

Law No. (29) of 2015
Establishing the
Smart Dubai City Office¹

We, Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Ruler of Dubai,

After perusal of:

Law No. (5) of 1995 Establishing the Department of Finance;

Law No. (8) of 2013 Concerning Human Resource Management of Directors General in the Government of Dubai;

Law No. (30) of 2015 Establishing the Smart Dubai Government Establishment;

Resolution No. (2) of 2013 Forming the Higher Committee for Smart Dubai Initiative; and

Resolution No. (1) of 2014 Forming the Smart Dubai Executive Committee and its amendments,

Do hereby issue this Law.

Title of the Law
Article (1)

This Law will be cited as “Law No. (29) of 2015 Establishing the Smart Dubai City Office”.

Definitions
Article (2)

The following words and expressions, wherever mentioned in this Law, will have the meaning indicated opposite each of them unless the context implies otherwise:

Emirate: The Emirate of Dubai.

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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.

Ruler:	His Highness the Ruler of Dubai.
Government:	The Government of Dubai.
Executive Council:	The Executive Council of the Emirate of Dubai.
SDO:	The Smart Dubai City Office established pursuant to this Law.
Board of Directors:	The board of directors of the SDO.
Director General:	The director general of the SDO.
DSG:	The Smart Dubai Government Establishment
Government Entity:	Any of the Government departments; public agencies and corporations; councils; authorities, including Special Development Zone and free zone authorities such as the Dubai International Financial Centre Authority; and other entities affiliated to the Government.
Shared and Standardised Services:	The smart and technical services and the infrastructure which are shared by more than one Government Entity or which may be jointly adopted and utilised, whether proposed by the DSG or by any Government Entity.
Smart Transformation:	All means supporting the transformation of the Emirate into a smart city, including infrastructure, smart services, data, policies, and strategies; and the financial appropriations allocated for smart transformation.
HCSDI:	The Higher Committee for Smart Dubai Initiative formed pursuant to the above-mentioned Resolution No. (2) of 2013.
SDEC:	The Smart Dubai Executive Committee formed pursuant to the above-mentioned Resolution No. (1) of 2014.

Establishment of the SDO
Article (3)

Pursuant to this Law, an office named the “**Smart Dubai City Office**” is established. The SDO will have legal personality and the legal capacity required to undertake the acts and dispositions that ensure the achievement of its objectives. The SDO will be affiliated to the Chairman of the Executive Council.

Head Office of the SDO
Article (4)

The head office of the SDO will be located in the Emirate. The Board of Directors may open branches of the SDO within and outside of the Emirate.

Objectives and Functions of the SDO
Article (5)

The SDO is established with the aim to support the Emirate in its transformation into a smart city. For this purpose, the SDO will have the duties and powers to:

1. develop general policies, strategic plans, and initiatives related to information technology and smart government in the Emirate in order to ensure achievement of the Smart Transformation and sustainable creativity and innovation in this field;
2. lead, guide, and supervise Smart Transformation processes and all matters relating to information technology in the Emirate;
3. supervise the implementation of Smart Transformation initiatives and strategies;
4. approve the initiatives, projects, and Shared and Standardised Services that may support the Smart Transformation, in coordination with Government Entities;
5. enter into partnerships with concerned entities within and outside of the Emirate for the purpose of implementing Smart Transformation best practices and supporting the SDO in the achievement of its objectives;
6. approve Smart Transformation and information technology plans, budgets, initiatives, and projects of Government Entities in coordination with the Department of Finance and concerned Government Entities;

7. propose and review legislation that may promote the Smart Transformation in the public sector and the private sector;
8. enable Government Entities and the private sector in the Emirate to participate in Smart Transformation processes;
9. create and manage a central database containing all the information required for the implementation of Smart Transformation initiatives and update it with information from Government Entities and the private sector in a smooth and safe manner for use of all participants and users;
10. create a portal for smart applications and Smart Transformation processes in order to facilitate their development;
11. develop performance indicators to assess compliance with the general policies, strategies, initiatives, projects, and standards that support the Smart Transformation;
12. use the resources available in the Emirate to support Smart Transformation processes, in coordination with Government Entities;
13. introduce and develop innovative smart services and infrastructure, and review the proposals made by Government Entities in respect of introducing and developing smart services; and
14. perform any other duties that the SDO deems necessary for the achievement of its objectives, or that are assigned to the SDO by the Chairman of the Executive Council.

Board of Directors **Article (6)**

The SDO will have a Board of Directors comprised of a chairman, a vice chairman, and a number of experienced, competent, and specialised members appointed pursuant to a decree of the Ruler. The term of membership of the Board of Directors will be three (3) years, renewable for the same period.

Functions of the Board of Directors **Article (7)**

- a. The Board of Directors is the highest authority in charge of managing the affairs of the SDO; and will be responsible for achieving the objectives, and implementing the policies, for

which the SDO is established. The Board of Directors will exercise the authorities and powers required for achieving the objectives of the SDO, and, in particular, will have the duties and powers to:

1. approve, and follow up the implementation of, the general policy and strategic plans of the SDO;
 2. approve information technology and Smart Transformation policies, strategies, and initiatives in the Emirate;
 3. approve the strategic objectives of the SDO and the initiatives, programmes, projects, studies, and recommendations related to the work and activities of the SDO;
 4. approve and review the work plans and programmes of the SDO, and assess implementation of the same on annual basis;
 5. approve the bylaws and resolutions regulating the administrative, financial, and technical work, and human resources, of the SDO;
 6. approve the annual budget and final accounts of the SDO, and submit the same to the competent entities in the Emirate for final approval;
 7. approve the organisational structure of the SDO, and present the same to the competent entities in the Emirate for final approval;
 8. form permanent and temporary specialised committees and work teams, and determine their duties and powers in order to achieve the objectives of the SDO;
 9. review performance reports of the SDO and provide the necessary comments on these reports; and
 10. perform any other duties related to the objectives of the SDO assigned to it by the Chairman of the Executive Council.
- b. The Board of Directors may delegate any of its powers under paragraph (a) of this Article to the chairman of the Board of Directors, to any of its members, or to the Director General, provided that such delegation is specific and in writing.

Meetings of the Board of Directors
Article (8)

- a. The Board of Directors will convene at the invitation of its chairman, or vice chairman where the chairman is absent, at least once every two (2) months, or where necessary. Meetings of the Board of Directors will be valid if attended by the majority of its members, provided that the chairman or vice chairman is in attendance.
- b. Resolutions of the Board of Directors will be passed by majority vote of attending members, and in the event of a tie, the chair of the meeting will have a casting vote. Resolutions and recommendations of the Board of Directors will be recorded in minutes of meetings signed by the chair of the meeting and attending members.
- c. A rapporteur will be appointed to the Board of Directors by its chairman. The rapporteur will send invitations for the meetings of the Board of Directors to its members; prepare the agenda of meetings; record minutes of meetings; follow up the implementation of its resolutions and recommendations; and perform any other duties assigned to him by the chairman or vice chairman of the Board of Directors.

Executive Body of the SDO
Article (9)

- a. The executive body of the SDO will be comprised of the Director General and a number of administrative, finance, and technical employees.
- b. The rights and duties of SDO employees, and the rules governing their selection and appointment, will be determined pursuant to employment regulations approved by the Board of Directors.

Director General
Article (10)

- a. A Director General will be appointed to the SDO pursuant to a decree issued by the Ruler.
- b. The employment rights of the Director General will be determined in accordance with the above-mentioned Law No. (8) of 2013 and the resolutions issued in pursuance thereof.

- c. The Director General will be directly responsible to the Board of Directors for performing his duties pursuant to this Law and the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof, and for performing any duties assigned to him by the chairman of the Board of Directors.

Functions of the Director General Article (11)

The Director General will supervise the work and activities of the SDO and represent it in its relations with third parties. For these purposes, the Director General will have the duties and powers to:

1. propose the general policy and strategic, development, and operational plans of the SDO; and present the same to the Board of Directors for approval;
2. propose initiatives, programmes, projects, studies, and recommendations that are related to the work and activities of SDO and that contribute to achieving its objectives, and present the same to the Board of Directors for approval;
3. implement and follow up the resolutions passed, and the policies, plans, and programmes developed, by the Board of Directors;
4. prepare the draft annual budget and final accounts of the SDO, and present the same to the Board of Directors for approval;
5. submit to the Board of Directors periodic reports on the activities of the SDO; on performance indicators; and on the implementation of approved general policies, strategies, and initiatives;
6. supervise the daily work and employees of the SDO, and appoint the technical and administrative staff required to perform the work of the SDO in accordance with approved internal regulations and bylaws;
7. propose the organisational structure of the SDO, and present the same to the Board of Directors for approval;
8. propose the bylaws and resolutions regulating the financial, administrative, and technical work and human resources of the SDO, and submit the same to the Board of Directors for approval; and

9. perform any other duties related to the objectives and functions of the SDO assigned or delegated to him by the Board of Directors.

Financial Resources of the SDO

Article (12)

The financial resources of the SDO will consist of:

- 1- support allocated to the SDO in the general budget of the Government; and
- 2- any other resources approved by the Board of Directors or the Chairman of the Executive Council.

Accounts and Financial Year of the SDO

Article (13)

- a. In regulating its accounts and records, the SDO will apply the rules and principles of government accounting.
- b. The financial year of the SDO will commence on 1 January and will end on 31 December of each year, except that the first financial year of the SDO will commence on the date this Law comes into force and will end on 31 December of the following year.

Cooperation with the SDO

Article (14)

All Government Entities must fully cooperate with the SDO and support it to achieve its objectives.

Issuing Implementing Resolutions

Article (15)

The Chairman of the Executive Council or his authorised representative will issue the resolutions required for the implementation of the provisions of this Law.

Repeals
Article (16)

- a. The Higher Committee for Smart Dubai Initiative formed pursuant to the above-mentioned Resolution No. (2) of 2013 and the Smart Dubai Executive Committee formed pursuant to the above-mentioned Resolution No. (1) of 2014 are hereby dissolved.
- b. Any provision in any other legislation will be repealed to the extent that it contradicts the provisions of this Law.

Commencement and Publication
Article (17)

This Law comes into force on the day on which it is issued, and will be published in the Official Gazette.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

Ruler of Dubai

Issued in Dubai on 26 November 2015
Corresponding to 14 Safar 1437 A.H.