

## MINISTERIAL DECISION 79/94

### ISSUING REGULATIONS FOR NOISE POLLUTION CONTROL IN PUBLIC ENVIRONMENT

According to the Law for the Conservation of Environment and Prevention of Pollution issued by the Royal Decree No.1 0/82 and its amendments.

And according to the requirements of public interest.

**Have decided :**

**Article -1** The provisions of the attached Regulations entitled "Noise Pollution Control in Public Environment" shall be effective.

**Article- 2** All laws that contradict with the provisions of the attached Regulations shall be cancelled.

**Article -3** This decision shall be published in the official Gazette and come into force with effect from the date of issue.

Amer Bin Shuwain Al Hosni  
Minister of Regional Municipalities and Environment.

Issued on: 8th Shawal1414 H  
C.T. : 20th March 1994

## **REGULATIONS FOR NOISE POLLUTION CONTROL IN PUBLIC ENVIRONMENT**

**Article -1** The terms used in these Regulations shall have the following meanings :

1. **The Minister:** The Minister of Regional Municipalities and Environment.
2. **Public Noise:** Sounds generated from external sources and affecting the quality of the life of people in their daily life.
3. **Tonal Noise:** Non-nuisance sounds which are accepted by some people.
4. **Impulse Noise:** Nuisance sound which are released for short periods if the level of sound is high.
5. **Decibel:** A unit for measuring the volume of sound pressure perceived by the human ear.
6. **Decibel (A) :** A unit for measuring the volume of normal sound pressure.
7. **Equivalent (A) :** Sound filter for measuring normal sound level.
8. **Micropascal :** A unit for measuring sound pressure.
9. **Equivalent Continuous A Weighted Sound Level:** A sound pressure level representing the same energy as that of a fluctuating noise considered over a period of time symbol  $L_{eq, T}$ , Unit dB re. 20 micropascal.
10. **Sound Level by day and at night:** A weighted average of  $L_{eq, T}$  over a specified time period of day, evening and night expressed in decibel re. 20 micropascal.

**Article -2** External Noise Sources are :

- b) **Industrial plants and public works:** Include factories, similar commercial facilities, and the like as well as the works of assembling, dismantling and repair. It will also include public works, power plants and installation for extraction, pumping and refining of water, oil, gas, sewage treatment etc.
- c) **Road traffic:** Include motorized traffic in cities, on motorways and localways etc.
- d) **Airports:** Include ground operations on airports dealing with commercial and general aviation such as transport operations, which include vehicles serving and testing aircraft, equipment and installations as well as the equipment of workshops, test beds, fuel stations etc.
- e) **Airborne operations of commercial and general aviation :** Any operation of brake release immediately before take off to turn away from run-way after landing.

**Article -3** Public noise shall be described in terms of emission values expressed by the equivalent continuous A -weighted sound pressure level over relevant time intervals, in decibels relative to 20 micropascal.

**Article -4** For noise of tonal or impulse character, an adjustment shall be made to the measured or calculated value of the equivalent continuous A -Weighted sound pressure level of the noise. This shall be as follows :

- a) For tonal noise, the adjustment shall be 5 dB (A).

- b) For impulse noise, the adjustment shall be 5dB (A).
- c) For the noise of combined tonal and impulse character the adjustment shall be 7 dB (A).

**Article -5** Noise limits shall be specified, according to the type, purpose and use of the district to which they apply, by the Ministry.

**Article -6** For noise from sounds described in items a, b, and c of Article (2), the time limits of noise occurring in specific parts of the day and night for working days versus holidays shall be as follows :

- a) Workdays -daytime (A) : After seven a.m. up to six p.m. LMT
- b) Workdays- Evenings (8) : After six. p.m. up to eleven p.m. LMT
- c) Holidays and Nights (C) : After eleven p.m. up to seven a.m. LMT

**Article -7** The limits of noise generated from the sources enlisted in item (a) of Article (2), in terms of equivalent continuous A-weighted sound pressure level over each particular time period A, B, C as defined in Article (6) shall be :

Type of District	Leq, T, dB (A)		
	Over Time Period		
	A	B	C
Rural residential recreational	45	40	35
Suburban residential	50	45	40
Urban residential	55	50	45
Urban residential with some workshops or business; city hub.	60	55	50
Industrial and commercial	70	70	70

**Article- 8** The limits of noise generated from the sources enlisted in item (b) of Article (2), in terms of equivalent Continuous A-Weighted sound pressure level over each particular time period A, B, C of Article (6) shall be :

Type of District	Leq, T, dB (A)		
	Over Time Period		
	A	B	C
Rural residential recreational	60	55	50
Suburban residential	65	60	55
Urban residential	65	60	55
Urban residential with some workshops or business; city hub.	65	60	55
Industrial and commercial	70	65	60

**Article- 9** The limits of noise generated from the sources enlisted in item (c) of Article (2), in terms of equivalent continuous A - weighted sound pressure level over each particular time period A, B, C of Article (6). shall be :

Type of District	Leq, T, dB (A)		
	Over Time Period		
	A	B	C
Rural residential recreational	45	40	35
Suburban residential	50	45	40
Urban residential	55	50	45
Urban residential with some workshops or business; city hub.	60	55	50

Industrial and commercial	70	70	70
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**Article -10** The limits of noise generated from the sources enlisted in item (d) of Article (2), in terms of day, evening and night levels, level of day, evening and night averaged over one year shall be :

Type of District	L <sub>DEN</sub> T, dB (A) Over Time Period
Rural residential recreational	50
Suburban residential	55
Urban residential	55
Urban residential with some workshops or business; city hub.	55
Industrial and commercial	60

**Article -11** The previous limits shall apply to new and planned buildings, plants, engineering works, roads, airports and others.

**Article -12** The Ministry shall assign the persons or agencies who will carry out the measurements and calculations related to monitoring the compliance with noise limits, and draft reports, after making sure that, they are properly qualified, and provided with the required equipment.

**Article -13** For such measurements, the instrumentation and their calibration shall comply with the requirements of International Standards ISO 1996-1. All relevant information of applied instruments such as make, type, serial number, calibration, calculation and methods in use shall be reported.

**Article -14** Sound level measurements shall generally be taken at positions outside buildings where people are affected by public noise.

**Article -15** Meteorological conditions, such as wind velocity, wind direction, temperature and relative humidity shall be taken into consideration while making measurements.

**Article -16** If measurements prove that noise limits exceeded the limits stipulated for the sources, place and time in the Regulations, additional measures proposed by the Ministry for the attenuation of noise shall be adhered to.