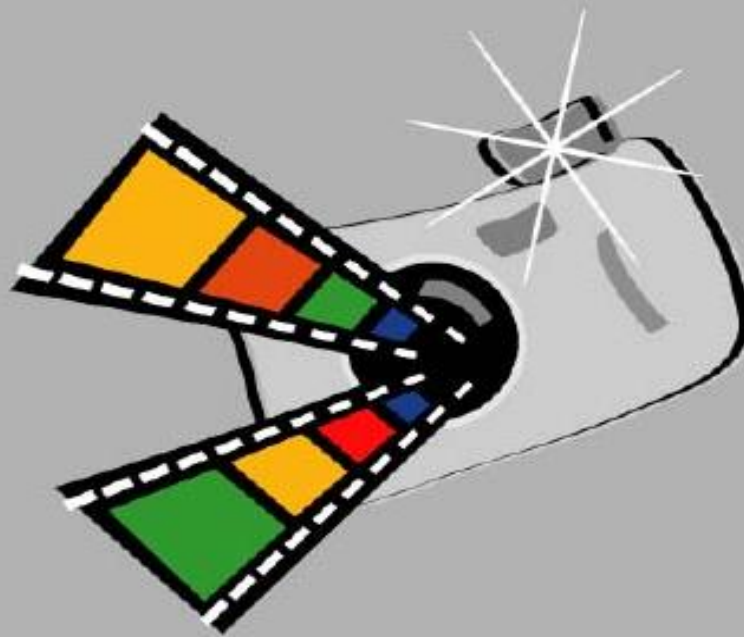




Photography System Brochure

1427 H./ 2006 G.



Introduction:

Photography is an important activity for individuals and institutions, especially in public areas and tourism sites for personal or professional purposes. This activity has grown tremendously with the ongoing development of communication technologies, mass media, and the increasing number of tourists documenting each and every step of their trips. Taking photos of tourism sites and monuments is an important marketing approach that would support tourism development in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; and since the circumstances on which photography was prohibited exist no more, the Royal Decree No. (5142/M B) dated 15/4/1426 was issued approving the recommendations of the Joint Committee for studying photography system in public places and tourism sites. The Committee consists of:

- National Guard
- Ministry of Aviation and Defense
- Ministry of Interior
- Supreme Commission for Tourism
- General Intelligence Presidency
- Ministry of Culture and Information

This system aims at presenting the Royal Decree and clarifying a number of related clauses as indicated in the Decree.

Clause One: Riyal Decree:

His Royal Highness the Crown Prince Second Deputy Premier,
Minister of Defense and Aviation and Inspector General,
Chairman of the Supreme Commission for Tourism Board of Directors

A copy to the National Guard

A copy to the Ministry of Aviation and Defense

A copy to Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs

A copy to the Ministry of Interior

A copy to the General Intelligence Presidency

A copy to the Ministry of Industry and Commerce

A copy to the Ministry of Culture and Information

A copy to the Ministry of Finance

A copy to the General Presidency for the Two Holly Mosques Affairs

A copy to the Royal Commission for Jubail and Yanbu

In reference to your letter No. 396/1 dated 25/1/1426 affiliated with a copy of the minutes issued by the Joint Committee regarding the photography system in public places, ministries, public entities, and tourism sites; and discussing the following recommendations:

First: photography shall be permitted in public places where no signs prohibiting photography are provided, and shall be prohibited where such signs are provided. These recommendations shall go into force after a year from approval date.

Second: military, civilian, industrial, and major sectors and institutions shall set their own rules and regulations in regards to permitting photography within their premises and facilities, with the recommendation of facilitating photography as much possible. These sectors and institutions shall adhere to this system in and outside their premises and institutions, such as: the two Holly Mosques, military bases, industrial cities, military + civilian airports, marches and riots, executions and judicial sentencesetc.

Third: if photography rules and regulations where violated within the premises of one body, that body shall deal with the situation in accordance with their own systems. If privacy or priority rights were violated in public

or private places, the authorities shall deal with each case according to its circumstances provided that it does not exceed the seizing of photos and films and warning if the violator's intentions were proven good. If the violator repeats the violation, the security bodies shall take the necessary actions according to the circumstances of each case.

Forth: the warning signs prohibiting photography shall be clear, written in both languages (Arabic and English), and illustrated with an expressive picture. The signs shall be placed in more than one apparent location at the site (the size, shape, and color of the sign could be identified...this Committee is recommended to identify the artistic and technical specifications of the signs for unification).

Fifth: conduct awareness programs for security officials assigned for surveillance in sites where photography is prohibited, organize lectures and seminars, provide them with copies of the Photography System and identify its clauses and goals, inform them on the importance of facilitation and flexibility, and stress the significance of not violating security codes

In reference to the dispatches of HRH the Minister of Interior No. 1L/3339/2/22/4 dated 17-18/1/1426 , HRH the Secretary General of the Supreme Commission for Tourism No. 1361/2B dated 15/3/1426, the Ministry of Culture and Information No. 2378/B dated 3/9/1425,

We hereby approve the above mentioned recommendations in accordance with the rules, regulations, and potentials provided For Action.

Abdullah bin Abdulaziz
Deputy Premier

Second Clause: System Goals

The system aims at achieving the following:

- 1- Enabling media to cover different occasions, events, and activities and facilitate their tasks as much as possible.
- 2- Respecting the needs of individuals and institutions who wish to document their photos taken in public places and tourism sites, provided that this would not come in conflict with others privacy and rights.
- 3- Promoting the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as a tourism destination.

Third: Definitions:

- Photography means taking pictures regardless of their kind or purpose or photographer.
- This system covers all photographic equipments and techniques, whether old or new or will be developed in the future. It includes digital, cinematic, television, video, and regular photography etc.
- A photographer is any individual practicing photography regardless of gender, nationality, or goal; whether male or female, old or young, Saudi or expatriate or visitor, tourist or journalist or diplomatist, individual or in-group, and whether he/she represent himself, or media, or private or public entities.
- Photography equipments are all kinds of cameras old, new, small, large, portable, importable, video, cinematic, digital, or any kind of photography equipment regardless of its shape or size.

Clause Four: Technical Specifications for Warning Signs

Description:

The sign shall be designed in a rectangular shape (90 cm. long, 60 cm. wide, and 30 cm. mm. thick). It shall be written in Arabic and English and illustrated with an expressive picture (a black camera placed in a red prohibition sign).

Content:

The Arabic sentence (ممنوع التصوير) and the English sentence (Photography Prohibited) shall be written in clear and large text hand, separated with an illustrative picture as shown in the figure below.



Materials Used:

Aluminum covered with a reflector of diamond grade, silk printing, a 3 in, caliber 4 m. long pole, mobile joint, and screws. The back of the sign shall be painted in gray.



Clause Five: Violation Procedures

- 1- This System protects the rights of individuals and private properties, the photographer shall not take photos of individuals or private properties without permission. The private property owner shall place warning signs, or any kind of communication media, where he/she prohibit photos.
- 2- If a photographer was caught taking suspicious photos, the camera shall be examined to take the necessary actions in accordance with the type of photos taken and whether they are prohibited or not.
- 3- If a photographer was caught taken suspicious photos with the aim of vandalism, espionage, or disturbance of reputation; he/she shall be referred to the related security body (closest police station) to take the necessary actions.
- 4- The security bodies assigned for guarding facilities and locations where photography is prohibited shall organize awareness programs for their officials on how to deal with someone caught photographing where photography is prohibited.
- 5- If photography rules and regulations where violated within the premises of one body, that body shall deal with the situation in accordance with their own systems. If privacy or priority rights were violated in public or private places, the authorities shall deal with each case accordingly provided that it does not exceed seizing photos and films and warning if the violator's intentions were proven good. If the violator repeats the violation, the security bodies shall take the necessary actions according to the circumstances of each case.
- 6- Awareness programs shall be conducted for security officials assigned for surveillance in sites where photography is prohibited, organize lectures and seminars, provide them with copies of the Photography System and identify its clauses and goals, inform them on the importance of facilitation and flexibility, and stress the significance of not violating security codes.

