

(Translation)

Bar Act B.E. 2507

BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ, REX.

Given on 3rd February, B.E. 2507;

Being the 19th Year of the Present Reign

His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej is graciously pleased to proclaim that:

Whereas it is expedient to enact a law regarding the Bar;

Be it, therefore, enacted by the King, by and with the advice and consent of the Constitution Drafting Assembly serving as the National Assembly as follows;

Section 1 This Act is called the Bar Act, B.E. 2507

Section 2 This Act shall come into force as from the day following the date of its publication in the Government Gazette.

Section 3 The Bar, established by His Majesty King Vajiravudh and having authority and duties under the law on lawyers shall be a juristic person.

Section 4 The Bar shall have the following objectives:

- (1) To promote law education and legal profession, including to provide the funds therefor;
- (2) To supervise lawyer etiquette under the law on lawyers;
- (3) To promote the unity and to uphold the honor among its members.

Section 5 The Bar may obtain income from the following:

- (1) Grants from the national budgets;
- (2) Registration fees, maintenance fees and others fees;
- (3) Benefits from investment and other activities;
- (4) Donated properties;
- (5) Income pursuant to other laws.

Section 6 The Minister of Justice shall be the Honorary President of the Bar and shall have authority and duties to supervise the administration of the Bar as provided under this Act.

Section 7 There shall be a committee, called the Bar Committee, consisting of the President of the Supreme Court as President, President of the Court of Appeals and the Attorney General as Vice Presidents, and other members not less than sixteen persons elected from the ordinary members of the Bar.

The Committee shall be given the authority and duties to administer the Bar pursuant to laws and the regulations of the Bar.

Section 8 The Bar Committee shall be empowered to prescribe regulations of the Bar regarding:

- (1) The types of membership, qualifications of the membership applicants, application process and termination of membership;
- (2) Registration fees, maintenance fees and other fees;
- (3) Number of members of committees, qualifications and types of persons eligible for members of committees, their election and termination of office;
- (4) Meeting of committees and other meetings;
- (5) Other matters under the objectives of the Bar and under the scope of the Bar under other laws.

Subject to Section 11, the regulations of the Bar shall be effective upon their publication in the Royal Gazette.

Section 9 In the affairs involving third parties, the President, or the Vice President authorized by the President, shall be a representative of the Bar.

Section 10 The Honorary President may attend any meetings of the Bar Committee and with respect to any matter whatsoever, may express his opinions in such meeting, or submit them in writing to the Bar.

Section 11 A resolution of the Bar Committee shall be approved by the Honorary President prior to its implementation, except for resolutions empowered by other laws.

The President shall propose such resolution to the Honorary President without delay for approval. The Honorary President may veto such resolution. In the event that the Honorary President fails to do so within 15 days from the date of receipt proposed by the President, it shall be deemed that the Honorary President approves such resolution.

The Bar Committee shall reconsider a resolution vetoed by the Honorary President. Should the resolution be reaffirmed by more than three fourth of the whole members of Committee, it can then be implemented accordingly.

Section 12 Pending enactment of the new regulation of the Bar pursuant to Section 8, the regulation of the Bar in force prior to the coming into force of this Act shall remain effective to the extent not contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions hereof.

The Bar Committee set forth in the Regulation of the Bar Committee under paragraph one shall remain in acting position and shall have duties to enact new regulations of the Bar within 90 days from the date of this Act's entry into force. The Committee shall also hold an election of the members of the Committee in accordance with the new regulation within 90 days from the date such new regulation enters into force.

After the completion of new members' election, the acting members under paragraph two shall be relieved of their duties.

Section 13 The Minister of Justice shall be in charge of this Act.

Countersigned by

Field Marshal Thanom Kittikachon,

Prime Minister