

Executive Council Resolution No. (14) of 2026
Approving the
Activities Related to the Use of Autonomous Vehicles and
their Operational Phases in the Emirate of Dubai¹

We, Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Chairman of the Executive Council,

After perusal of:

Federal Law by Decree No. (14) of 2024 Regulating Road Traffic;

Law No. (17) of 2005 Establishing the Roads and Transport Authority and its amendments;

Law No. (9) of 2023 Regulating the Operation of Autonomous Vehicles in the Emirate of Dubai and its Implementing Bylaw;

Executive Council Resolution No. (33) of 2011 Regulating the Transport of Passengers by Buses in the Emirate of Dubai;

Executive Council Resolution No. (6) of 2016 Regulating Passenger Transport by Cars in the Emirate of Dubai, its amendments, and its Implementing Bylaw;

Executive Council Resolution No. (47) of 2017 Regulating the Activities of Transportation by, and Rental of, Vehicles in the Emirate of Dubai, its Implementing Bylaw, and their amendments; and

Executive Council Resolution No. (107) of 2023 Regulating the Tourist Transport Activity in the Emirate of Dubai and its Implementing Bylaw,

Do hereby issue this Resolution.

Definitions

Article (1)

The words and expressions mentioned in this Resolution have the same meanings assigned to them in the above-mentioned Law No. (9) of 2023. The following words and expressions,

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¹Every effort has been made to produce an accurate and complete English version of this legislation. However, for the purpose of its interpretation and application, reference must be made to the original Arabic text. In case of conflict, the Arabic text will prevail.

wherever mentioned in this Resolution, have the meanings indicated opposite each of them unless the context implies otherwise:

Operation Phases: The phases for operating Autonomous Vehicles as specified in Article (3) of this Resolution.

Activity: Any activity involving the use of Autonomous Vehicles as specified in Article (2) of this Resolution.

Safety Operator: A natural person present on board an Autonomous Vehicle during its operation and appointed by the Operator or the manufacturer of the Autonomous Vehicle to assume manual control of the Vehicle where necessary to prevent the Vehicle from losing control or being involved in an accident.

Activities Related to the Use of Autonomous Vehicles Article (2)

- a. Autonomous Vehicles may be used in any of the activities specified in the following legislation, to the extent that their use is compatible with the nature of the activity:
 1. the above-mentioned Executive Council Resolution No. (33) of 2011;
 2. the above-mentioned Executive Council Resolution No. (6) of 2016;
 3. the above-mentioned Executive Council Resolution No. (47) of 2017; and
 4. the above-mentioned Executive Council Resolution No. (107) of 2023.
- b. Without prejudice to the provisions of the above-mentioned Law No. (9) of 2023, the provisions of the legislation referred to in paragraph (a) of this Article apply to Autonomous Vehicles used in the activities specified therein, to the extent that they are compatible with the nature of the Autonomous Vehicles.
- c. The Director General will, pursuant to a resolution he issues in this respect, determine the requirements and controls for the use of Autonomous Vehicles in the activities specified in the legislation referred to in paragraph (a) of this Article.

Operational Phases of Autonomous Vehicles Article (3)

- a. Autonomous Vehicles will be operated in the following phases:

1. **First Phase:** Verification of data and maps.
 2. **Second Phase:** Operation with a Safety Operator on board.
 3. **Third Phase:** Operation without a Safety Operator on board.
- b. The RTA will determine the date on which each of the phases referred to in paragraph (a) of this Article begins and ends.

Obligations of Operators during the First Phase Article (4)

During the First Phase of the operation of Autonomous Vehicles, an Operator must:

1. ensure that the Autonomous Driving System is capable of operating safely and effectively in the transport environment within the Emirate, including on Roads, at intersections, in urban areas, and in any other locations approved by the RTA for the operation of Autonomous Vehicles;
2. verify the accuracy of the data used or collected during the First Phase to ensure the safe and secure operation of Autonomous Vehicles on Roads. The data and information must include:
 - a. data on traffic movement and road-user behaviour;
 - b. data on climatic conditions prevailing in the Emirate;
 - c. traffic rules in force in the Emirate;
 - d. data on the response of Autonomous Vehicles to emergency Vehicles operated by government entities, including fire engines, ambulances, and police Vehicles;
 - e. data on the response of Autonomous Vehicles to changes in traffic movement and flow caused by accidents, Road maintenance or repair works, and public events held in the Emirate; and
 - f. any other data determined by the Operator in coordination with the RTA.
3. generate and maintain up-to-date high-definition maps for the areas of operation approved by the RTA;
4. conduct all necessary virtual testing to validate the ability of the Autonomous Driving Systems to collect and process data effectively, record all testing findings, and submit them to the RTA for approval before the operation of Autonomous Vehicles progresses to the next phase;

5. fulfil any other obligations determined pursuant to the relevant resolution of the Director General.

Obligations of Operators during the Second Phase Article (5)

During the Second Phase of the operation of Autonomous Vehicles, an Operator must:

1. operate an Autonomous Vehicle only with a Safety Operator on board until the success criteria specified by the RTA have been achieved;
2. obtain the RTA's approval before progressing to the Third Phase of operation; and
3. fulfil any other obligations determined pursuant to the relevant resolution of the Director General.

Obligations of Operators during the Third Phase Article (6)

During the Third Phase of the operation of Autonomous Vehicles, an Operator must:

1. not operate Autonomous Vehicles without first obtaining the relevant Permit;
2. comply with the operational standards and performance and safety indicators specified by the RTA for Autonomous Vehicles;
3. provide the RTA with an undertaking that Autonomous Vehicles will not obstruct traffic or compromise the safety of Road Users during its operation;
4. provide the RTA and the Competent Entities in the Emirate, upon request, with the necessary data and information related to the operation of Autonomous Vehicles; and
5. fulfil any other obligations determined pursuant to the relevant resolution of the Director General.

Using Autonomous Vehicles for Personal Purposes Article (7)

- a. An individual who owns an Autonomous Vehicle intended for personal use must not activate the Autonomous Driving System except during the Third Phase of the operation of Autonomous Vehicles, and only after obtaining the relevant approval of the RTA.

- b. An Autonomous Vehicle may only be used in accordance with paragraph (a) of this Article if, at the time of its initial registration in the Emirate, the Vehicle was supplied by the approved local Agent for that specific type of Vehicle.
- c. Where the RTA approves the activation of the Autonomous Driving System, the owner of the Autonomous Vehicle must:
 - 1. activate the Autonomous Driving System in coordination with, or under the direct supervision of the Agent;
 - 2. use the Autonomous Vehicle on the Roads and lanes, and in the areas, specified by the RTA;
 - 3. where a child is on board, ensure that the child is accompanied by another person, subject to the age requirements prescribed for the child and the accompanying person by resolution of the Director General;
 - 4. comply with the safety requirements and standards approved by the RTA for the use of Autonomous Vehicles;
 - 5. immediately notify the RTA of any malfunctions in the Autonomous Driving System; and
 - 6. fulfil any other obligations determined pursuant to the relevant resolution of the Director General.
- d. Where the Autonomous Driving System is not activated, the Autonomous Vehicle will be registered and licensed as a conventional Vehicle in accordance with the conditions and procedures prescribed for the registration and licensing of Vehicles under the relevant legislation applicable to the RTA.
- e. In any event, the owner of the Autonomous Vehicle must submit an undertaking to the RTA not to activate the Autonomous Driving System after the registration and licensing of the Vehicle without first obtaining the RTA's approval, and to bear legal liability for any damage arising out of the activation of that system without that approval.

Administrative Penalties and Fines

Article (8)

The Chairman of the Executive Council will issue a resolution determining the acts that constitute violations of this Resolution and the applicable fines to be imposed on those who commit such violations.

**Issuing Implementing Resolutions
Article (9)**

The Director General will issue the resolutions required for the implementation of this Resolution. These resolutions will be published in the Official Gazette of the Government of Dubai.

**Publication and Commencement
Article (10)**

This Resolution will be published in the Official Gazette and will come into force on the day on which it is published.

**Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum
Crown Prince of Dubai
Chairman of the Executive Council**

Issued in Dubai on 12 May 2026
Corresponding to 25 Thu al-Qidah 1447 A.H.