

Protected geological system

Published in the Official Gazette No. 5718 Page 1836 on 16-05-2021
No. Articles : 12 Effective Date : 16-05-2021

- Article 1

This system is called (System of Geological Reserves for the year 2021) and it shall be enforced from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

- Article 2

A- The following words and expressions wherever mentioned in this Bylaw shall have the meanings assigned to them below, unless the context indicates otherwise:

Law: the law of natural resources.

The Ministry: The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources.

Minister: The Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources.

The Secretary General: The Secretary General of the Ministry.

Landmarks: the geomorphological shapes, distinct geological geological structures, and rocks on the surface of the earth that were formed by the earth's movements and geological processes during previous geological eras.

Geological reserve: a geographical area with multiple geological features.

Geoparks: a geographical area with a single contiguous area that includes geological features and landscapes of geological significance.

The buffer zone: The area that surrounds the boundaries of a geological reserve and is considered complementary to it that guarantees the integrity of its geological system.

The Committee: The Committee for the Management of Reserves and Geological Parks formed in accordance with the provisions of this bylaw.

B - The definitions contained in the law shall be adopted wherever they are stipulated in this system, unless the context indicates otherwise.

- Article 3

A- The Ministry shall assume the following tasks and powers: -

- 1- Defining reserves and geological parks and delineating their boundaries.
- 2 - Declaration of reserves and geological parks.
- 3- Supervising geological reserves and parks in the Kingdom, and promoting them locally and internationally.
- 4- Providing technical and administrative staff to supervise reserves and geological parks.
- 5- Providing basic services for the preservation and continuity of reserves and geoparks and their monuments.
- 6- Any other tasks and powers related to reserves and geological parks assigned to them by the Council of Ministers.

B- The reserves and geological parks shall be determined by a decision of the Minister based on the committee's recommendation.

- Article 4

The following standards and conditions are taken into consideration when determining geological reserves and parks:

- A- Achieving economic, social and tourism development at the site.
- B. The historical, scientific, economic and touristic value of the geological features present at the site.
- C. Ownership of the land, and if it is private ownership, consideration is given to the value of the geological features available there and the need to preserve them.
- D. The extent of the likelihood of the site containing petroleum, strategic minerals, oil shale, surface or ground water sources, or sites monitoring water sources and their future exploitation.

- Article 5

The Ministry coordinates with the concerned authorities to rent or acquire private lands that are intended to be declared reserves or geological parks for the public benefit.

- Article 6

A- A committee shall be formed in the ministry called (the Committee for Management of Reserves and Geological Gardens) headed by the Secretary-General and the membership of each of: -

- 1- Assistant Secretary-General for Natural Resources.
- 2- Director of the Directorate of Natural Resources Studies.
- 3- Director of the Directorate of Natural Resources Projects.
- 4- A representative of the Ministry of Environment to be named by its minister.
5. A representative of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities to be named by its minister.
- 6- A representative of the Ministry of Water and Irrigation to be named by its Minister.
- 7- A representative of the Ministry of Local Administration named by its minister.
- 8- A delegate of the Energy and Minerals Regulatory Commission to be named by its Chairman.
- 9- A representative of the Geologists Syndicate to be named by its captain.
- 10- A representative of the Syndicate of Engineers - Geology and Mining Division - to be named by its head.
- 11- A delegate of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature to be named by its president.
- 12- A delegate of the geology departments in the official Jordanian universities to be named by the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

B - The committee chairman shall be designated from among its members as his deputy, who shall carry out his duties in his absence.

C - The head of the committee designates from among the ministry's employees a secretary who calls for its meetings, records its sessions's minutes, keeps its records and records, follows up on the implementation of its decisions, and any other tasks assigned to it by the head of the committee.

D - The committee meets at the invitation of its chairman or his deputy in his absence, at least once a month or whenever needed.

E - The committee may invite any experienced and competent person to seek his opinion without having the right to vote.

- Article 7

The committee shall assume the following duties and powers: -

A- Preparing the principles and criteria for selecting reserves and geological parks and their areas in accordance with the provisions of this system, and in accordance with international practices, in accordance with instructions issued by the Minister for this purpose.

B- Studying areas that could be considered reserves or geological parks and assigning them to the Minister.

C- Adopting areas, borders, and features of protected areas and geological parks.

D - Coordination with government agencies and institutions concerned with regulatory affairs to study any proposed changes to the regulatory provisions approved for these areas in accordance with the legislation in force.

E- Setting up supervision plans for reserves and geological parks.

F - Coordination with the concerned authorities to promote geological reserves and parks locally and internationally.

G- To propose mechanisms for organizing tourism in reserves and geological parks.

H- Any other tasks assigned by the Minister

- Article 8

The Directorate of Natural Resources Studies in the Ministry, in coordination with the directorates and support units, undertakes the implementation of supervision, protection and basic services plans for reserves and geological parks, and field visits to them, preserving their geological features, and reporting any attacks on them.

- Article 9

It is prohibited for any person to perform any of the following actions within the boundaries of reserves and geological parks and under penalty of legal accountability: -

A- Entering any of them without official permission.

B - Violating public behavior and safety instructions within their declared borders and at the main entrances or through private publications.

C- Collecting rare fossils or unique minerals or artifacts within their borders and the buffer zone, with the exception of specialized geological researchers, subject to obtaining prior approval from the Ministry.

D - Distortion of geological features and rocky façades.

E- The dumping or leaving the wastes and excreta, or the dumping of hazardous wastes within their borders and in the buffer zone.

And - throwing out rubble and dust and pumping wastewater into their borders and into the buffer zone.

G - Assault on their workers or prevent them from carrying out their work.

H - Influencing and changing the nature of the general landscape in the buffer zone.

I- Setting fires or grazing within their borders.

J- Putting or using toxins within their borders and in the buffer zone for any reason whatsoever.

- Article 10

In the event that the boundaries of any reserve or geological park overlap with any nature reserve established or proposed within the national network of natural reserves in accordance with the legislation in force, the tasks of management, supervision and preservation are all of the authority supervising the nature reserve, provided that this is done in coordination with the Ministry.

- Article 11

Whoever violates the provisions of this system shall be punished with the penalties stipulated in the legislation in force.

- Article 12

The Minister shall issue the necessary instructions to implement the provisions of this system.

4/4/2021