

## Law n°11

### Construction of a nature reserve in Bentael

**Article 1** – A nature reserve shall be constructed in the territories of public property in the village of Bentael in the district of Jbeil on the two real estate's number 713 and 714 and which borders are as follows:

**Real estate number 713:**

- **In the North:** a public road and private properties pertaining to the real estate region of Bentael.
- **In the West:** private properties for the real estate region of Bentael.
- **In the South:** a winter watercourse and a public road.
- **In the East:** the border of the real estate region of Hjoula.

**Real estate number 714:**

- **In the North:** a public road.
- **In the West:** a public road, private properties and the borders of the real estate region of Edde.
- **In the South:** a winter watercourse and the border of the real estate region of Edde.
- **In the East:** a winter watercourse.

**Article 2** – Shall be prohibited the cutting and manufacturing of all the trees and shrubs of all kinds existing within the reserve.

**Article 3** – Shall be prohibited the entrance of cattle to the territories of the reserve, in order to protect its soil and to forbid its damaging.

**Article 4** – Shall be prohibited the removal of any crop of the reserve crops, as the extract or removal of the metal or water or dust or herbs or flowers or grass or green leaves or natural cements from the woody land or the oaks or the different kinds of seeding or the other fruits and the different crops or contents of the reserve unless for the purpose of a scientific research, which aims at the improvement of the ecology of the reserve.

**Article 5** – Shall be prohibited the undertaking of any act or behavior that may violate the natural equilibrium of the reserve, particularly:

- 1- Setting on fire or burning the herbs and other kinds of vegetable or natural rubbish existing in the reserve at less than 500 meters from its border.
- 2- Hunting in the territories of the reserve and within a distance of less than 500 meters from its border.
- 3- Camping in the territories of the reserve or throwing the rubbish etc. or any other act damaging the reserve or deforming the natural views or spoiling its resources.

**Article 6** – Shall be applied within the scope of the reserve every current or future legal text and all the international agreements in force, which focus on the protection of the environment, the woody fortune and the beauty nature.

**Article 7** – The one who tries to cut or manufacture the trees or the herbs of the territories of the reserve shall be punished by imprisonment from three months to three years, and by payment of a fine of two million and five hundred thousand Lebanese pounds for every one kg of wood and one hundred and fifty thousand Lebanese pounds for all the natural or manufactured grass and wood, and shall be sold by auction in the interest of the committee of reserve from which they are extracted.

**Article 8** – Everyone who enters the cattle to the reserve shall be punished by imprisonment from two months to six months and by a fine of two hundred and fifty thousand Lebanese pounds for each head.

**Article 9** – Everyone who breaks or damages or transfers any crop of the reserve crops or removes the borders or the land-dividing marks shall be punished by imprisonment from fifteen days to six months, and by the payment of a fine from one thousand Lebanese pounds to a million Lebanese pounds.

Everyone who sets on fire in the reserve shall be punished by imprisonment from six months to two years and by a fine conforming to the occurred damages.

In case of ordering two penalties for two different acts shall be executed the higher penalty.

**Article 10** – In any case and in addition to the above-mentioned penalties, shall be ordered the restitution of the woodsy materials taken or cut from the forest or any product of the same, and the confiscation of the hammers, cutters, machines and cutting instruments and other materials as well as the seizure of the means of transportation used for committing the violation for a specific period. And these materials and fines shall belong to the committee of the reserve in which they have been confiscated.

**Article 11** – A committee of twelve members of the volunteers shall be designated for three years under a decision from the minister of the environment to effectuate the works of protection and preservation and attraction of the scientific experience to ecologically rehabilitate the reserve, provided that shall be represented in the committee the experts at the environment affairs, as well as the representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Municipal and Village Affairs, the Municipality of Bentaal and the Environmental Associations.

**Article 12** – This Law shall be applied immediately after its publication in the official gazette.

Baabda on February 20, 1999

Signature: Emile Lahoud

Promulgated by the president of the Republic

President of the council of ministers

Signature: Salim El Hoss