

**GENERAL REGULATIONS
OF THE
INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION
EXPO 2023 DOHA, QATAR**

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SECTION I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Title, category, theme

1.1. The International Horticultural Exhibition Expo 2023 Doha, Qatar (hereinafter referred to as “the Exhibition” or “Expo 2023 Doha”) shall be held in the city of Doha, the State of Qatar.

1.2. Expo 2023 Doha was accredited on 21 March 2018 by the ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES PRODUCTEURS DE L’HORTICULTURE (hereinafter referred to as “AIPH”) as an A1 international horticultural exhibition and registered in accordance with the decision resolution of the AIPH. Expo 2023 Doha is recognized by the BUREAU INTERNATIONAL DES EXPOSITIONS (hereinafter referred to as “BIE”) in accordance with Convention relating to International Exhibitions signed on 22 November 1928 as amended and supplemented by the protocols of 10 May 1948, 16 November 1966, 30 November 1972, 24 June 1982 and 31 May 1988 (hereinafter referred to as the “Convention”).

1.3. Mankind changed the balance of the planet by living beyond their means. The major factor of today’s warming is the use of fossil fuels that pump carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. These hydrocarbons heat up the planet via the greenhouse effect, which is caused by the interaction between Earth’s atmosphere and incoming radiation from the sun. Global warming is expected to have devastating consequences for planet Earth as climate change, loss of biodiversity and desertification.

Desertification is caused by unsustainable use of scarce resources and degradation of fertile soils due to human activities and climate change. One third of the land surface on Earth has fallen victim to desertification and according to the estimates, it claims 12 million hectares more every year.

Desertification not only threatens the environment, but also economic sustainability. As the land becomes more arid, it no longer supports the same number of people that it did in the past. As a result, massive numbers of rural people migrate into urban areas.

The theme of Expo 2023 Doha is “Green Desert, Better Environment”. The goal is to encourage, inspire and inform people about innovative solutions for reducing desertification and establishing a sustainable environment. Expo 2023 Doha believes that achieving successful results requires international cooperation around the same goal and key strategic solutions.

The following sub-themes are developed within the scope of the theme “Green Desert, Better Environment”;

- *Environmental Awareness*; is a tool for encouraging the protection of natural resources, raising a sense of connection to the natural world and promoting sustainable development.
- *Technology & Innovation*; will be the operator of future green solutions while playing an important role in changing how fossil fuels are utilised, creating solutions for urban industrial pollution and advancing alternatives for chemical-intensive agriculture.
- *Sustainability*; is humans' common objective for balancing different needs along with the awareness about economy, technology, environment and social sciences.
- *Modern Agriculture*; provides new innovations, research and scientific advancements to produce safe, sustainable and affordable food for the increasing population of the world.

To have greener deserts people need to cooperate by sharing information, eco-innovation technologies and modern agricultural techniques for a sustainable future.

The definition of the theme as well as details of its development will be further specified in Special Regulation No.1 as stipulated in Article 43 herein.

1.4. The Exhibition Site of Expo 2023 Doha, the first international horticultural exhibition in a desert region, will offer an international platform to exchange information and innovative green solutions applicable in desert countries and countries facing desertification all over the world.

Expo 2023 Doha aims at promoting eco-innovative progress around the theme and fostering cooperation with Official Participants, private sector and NGOs. Expo 2023 Doha exhibition site will host cultural and horticultural exhibitions, meetings, conferences, workshops and cultural events in close cooperation with national and international participants.

Expo 2023 Doha will associate with partners as relevant Ministries, Qatar Green Building Council, Qatar Foundation, universities and private companies for the ideal implementation of international horticultural exhibition to reflect the theme "Green Desert, Better Environment".

After the Exhibition, the site will be used as a park for education, research & development in horticulture, landscape and sustainability.

Article 2. Location

The Expo site covers an area of 170 hectares in Al Bidda Park at the centre of Doha. It is located a few steps away from Corniche Street situated between West Bay and Doha Port. It is easily accessible from international transit hubs.

The site is expected to host over 3 million visitors during the Expo period.

The Exhibition adopts a flexible, sustainable, and cooperative approach to achieve a city of excellence. It shall optimize existing government infrastructure investments, rationalize an integrated land use and transport, protect key economic assets, and be flexible and responsive to the environmental concept.

Article 3. Duration

3.1. The Exhibition shall open on the 2nd of October 2023 and shall be closed definitely on the 28th of March 2024.

3.2. Two important national events, namely the Independence Day and National Day of the State of Qatar will be held during the Exhibition.

Expo 2023 Doha shall offer an international platform for celebrating 52 years of independence while sharing this honour with international participants and visitors. National Day of Qatar on 18 December 2023 shall also be in the spotlight of Expo 2023 Doha.

3.3. In the event of one or more visiting days being organised before the official opening date, for special categories of guests such as press representatives, the dates for these shall be fixed with the agreement of the Steering Committee of the College of Commissioners General.

SECTION II. GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES IN THE ORGANISING STATE

Article 4. Government Authority responsible for the Exhibition

Government of the State of Qatar shall ensure that the Exhibition is organised in compliance with the Convention and the regulations of the BIE. The Exhibition shall be under the authority of the Ministry of Municipality and Environment. The Minister of Municipality and Environment shall be responsible for preparing or undertaking the legal, financial and other measures necessary to ensure the success and prestige of the exhibition. The Minister shall exercise his authority and his control over the Exhibition through the Commissioner General of the Exhibition.

Article 5. Commissioner General of the Exhibition

5.1. The Government of the State of Qatar shall appoint a Commissioner General of the Exhibition.

5.2. The Commissioner General of the Exhibition shall represent the government of the State of Qatar in all matters related to the Exhibition. He/She shall be responsible for ensuring that the

commitments taken vis-à-vis the Official Participants are duly honoured and all necessary measures are taken to guarantee the success of the Exhibition.

5.3. The Commissioner General of the Exhibition shall ensure that the programme of work is respected and that the general provisions of the General Regulations are carried out. He/She shall provide that the Special Regulations referred to in Article 43 are finalised and observed in a timely manner.

5.4. He/She shall exercise disciplinary powers over the Exhibition, and, in this capacity, he/she is authorised to suspend or stop any activity and to effect at any time the withdrawal of items of whatever origin which are incompatible with the proper standing of the exhibition and which are likely to be a risk or liability. If the Organiser or the Commissioner General of Section should contest the decision of the Commissioner General of the Exhibition; the provisions set out in Article 12, which the parties have promised to respect, shall be applied. This recourse has the effect of putting the decision in abeyance except where a matter of security is in question.

5.5. He/She can, under his own responsibility, delegate the exercise of his powers to his co-workers. The State of Qatar may appoint one or more Deputy Commissioners General when appropriate.

5.6. The Commissioner General of the Exhibition may not carry out any function or mission on the Organiser's behalf, unless these functions, in law and in fact, are purely disinterested and non-profit making.

Article 6. Relationship between the Commissioner General of the Exhibition and the BIE

6.1. The Commissioner General shall forward copies of documents received from governments concerning their participation, the appointment of their respective Commissioner General of Section, their requests related to the Exhibition area and signed participation agreements to the BIE at the earliest possibility.

6.2. The Commissioner General shall communicate to the BIE, in due time and for the information of the participants, the legislative, statutory or other texts adopted by the organising State and local public Authorities, in order to facilitate the participation of foreign States and ensure the success of the Exhibition.

6.3. The Commissioner General shall submit the texts of the Special Regulations to the BIE in the required timeframe. He/She shall keep the BIE fully informed, chiefly by reporting at each of its sessions, of all developments and progress relating to the preparation of the Exhibition.

6.4. The Commissioner General shall ensure that the Organiser indicates by all suitable means and particularly by mentioning it on all documents, that the Exhibition has been recognised by

the BIE. He/She shall ensure that the use of the BIE flag and logo complies with the regulations laid down by the BIE. He/She shall welcome the delegates sent by the BIE on official missions to the Exhibition.

6.5. The Commissioner General of the Exhibition shall communicate to the BIE, for the information of the Participants and the formal records of the BIE, the organisational structure, responsibilities and authority, etc. of the Organiser.

Article 7. Exhibition Organiser

In accordance with Article 10.2. of the Convention, government of the State of Qatar shall delegate the responsibilities of preparation, organisation, operation and management of the Exhibition to International Horticultural Exhibition Expo 2023 Doha Coordination Bureau (hereinafter referred to as the Organiser). The office of the Organiser is located in Doha.

SECTION III. PARTICIPANTS

Article 8. Official Participants

8.1. Official participants are those foreign governments and international organisations that have accepted the official invitation from the government of the State of Qatar to participate in the Exhibition.

8.2. The government of any state participating in the Exhibition shall be represented by a Commissioner General of Section accredited to the government of the State of Qatar. Any participating international organisation may also appoint a Commissioner General of Section.

8.3. The Participation Contract shall be signed by the Commissioner General of Section and the Organiser, with the counter signature of the Commissioner General of the Exhibition.

8.4. The Commissioner General of Section is solely responsible for the organisation and operation of his/her section, which includes all the exhibitors and the managers of the commercial activities, referred to in Article 33 herein. It shall not include the Exhibitors referred to in Article 10 hereunder nor the concessionaires referred to in Article 11.

8.5. The Commissioner General of Section shall guarantee that the members of his national section shall abide by the regulations issued by the Organiser and approved by the BIE.

8.6. In order to enable the Commissioner General of Section to carry out his/her

responsibilities, he/she shall be entitled to the advantages listed in Special Regulation No. 12 concerning the privileges and advantages of Commissioners General of Section and of their staff, referred to in Article 43.

8.7. The Organiser shall subsidise the expenses of developing countries to facilitate their participation in the Exhibition. Details concerning this support shall be stipulated in Special Regulation No. 2 concerning the conditions of participation in the Exhibition, as mentioned in Article 43. The terms of support shall also be explicitly included in the Participant Contracts of the concerned countries.

8.8. The personnel of the foreign national sections shall benefit from the accommodation facilities listed in Special Regulation No. 6 concerning the accommodation for the personnel of Official Participants, referred to in Article 43.

Article 9. College of Commissioners General / Steering Committee

9.1. The Commissioner General of the Exhibition shall convene a meeting of Commissioners General of Sections when the requisite number of appointed Commissioners General is reached. The College of Commissioners General shall nominate a chairperson and a Steering Committee to represent them, to consider matters of mutual interest, and to exercise the powers laid down in Article 12 hereunder.

9.2. When the number of Official Participants doubles after the elections, the elections shall be considered no longer valid, and new elections shall be held.

9.3. Should the Chairperson of the Steering Committee be prevented for any reason from fulfilling his responsibilities, he/she shall delegate his/her powers to another member of the Steering Committee.

9.4. The rules governing the functioning of the Steering Committee shall be stipulated in Special Regulation No. 3 concerning the rules for the functioning of the Steering Committee of the College of Commissioners General, referred to in Article 43.

Article 10. Exhibitors

Participants that are authorized directly by the Organiser to participate in the Exhibition are Non-Official Participants. Exhibitions of Non-Official Participants should support the theme and sub-themes of the Exhibition. Non-Official participants (hereinafter referred to as "Exhibitors") can be governmental and non-governmental entities, organisations, private companies and associations.

Article 11. Concessionaires

11.1. Concessionaires are individuals, firms or other institutions who are permitted to carry out commercial activities in the Exhibition site after signing a contract with the Organiser. This does not include the commercial activities in the Sections of Official Participants stipulated in Article 33 of these General Regulations.

11.2. Individuals and firms whose countries are officially participating in the Exhibition shall only be admitted as concessionaires subject to the agreement of the Commissioner General of Section of their country of origin, who may establish special conditions for their admission.

11.3. The regulations set forth in these General Regulations and in the Special Regulations shall in principle also apply to concessionaires unless otherwise stated or unless they are clearly addressed to other participants.

Article 12. Settlement of disputes

Any disputes between the Organiser and an Official Participant, or between Official Participants shall be settled in the following manner:

12.1. If the dispute is related to the interpretation of the General Regulations, the Special Regulations or the Participation Contract, considered in the light of the Convention or the compulsory rules of the BIE, the Steering Committee of the College of Commissioners General shall act as arbitrator and make a decision. If need be, before making its decision, the Steering Committee shall seek the opinion of the President of the BIE, who with the assistance of the Vice-President concerned and the Secretary General, shall make a recommendation. The Commissioner General of the Exhibition or the Organiser may also seek the opinion of above mentioned. The decision of the Steering Committee is immediately applicable and without recourse.

12.2. If the dispute is related to exhibited products, the Steering Committee shall inform the College of Commissioners General, in line with Article 19.3. of the Convention for a final decision.

12.3. If the dispute must be resolved by the Commissioner General of the Exhibition according to the provisions of these General Regulations, any party may demand that advice of the Steering Committee be sought beforehand.

12.4. For any other dispute each party can demand arbitration:

- In the first instance, from the Commissioner General of the Exhibition alone,
- In the second instance, from the said Commissioner General deciding after consultation with the Steering Committee of the College of Commissioners General,

- In the third instance, from the Steering Committee of the College of Commissioners General.

The decision will be made at the level demanded by the party which chooses the highest level.

12.5. The above-mentioned rulings must be made within ten days. Otherwise, the dispute - if it comes under points 1, 3 or 4 above - will be brought before the College of Commissioners General, which will decide within five days. Otherwise, the request of the party which raised the dispute will be considered unjustified.

SECTION IV. GENERAL CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

CHAPTER I. ADMISSION

Article 13. Admission of items and exhibition material

13.1. Only items and exhibition materials related to the theme as described in Article 1 of these General Regulations shall be admitted to the Exhibition. The origin of these products shall comply with the provisions of Article 19 of the Convention.

13.2. Official Participants and the Exhibitors shall submit to the Organiser a Theme Statement describing the overall theme and the general contents of the presentation for approval as part of the application for allocation of an exhibition area.

13.3. The procedure for compliance to the theme of the exhibition shall be specified in Special Regulation No. 1 concerning the definition of the theme of the Exhibition and the guidelines for theme development by the Organiser and the Participants, referred to in Article 43.

13.4. The approved Theme Statement and plan of allocated exhibition area will be included in the participation contract entered into by and between the Organiser and the Official Participants or the Exhibitors.

13.5. The participation contract of Official Participants shall be signed by the Commissioner General of Section and the Organiser with the countersignature of the Commissioner General of the Exhibition. The participation contract for Exhibitors shall be signed by their legal representative and the Organiser.

13.6. Prior to the conclusion of the participation contract, the Organiser reserves the right to modify the planning and allocation of the exhibition area without possibility of recourse, in order to ensure the smooth running of the Exhibition and the overall harmony of the exhibition site.

13.7. Exhibitors in national sections shall be selected by the Commissioner General of Section and come under his/her sole authority.

13.8. Exhibitors who do not come under any section shall deal directly with the Organiser, who shall inform the Government of the State of origin of the exhibitor concerned of their intention as soon as contact is established with such exhibitors.

13.9. Conditions for the participation of Official Participants and Exhibitors shall be stipulated in Special Regulation No. 2 concerning the conditions of participation in the Exhibition, as mentioned in Article 43.

CHAPTER II. EXHIBITION AREAS

Article 14. Sites

14.1. The Organiser shall designate indoor and outdoor exhibition spaces and/or sites in the specific locations of the site to be put at the disposal of Official Participants and Exhibitors.

14.2. The total usable space which is placed at the disposition of the foreign national sections shall be at least equal to the space allocated to the section of the organising state. If, however, this space has not been fully allocated 24 months before the opening of the exhibition, the Organiser shall recover the right to dispose freely of the unreserved space.

14.3. The lots required by the Official Participants to erect their own pavilions shall be made available by the Organiser free of charge. Confirmation of the allocation of space to Official Participants and Exhibitors shall be subject to the approval of the proposed Theme Statement as shall be stipulated in Special Regulation No. 1 concerning the definition of the theme of the Exhibition and the guidelines for theme development by the Organiser and the Participants, referred to in Article 43.

Article 15. Indoor exhibitions

15.1. Indoor exhibitions shall be held in the halls of Expo 2023 Doha exhibition site. The indoor flower and plant shows shall provide the framework for the presentation of horticultural products and services with varying themes and changing configurations. The duration of these indoor exhibitions may vary. The exact dates for the indoor displays shall be announced by the Organiser at a later stage.

15.2. The applications to participate in indoor exhibition shall be submitted to the Organiser at least 6 months before the opening of the exhibition and shall comply with Article 13 and Article

14 above.

15.3. Official Participants and Exhibitors shall set up and operate the exhibitions themselves at their own cost. Official Participants or Exhibitors may otherwise entrust a stand designer or in exceptional cases, the Organiser, with the design of the stand, at their own expense.

15.4. Official Participants and Exhibitors shall ensure that the stand design is consistent with the overall design. In cases of non-compliance, the Organiser shall be entitled to have alterations to the stand carried out at the expense of the Official Participant or Exhibitor or have it removed.

15.5. The construction period of the stands shall be stipulated in the assembly and dismantling guidelines respectively, which the individual Official Participant or Exhibitor will receive in a timely manner, once the contract has been finalised or when written confirmation of participation in the indoor plant and flower shows is provided by the Organiser.

15.6. In principle, the stand shall be maintained by the Official Participant and Exhibitor for the duration of the indoor display. In case of delegation of this task to a third party, the Organiser must be informed.

15.7. Since the indoor show should remain in a state worthy of the Exhibition, the Official Participant or Exhibitor must ensure the adequate preparation of exhibits and maintenance of the quality of the exhibition. Official Participants and Exhibitors shall remove promptly at their own expense exhibits which have become unsightly and no longer meet the exhibition criteria.

15.8. The Organiser shall provide general lighting and air-conditioning in the halls and ensure the maintenance of the common areas.

15.9. Special requests by Official Participants or Exhibitors with regard to the maintenance of their stand may only be granted on the basis of a separate agreement concluded with the Organiser, all costs being born by the Official Participant or Exhibitor.

15.10. The Organiser shall provide public services and waste removal in the halls within the limits of technical possibility.

15.11. Official Participants and Exhibitors are responsible for the dismantling of stands. The Organiser shall specify the start time of dismantling in the assembly and dismantling guidelines. The dismantling of the stand before the agreed start time shall not be permitted.

15.12. Official Participants and Exhibitors shall be required to be present at their stand since they are responsible for it at all times.

15.13. If the dismantling of the stand is delegated to a third party or the dismantling cannot be

completed on time, the Organiser must be informed in advance. In the latter case, the Organiser shall have the stand dismantled at the expense of the Official Participant or Exhibitor.

15.14. In principle, the exhibits and presentations on the exhibition site may not be sold or otherwise given to third parties. Exceptions to this rule shall require the prior written consent of the Organiser.

15.15. Further details are stipulated in Special Regulation No. 2 concerning conditions for participation in the Exhibition and Special Regulation No. 4 concerning construction, installation, workplace safety, fire prevention and environmental protection, referred to in Article 43.

Article 16. Outdoor exhibitions

16.1. The Official Participations represent the most important element of the cultural and horticultural programme of the Exhibition.

16.2. As a contribution to the overall theme, each Official Participant can present its national garden reflecting the particular natural landscape of their country. In each nation's garden, elements of the country's culture and landscape must be present and influence the design of the garden, so that visitors of the Exhibition can perceive and recognise the development of the horticultural art specific to each country.

16.3. Theme statement of Official Participants and Exhibitors, referred to in Article 13, should be agreed upon with the Organiser as early as possible in order to ensure the allocation of the best possible exhibition area onsite.

16.4. The Organiser shall make the exhibition area available to Official Participants and Exhibitors free of charge.

16.5. The Organiser shall provide the exhibition areas of Official Participants and Exhibitors with a surface layer of soil suitable for planting up to the level of the closest street or pathway.

16.6. Official Participants and Exhibitors shall create and maintain their exhibition for the duration of The Exhibition at their own expense.

16.7. Official Participants and Exhibitors shall carry out all the cleaning, maintenance, garbage disposal, and other activities ordinarily required for the operation of their stands and exhibition areas. Should a participant fail to do so, the Organiser is authorised to carry out these activities itself and charge all expenses incurred therefrom to Official Participants and Exhibitors.

16.8. The Official Participants shall be offered either to dismantle or to donate the exhibition area to the State of Qatar.

16.9. When dismantled, the exhibition space must be returned to the Organiser in the same condition as it was in when it was initially handed over to Official Participants and Exhibitors.

16.10. Further details are stipulated in Special Regulations No. 4 concerning construction, installation, workplace safety, fire prevention and environmental protection, referred to in Article 43.

SECTION V. SPECIFIC IMPLEMENTATION CONDITIONS

Article 17. General services

17.1. The Organiser shall provide the services of gas, electricity, telecommunications, water inlets and outlets, garbage removal, etc. These services shall be provided at the expense of each participant except for the services enumerated in Article 17.2. Rates charged for such services shall conform to local rates.

17.2. The Organiser shall provide the following general services free of charge at the exhibition site:

- First aid,
- Cleaning and maintenance of public and green areas,
- Lighting of the general area of the exhibition site,
- Irrigation water,
- Electricity and tap water in the exhibition areas of Official Participants except for the use in commercial activities,
- Waste disposal in public and green areas,
- Signs at the exhibition site,
- A central visitors' information system,
- Security services at the exhibition site,
- Lost and found office,
- Wi-fi.

17.3. These services may be unilaterally interrupted for the following reasons:

- To guarantee the security of staff and property,
- To repair, replace or improve the system for an affiliated system,
- Bottlenecks in supply,
- Reasons beyond the Organiser's control or force majeure.

17.4. The Organiser or third parties commissioned by the Organiser shall provide services which are directly related to the participants' use of the allocated exhibition spaces, such as security

services and waste disposal. The Organiser or contracted third parties shall charge participants accordingly for the use of these services. Rates charged for such services shall conform to local rates.

17.5. The terms for the provision of general services shall be stipulated in Special Regulation No. 10 concerning general services, referred to in Article 43.

Article 18. Infrastructure

18.1. Facilities for public supply systems within the area of The Exhibition for the supply of utilities such as electricity, water, telecommunications and wastewater disposal within the allocated exhibition area shall be provided by the Organiser.

18.2. Participants must install the necessary utilities in their allocated areas in accordance with the laws and provisions and connect to the supply system on the Exhibition grounds including the use of supply meters, tariff time switches and safety devices.

18.3. The connection to the supply system on the Exhibition grounds must be made at the boundary of the allocated exhibition area.

18.4. Installation work must be planned and undertaken in compliance with Article 19 of these General Regulations in particular and must be carried out by a specialised company.

18.5. If the supply facilities are defective or if they are not in compliance with the Organiser's requirements and the laws and provisions, participants must eliminate possible defects in the supply facilities and undertake repairs at their expense upon the demand of the Organiser. The cost of the connection, the maintenance and repair of the connection and supply facilities as well as the cost of consumption shall be borne by the participants.

18.6. Further details are stipulated in the Special Regulation No. 10 concerning general services, referred to in Article 43.

Article 19. Buildings and installations

19.1. Buildings and facilities shall be subject to authorisation in accordance with current Qatar laws and regulations. Before work begins all necessary authorisations and approvals for the building activities must be obtained. Application documents must comply with the appropriate laws and provisions of the State of Qatar as well as the Regulations of The Exhibition in form and content.

19.2. Official Participants or Exhibitors who wish to construct a building or a facility must submit a preliminary design in duplicate to the Organiser for pre-inspection.

19.3. After provisional approval of the preliminary design by the Organiser, the preliminary design shall be expanded in order to submit the relevant forms and appendices to the Organiser's Technical Department as a building permit application.

19.4. No alternations may be made within the exhibition grounds without the Organiser's prior approval of the project. All improvements around the buildings must also be approved in advance by the Organiser.

19.5. The conditions for all construction and improvements shall be set forth in Special Regulation No. 4 concerning construction, installation, workplace safety, fire prevention and environmental protection, referred to in Article 43.

19.6. The conditions for the installation and operation of any machines, apparatus or equipment shall be set forth in Special Regulation No. 5 concerning the installation and operation of machinery and equipment, referred to in Article 43.

Article 20. Periods for assembling and dismantling

20.1. The installation of indoor and outdoor exhibits shall be completed by 24.09.2023. Vehicles heavier than 7500 kg shall not be allowed to enter the site after 04.09.2023. In order that such a timetable is honoured, indoor and outdoor exhibition areas shall be handed over to participants on 01.02.2023. Entry of the items shall be authorized from 01.03.2023 for indoor exhibitions and outdoor exhibitions. Dates for the completion of actual construction work, internal conversion and finishing work shall be set forth in Special Regulation No. 4 concerning construction, installation, workplace safety, fire prevention and environmental protection.

20.2. Unless otherwise agreed by Official Participants, Exhibitors and the Organiser, allocated exhibition areas shall be cleared and restored before 30.06.2024 for outdoor exhibitions and before 01.05.2024 for indoor exhibitions to the same condition as when they were initially handed over.

20.3. If a participant is unable to fulfil his commitments towards the Organiser, the Commissioner General of the Exhibition may proceed, following the closing date of the Exhibition and, at the participant's cost and risk, with the dismantling, removal, storage, attachment and sale of the participant's goods located within the exhibition grounds, with the exclusion of items considered of national heritage, and the amount due to the Organiser of the Exhibition shall be deducted from the proceeds of such sale.

20.4. The Organiser shall stipulate the timing for assembly and dismantling of indoor and outdoor exhibitions in the Special Regulation No. 4 concerning construction, installation, workplace safety, fire prevention and environmental protection, in accordance with Article 43, in a timely manner before the start of the event.

20.5. Further details are set forth in Special Regulation No. 2 concerning the conditions of participation in the Exhibition, referred to in Article 43.

Article 21. Removal of exhibited items

21.1. No exhibit or part thereof may be removed from the exhibition without the permission of the Commissioner General of the Exhibition.

21.2. None of the exhibited items, fixtures and miscellaneous items (components of the exhibition) belonging to the Exhibition may be removed or dismantled by participants.

Article 22. Importing, customs and import turnover tax

22.1. Only the goods of Official Participants referred to in Article 1-16 of the Convention and its appendix, "Customs regulations for the import of items by participants in international exhibitions", may be declared under customs temporary admission with the appropriate certificates. These goods may only be declared in the name of and to the benefit of the Official Participants as mentioned in the relevant participation contract with the Organiser.

22.2. Official Participants shall pay directly at the appropriate Customs and/or Tax Office the relevant duties and taxes for all goods, designated for temporary admission that have not been destroyed or returned within 10 weeks after the closing of the Exhibition.

22.3. Customs duty and import turnover tax shall be levied for all remaining goods, which do not meet the criteria for temporary admission.

22.4. Tariffs for individual products are determined by the relevant customs office. Regulatory information on customs duty and import turnover tax for individual goods may only be obtained from the customs administration and only upon clear indication of the products.

22.5. Official Participants and Exhibitors must be represented by a forwarding agent for customs clearance, transport and delivery of goods. The Organiser shall provide Official Participants and Exhibitors with a list of designated agents.

22.6. The Organiser shall cover the Official Participants transportation cost of all objects related to the Exhibition from seaports and/or airports of entry or from the border of Qatar to the exhibition site "one 40 feet container and/or two 20 feet containers up to equivalent of 20 tons", and their return to border of entry after the closure of the Exhibition, if the Official Participant organise the transportation by the company accredited by the Organiser.

22.7. Official Participants and Exhibitors shall arrange for customs clearance formalities, on-site acceptance, inspection and reshipment of goods and objects themselves. Should an Official Participant, an Exhibitor or an agent be unavailable at the time of the arrival of goods or objects at the exhibition grounds, the Organiser shall have the right to store them at the

expense and risk of the participants involved.

22.8. In accordance with Article 16 of the Convention and its appendix concerning customs regulations for the importation of articles by the participants in international exhibitions, Special Regulation No. 7 concerning customs clearance, transportation and handling of goods, referred to in Article 43 shall set forth the appropriate Customs regulations to be applied, where necessary to goods and articles of foreign origin intended for the Exhibition.

Article 23. Phytosanitary provisions

23.1. The Organiser shall require information about the plants to be imported as well as the packing materials to check the exhibition goods for banned imports, to meet the requirements of the State Plant Protection Office and to guarantee that the import is handled optimally.

23.2. Official Participants and Exhibitors shall have no more than 30 days before packing and shipping in the participating country to create a list with all proposed plant exhibits and their packing materials.

23.3. Further details shall be stipulated in Special Regulation No. 7 concerning customs clearance, transportation and handling of goods, referred to in Article 43 of General Regulations.

Article 24. Provisions of veterinary law

24.1. For the import, transit and circulation of foodstuffs and veterinary products, it is necessary to comply with the Qatar legislation in force.

24.2. Further details shall be stipulated in the Special Regulation No. 7 concerning customs clearance, transportation and handling of goods, referred to in Article 43.

Article 25. Food and beverage

25.1. Official Participants who wish to offer food and beverage samples in their booths should conform to the Convention, BIE regulations and the relevant Qatar legislation in force.

25.2. Further details are stipulated in Special Regulation No. 9 concerning commercial activities by Official Participants, referred to in Article 43.

Article 26. Taxes

26.1. Official Participants and Exhibitors are liable for the payment of construction permit fees and taxes related to commercial activities.

26.2. Further details are set forth in Special Regulation No. 4 concerning construction,

installation, workplace safety, fire prevention and environmental protection and Special Regulation No. 9 concerning commercial activities by Official Participants, referred to in Article 43.

Article 27. Residence and work permits

27.1. Official Participants and Exhibitors may hire foreign employees for the assembly, dismantling and maintenance of their exhibits, provided that this is done in compliance with the provisions of Qatar law with respect to immigration and work permits.

27.2. The Organiser shall guarantee that entry visas of the Commissioners General of Section and their staff shall be issued as quickly as possible. The Organiser shall take all measures necessary to facilitate and provide working permits for the staff of the participating countries. All Section staff shall comply with the necessary requirements for the obtainment of visas and work permits.

27.3. Further details are stipulated in the Special Regulation No. 12 concerning the privileges and advantages of Commissioners General of Section and of their staff, referred to in Article 43.

Article 28. Insurance

28.1. Each Commissioner General of Section must procure the legally prescribed insurance policies and pay the premiums or contributions for the participants in his/her Section. Participants who are not part of a Section (Exhibitors) or Concessionaires are personally responsible for contracting insurance.

28.2. Under all circumstances the participants must obtain the following insurances:

- Insurance for an accident in the workplace
- Motor liability insurance
- Healthcare insurance
- General third-party liability insurance
- Property insurance

28.3. Official Participants and Exhibitors must personally insure buildings erected by him during the building phase, for the duration of The Exhibition and until the valid transfer of the site concerned, as well as the furnishings, equipment and other items in its custody, provided that they are on the site of the exhibition, against theft, damage and destruction of any kind, especially fire.

28.4. Official Participants and Exhibitors must submit notarised copies of the insurance policies and evidence of paid premiums to the Organiser.

28.5. The Organiser shall support Official Participants and Exhibitors in contracting further

insurances if necessary.

28.6. The Commissioner General of the Exhibition, the Organiser, the Commissioners General of Section and their exhibitors mutually waive any claim which they may be entitled to make against each other because of material damage caused by fire or other casualty. Such a claim would not be waived in the case of foul play. This waiver should take effect automatically for each Commissioner General of Section as from the date his Participation Contract enters into force.

28.7. All contracts relating to the insurance of buildings, furnishings, equipment and any other items belonging to the persons mentioned in the previous paragraph, whether they take the form of a contract for the extension of coverage under a group policy or of a separate policy, must explicitly mention this waiver, which shall also be mentioned in the Participation Contract.

28.8. Further details are stipulated in Special Regulation No. 8 concerning insurance, referred to in Article 43.

Article 29. Security

29.1. The Organiser shall set up an overall security system to maintain peace and security, to deter violations of the law and to enforce the regulations, in accordance with the conditions laid down in Special Regulation No. 10 concerning general services, referred to in Article 43.

29.2. Participants shall be responsible for providing security and order in the assigned exhibition areas and must arrange for the necessary measures at their expense. In particular, they must ensure the safety of visitors.

29.3. In the event of an emergency, participants shall grant the right of entry to the Organiser in the exhibition areas assigned to them.

29.4. Further details are stipulated in Special Regulation No. 10 concerning general services, referred to in Article 43.

Article 30. Access to the Exhibition site

30.1. The free entry of the participants' staff and others as well as access of motor vehicles to the Expo site shall be regulated by terms of accreditation.

30.2. In the event of non-observance of the terms of accreditation and the internal regulations of the Exhibition, the Organiser shall reserve the right to withdraw the accreditation.

30.3. Further details are stipulated in Special Regulation No. 13 concerning admissions to the exhibition site, referred to in Article 43.

Article 31. Admission to the site

The conditions of admissions shall be laid down by Special Regulation No. 13 concerning admissions to the exhibition site, referred to in Article 43.

Article 32. Obligation to operate

32.1. Throughout the duration of The Exhibition, participants shall be obliged to keep their exhibits and the other available areas and facilities on the Expo site open for visitors during the opening hours.

32.2. Further details are stipulated in Special Regulation No. 13 concerning admissions to the exhibition site, referred to in Article 43.

SECTION VI. COMMERCIAL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

CHAPTER I. COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES OF OFFICIAL PARTICIPANTS AND EXHIBITORS

Article 33. Commercial activities of Official Participants

33.1. The Official Participants shall undertake to perform their commercial activities in a responsible manner regarding the proper operation of the Exhibition.

33.2. In accordance with the conditions set out in Special Regulation No. 9 concerning commercial activities by Official Participants, referred to in Article 43, Official Participants may open restaurants in which the national food of their country will principally be served.

33.3. Official Participants may sell tourist items and souvenirs representative of their country such as images, slides, postcards, Compact Disks, books, stamps and other products from their country that have an association with horticulture and the overall theme of the Exhibition referred to in Article 1.

33.4. The tourist items and souvenirs representative of their country shall be limited to five items. Several items in one product group shall be counted as one item in each case. Such items may be replaced during the course of the Exhibition. This principle also applies to electronic sales.

33.5. A list of items to be sold must be submitted to the Commissioner General of the Exhibition and to the Organiser for authorisation in advance. The disclosure and authorisation obligation shall also apply to modifications.

33.6. Official Participants may offer free samples of food and beverages representative of their country. A list of samples must be submitted to the Commissioner General of the Exhibition and the Organiser for authorisation in advance. The disclosure and authorisation obligation shall also apply to modifications.

33.7. The area reserved for commercial activities, shops and restaurants, including the area for handing out samples and relevant facilities may not exceed 20% of the overall exhibition area assigned to the Official Participant or 200 square metres whichever is smaller. This shall also include the production area for the samples (kitchen), the storage area, the sales area as well as other relevant facilities, shops, restaurants, cafeterias.

33.8. Participants that do not dispose of an indoor space can be allocated a space for commercial activities at another location in the Expo site.

33.9. The installation of automatic vending machines and commercial activities outside of the specified area (e.g. “travelling hawkers”) shall not be permitted under any circumstances.

33.10. Commercial or other activities carried out in the national sections must be authorised in accordance with these General Regulations, or by the Participation Contract or by the Commissioner General of the Exhibition. An Official Participant may avail himself of any special benefits obtained by another Official Participant.

33.11. Such activities, including those concerning electronic commerce, fall exclusively within the jurisdiction of the appropriate Commissioner General of Section. If these commercial or other activities give rise to the payment of royalties, in accordance with the terms laid down in the Participation Contract, these royalties shall be collected by the Commissioner General of Section.

33.12. Items exhibited in the national sections, as well as materials used to install presentations may be sold ready for delivery after the Exhibition closes; by so doing the exhibitor shall relinquish his right to the benefit of temporary entry and shall be subject to taxation and customs regulations. No dues shall be payable to the Organiser on such sales.

33.13. In the case where the Organiser has granted exclusive commercial rights to certain suppliers for the sale of goods or services, these rights must not be allowed to hinder the commercial activities of the Official Participants, whether these activities are restaurants, or the sale of articles included in the national sections.

33.14. Concessions made by the Organiser should respect the principle of nondiscrimination between nationals and foreigners; avoid all risk of imbalance between the number and nature of concessions, and the eventual number of visitors and all excesses of commercialisation leading to alterations in the objectives of an international exhibition, as established by the BIE.

33.15. Further details are stipulated in the Special Regulation No. 9 mentioned above and referred to in Article 43.

Article 34. Commercial activities of Exhibitors

Exhibitors shall generally not be permitted to engage in commercial activities.

Article 35. Special events organised by Official Participants

35.1. Official Participants may organise cultural and other activities which bear a relationship to the theme of the Exhibition. The conditions shall be determined on an individual basis by an agreement between the Organiser, the Commissioner General of the Exhibition and the particular Official Participant.

35.2. The Organiser shall be informed in writing 90 days before the opening of the Exhibition about special events, if the type of event requires consultation with the Organiser. The relevant dates, the location and the theme of the special events as well as other important information must be listed with a view to ensuring that the events run smoothly.

35.3. To promote the Exhibition, the Organiser shall have the right to make sound, image and video recordings of events organised by Official Participants, insofar as their use is not an infringement of copyright or industrial property rights.

35.4. Further details shall be stipulated in in Special Regulation No. 13 concerning admissions to the exhibition site and Special Regulation No. 9 concerning commercial activities by Official Participants, referred to in Article 43

Article 36. Awards

The Organiser shall, in accordance with the BIE and AIPH regulations, arrange competitions and evaluations to award high-quality exhibitions. The rules will be set forth in Special Regulation No. 14 concerning the conditions governing the attribution of awards, referred to in Article 43.

CHAPTER II. PUBLICITY

Article 37. Exhibition catalogue

37.1. Expo 2023 Doha shall be described in an exhibition catalogue.

37.2. The completion of the catalogue requires the collaboration of all participants with the Organiser. Information, which is needed for the production of the catalogue, shall be provided to the Organiser by the respective participants or, if applicable, by the Commissioner General

of their National Section. Before the publication of the exhibition catalogue, the relevant Commissioner General of Section shall approve the part of the catalogue that pertains to his section. The Organiser shall promptly notify participants of the deadlines by which such information and the approval of the relevant National Commissioner General must be submitted for the production of the exhibition catalogue.

37.3. Every Official Participant shall have the right to publish a catalogue at its own expense concerning the objects and displays exhibited in its Section.

Article 38. Information signs/labels/public image

38.1. Official Participants who set up an indoor and/or outdoor exhibition may display or install one (1) sign in the outdoor area of their exhibit where the concept of the national garden is explained, and the possible sponsor and the company charged with laying out the national exhibition are thanked. The sizes, text and languages shall be specified and approved by the Organiser. Additional information about third parties, particularly about sponsors and suppliers of the Official Participant shall not be permitted.

38.2. No other participant (Exhibitor or Concessionaire) shall be permitted without the prior written agreement of the Organiser, to make reference to themselves or third parties with any kind of signs or notices with external effect on the Expo site (e.g. signs, flags, leaflets, or other means of advertising)

38.3. Participants may place signboards, posters, notices, printed matter and similar such material on their stands or in their pavilions.

38.4. Notices and labels shall be in uniform sizes and colours. The Organiser shall use the information provided by the participants at the time of registration, after having checked the list of labels. Damaged or lost signs shall be replaced by the Organiser.

38.5. The use of audio-visual media on the Expo grounds which have an external impact shall require advance permission from the Organiser. If such media are used without advance permission, the Organiser may demand that they be removed immediately. In addition, the Organiser shall have the right to demand their immediate removal, if it deems that the use of audio-visual media is not compatible with the proper and smooth running of the Exhibition.

38.6. Leaflets, brochures, or other promotional items may only be distributed within the enclosure of the Participant's section.

38.7. Prior permission of the Organiser shall be obtained for announcements or advertisements of events on the Exhibition site. The use of loudspeakers shall be prohibited with the exception of express written authorisation has been given by the Organiser.

38.8. Further details are stipulated in Special Regulation No. 9 concerning commercial activities by Official Participants, referred to in Article 43.

Article 39. Use of the Exhibition's logo and other identifying marks of the Organiser

39.1. Official Participants may use the Exhibition logo and other identifying marks of the Organiser such as registered trademark rights and naming rights free of charge exclusively for non-commercial purposes associated with the Exhibition. This right of use shall not be transferable.

39.2. Other participants (Exhibitors and Concessionaires) shall not have any right to use the Exhibition logo or other identifying marks of the Organiser such as trademark rights or naming rights.

39.3. Further details shall be stipulated in Special Regulation No. 9 concerning commercial activities by Official Participants, referred to in Article 43.

CHAPTER III. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Article 40. General Regulations

40.1. Each participant shall undertake to adopt the necessary measures for the protection of intellectual property, so that the intellectual property rights of third parties are not infringed and violations of Qatar competition law are not committed as part of its participation in the Exhibition.

40.2. The Organiser shall not be liable, in particular, for the violation of the rights of third parties or actions contrary to the rules of competition by a participant.

40.3. Before the initiation of legal proceedings against a participant for violation of intellectual property rights or anticompetitive actions during the Exhibition, each participant must inform the Organiser immediately.

40.4. In the event of clear infringement of the rights of a participant or violations of the competition law, the Commissioner General of the Exhibition may request the participant who has committed the offense to stop and abandon the activities leading to the infringement immediately, without excluding enforceability.

40.5. Within the scope of industrial property law, the following are protected in particular:

- Patents
- Samples
- Food samples
- Protected plant varieties

- Brands
- Names and business labels
- Copyrights

40.6. Further details shall be stipulated in Special Regulation No. 11 concerning intellectual property rights, referred to in Article 43.

Article 41. Images concerning the Exhibition

41.1. The reproduction and the sale of photographs or other images of exterior views of individual exhibited pieces, buildings and gardens of Official Participants and all interior views of the exhibits of Official Participants shall require the consent of the Commissioner General of Section involved.

41.2. The reproduction and the sale of photographs or other images concerning the Exhibition as a whole or parts thereof, provided they are not covered under Article 41.1., shall require the consent of the Organiser.

41.3. Any other participant (Exhibitor or Concessionaire) must accept to having the images mentioned in Article 41.1. produced by the Organiser. They shall relinquish any claims with respect to the revenue from the sale or any other use of the images, unless this is contradicted by a regulation in the participation contract.

41.4. The Organiser reserves the right to authorise the reproduction and sale of all kinds of visuals of the Exhibition.

SECTION VII. FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 42. Scope of application / miscellaneous regulations

42.1. Participants shall observe the Convention and the BIE Regulations, AIPH Regulations, the General Regulations and Special Regulations of the Exhibition, the Qatar law and guidelines established by the Organiser.

42.2. If one or more provisions of these General Regulations or the Special Regulations should be deleted partially or entirely, lose legal force or become impossible to implement, or should they lose their legal effect or viability, validity of the remaining provisions shall not be affected.

Article 43. Special Regulations

43.1. The participants should be aware that the Organiser cannot yet adopt all relevant and generally binding regulations applying to participants at the time of establishment of these

General Regulations.

43.2. Upon their approval by the BIE, the Special Regulations shall be provided by the Organiser as printed text on demand and may be downloaded from the website of the Exhibition.

43.3. The Organiser shall establish the following Special Regulations at a later stage of preparatory work of the Exhibition, based on the Convention, the guidelines of the AIPH and these General Regulations:

- Special Regulation No. 1 concerning the definition of the theme of the Exhibition and the guidelines for theme development by the Organiser and the Participants,
- Special Regulation No. 2 concerning the conditions of participation in the Exhibition,
- Special Regulation No. 3 concerning the rules for the functioning of the Steering Committee of the College of Commissioners General,
- Special Regulation No. 4 concerning construction, installation, workplace safety, fire prevention and environmental protection,
- Special Regulation No. 5 concerning the installation and operation of machinery and equipment,
- Special Regulation No. 6 concerning the accommodation for the personnel of Official Participants,
- Special Regulation No. 7 concerning customs clearance, transportation and handling of goods,
- Special Regulation No. 8 concerning insurance,
- Special Regulation No. 9 concerning commercial activities by Official Participants,
- Special Regulation No. 10 concerning general services,
- Special Regulation No. 11 concerning intellectual property rights,
- Special Regulation No. 12 concerning the privileges and advantages of Commissioners General of Section and of their staff,
- Special Regulation No. 13 concerning admissions to the Exhibition site,
- Special Regulation No. 14 concerning the conditions governing the attribution of awards.

43.4. The above regulations shall be drafted in accordance with the time schedule required by

the BIE and the AIPH and submitted to the BIE for approval. The Organiser may issue further guidelines as necessary according to the particular situation of the Exhibition, which shall be in accordance with the General and Special Regulations.