

Cabinet Resolution No. (31) of 2018 on Community-Supported Agriculture

The Cabinet:

- Upon reviewing the Constitution;
- Federal Law No. (1) of 1972 Concerning the Jurisdictions of Ministries and Powers of Ministers, as amended;
- Federal Law No. (5) of 1979 on Agricultural Quarantine and amendments;
- Federal Law No. (24) of 1999 Concerning the Protection and Development of the Environment, as amended;
- Federal Law No. (5) of 2009 on Organic Inputs and Products;
- Based on the proposal of the Minister of Climate Change and Environment and the approval of the Cabinet,

Has resolved as follows:

Article (1)

Definitions

In application of the provisions herein, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings ascribed thereto, unless the context requires otherwise:

State : United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Ministry : The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment.

Minister : Minister of Climate Change and Environment.

Competent Authority : The concerned local authority in each Emirate.

Community-Supported Agriculture : A type of agricultural activity which completely employs all community resources that can be used, such as spaces at residential places, roofs of the buildings and educational institutions to develop and extend, diversify agricultural activity and benefit from its effects for the service and education of community as well as

enhancing the environmental benefits.

Community-supported productive model farm :A farm of plant production approved by the Ministry. This farm carries on activities to spread awareness concerning agriculture importance for community, its methods and all matters with respect to agriculture through implementing voluntary agricultural activities.

Article (2)

Resolution Objectives

This Resolution aims at contributing to implement the following:

1. Environment improvement, diversification of plant production and enhancement of food variety and security.
2. Instil and reinforce the culture of cultivation, food production and contribution to create an educated generation that shares in keeping sustainable agricultural development in the State.
3. Contribute to fill the gap of daily needs of families with respect to plant agricultural products.
4. Raise and enhance the concept of sustainable cities and maintenance of environment and well as the increase of green spot in the State.
5. Encourage the orientation toward climate-smart agriculture, such as hydroponic agriculture and organic agriculture.
6. The ample use of water through re-using water in community-supported agriculture.

Article (3)

Encouragement of Community-Supported Agriculture

The Ministry and the competent authority shall take necessary procedures to instil and encourage and develop the culture of community-supported agriculture as well as support the activities of individuals and institutions in the State to accomplish the objectives of this Resolution.

Article (4)

Methods to encourage Community-Supported Agriculture

Community-supported agriculture is enhanced and encouraged through the following:

1. The Ministry shall prepare technical, guiding and training programs as well as bulletins required for the following:
 - a. Educating community individuals and its institutions with the importance of Community-Supported Agriculture.
 - b. Determine community-supported agriculture styles, methods of implementation and systems that can be applied.
2. The competent authority shall provide seedlings, seeds and necessary tools to implement community-supported agriculture projects and programs, specifically in places that require initialization and preparation.
3. Boards of universities, schools and residential buildings shall manage the implementation of community-supported agriculture operations and taking care of plants according to the instructions and guidelines of the competent authority.

Article (5)

Seasons of Community-Supported Agriculture

The competent authority, in coordination with the Ministry, shall undertake the following:

1. Determine appropriate seasons of community-supported agriculture to ensure ample agricultural production.
2. Provide manuals that contain all crops of vegetables, fruit trees and trees that can be used in community-supported agriculture, and necessary agricultural operations to get the best productivity, including pest control and reduction of pesticide use.
3. Provide a model educational agricultural farm or farms for training and teaching community-supported agriculture styles and making relevant activities.
4. Prepare a list of names, addresses and details of community-supported agriculture farms in order to develop and implement agricultural training activities for community individuals and to encourage them to participate in producing their food.

Article (6)

Features of Community-Supported Agriculture Plants

1. The Ministry and the competent authority encourage community individuals and institutions to cultivate plants that are characterized with the following:
 - a. Have an economic and environmental return.
 - b. Withstand environmental conditions and the climate nature of the State, and with a little need for irrigation.
 - c. Pests and diseases resistant.
 - d. The plants are not invasive strange ones.
 - e. Types that contribute to food security enhancement.
 - f. Reserve the environment and support environmental sustainability and plant production diversification.
2. The Minister shall issue, in coordination with the competent authority, a guiding list of the plants referred to in this Article.

Article (7)

Agriculture of Spaces at Education Institution

1. The Ministry and the competent authority shall encourage educational institutions in the State to exercise community-supported agriculture through the following:
 - a. Helping these institutions to use the unused spaces at locations they occupy by growing such plants referred to in Article (6) of this Resolution.
 - b. Perform activities to urge students in such institutions to participate in community-supported agriculture and enhance cultivation culture, by including them in implementing agricultural operations.
 - c. Cooperate and coordinate with these institutions with respect to allotment of an academic activity for students to take care of agriculture.
 - d. Supervise the implementation of operations of community-supported agriculture and taking care of plants in accordance with the guidelines of the Ministry and the competent authority.

2. Upon construction of new educational institutions, a certain area shall be allotted in order to be used in community-supported agriculture.
3. The educational institution shall coordinate with the competent authority the tasks of marketing crops of the community-supported agriculture.

Article (8)

Farming Spaces Within Houses and Residential Complexes

The Ministry and the competent authority shall instil the culture of community-supported agriculture and food production in individuals of community to contribute to meet the daily needs of food. This shall be made by developing guidelines, preparing programs and taking necessary procedures or resolutions to enable community individuals to perform the following:

1. Using certain spaces at the house to grow the plants referred to in Article (6) of this Resolution.
2. Allocate a part of the spaces of residential complexes for growing the plants referred to in Article (6) of this Resolution. This shall be in coordination with the administration of such complexes.

Article (9)

Planting the Governmental Buildings

1. Governmental entities must use the spaces available in the buildings they occupy or own in growing the plants referred to in Article (6) of this Resolution.
2. The competent authority shall determine how to dispose the products of the plants grown according to provisions of this Article subject to its places and quantities.

Article (10)

Rationalization of Irrigation in Community-Supported Agriculture

The Ministry and the competent authority shall encourage rationalization of water while irrigating community-supported agriculture plants. This shall include raising awareness about the following:

1. The use of modern and efficient irrigation systems and technologies, including hydroponics systems and organic agriculture among other methods.
2. The use of guiding programs and guiding bulletins issued by the Ministry or the competent

authority in this respect while watering agricultural crops according to its type and need for water.

3. Encouraging the use of waste-water reclaimed for irrigation.

Article (11)

Provision of Seeds, Marketing and Supervision

The competent authority shall supervise the application of provisions of this Resolution, including the following:

1. Providing a reliable source for seeds and seedlings.
2. Providing necessary support for marketing community-supported agriculture products.
3. Inspecting the gardens of schools, universities and governmental entities that are planted pursuant to provisions of this Resolution in any of the following cases:
 - a. When requested by the entity to which the gardens belong in order to provide assistance in implementing provisions of this Resolution.
 - b. When there is a complaint or serious reasons that refer to a violation committed with respect to non-compliance of such entities to use modern irrigation methods and reduction of pesticide use.

Article (12)

All Concerned Authorities in the UAE shall implement the provisions of this Resolution, each within their jurisdiction.

Article (13)

Resolutions Issuance

The Minister, in coordination with the Competent Authority, shall issue the Resolutions necessary to apply the provisions of this Resolution.

Article (14)

Publication and Enforcement

This Resolution shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall enter into force as of the day following

its publication date.

Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum

Prime Minister

Issued by Us:

Date: 13 / Ramadan /1439 H

Corresponding to: 29 / May / 2018 AD