies, as well as relevant government institutions. Members shall be appointed by a decision of the Council of Ministers based on the recommendation of the Minister of Education and Higher Education.
- 4. The Minister of Education and Higher Education shall chair the board of the National Curriculum Center.
- 5. The Board of the National Curriculum Center shall be responsible for defining national curriculum standards, preparing and designing them, and developing educational materials in accordance with these standards.

This Article was added pursuant to Article (3) of Decree-Law No. (27) of 2021 amending Decree-Law No. (8) of 2017 on General Education.

#### Article (35) Educational Curricula

The National Curriculum Center shall be responsible for developing educational curricula for all educational levels in accordance with the following principles:

1. The principles and provisions set forth in national legislation and international human rights instruments.

- 2. Societal philosophy and national values rooted in religious, ethical, and humanitarian value systems, which promote the values of citizenship and democracy.
- 3. Alignment with developments and advancements in all scientific, technological, economic, and cultural fields.
- 4. Flexibility and responsiveness to the individual needs of outstanding, gifted, and disabled students.
- 5. Promotion of healthy habits, behaviors, and essential life skills.

The Preamble of this Article was amended pursuant to Article (4) of Decree-Law No. (27) of 2021 amending Decree-Law No. (8) of 2017 on General Education.

#### Article (36) Textbooks

- The Ministry shall distribute the prescribed textbooks free of charge to all students in all public educational institutions at the beginning of each semester, including textbooks printed in Braille and large print, with the exception of textbooks prescribed for foreign languages.
- 2. The Ministry shall determine the prices of the prescribed textbooks for the Palestinian curriculum in English or any other foreign language for students at different educational levels.
- 3. The Ministry may distribute the textbooks prescribed for the Palestinian curriculum free of charge to educational institutions in accordance with criteria it sets for this purpose.

#### Article (37) Activities

Co-curricular activities shall be organized in accordance with the educational objectives appropriate to students' learning abilities, provided that the Ministry sets the necessary programs and plans for such activities in its annual plan.

## Article (38) Student Performance Assessment

- Students' performance, academic achievement, and quality of learning shall be assessed in accordance with modern educational evaluation approaches and in light of the objectives of the educational process that emphasize knowledge production and deep learning. This assessment shall cover all educational levels and shall be governed by instructions issued by the Minister.
- 2. The Minister shall issue the instructions related to student discipline in schools.

# Article (39) Use of Educational Institution Buildings

The buildings and facilities of public educational institutions may be used outside official working hours for social, cultural, and recreational purposes, provided that approval is obtained from the Ministry.

## Article (40) Cultural Centers

- Without prejudice to the powers of the Ministry of Culture or any other competent authority, cultural centers shall obtain a license from the Ministry to offer educational courses to students in any field of knowledge or skill, and the Ministry shall certify the certificates issued by such centers.
- 2. The operation of these centers and the licensing requirements shall be regulated by instructions issued by the Minister.

# Article (41) Community Institutions

Education is a shared responsibility among all community institutions. Accordingly, the Ministry shall:

- 1. Establish parent councils, with their roles to be defined in instructions issued by the Minister.
- 2. Cooperate with all local and international institutions operating in Palestine to enhance the educational process through effective partnership frameworks.

# Article (42) Programs and Plans

- 1. The Ministry shall develop the necessary programs to address the needs of students who have dropped out or are absent due to exceptional circumstances approved by the Ministry, with the aim of reintegrating them into the educational system, in coordination with relevant parties.
- 2. Schools shall develop programs and plans to improve students' academic performance and achievement, in collaboration with relevant experts, educators, and civil society institutions, in accordance with instructions issued by the Minister.

## Article (43) Services and Productive Activities

Educational institutions may provide services and productive activities to individuals, institutions, or the community in exchange for fees, for the purpose of developing the educational institutions and granting incentives to students and staff. Disbursement and expenditure shall be in accordance with instructions issued by the Minister.

# Article (44) Government Obligations

The government shall be responsible for financing public education programs and plans based on the proposals submitted by the Ministry to implement the obligations set forth in this Decree-Law.

## Article (45) Fundraising

Donations may be collected in public educational institutions at the beginning of the academic year for the purpose of improving and enhancing the quality of education, in accordance with a regulation issued by the Council of Ministers.

## Article (46) Grants and Assistance

- The Ministry may accept unconditional financial and in-kind grants, assistance, and donations from states, international and local institutions, or individuals, provided that they serve projects and programs that meet the educational objectives defined in this Decree-Law and do not conflict with applicable financial regulations.
- 2. The Ministry is prohibited from accepting donations or assistance from unreliable sources, or for purposes that incite discord among students, staff, or community members, or from cooperating with entities whose goals conflict with the national interest and the Palestinian community's aspiration for liberation from occupation.

# Article (47) Prohibition of Promoting or Supporting Activities with Hostile Entities

Educational institutions are prohibited from promoting or supporting any activities with entities that harm Palestinian society in any field.

#### Article (48) Education Tax

- 1. A tax shall be imposed as a percentage of the net rental value assessed under the Law on Building and Land Tax within the areas of municipalities, village councils, residential communities, and Bedouin areas. This tax shall be called the "Education Tax" and shall be collected from the user of any property, whether owner or tenant.
- 2. The collection, management, and expenditure of the Education Tax shall be regulated by a special regulation issued by the Council of Ministers.

## Article (49) Violations

All private and foreign educational institutions must comply with the provisions of this Decree-Law and the regulations issued pursuant thereto. In the event of any violation, the Ministry shall take the following measures:

1. Issue a warning to the educational institution to rectify the violation within one month from the date of notification.

2. If the violation continues or is repeated, the Minister shall have the right to revoke the institution's license through a justified decision.

#### Article (50) Penalties

A penalty of imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year, or a fine not exceeding 1,000 Jordanian dinars or its equivalent in legal tender, or both, shall be imposed on:

- 1. Any parent or guardian who refuses to enroll or withdraws their child from an educational institution before the age of sixteen.
- 2. Any person who prevents a child from enrolling or influences them in any way not to enroll in an educational institution before the age of sixteen.

#### Article (51) Education in Emergencies

The Ministry shall be obligated to provide education during emergencies, maintain the minimum standards of quality educational services, and cooperate with local, regional, and international institutions that are not prohibited by the State from cooperation or whose activities do not conflict with the interests of the Palestinian people.

# Article (52) Continuity of Instructions

Instructions issued by the Ministry under previous laws shall remain in force upon the entry into force of the provisions of this Decree-Law, until they are repealed, amended, or replaced by others.

## Article (53) Ratification of Status

A license issued prior to the entry into force of the provisions of this Decree-Law shall be deemed as having been issued pursuant thereto. All educational institutions must ratify their status within a maximum period of two years.

# Article (54) Assessment of Legislative Outcomes

The Ministry shall evaluate the outcomes of regulations, instructions, policies, and decisions through specialized educational research and studies. The Ministry shall issue instructions on incentive measures for achievement and excellence, as well as accountability measures for causing deficiencies in the educational process.

## Article (55) Regulations and Instructions Adoption

- 1. The Council of Ministers shall adopt the regulations necessary for implementing the provisions of this Decree-Law within six months from the date it enters into force.
- 2. The Minister shall adopt the instructions and decisions required to implement the provisions of this Decree-I aw

#### Article (56) Repeals

The following laws shall be repealed:

- 1. The Education Law No. (1) of 1933 as amended, in force in the Southern Governorates.
- 2. The Education Law No. (16) of 1964 as amended, in force in the Northern Governorates.
- 3. Any provision that conflicts with the provisions of this Decree-Law shall be repealed.

# Article (57) Presentation to the Legislative Council

This Decree-Law shall be presented to the Legislative Council in its first session for approval.

# Article (58) Enforcement and Entry into Force

All competent authorities, each in its respective field, must implement the provisions of this Decree-Law, and it shall enter into force thirty (30) days after its publishing in the Official Gazette.

MAHMOUD ABBAS
President of the State of Palestine
Chairman of PLO Executive Committee

- 1. The name "Ministry of Education" was amended to "Ministry of Education and Higher Education" pursuant to Article (1) of Decree-Law No. (16) of 2024 concerning the amendment of the name of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- 2. The title "Minister of Education" was amended to "Minister of Education and Higher Education" pursuant to Article (2) of Decree-Law No. (16) of 2024 concerning the amendment of the name of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.