REAL PROPERTY LAW
DIFC LAW NO. 4 OF 2007

Amended and Restated
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PART 1: GENERAL

1. Title

This Law may be cited as the “Real Property Law, DIFC Law No. 4 of 2007”.

2. Legislative authority

This Law is made by the Ruler of Dubai.

3. Application of this Law

This Law applies to real property within the jurisdiction of the DIFC.

4. Background to this Law

(1) On 17 March 2003 His Highness Sheikh Mohamed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Dubai, transferred to the DIFC certain real property on which the DIFC was to be situated in accordance with the Federal and Dubai Laws to be later enacted to establish the DIFC as a financial free zone.

(2) Pursuant to the terms of that transfer, the Authority Master Developer which has sold, or intends to sell or lease, parts of that real property.

5. Purpose of this Law

The purpose of this Law is to establish a system of registration for real property within the jurisdiction of the DIFC, and in particular:

(a) to guarantee title to real property;

(b) to facilitate dealings with real property including the Registration of Real Property Rights; and

(c) to define the powers and functions of the Registrar in relation to real property.

6. Date of enactment

This Law is enacted on the date specified in the Enactment Notice in respect of this Law.

7. Date of commencement

This Law comes into force on the date specified in the Enactment Notice for the Law.

8. Real property governed by this Law

(1) From the date on which this Law comes into force, all real property from time to time within the jurisdiction of the DIFC is governed by this Law.

(2) Real property within the jurisdiction of the DIFC includes:

(a) the real property referred to in Article 4(1); and
9. **Non-applicability of certain other laws**

   (1) Dubai real property laws do not apply to real property governed by this Law unless expressly stated in such law that it has application in the DIFC.

   (2) Nothing in the Law of Security (DIFC Law No. 8 of 2005) affects real property governed by this Law.

10. **Concept of freehold ownership of real property**

    Subject to any other provision of this Law, freehold ownership of real property carries with it the same rights and obligations as ownership of an estate in fee simple under the principles of English common law and equity.

11. **Interpretation**

    (1) For the purposes of this Law, "real property" includes:

        (a) real property land, buildings, and items placed in, on or under the soil comprising a Lot with the intention that such buildings and fixtures should remain in position permanently or indefinitely, and

        (b) any interest in real property.

    (2) Unless the context indicates otherwise, a reference in this Law to real property is a reference to real property within the jurisdiction of the DIFC governed by this Law and which forms part of a Lot for which a folio of the Register has been created under the provisions of this Law.

    (3) The Schedule contains:

        (a) Rules of Interpretation applying interpretative provisions which apply to this Law; and

        (b) a list of defined terms used in this Law. Terms that are capitalised in this Law have the meanings as so ascribed in Schedule 1 and if not defined in Schedule 1, have the meanings as so ascribed in the Regulations and/or the Strata Title Law.
PART 2—ADMINISTRATION

CHAPTER 1 — APPOINTMENT OF AND ROLE OF THE REGISTRAR

12. Appointment of Registrar and other officers

(1) The office of Registrar of Real Property (in this Law called “the Registrar”) is created as a corporation sole.

(2) The Board of Directors of the DIFCA shall appoint a person to serve as Registrar and may dismiss such person from the office of Registrar for proper cause.

(3) The Board of Directors of the DIFCA shall consult with the President prior to the appointment of appointing or dismissing the Registrar.

(4) In exercising the Registrar’s powers and performing the Registrar’s functions, the Registrar shall act in an independent manner, notwithstanding that the Registrar is an agency of the government of the Emirate of Dubai.

(5) A person dealing with the Registrar’s office may assume that acts done or records made by the Registrar have been done or made within the Registrar’s authority under this Law.

13. The objectives, functions and powers of the Registrar

(1) In performing the Registrar’s functions and exercising the Registrar’s powers, the Registrar shall pursue the following objectives:

(i) to promote good practices and observance of the requirements of this Law;

(ii) to administer this Law, in an effective and transparent manner;

(iii) The Registrar may, where he to prevent, detect and restrain conduct which is, or may be, in contravention of this Law; and

(iv) to maintain a reliable and up-to-date Real Property Register.

(2) The Registrar has such powers and functions as may be conferred, or expressed to be conferred, on the Registrar:

(a) by or under this Law; and

(b) by or under any other law, decree or direction made by the Ruler.

and shall exercise such powers, and perform such functions, only in pursuit of the Registrar’s objectives under those laws, regulations, decrees and directions, as applicable.

(3) Without limiting the generality of Article 13(2), such powers and functions of the Registrar shall include, so far as is reasonably practicable:

(a) preparing or causing to be prepared in a timely and efficient manner:

   (i) draft Regulations to be adopted pursuant to this Law;

   (ii) draft standards or codes of practice; and

   (iii) Guidance.
reasonably required to enable the Registrar to perform the Registrar’s statutory functions;

(b) submitting such draft Regulations and draft standards or codes of practice to the Board of Directors of the DIFCA for approval and advising the Board of Directors of the DIFCA of any Guidance that has been issued;

(c) issuing or prescribing forms to be used for any of the purposes of this Law or any other Legislation administered by the Registrar;

(d) issuing or prescribing procedures and requirements relating to this Law or any other Legislation administered by the Registrar;

(e) employing or appointing persons on such terms as the Registrar considers appropriate to assist the Registrar in the exercise and performance of its powers and functions;

(f) where the Registrar considers it appropriate to do so, delegating such of his functions and powers as may more efficiently and effectively be performed by his, either generally or in relation to any particular matter, by the Registrar’s officers or the DIFCA employees and, or by any other person:

(a) to such officers or employees; or

(b) with the approval of the Board of Directors of the DIFCA either generally or in relation to any particular matter, to any other person.

(1) A person dealing with the Registrar’s office may assume that acts done or records made have been done or made within authority.

(g) Seal exercising and performing such other powers and functions as may be delegated to the Registrar by the Board of Directors of the DIFCA pursuant to the provisions of this Law or any other Legislation administered by the Registrar.

(4) Subject to Article 13(5), neither the Registrar nor any delegate or agent of the Registrar can be held liable for anything done or omitted to be done in the performance or purported performance of the functions of the Registrar (including any function delegated to the Registrar) or in the exercise or purported exercise of any power or discretion of the Registrar (including any power delegated to the Registrar).

(5) Article 13(4) does not apply if the act or omission is shown to have been in bad faith.

44.14. Stamp of office

(1) The Registrar has a seal of office, bearing the words “Registrar of Real Property, DIFC”.

(2) Unless the contrary is shown, a document purporting to be issued by the Registrar and bearing the Registrar’s seal or a likeness of that seal is to be taken to be issued by the Registrar’s direction.

CHAPTER 2 — ESTABLISHMENT OF REAL PROPERTY REGISTER

44.15. Registrar shall establish and keep a real property register

The Registrar shall establish and keep a real property register (in this Law called “the Real Property Register”).

44.16. The Contents of Real Property Register consist of:
(1) The Real Property Register shall record details of:

(b) registered instruments;

(a) each Folio;

(b) each Instrument that creates a Real Property Interest or records a Real Property Right Registered under this Law;

(c) any Document or information recorded by the Registrar is required to Register in accordance with Article 17; and

(a)(d) any Document or information the Registrar permits to be Registered in accordance with Articles 16 and 17; and Article 18 that is not required to be Registered.

(c) documents lodged with the Registrar that are not required to be registered.

(2) The Real Property Register may be kept in any form (documentary or otherwise) the Registrar considers appropriate.

(3) The Registrar may change the form in which the Real Property Register or any part of the Real Property Register is kept.

PART 3—THE REAL PROPERTY REGISTER

CHAPTER 1—GENERAL

46.17. Information Registrar shall record

(1) The Registrar shall record in the Register the information necessary to identify:

(a) every Folio of the Register;

(b) every Instrument that creates a Real Property Interest or grants a Real Property Right that is required to be Registered under this Law, and the time and date when such Instrument was registered;

(b) every Instrument lodged with the Registrar, and when it was lodged;

(c) the name of each present and past registered owner and the nature of their interest.

(2) The Registrar shall also record in the Register anything else required to be recorded in it by this or any other law subject to the applicant complying with the requirements of the Registrar as to the form of such Document or Instrument that is to be Registered.

47.18. Information Registrar may record

(1) The Registrar may record in the Register anything the Registrar is permitted to record by this or any other law.

(2) The Registrar may also record in the Register anything the Registrar considers should be recorded to ensure that the Real Property Register is an accurate, comprehensive and useable record of real property interests and real property rights.
CHAPTER 2 – REGISTRATION OF INSTRUMENTS

48-19. Duty to create and lodge for registration

(2) In this Article, a reference to disposing of real property is a reference to dealing with real property in any way, including by transferring or creating an interest in real property.

(1) A person who disposes of real property shall ensure that:

(a) the disposal is embodied in an instrument in the appropriate approved form; and

(b) the execution of the instrument by that person is in accordance with this Law.

(3) in whose favour real property is disposed of:

(2) A person acquiring a Real Property Interest shall ensure that the disposal:

(c) the application for registration of the disposal is embodied in an instrument in the appropriate approved form; and

(d) shall ensure that the execution of the instrument by that person is in accordance with this Law; and

(e) shall do their best to ensure that:

(c) all necessary consents or approvals required for registration are obtained; and

(d) if those following the obtaining of such consents or approvals are obtained, the instrument is lodged for registration as soon as practicable after completion of the transaction that gave rise to the disposal.

(e) the Prescribed Fee is paid to the Registrar in respect of the registration of such Transfer.

(3) This Article applies to all disposals of real property, unless the Registrar grants an exemption and the Transfer is required to be Registered.

(b) there is no appropriate approved form; or

(2) the interest is a lease for a term not exceeding 1 year (including any option to renew, whether or

(4) Where paragraph (4)(a) applies, but the transaction is to be completed or finalised by the taking of a further step for which there is an appropriate approved form, then on the taking of that step the obligations under paragraphs (2) and (3) apply in relation to that approved form.

(4) A person who breaches an obligation under this Article commits an offence against this Law.
Registrar’s duty to register instruments

(1) Subject to Article 19(2), if a person lodges an Instrument for registration an instrument that affects real property and Transfers or an Instrument that is in registrable form creates a Real Property Interest or Real Property Right, the Registrar shall register such Instrument.

(2) No instrument of title or other real property interest may be recorded unless and until the Registrar has been satisfied by the parties that, if consideration is payable in respect of the Transfer, the Registered Owner has confirmed to the Registrar that the entire purchase price transfer from consideration has been paid in full by the Purchaser to the Registered Owner, directly or indirectly, and has been effected with the involvement of at least one duly licensed UAE or DIFC bank or bank that is duly licensed in a Recognised Jurisdiction.

a. (3) An instrument is in registrable form if it relates to one or more lots and complies with this Article in any way limits the Registrar’s power to register Transfer Instruments under this Law upon such conditions as the Registrar considers appropriate for registration.

b. Paragraph (1) does not prevent a person from withdrawing an instrument before it is registered.

(5) Registrar shall give distinguishing reference to each registered instrument

On registering an instrument affecting real property:

i. give the instrument a distinguishing reference sufficient to identify it; and

ii. record the reference in the folio of the Register for the lot or lots concerned.

b. An instrument is registered when the Registrar records the distinguishing reference in the folio.
20.21. **Order of registration of instruments**

(1) Instruments that are in registrable form shall be registered in the order in which they are lodged for registration.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph Article 21(1), an instrument that is lodged for registration but is later withdrawn before registration or rejected by the Registrar, is not lodged until it is re lodged correcting, if applicable, any error or omission.

(3) Despite paragraph Article 21(1), if an instrument affecting a lot is lodged after another instrument affecting the same lot, the second instrument may be registered before instrument the first instrument if the Registrar considers that Registration of the second instrument cannot affect any interest that a person might claim under instrument the first instrument.

21.22. **Registration after death of party executing instrument**

The death of a person after signing an instrument but before the instrument is registered does not, of itself, prevent registration of the instrument.

22.23. **Priority of registered instruments**

Registered instruments have priority according to when they were registered, not according to when they were executed.

23.24. **Instrument of postponement**

(1) A registered instrument may, by a registered instrument of postponement executed by all parties to the interest, be postponed to any other registered instrument.

(2) On registration of the instrument of postponement, the parties’ interests rank in priority in the order expressed in the instrument of postponement.

(3) An instrument of postponement binds only the parties to it.

24.25. **Conclusive evidence of information in Real Property Register**

The information about a registered instrument recorded in the Register is conclusive evidence of:

(a) registration of the instrument;
25-26. Need for registration of Real Property Interests

Subject to this Law, an instrument does not transfer or create an interest in real property until the instrument is registered.

26-27. Effect of registration on interest

On registration of an instrument that is expressed to transfer or create an interest in real property, the interest:

(a) is transferred or created in accordance with the terms of the Transfer Instrument; and

(b) vests in the person identified in the Transfer Instrument as being entitled to the interest.

27-28. Consideration not needed

The benefits of registration apply to an instrument whether or not valuable consideration is given.

28-29. Conclusive effect of registration

Subject to this Law, the registration of a person as the owner of an interest in real property is conclusive evidence that:

(a) the person is the owner of that interest; and

(b) the person’s title to that interest is indefeasible under the principles of English common law and equity.

29-30. Quality of registered interests

(1) Subject to this Law, a registered owner holds the registered interests subject to all prior interests registered or recorded in the folio for the relevant lot.

(2) In particular, the registered owner:

(a) is not affected by actual or constructive notice of any trust or unregistered interest affecting the lot;

(b) is not affected by any interest that, but for this Law, might be held to be paramount or to have priority;

(c) is not affected by any error or informality in any application or proceedings; and

(d) is not liable to proceedings for possession unless the proceedings are brought by a person claiming a registered interest in the lot.

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However, paragraphs Articles 30(1) and 30(2) do not apply:

(a) to an interest Real Property Interest or Real Property Right or matter mentioned in Article 31; or

(b) if there has been fraud by the registered owner in acquiring or holding the interest Real Property Interest; or

(c) if the Registrar has reasonable suspicion that either the motivation or intent of either Purchaser or Seller in engaging in the underlying transaction was to participate in or further any money laundering or terrorism financing scheme.

For the purpose of this Article 30, knowledge that a trust or unregistered interest is in existence is not of itself to be regarded as fraud.

A registered owner does not obtain the benefit of Article 30 in relation to the following interests or rights affecting the lot:

(a) any exceptions, reservations, obligations or conditions that are customarily imposed on, or that are contained in, any disposal or grant (including any granted land) by the Ruler;

(b) any exceptions, reservations, covenants, obligations or conditions contained in the sale, or in any relevant lease, by the Authority;

(c) any easement or public right of way in existence when the Real Property became governed by this Law;

(d) any right (whether created before, on or after 17 March 2003) in favour of a public authority under any law;

(e) any easement implied under Articles 84 or 85;

(f) any statutory charge under Article 80; and

(a) any matter recorded by Registrar under Article 39;

(b) an equitable obligation binding the registered owner as a result the registered owner’s conduct;

(g) the Real Property Right of subject to Article 54, the interest of a lessee in actual possession under a lease for a term (including any option to renew, whether or not exercised) not exceeding 1 year, six (6) months.

(c) the interest of another registered freehold owner, if 2 or more folios of the Register exist for the same lot or part of the same lot (in which case the earliest-created folio prevails);

(d) the interest of another registered owner, if 2 or more persons are registered as owners of the same interest (in which case the earliest-registered interest prevails).

A person does not acquire any right or title to real property by any length of adverse possession under the principles of English common law and equity.
CHAPTER 4 — UNREGISTERED INTERESTS

REAL PROPERTY INTERESTS AND REAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

32-33. Nature and priority of unregistered interests

Real Property Interests and Real Property Rights

Nothing in this Law prevents an unregistered instrument from operating as a contract between the parties or being otherwise enforceable according to its terms.
c. The lodgement of an instrument in registrable form for registration has the same effect as the
lodgement of a caveat protecting the interest claimed under that instrument.

d. The benefit of paragraph (2) is lost if the instrument is withdrawn from registration.
PART 4 — INITIAL REGISTRATION OF REAL PROPERTY AND TITLES

CHAPTER 1 — GENERAL

33.34 Creation of folio of Register Folios

This Part sets out the circumstances in which folios of the Register Folios are created in relation to real property governed by this Law Real Property.

CHAPTER 2 — SALE or initial lease AFTER COMMENCEMENT OF THIS LAW

34.35 Sale or initial lease occurring after commencement of this Law

Where, after this Law comes into force, the Authority Master Developer sells, or grants an initial lease of, real property governed by this Law Real Property, the Registrar shall, immediately following the sale or lease, create a folio of the Register Folio for each Lot comprised in the real property.

Sale or initial lease before commencement of this Law

(6) Sale or initial lease occurring before commencement of this Law

Where, before this Law came into force, the Authority sold real property governed by this Law, the Registrar:

(a) may, on the Registrar’s own initiative, create the folio of the Register for each Lot comprised in the real property; or

(b) shall create a folio of the Register for each Lot comprised in the real property following a primary application under Articles 38 or 39, if the requirements of those Articles are satisfied.

(7) Creation of folio on Registrar’s initiative

a. Before creating a folio of the Register on the Registrar’s own initiative under Article 36(a), the Registrar shall:
(8) Creation of folio on primary application: general

a. Unless within 3 months after this Law comes into force the Registrar has made a notification under Article 37(1)(a), the persons listed in paragraph (2) shall, within 6 months of the coming into force of this Law, lodge a primary application with the Registrar to create a folio of the Register.

b. The persons are:

   i. the person claiming to be the freehold owner of the real property; or
   ii. the persons who collectively claim to be the freehold owners of the real property.

c. The persons in paragraph (2) may, before lodging the primary application, ask the Registrar to advise whether the Registrar intends to create a folio of the Register on the Registrar’s own initiative under Article 36(a). If the Registrar replies in the affirmative, those persons need not lodge a primary application.

d. A primary application shall be:

   i. in the form required by the Registrar; and
   ii. accompanied by title documents and other evidences the Registrar may require.

e. A person who fails to comply with any obligation under paragraphs (1) or (4) commits an offence against this Law.

f. The Registrar may:
i. require the applicant to advertise or otherwise notify persons that the application has been made; and

ii. refer the application to a legally qualified person to investigate the title of the applicant or applicants.

g. If reasonably satisfied that the applicant is the freehold owner of the real property, or that the applicants collectively are the freehold owners of the real property, the Registrar shall grant the application by creating a folio of the Register.

(9) Creation of folio on primary application: units in buildings

a. The obligation to lodge a primary application under Article 38 applies also in respect of real property on which a building is erected or is proposed to be erected, where:

i. the building is designed or intended to be divided into 2 or more units adapted for separate occupation or use;

ii. at the time of making the application, agreements exist for the sale or lease of one or more of the units;

iii. under DIFC law, the approval by the relevant authority of a subdivision plan is not required for the building or class of buildings;

iv. the Authority has assented through a notification authorising the subdivision of the building or the class of buildings to which it belongs; and

v. the approved building plans:

1. bear a certificate by the Registrar that the boundaries of all the units delineated on the approved building plans have been endorsed by the owner of the development as correct and in accordance with what that owner has sold or agreed to sell; and

2. contain all other certifications and information required by the Registrar.
b. Where the requirements of paragraph (1) are satisfied, the Registrar may, instead of creating a single folio of the Register for the real property on which the building is erected or proposed to be erected, create a folio of the Register for each unit in the building as if it were a separate lot.

c. Where the Registrar creates a folio of the Register for each unit, the Registrar shall:

   i. create a folio of the Register for any one or more common areas created under any building sales agreement, co-owners association constitution, master community declaration, or similar document;

   ii. register as the freehold owner of those common areas the person or person the Registrar considers to be the freehold owner of those areas; and

   iii. record in the folio for that unit that:

       1. ownership of the unit may be subject to the benefits and burdens created under any building sales agreement, co-owners association constitution, master community declaration, or similar document applying to the unit;

       2. ownership of the unit may include a proportionate interest in any common property associated with the development of which the building forms part; and

       3. an official survey of the unit may not have been carried out.

d. The provisions of Article 38, varied as the circumstances may require, apply to an application under this Article.

e. If there is a conflict between this Article and the provisions of the Strata Title Law (DIFC Law No. 5 of 2007), this Article prevails.

(10) Cancellation of title documents

On creating a folio of the Register on a primary application, the Registrar:

(a) may cancel all prior title documents or may return them to the person from whom the Registrar received them; and
shall not destroy the documents without the consent of the Authority.

Chapter 4 — CHAPTER 3 — INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN folio of Register FOLIO

35.36 Information to be included in folio FOLIO

1. When creating a folio of the Register FOLIO, the Registrar shall record Register in the folio FOLIO:

a. as the freehold owner, the person whom the Registrar considers to be or persons entitled to be registered as the freehold owner Registered Owner; and

b. as the owner of any other interest affecting the lot that is apparent to the Registrar or that is later brought to the Registrar’s attention under this Article, the person or persons whom the Registrar considers to be entitled to be registered as an owner Beneficiary of a Real Property Right affecting the interest Lot.

2. Further, when creating a folio of the Register FOLIO, the Registrar shall, if it is the fact, record Register in the folio FOLIO that the ownership of the lot Lot:

a. may be subject to the benefits and burdens created under any building sales agreement, co-owners association constitution, master community declaration, the Master Community Declaration and any Strata Management Statement or similar document applicable to the lot; and

b. may include if the lot is located within a Strata Development, includes the proportionate interest in any common property associated with the development of which the building forms part the Common Property within the Strata Scheme under the Strata Title Law.

3. In addition to the information in paragraph Article 36(1), the Registrar:

a. shall, in the case of a freehold owner Registered Owner who is a natural person, record Register the owner’s date of birth; and

b. may record Register any other information the Registrar considers appropriate.

4. Where a folio of the Register is created on a primary if after an application for Registration of a Real Property Interest is made but before the folio FOLIO is created, the person who is entitled to be registered as the freehold owner Registered Owner dies, the Registrar shall nevertheless register that person as the Registered Owner unless otherwise ordered by the Court. freehold owner.

i. if the the real property is subject to a mortgage, the mortgagor is entitled to be registered as the freehold owner;
iii. any mortgages affecting the real property that are registered under the Dubai Law are treated as mortgages registered under this Law, and enjoy the same priority between themselves as they enjoyed under the Dubai Property Law.

iv. the provisions of this Law concerning registered mortgages apply to those mortgages; and

v. the freehold owner (except where paragraph (5) applies) shall promptly inform the Registrar of any interest affecting the real property which is known to the freehold owner and which is not already recorded under paragraph (1).

b. If, after application

e. A freehold owner who fails to comply with paragraph (4)(d) commits an offence against this Law.
PART 5— JOINT HOLDERS

36. Registering life interests, reversions and remainders as co-owners

The Registrar may register an interest for life and an interest in reversion or remainder.

(1) When registering persons as co-owners of real property, the Registrar shall register whether they are co-owners holding their respective Real Property Interests as tenants in common or as joint tenants under the principles of English common law and equity.

(2) Unless the Registrar records otherwise, tenants in common are presumed to hold in equal shares.

(3) If an instrument does not show whether co-owners hold as tenants in common or as joint tenants, the Registrar shall register them as tenants in common in equal shares.

37. Body corporate may hold real property as joint tenant

A body corporate that is a corporate entity is capable of holding real property as joint tenant or as tenants in common with another person, including another person that is a corporate entity.

38. Dissolution of body corporate joint tenant

Where a body corporate is a joint tenant of real property at the time of its dissolution, the real property devolves on the other joint tenant or joint tenants.

39. Severing a joint tenancy

(1) A person that is a joint tenant of real property may unilaterally sever the joint tenancy by registered transfer whereby the co-ownership shall revert to that of tenants in common in equal shares.

(2) The Registrar shall not register the transfer unless satisfied that a copy of the transfer was served on all other joint tenants at least 10 days before the transfer was lodged for registration.

(3) On registration of the transfer, the joint tenancy is severed as regards the interests so transferred.

(4) This Article does not limit other ways in which a joint tenancy may be severed.

40. Conversion of tenants in common to joint tenancy

(1) Persons who are the owners of a Lot as tenants in common may mutually agree to merge their ownership interests into that of a joint tenancy by a Registered Transfer to themselves whereby the co-ownership of a Lot shall convert to that of joint tenancy.

(2) Upon payment of the prescribed fee, and the payment of any freehold transfer fee under the Regulations in respect of any change in the proportional ownership of a Lot in the event that the persons did not own a Lot as tenants in common in equal shares at the time of Transfer, the Registrar shall register the Transfer whereby the tenancy in common shall convert to a joint tenancy as regards the Real Property Interests so transferred.

(3) This Article does not limit other ways in which a tenancy in common may be converted to a joint tenancy by the Registrar.
PART 6 — TRANSFERS

40.42 Registering a Transfer

- Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), real property, or a registered interest in real property, may be transferred by registering a transfer.

- Except as provided in this Law or in any other law, a part only of a lot cannot be transferred.

- Paragraph (2) does not prevent the acquisition of a part of a lot by a public authority by or under a law.

A Registered Real Property Interest, may be Transferred by Registering a Transfer Instrument.

41.43 Effect of Registration of a Transfer

On the registration of a transfer Instrument, all the transferor’s rights, powers, privileges and liabilities as Registered Owner in relation to the real property or the interest in the real property shall vest in the transferee.

- Without limiting paragraph (1):
  - the registered transferee of a mortgage is bound by and liable under the mortgage to the same extent as the original mortgagee;
  - the registered transferee of a lease is bound by and liable under the lease to the same extent as the original lessee; and
  - the transfer of the mortgage or lease does not, of itself, release the transferor from obligations under the mortgage or lease.

h. In this Article, “rights”, in relation to a mortgage or lease, includes the right to sue on the terms of the mortgage or lease and to recover a debt or enforce a liability under the mortgage or lease.

42.44 Merger

(1) The doctrine of merger under the principles of English common law and equity applies on the registration of a transfer Instrument to give effect to a contract for the sale of real property.

(2) Where on registration the interests of lessor and lessee vest in the same person, no merger occurs until there is also registered a surrender of the lease.

43.45 Transfer of a Mortgaged Lot

(1) If a Lot that is subject to a registered mortgage is transferred with the consent of the mortgagee:

a) the transferee is primarily liable to comply with the terms of the mortgage; and

b) the transferee shall fully indemnify the transferor against liability under the mortgage subject to the contractual arrangements between the transferee and the transferor.

(2) This Article does not apply to a transfer by a mortgagee in exercise of a power of sale.
PART 7—EMINENT DOMAIN

44.46. DIFC Authority to compensate on just terms
If real property governed by this Law a Lot is acquired from a person Registered Owner by a public authority by Relevant Authority or under a law, and that law does not provide the person Registered Owner with compensation on just terms, then the Authority DIFCA is to provide the person Registered Owner with compensation on just terms.

45.47. Transfer under statutory vesting or grant
(1) If real property a Lot has become vested in a person or public authority by or under a law, the Registrar:
   (a) shall record in the Register any entries in relation to the real property Lot that the Registrar considers necessary in connection with the vesting; and
   (b) may cancel or create folios of the Register Folios as the Registrar considers appropriate in consequence of the vesting.

(2) The Registrar may exercise the powers conferred by paragraph Article 47(1):
   (a) on application; or
   (b) on the Registrar’s own initiative.
PART 8—LEASES

48. Lease of Real Property

(3)(1) Real Property may be leased subject to the provisions of this Law and the Leasing Law.

(4)(2) A lease may comprise one or more lots or parts of lots.

(5)(3) Where the term of the lease (including any option to renew, whether or not exercised) exceeds six (6) months, the lease must be registered as a Real Property Right by the Lessor. A lease for any other term may (but need not) be registered as a Real Property Right by the Lessor.

11. Unregistered lease

49. A Lessor shall, in respect of any lease required to be registered under Article 48(3), notify the Registrar of the identity of the lessee and provide any other details the Registrar requires.

(6)(1) A Lessor shall, in respect of any lease required to be registered under Article 48(3), within twenty (20) days of the date on which the lease is entered into, notify the Registrar of the identity of the lessee and provide any other details the Registrar requires.

(7)(2) If the Lessor fails to comply with paragraph Article 49(1), then the Lessor commits an offence against this Law.

(8)(3) A Lessor complies with paragraph Article 49(1) if the lease is lodged for registration in registrable form within twenty (20) days of the date on which the lease was signed by all parties to it.

50. Requirements for lease to be registered

(1) In order to be registered, a lease shall include a description sufficient to identify each lot or part to be leased and be accompanied by a Lease Plan.

(2) Paragraph Article 50(1) does not limit the matters that the approved form of lease Registrar may require to be included in the Instrument.

51. Variation of registered lease

(1) A registered lease may be varied by registering an instrument of variation that varies the lease executed by the Lessor and the Lessee.

(2) However, the instrument of variation that varies the lease shall not:

(a) add or remove a party to the lease; or

(b) be lodged after the term of the lease (including as extended by any option to renew) has expired.

(3) A lease as varied by registration of an instrument of variation continues in force according to its terms and is not surrendered by virtue of the variation.

(4) This Article does not limit other ways in which a lease may be varied.

52. Whether lease binds mortgagee

(12) A Lease, or a variation of a lease, binds mortgagee.

(1) A lease, a variation of a lease, executed after the
Registration of a mortgage, does not bind the mortgagee unless the mortgagee consents to the lease or variation.

(6)(2) The Registrar may require evidence of the mortgagee’s consent and may record the fact of the Register so consent in the folio of the Register.

Options to renew or purchase

a. When registering a lease that contains an option to renew or purchase, the Registrar shall also record the existence of the option.

b. Registration of a lease containing an option to renew or purchase does not give the option any greater effect than it otherwise would have.

Expiry or termination of lease

The Registrar may record in the folio of the Register a registered lease that a registered lease has expired or been terminated provided that the termination is lodged for Registration in the appropriate Instrument.

Termination of lease following lessee’s default

a. The Registrar may record in the folio of the Register that the lessor has a registered lease following the lessee’s default.

b. Before recording the termination, the Registrar may require supporting evidence to establish was lawful.

The recording of the termination does not release the lessee from liability for breach of a covenant, either express or implied.
e. After the termination of a registered lease containing an option to renew or purchase:

i. the Registrar need not enquire whether the option has been exercised; and

ii. a person dealing with the lessor need not enquire whether any unregistered interest has been created in exercise of the option.

(15) Surrendering a lease

a. A registered lease may be wholly or partly surrendered by registering a surrender of the lease executed by the lessor and the lessee.

b. However, the Registrar shall not register the surrender unless every registered mortgagee of the lease and registered sublessee consents.

c. On registration of the surrender:

i. the lessee’s interest vests in the lessor;

ii. any sublease is to be taken to be a direct lease from the lessor.

d. This Article does not limit other means by which a lease may be surrendered. If a registered lease is surrendered by other means, the Registrar may record the surrender in the folio of the Register on application by either lessor or lessee and supported by any evidence the Registrar may require.

(16) Implied powers of lessors and termination for breach

a. In a lease of real property governed by this Law the lessor has the following implied powers:

i. to enter the leased premises and view the state of repair (but only twice in each year of the term, at a reasonable time of the day, and on giving the lessee 2 days’ prior notice);

ii. to enter the leased premises to carry out any repairs that the lessee should have (but has not) carried out under the lease; and
iii. to enter the leased premises to comply with any written law affecting the premises, or to comply with any notice that is given to the lessor or the lessee by any public authority and that requires repairs or work to be done (whether by the lessor or the lessee).

49.54. Any repairs, work or other acts which the lessor does Rights and obligations under paragraph (1) shall be done without undue interference with the lessee’s occupation and use of the premises, the Leasing Law

b. The powers implied by paragraphs (1) and (2) may be varied or negated by express provision in the lease.

c. In addition to the rights and obligations under this Law, a Lessor and Lessee of Real Property have the rights and obligations under the lease is more than 30 days overdue (even if no formal demand for payment has been made); or Leasing Law powers under paragraph (1), the lessor has the implied power to re-enter the leased premises and terminate the lease in the following circumstances: where any rent due

i. where any other term of the lease, whether express or implied, has been breached and the breach has continued for at least 30 days after the lessor has served notice on the lessee requiring it to be remedied.

d. The 30-day periods in paragraph (4) may be varied by express provision in the lease, but cannot be reduced.

e. This Article does not prevent a lessee from approaching the Court to seek relief against forfeiture of a lease, whether for non-payment of rent or for breach of any other term of the lease. The Court may grant relief against forfeiture on terms that the Court considers appropriate, or may refuse relief.

f. This Article is subject to any law imposing restrictions on a lessor’s right to recover possession from lessee.
PART 9—MORTGAGES

CHAPTER 1—GENERAL

50.55 Right to mortgage

50.55. A Lot, a Registered Real Property Interest or a registered interest in real property Real Property Right (including a registered lease Registered Lease) may be mortgaged by registering a mortgage.

(1) The provisions of this Part in relation to registering a mortgage of real property apply also to a mortgage of an interest in real property, so far as the circumstances permit.

(2) Except as provided in this Law or any other law, a part only of a Lot cannot be mortgaged.

51. Requirements for mortgage

51. (1) In order to be registered, a mortgage shall include the following:

(a) a description sufficient to identify the real property Lot;
(b) a description sufficient to identify the interest to be mortgaged; and
(c) a description of the debt or liability secured by the mortgage.

(2) Paragraph Article 56(1) does not limit the matters that the approved form of mortgage may require to be included in the Instrument for Registration of a Mortgage.

52. Mortgage as charge only

52. (1) A mortgage of real property operates only as a charge on the real property for the debt or liability secured by the mortgage.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, the mortgagor is taken to have an equity of redemption under the principles of English common law and equity.

53. Submortgage

53. (1) In this Article, “Part submortgage” means the mortgage further Mortgage of a mortgage on existing Mortgage or portfolio of Mortgages (and the mortgage further Mortgage of any mortgage) granted by the existing Mortgagee (as submortgagor) to a further submortgagee.

(2) On the registration of a submortgage, and during the currency of the submortgage, all the powers and rights that the mortgagor Mortgagee of the Mortgage could previously have exercised:

(a) may be exercised by the submortgagee; and
(b) may not be exercised by the Mortgagee of the Mortgage.

(3) A submortgage does not affect the rights or liabilities of the registered owner of the Registered Owner until the granting of the submortgage by the Mortgagor to the Registered Owner.
Upon the Registration of a submortgage, and receipt of notification of the granting of the submortgage by the Mortgagor, the Registered Owner shall continue to perform its obligations under the Mortgage in favour of the submortgagee for the term of the submortgage.

54.59_ Registration of second or later mortgages

(1) The Registrar shall not register a second or later mortgage over real property unless all prior registered mortgagees consent to the registration.

(2) The Registrar may require whatever information the Registrar considers necessary to demonstrate that the prior registered mortgagees have consented to the second or subsequent Mortgage.

55.60_ Variation of mortgage

(1) A registered mortgage may be varied by registering an instrument varying the mortgage.

(2) A variation cannot add a party to, or remove a party from, the mortgage.

(3) A variation does not affect prior registered mortgagees, and does not affect or subsequent registered mortgagees unless they consent.

56.61_ Discharge of mortgage

(1) A registered mortgage or submortgage may be discharged by registering an Instrument for the discharge of mortgage.

(2) A discharge of mortgage may discharge the debt or liability secured for:
   (a) all or part of the mortgage; or
   (b) one or more of the mortgagors; and/or
   (c) the Lots comprising the Real Property which are the subject of the Mortgage.

(3) The Registrar shall register a discharge of mortgage to the extent shown in the instrument.

(4) On an Instrument for the discharge of a Mortgage being registered:
   (a) the Mortgage is discharged; and
   (b) the real property is Lot released from the Mortgage, to the extent shown in the discharge Instrument.

17_Extent of discharge of mortgage

Whether the discharge releases the mortgagor from any personal obligation to repay the debt or from any other liability secured by the mortgage is a matter of construction of the discharge.

CHAPTER 2 — MORTGAGEE’S POWERS AND REMEDIES
57.62. **Implied powers**

58. **Powers of Mortgagees**

1. Subject to the provisions of this Law including the interests of a registered mortgagee, a Registered Mortgagee has the following powers on default by the mortgagor:

   a. to sell the whole or part of the real property Lot or any interest in the real property Lot by whatever means the mortgagee acting reasonably, considers appropriate, including by tender, public auction or by private contract;

   b. to sever and sell fixtures apart from the balance of the real property;

   c. to sell any easement, right or privilege of any kind over or in relation to the real property Lot;

   d. to enter into possession of the real property Lot and receive the rents and profits from it; and

   e. to obtain an order of the Court for foreclosure under Article 69.

2. The powers may only be exercised in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter, but otherwise may be supplemented, varied or removed by express provision in the mortgage.

3. A mortgagee may not exercise a power under paragraph Article 62(1) without first serving on the persons in paragraph Article 62(4) a notice giving the mortgagor sixty (60) days in which to remedy the default. If within that time the default is remedied, then the mortgagee may not exercise a power for that default.

4. The persons on whom the notice shall be served are:

   a. the mortgagor;

   b. any guarantor or surety of the mortgagor;

   c. any other registered mortgagee;

   d. the Registrar.

59.63. **Exercise of power of sale**

In exercising a power of sale, the mortgagee shall take reasonable care to obtain the market value for the real property Lot at the time of the sale.

60.64. **Injunction to restrain power of sale**

1. The mortgagor is entitled to seek an injunction to restrain the exercise of the power of sale.

2. The Court may make the order it considers appropriate, including (if it considers it appropriate) that the sale may be restrained, without the mortgagor having to offer to redeem the mortgage.

61.65. **Effect of transfer after sale by mortgagee**

1. If a transfer Instrument in a purported exercise of a power of sale by a registered mortgagee is lodged for registration, the Registrar need not enquire whether the power of sale was validly exercised.
(2) On registration of the transfer Instrument, the mortgagor's interest vests in the transferee, free from liability under:

(a) the mortgage and (except where the transferee is the mortgagor) any mortgage registered after it; and

ii. any other interest registered after it, except an interest to which the mortgagor has consented in writing, or to which the mortgagor is a party, or which for some other reason binds the mortgagor.

(b) Registration of the mortgagor including the rights of prospective owners under an Off Plan Sales Agreements entered into with Developers with the consent of the mortgagee.

(3) Subject to the provisions of this Law, Registration of the Transfer Instrument under the purported exercise of a power of sale by a Registered Mortgagee is not prevented by a caveat, if the caveat relates to an interest over which the mortgagee has priority.

62.66 Application of proceeds of sale

(1) A mortgagee who has exercised a power of sale shall apply the money received from the sale:

(a) by paying into Court a sum to meet any prior Registered Real Property Rights; or

(b) to discharge any prior registered interests to which the sale is not made subject, or with the consent of the Beneficiary of the Registered Real Property Rights.

iii. by paying into Court a sum to meet any prior registered interests.

(2) Subject to paragraph Article 66(1), the mortgagee holds the money on trust:

(a) first, to pay all costs and expenses properly incurred in the sale or any attempted sale;

(b) second, to discharge the principal, interest, costs, and any other money and liability secured by the mortgage;

(c) third, to pay later registered interests in the order of their priority; and

(d) fourth, to pay any residue to the Registered Owner or the person who appears from the Real Property Register to be entitled to the mortgaged property or to be authorised to give receipts for such residual from the proceeds of such sale.

62.67 Appointment of receiver

(1) If a mortgagee (whether registered or not) entitles the mortgagee to appoint a receiver, and the mortgagee appoints a receiver, the receiver:

(a) may do anything in relation to the real property that the mortgagor could have done; and

(b) may act as the mortgagor's agent.

(2) However, if the receiver sells the real property, the receiver is subject to the
same duties and responsibilities as if the mortgagee were doing those things selling the same.

64.68. Entry into possession

(1) In exercising the power to enter into possession of the real property and receive the rents and profits, the mortgagee has the same remedies for obtaining possession as a lessor has against a lessee whose lease has expired or whose rent is in arrears.

(2) Where the mortgagee exercises the power under Article 68(1), the mortgagee’s receipt in writing is a sufficient discharge evidence for any rents and profits stated to be received, and any person paying them need not inquire whether the mortgagee has properly exercised the power beyond the fact that the mortgage is registered.

65.69. Foreclosure

(1) On application by a registered mortgagee, the Court may make an order for foreclosure.

(2) If the Court makes an order for foreclosure, the Registrar shall register and note the order on the Folio to which it relates if requested by a party to the proceedings or directed by the Court.

(3) On registration of the order, the mortgagor’s interest vests in the mortgagee, free from all liability under mortgages or other interests registered after the mortgage, except for leases and other interests that bind the mortgagee under this Law or contractually with the respective parties.

CHAPTER 3 — TACKING OF FURTHER ADVANCES

66.70. Right to tack make further advances

(1) Despite any other provision of this Law, a mortgagee (the “Mortgagee”) of real property may make further advances to the borrower under such Mortgage which shall rank in priority to later mortgages provided:

(a) where the prior mortgage expressly authorises the making of further advances (and regardless of whether the prior mortgage has notice of any later mortgage); or
(b) where the prior mortgage does not expressly authorise the making of further advances, if the later mortgagee agrees in writing to further advances being made.

b. Paragraph (1) applies only where the prior mortgage is registered (but regardless of whether the later mortgage is registered).

(2) For the purposes of paragraph Article 70 (1), "further advance" includes the provision of further credit or accommodation (including on a current, revolving or continuing account), regardless of whether the mortgagee is a debtor or guarantor or surety for the further advance.
PART 10—STATUTORY CHARGES

67.71 Registration of statutory charges

(1) A person or public authority with the benefit of a statutory charge over real property Lot may apply to the Registrar to have the charge registered in the folio of the Register.

(2) On receiving the application, the Registrar shall register the charge.

(3) The Registrar shall give notice of the registration of all charges to all persons who have a registered Real Property Interest or Real Property Right in the real property such Lots.

(4) In this Article, "statutory charge" means a charge on real property established by or under a law in force in the DIFC that:

(a) imposes a restriction on the use of or dealing with the real property; or

(b) gives a right to a person to deal with the real property Lots, including the right of sale.
PART II — EASEMENTS

CHAPTER 1 — GENERAL

68-72. Easements in gross permitted

(1) This Law permits the creation of easements in gross (that is, easements without benefited real property) in gross under the principles of English common law and equity.

(2) In the construction of this Part, a reference to an easement includes a reference to an easement in gross, unless the contrary appears.

69-73. Easements by prescription or implication

(1) Except as provided in this Law, easements cannot be acquired over real property by prescription or implication.

(2) However, nothing in this Law affects the principles under which there are implied into an easement whatever Article 73(1) shall not apply to ancillary rights implied in an Easement that are necessary for the effective enjoyment of the Easement.

70-74. Rights to support of Real Property and structures

(1) A person shall not excavate or develop a Lot in a way that adversely affects the stability of an adjoining Lot or structures on it.

(2) A person who breaches paragraph Article 74(1) is liable to any person who suffers loss or damage as a result of the breach.

CHAPTER 2 — IMPLIED EASEMENTS IN DEVELOPMENTS AND SUBDIVISIONS

71-75. Implied easements for services in development

(1) Where two or more Lots form part of the same development, there are implied under this Article easements for services that benefit and bind each Lot as set out further in Articles 75(2) and (3) below.

(2) The easements implied under this Article 75 are for the passage of water, electricity, drainage, gas and sewerage through or by means of installations (including sewers, pipes, wires, cables or ducts), to the extent to which the installations are capable of being used in connection with the Lot required to adequately and effectively service the Lot.

(3) The easements implied under this Article 75 include the right for the freehold owner of the benefited Lot to enter the burdened Lot at all reasonable times, and upon giving reasonable notice, to repair or renew the installations (but subject to the obligation to repair any damage caused to the burdened Lot in the process of doing so).

(4) The freehold owner from time to time of the benefited Lot shall contribute a reasonable proportion of the cost of maintaining the installations, unless able to establish a legal entitlement to enjoy those easements free from the liability to contribute.

(5) Paragraph Article 75 does not make a person liable to contribute to expenditure incurred at a time before becoming, or after ceasing to be, owner of the Lot.

(6) Unity of ownership of Lots does not affect the easements implied under this Article 75.

(7) The easements implied under this Article 75 are Real Property Rights enforceable without any need for registration. However, the Registrar may (but need not) make an appropriate recording in the Register about the existence of such Easements.
This Article 75 applies to real property governed by this Law, regardless of whether it is registered real property. Real Property in respect of which a Folio may not yet have been created.

72-76. **Implied easements of right** of way and other rights shown in subdivision plan

Where the relevant authority [Master Developer](#) has approved the subdivision of real property into two (2) or more lots, and the approved subdivision plan sets apart real property for the purposes of the easements referred to in paragraph Article 76(2), there are implied under this Article 76 in favour of each lot that is used or intended to be used as a separate parcel of real property, the easements referred to in paragraph Article 76(2).

The easements implied under this Article 76 are:

(a) easements for rights of way;

(b) easements for drainage;

(c) easements for party wall purposes; and

over or under the real property lots set apart for those purposes on the subdivision plan, as are necessary for the reasonable enjoyment of the lots and of any building on it at any time.

The freehold owner from time to time of the benefited real property shall contribute a reasonable proportion of the cost of maintaining the infrastructure of the easements. However, the obligation to maintain party walls binds only the owners of the lots on which the party walls stand.

Paragraph Article 76(3) does not make a person liable to contribute to expenditure incurred at a time before becoming, or after ceasing to be, a Registered Owner.

Unity of ownership of two (2) or more lots does not affect the easements implied under this Article 76.

The easements implied under this Article 76 are Real Property Rights enforceable without any need for registration. However, the Registrar may (but need not) make an appropriate recording in the Register about the existence of the easements.

This Article 76 applies to real property governed by this Law, regardless of whether it is registered real property in respect of which a Folio may not yet have been created.

CHAPTER 3 — REGISTRATION OF easements

73-77. **Creation of easement by registration**

An easement may be created over a real property by registering a grant or reservation of easement. The Registrar shall record the easement.

When registering an easement, the Registrar shall Register the Easement:

(a) in the Folio for the lot burdened; and

(b) unless the easement is an easement in gross, in the folio of the Register.
CHAPTER 4 — VARIATION OR EXTINGUISHMENT OF EASEMENTS

74.78. Requirements for easement

(1) In order to be registered, an instrument creating an easement shall:
   (a) indicate clearly the nature of the easement, the rights granted or reserved under it, and the extent of the real property burdened by the easement;
   (b) if required by the Registrar, include a plan of survey identifying the lot to be burdened by the easement, and (unless the easement is an easement in gross) the lot to be benefited by the easement;
   (c) in the case of an easement, identify the persons having the benefit of the easement; and
   (d) contain the consents of all registered mortgagees and registered lessees of the lot.

(2) This Article does not limit the matters that the approved form of easement Registrar may require to be included in an Instrument creating an Easement.

(3) Where an easement relates to underground pipes, cables or other installations, the Registrar may accept an Instrument containing only a general description of the location.

75.79. Easement benefiting and burdening same

An easement may be registered even if the lot benefited and the lot burdened by the easement have the same freehold owner.

CHAPTER 4 — VARIATION OR EXTINGUISHMENT OF EASEMENTS

76.80. Variation or release of easement by parties

(1) A registered easement may be varied or wholly or partly extinguished by registering a variation or release of easement.

(2) Unless the easement is an easement in gross, the variation or release shall be executed by the registered freehold owner of the lot benefited by the easement and by the registered freehold owner of the lot burdened by the easement.

(3) The variation or release of an easement in gross shall be executed by the person having the benefit of the easement and by the registered freehold owner of the lot burdened by the easement.
77. **Same person becoming registered owner**

If the same person becomes the registered owner of the lot benefited and burdened by an easement, the easement is extinguished only if:

1. that owner requests the Registrar to extinguish the easement; or
2. the Registrar creates a single folio of the Register for the lots.

78. **Cancellation of easement**

The Registrar shall cancel the registration of an easement on being satisfied that:

1. any period of time for which the easement was to subsist has expired; or
2. an event on which the easement was to come to an end has occurred; or
3. the easement has been abandoned.

Regardless of whether an easement has been abandoned, if an easement has not been used for at least twelve (12) years, then:

1. a person the Registered Owner of the burdened Lot may apply to the Registrar to have the easement cancelled;
2. if satisfied that the evidence supports the application, the Registrar may notify the registered freehold owner of the benefited real property Lot (or, in the case of an easement in gross, the person having the benefit of the easement) that, unless the Registrar receives an objection to the application within one (1) month of the notice, the Registrar intends to cancel the easement; and
3. if the Registrar does not receive an objection within the one (1) month, or if the Registrar does receive an objection within that time but considers it to be of insufficient merit, the Registrar may cancel the easement; and
4. if the Registrar receives an objection within that time and considers the objection to be of merit, the Registrar may not cancel the easement and the Registered Owner of the burdened Lot may apply to the Court for relief under Article 83.

79. **Court order varying or extinguishing easement**

1. The Court may, on application by any person interested with an interest in real property, make an order wholly or partly varying or extinguishing the easement.
2. The Court may not make an order under paragraph Article 83(1) unless satisfied that:
(a) by reason of a change in use of the burdened real propertyLot, as approved by the relevant authorityRelevant Authority, the continued existence of the easementEasement will impede the development of the Lot for public or private purposes; or

(b) the proposed variation or extinguishment will not materially injuresubstantially and detrimentally harm or cause loss to a person entitled to the benefit of the easementEasement.

(3) When making an order under paragraph Article 83(1), the Court may order the applicant to pay compensation to any person entitled to the benefit of the easementEasement.

(4) An order under paragraph Article 83(1) binds all persons who are, or who may become entitled to, the benefit of the easementEasement, regardless of whether they have been notified of, or participated in, the proceedings.

(5) The Registrar may record make a notation of the Court order (and any subsequent amendment or repeal of such Court order) in the folios of the RegisterFolios for the burdened real propertyLot and (except in the case of an easementEasement in grossGross) the benefited real propertyLot.

CHAPTER 5 — MEANING OF CERTAIN TYPES OF easementsEASEMENTS

80-84. Right of way, right of footway, and party wall.

(1) In the construction of an InstrumentInstrument creating a right of way over real property governed by this LawReal Property, the expressions "right of way" and "right of footway" have the following meanings, subject to contrary provision in the Instrument:

(a) Right of way: Full right for the freehold owner Registered Owner of the benefited real propertyLot, and every person authorised by that owner Registered Owner, to pass and repass at all times and for all purposes, on foot or in vehicles, and with or without animals.

(b) Right of footway: Full right for the freehold owner Registered Owner of the benefited real propertyLot, and every person authorised by that owner Registered Owner, to go, pass and repass on foot, at all times and for all purposes, and with or without animals.

(2) In the construction of an InstrumentInstrument referring to a "party wall", that expression means (unless the contrary intention appears) a wall severed vertically and longitudinally with separate ownership of the severed portions, and with cross-easementsEasements entitling each of the persons entitled to a portion of the wall to have their building supported by the whole wall.

(3) Where real property governed by this LawLot is transferred by a person entitled to create easementsEasements in relation to a wall built on the common boundary of that real propertyLot and adjoining real propertyLot, and the transfer Instrument describes the wall as a party wall, then the transfer, when registered, operates to create an easement for a party wall.

CHAPTER 6 - EASEMENTS CREATED BY COURT ORDER

81-85. Easements created by Court order

(1) The Court may make an order imposing an easement over real propertyLot if the easement is reasonably necessary for the effective use or development of other real propertyLot that will have the benefit of the easement.

(2) The Court may make an order under paragraph Article 84(1) only if satisfied that:

(a) use of the real propertyLot having the benefit of the easement will not materially impact the use of the burdened Lot or be inconsistent with the public interest;
(b) the registered freehold owner of the real property, the Registered Owner to be burdened by the easement and each other person having a registered interest in that real property can be adequately compensated for any loss or other disadvantage that will arise from imposition of the easement; and

(c) all reasonable attempts have been made by the applicant for the order to obtain the easement or an alternative easement having the same effect but have been unsuccessful.

(3) The Court order is to specify the nature of the easement, and whatever information is required by Article 87 to enable the easement to be registered. The order may limit the times at which the easement applies.

(4) The Court order is to provide for payment by the applicant to specified persons of any compensation the Court considers appropriate, unless the Court determines that compensation is not payable because of the special circumstances of the case.

(5) The applicant shall pay the costs of the proceedings, unless the Court orders otherwise.

(6) The easement may be varied or released in accordance with the provisions of Article 89.

(7) Nothing in this Article prevents the easement from being varied or extinguished by a Court under Article 92.

CHAPTER 7 — CONTRIBUTIONS TO REPAIRS

Contribution to repairs

(1) Where an easement relating to real property governed by this Law contains a covenant obliging one or more persons to contribute to the cost of constructing or repairing the subject matter of the easement, the obligation binds not only those persons but also their successors in title as if they had been a party to the instrument creating the easement, for as long as the easement subsists.

(2) However, a person’s liability under paragraph Article 86 does not extend to expenditure made before the person became an owner, or after the person ceased to be an owner.
PART 12 — COVENANTS

CHAPTER 1 — GENERAL

83.87. Covenants in gross permitted

(1) This Law permits the creation of covenants in gross (that is, covenants without benefited real property) under the principles of English common law and equity.

(2) In the construction of this Part, a reference to a covenant includes a reference to a covenant in gross, unless the contrary appears.

(3) This Part does not apply to the Registration of the Master Community Declaration as a Covenant in Gross under Part 24 which shall be subject to the provisions contained therein.

84.88. Positive covenants permitted

(1) This Law permits the creation of positive covenants as well as negative (restrictive) covenants.

(2) In the construction of this Part, a reference to a covenant includes a reference to a positive covenant, unless the contrary appears.

CHAPTER 2 — REGISTRATION OF covenants

85.89. Creation of covenant by registration

(1) A covenant may be created as a Real Property Right over real property a lot by registering the instrument containing the covenant.

(2) record the covenant:

(a) in the folio of the lot burdened; and

(b) unless the covenant is a covenant in gross, in the folio of the lot benefited (if the lot benefited is registered real property).

(3) The Registrar may refuse to register a positive covenant that, in the Registrar’s opinion, imposes an unreasonable burden on the real property a lot.

(4) The Registrar may refuse to register as a covenant an interest that, in the Registrar’s opinion, does not comply with the requirements for a valid covenant.

(5) However, paragraph (4) does not apply to an interest which this Law recognises as a valid covenant.

86.90. Requirements for covenant

(1) In order to be registered, an instrument creating a covenant shall:

(a) indicate clearly the nature of the covenant and the rights created under it;

(b) include a description sufficient to identify the lot to be burdened by the covenant and (unless it is a covenant in gross) the lot to be benefited by the covenant.
(c) in the case of a covenantCovenant in grossGross, identify the person having the benefit of the covenantCovenant; and

(d) contain the consents of all registered mortgagees and registered lesseesRegistered Mortgagees and Registered Lessees of the lotLot to be burdened by the covenantCovenant.

(2) This Article 90 does not limit the matters that the approved form of registered OwnerRegistrar may require to be included in an Instrument for the Registration of a Covenant.

87.91. Covenant benefiting and burdening same registered owner’s lotsRegistered Owner’s Lots

A covenantCovenant may be registeredRegistered even if the lotLot benefited and the lotLot burdened by the covenantCovenant have the same freehold ownerRegistered Owner.

CHAPTER 3 — VARIATION OR EXTINGUISHMENT OF covenantsCOVENANTS

88.92. Variation or release of covenantCovenant by parties

(1) A registered covenantRegistered Covenant may be varied or wholly or partly released by registeringRegistering a variation or release of covenantCovenant.

(2) Unless the covenantCovenant is a covenantCovenant in grossGross, the variation or release shall be executed by the registered freehold ownerRegistered Owner of the lotLot benefited by the covenantCovenant and

(3) may (but need not) be executed by the registered freehold ownerRegistered Owner of the lotLot burdened by the covenantCovenant.

(4) The variation or release of a covenantCovenant in gross:

(a) Gross shall be executed by the person having the benefit of the covenantCovenant and

(b) may (but need not) be executed by the registered freehold ownerRegistered Owner of the lotLot burdened by the covenantCovenant.

(5) Subject to paragraph Article 92(5), a registered covenantRegistered Covenant may be varied or released only if all registered mortgageesRegistered Mortgagees and lesseesLessees of the lotLot benefited by the covenantCovenant consent.

(6) Paragraph Article 92(4) does not apply to a lesseeLessee who, in the Registrar’s opinion, does not receive a benefit from the covenantCovenant.

89.93. Same person becoming registered ownerRegistered Owner of benefited and burdened lotsLots

(1) If the same person becomes the registered freehold ownerRegistered Owner of the lotLot benefited and the lotLot burdened by a covenantCovenant, the covenantCovenant is extinguished only if:

(a) that ownerRegistered Owner asks the Registrar to extinguish the covenantCovenant; or

(b) the Registrar creates a single folio of the RegisterFolio for the lotsLots.

(2) A registered covenantRegistered Covenant is not extinguished merely because the freehold ownerRegistered Owner of the lotLot benefited by the covenantCovenant acquires an interest a Real Property Interest in, or a greater interest in, the lotLot burdened by the covenantCovenant.
90.94 Duration of covenant

(1) A covenant ceases to be enforceable 10 years after it was registered.

(2) Where a covenant ceases to be enforceable under paragraph Article 94(1), the Registrar may record that fact in the folios of the Register Folios for the lot burdened and (except in the case of a covenant in gross) the lot benefited.

(3) Despite paragraph Article 94(1), any person having the benefit of the covenant may agree, before the covenant ceases to be enforceable, to extend it by lodging with the Registrar an instrument of extension.

(4) The Registrar shall record the extension of the covenant in the folio of the Register Folio for the lot burdened and (except in the case of a covenant in gross) the lot benefited.

91.95 Court order varying or extinguishing covenant

(1) The Court may, on the application of any person interested in real property, the Registered Owner of the Lot burdened by a covenant, make an order wholly or partly varying or extinguishing the covenant.

(2) The Court may not make an order under paragraph Article 95(1) unless it is satisfied that:

(a) by reason of a change in use of the burdened real property, as approved by the relevant authority, the continued existence of the covenant will impede the development of the lot for public or private purposes; or

(b) the proposed variation or extinguishment will not materially injure substantially and detrimentally harm or cause loss to a person entitled to the benefit of the covenant.

(3) When making an order under paragraph Article 95(1), the Court may order the applicant to pay compensation to any person entitled to the benefit of the covenant.

(4) An order under paragraph Article 95(1) binds all persons who are, or who may become entitled to, the benefit of the covenant, regardless of whether they have been notified of, or participated in, the proceedings.

(5) The Registrar may make a notation of the Court order (and any subsequent amendment or repeal of such Court order) in the folios of the Register for the burdened real property and (except in the case of a covenant in gross) the benefited real property.
PART 13—TRUSTS

92.96. Dealing by trustee

Where a registered owner is a trustee, a person dealing with that trustee, and the Registrar:

(a) is entitled to assume that the trustee is the legal and beneficial owner, freed from all trusts of the Lot expressly and irrevocably authorised to deal with the Lot under the Instrument to be registered without need for any further enquiry whatsoever;

(b) need not enquire whether the trustee is acting in breach of trust;

(c) is not affected by notice of the trust or the rights of the beneficiaries under the trust; and

(d) is not liable under any rule relating to the knowing receipt of trust property.
PART 14 — DECEASED ESTATES

93.97 Registration of personal representative

(1) A person may lodge an application to be registered as the personal representative of a deceased registered owner.

(2) If satisfied that the person is entitled to be registered as the personal representative of a deceased registered owner, the Registrar may register the person as owner to Register a Caveat noting that the person is acting in the capacity of personal representative of the deceased prior registered owner and authorised to do so.

94.98 Dealings without registration of personal representative

(1) The Registrar may register a dealing by the personal representative of a deceased registered owner without requiring the personal representative to be registered, if the Registrar considers it unnecessary or impracticable to require the personal representative to be registered.

(2) Before acting under paragraph Article 98(1), the Registrar may require whatever evidence the Registrar considers necessary to protect the real property interests of those whom the Registrar considers to be entitled to the deceased’s estate.

95.99 Notice of death or defeasance

(1) A person entitled to real property on the death of a joint tenant or life tenant may apply to the Registrar to record the death.

(2) If satisfied that the death has occurred by sighting an attested and authenticated death certificate from the relevant jurisdiction, the Registrar may make the appropriate recording in the folio of the Register to indicate that the deceased’s real property interest has determined and that the real property has vested in the survivor or in the person entitled to the reversion or remainder.

(3) Where this Law makes no express provision for recording the defeasance of an interest in real property, the Registrar may record the defeasance in the way the Registrar considers appropriate.
PART 15 — BANKRUPTCY; INSOLVENCY

96.100 Transmission on bankruptcy/Insolvency

(1) The Registrar may register a passing of title to a Lot in any manner other than by way of a Transfer (a “transmission of real property”) under a bankruptcy law—an Insolvency Law only if a request to register the transmission is lodged.

(2) A person registered by transmission under paragraph Article 100(1) is taken to be the registered owner for the purpose of any dealing with the real property.

(3) Until registration of the transmission under paragraph Article 100(1), no interest vests in a person entitled under a bankruptcy law an Insolvency Law, but this does not prevent the person lodging a caveat in respect of a Real Property Interest claimed.
PART 16 – WRITS

97. Request to register writ of execution

The Registrar shall register a writ of execution relating to real property if:

(a) a request to register the writ of execution is lodged for Registration by the judgment creditor for whose benefit the writ was issued, together with an official copy of the writ of execution; and

(b) the request is lodged within six (6) months of the date of issue of the writ of execution.

98. How writ of execution is registered

The Registrar registers a writ by recording the writ in the folio of the Register to which the writ relates.

99. Effect of registering writ of execution

(1) A writ:

(a) does not bind or affect real property until it is registered; and

(b) binds or affects real property only if it is executed and put in force within:

(i) twelve (12) months after the date it is issued; or

(ii) an extended time allowed by the court of issuance.

(2) A registered writ takes effect as if it were a registered mortgage securing the amount payable under the writ. A sale under the writ is treated as if it were a sale by a registered mortgagee in exercise of a power of sale.

100. Cancellation of registration of writ of execution

The Registrar shall cancel the registration of a writ if:

(a) a request to cancel is lodged by the judgment creditor for whose benefit the writ was issued; or

(b) the Registrar is satisfied that the time or extended time for executing and putting the writ into force has expired.

101. Discharging or satisfying writ of execution

(1) If a registered writ has been satisfied or discharged, the Registrar may record that fact in the folio of the Register.

(2) The Registrar may act under paragraph Article 105(1):

(a) on the Registrar’s own initiative; or

(b) on application by a registered owner.

102. Transfer of lots sold in execution under a writ of execution

If a lot is sold under a registered writ, the appropriate registrar or
officer of the Court may execute a transfer to the purchaser. Court of issuance may effect a transfer to the prospective owner or purchaser by registration of a transfer instrument.
PART 17 — CAVEATS

CHAPTER 1 — Lodging caveats

REGISTERING CAVEATS

103.107. Who may lodge a caveat?

(1) To the extent that a Real Property Interest or a Real Property Right may not be lodged in respect of the affected Lot, a Caveat may be Registered in relation to real property or a registered interest in real property (such as a registered lease or a registered mortgage) by any of the following persons or their agents:

(a) a person claiming an interest in the real property in respect of the Lot;

(b) the registered freehold owner of the real property;

(c) a person who has the benefit of an injunction from the Court restraining a registered owner from dealing with the real property Lot.

(2) A caveat may also be lodged by the Registrar under Article 150.

104.108. Requirements of a caveat

(1) A caveat lodged shall be in the approved form. A caveat shall state:

(a) the name of the caveator;

(b) the interest claimed by the caveator;

(c) the grounds on which the interest is claimed;

(d) the real property Lot affected by the caveat and, if the caveat relates to part only of a Lot, a description of the part;

(e) the registered interest affected by the caveat;

(f) the extent of the prohibition on dealings in the Lot;

(g) an address within the UAE where documents can be served on the caveator, including any documents in Court proceedings relating to the caveat; and

(h) unless the Registrar dispenses with it, the name and address of:

(i) the registered freehold owner of the real property Lot affected by the caveat; and

(ii) each person known to the caveator whose claim to registration of an instrument may be affected by the caveat.

105.109. Recording a caveat

If a caveat is lodged that complies with Article 117, the Registrar shall record the
caveat in the folio of the Register Folio.

406.110 Notifying caveat

(1) The Registrar shall give written notice of lodgement of a caveat to each person disclosed or known to Registered Owner of the Lot that is the subject of the Caveat.

(2) Service on the Registered Owner by the Registrar whose interest or whose claim of a notice under Article 110(1) shall be deemed to have been effected upon delivery of such notice to registration of an instrument may be affected by the caveat the Registered Owner(s)’s Address or the address of the Lot if the Registered Owner(s)’s Address is not within the UAE.

CHAPTER 2 — EFFECT OF caveat

407.111 Effect of lodging caveat

(1) A caveat prevents the registration of an instrument affecting the real property or interest in respect of which the caveat is lodged:

(a) to the extent stated in the caveat; and

(b) from the time the caveat was lodged.

(2) Paragraph Article 111(1) has effect for a caveat until the caveat lapses or is withdrawn, removed or cancelled.

(3) The lodging of a caveat does not prevent registration of the following:

(a) an instrument specified in the caveat as an instrument to which the caveat does not apply;

(b) an instrument to the registration of which the caveat consents;

(c) an instrument executed by a mortgagee, if the mortgage pursuant to the provisions of a Mortgage, if the Mortgage was registered before the caveat was lodged;

(d) an interest that, if registered, would not affect the interest claimed by the caveator;

(e) an instrument that was lodged for registration before the caveat was lodged.

(f) an instrument that is withdrawn from registration.

(4) For the purposes of paragraph Article 111(3), "mortgagee" includes a submortgagee.

(5) Where the Registrar registers a Transfer Instrument that does not completely dispose of the interest Real Property Interest of the registered owner to which the caveat relates, the caveat remains in force as to the balance of that interest.

(6) Subject to Article 425115, the lodging of a caveat does not prevent the lodging of another caveat.
CHAPTER 3 — WITHDRAWAL, LAPSING AND REMOVAL OF Caveats

Withdrawal of Caveat

(1) A Caveat may be withdrawn by lodging a request to withdraw it in the Approved Form.

(2) The withdrawal of Caveat takes effect at the time it is lodged, the Approved Form of withdrawal is Registered.

(3) The Instrument of withdrawal request may be lodged by:

(a) the Caveator;

(b) where the Caveator has died, the Caveator’s personal representative recognised by the Registrar pursuant to Article 97;

(c) where the Caveators are joint tenants, by the surviving joint tenant or joint tenants;

(d) by any person properly authorised at law to act on the Caveator’s behalf.

Lapsing of Caveat

(1) This Article applies to a Caveat unless it is lodged by the Registrar under Article 150, or under this Part Article 142.

(2) A Caveatee may serve on the Caveator a notice requiring the Caveator to start proceedings in the Court to establish the interest Real Property Interest or Real Property Right claimed under the Caveat.

(3) Service on the Caveator by the Caveatee of a notice under Article 113(2) shall be deemed to have been effected upon delivery of such notice to the Caveator’s address provided under Article 108(2)(g).

(4) The Caveatee shall notify the Registrar of the service on the Caveator within 14 ten (10) days of the service of the notice.

(5) If the Caveatee has complied with paragraph (3) Article 112(4), the Caveat lapses 3 sixty (60) days after notice is served on the Caveator.

(6) Despite paragraph (4) Article 113(5), the Caveat does not lapse:

(a) if the Caveator has started appropriate proceedings and the Registrar has been notified of the proceedings; or

(b) if the Caveator notifies the Registrar within 3 twenty (20) days of being served with the notice under paragraph (3) Article 113(2) that the Caveator does not want the Caveat to lapse and that the Caveator will start, proceedings to establish the interest Real Property Interest or Real Property Right claimed under the Caveat.

(7) If a Caveator has notified the Registrar under paragraph (5) Article 113(6)(b) that the Caveat will start proceedings, the Caveat lapses 3 months sixty (60) days after the notice under paragraph Article 113(2) was served on the Caveator unless, within that time, the Caveator provides the Registrar with evidence that the proceedings have been started.

a—The Registrar may record in the folio of the Register that a caveat has lapsed.

Removal of Caveat by Court order

(1) A Caveatee may at any time apply to the Court for an order that a Caveat be
(2) The Court may make the order:

(a) regardless of whether the caveator has been served with the application; and

(b) on the terms it considers appropriate.

### 115. Further Caveat

If a Caveat lapses or is withdrawn, removed or cancelled, the Caveator may not lodge another Caveat for a Lot on the same, or substantially the same grounds, except with leave of the Court or the written consent of the Registered Owner.

### 116. Cancellation of Caveat by Registrar

(1) The Registrar may cancel a Caveat if a request to cancel the Caveat is lodged and the Registrar is satisfied that:

(a) the interest claimed by the caveator has ceased or the caveator’s claim to it has been abandoned, settled or withdrawn; or

(b) the nature of the interest claimed does not entitle the caveator to prevent registration of an Instrument.

(2) The Registrar shall notify the caveator of the Registrar’s intention to cancel the Caveat, at least seven (7) days before cancelling it.

(3) Regardless of whether a request to cancel the Caveat has been lodged, if an Instrument that has been lodged will, on being registered, give full effect to an interest claimed in a Caveat, the Registrar may cancel the Caveat and register the Instrument.

### 117. Further caveat

If a caveat lapses or is withdrawn, removed or cancelled, the caveator may not lodge another caveat for the real property on the same, or substantially the same, grounds except with leave of the Court.

### 118. Order for security

In proceedings in relation to a Caveat, the Court may order the caveator to give undertakings, or lodge security, or both.

### CHAPTER 4 — IMPROPER Caveats

### 115. Compensation for improper Caveat

(1) A caveator who lodges or continues a Caveat without reasonable cause shall compensate anyone who suffers loss as a result.

(2) In proceedings for compensation under paragraph Article 118(1):

(a) the caveator bears the onus of proving that the Caveat was lodged or continued with reasonable cause; and

(b) the Court may include in any compensation a component for exemplary damages suffered.
CHAPTER 5 — GENERAL

### Notices to caveator

A notice to a caveator under this Part is sufficiently served if left at or sent to the address mentioned in accordance with Article 117(2)(g). If the Registrar considers that a notice will not reach the caveator if served in the way mentioned in paragraph Article 119(1), the notice may be served in any other way the Registrar considers appropriate.

### Right to injunction not affected

Nothing in this Part prevents a person from seeking an injunction to protect an interest in real property or a Lot.
### PART 18 — INSTRUMENTS

**CHAPTER 1 — MANNER OF EXECUTION OF, AND RELIANCE ON, INSTRUMENTS**

**118. Execution of certain instruments**

(1) Subject to this Law, an instrument to transfer or create an interest in real property shall be executed by the transferor or parties to the person creating the instrument and, in respect of a discharge of a Mortgage, the mortgagor or, in respect of a total or partial discharge of a mortgage, need only be executed by the mortgagee if applicable.

- (a) the interest; and
- (b) the transferee or the person whose favour the interest is to be created.

**119. Indicating consent when required for dealing**

If the consent of a person is necessary for any dealing with real property, the consent shall be:

- (a) written or contained on, or form part of, the relevant instrument; or
- (b) if the Registrar considers it appropriate, lodged with the relevant instrument.

**120. Execution of instruments by corporations and natural persons**

(1) For a corporation, an instrument relating to real property governed by this Law is validly executed if it is executed in a way permitted by law and in accordance with the authority required in its constitutive documents.

(2) Without limiting paragraph (1), if an instrument relating to real property governed by this Law is executed before the DIFC Registrar of Companies, a person is entitled to assume that it is validly executed:

- (a) if it is signed by the person who is a party to the instrument; and
- (b) if the signature is witnessed in a manner approved by the Registrar, either for that instrument, or for instruments of that class, or for instruments generally.

**121. Execution of instrument under power of attorney**

(1) An instrument relating to real property governed by this Law may be executed by a person’s attorney duly authorised under a power of attorney, if the requirements of paragraph Article 124(2) are met.

(2) The requirements are that:

- (a) the power of attorney shall be in writing;
- (b) the power of attorney shall be executed by the appointor in accordance with the provisions of Article 124 and 123;
- (c) the power of attorney, or a certified copy of it, shall be lodged with the Registrar.
(d) if the power of attorney is executed outside of the UAE it shall be duly notarised and attested.

422-125. Registrar’s discretion to reject instrument on certain grounds

Before registering an instrument to provide information to satisfy the Registrar that:

(a) the instrument was made in good faith;
(b) the matters set out in the instrument are correct;
(c) the person acquiring an interest in a Real Property Interest or a Real Property Right under the instrument accepts ownership of that interest or the grant of the Real Property Right and is not under any legal disability; and
(d) the person divesting ownership or making the grant under the instrument is entitled to divest the interest or grant the Real Property Right and is not under any legal disability.

CHAPTER 2 – SUITABILITY OF INSTRUMENTS FOR registration

423-126. When instrument capable of registration

An instrument is able to be registered only if:

(a) complies with this Law;
(b) is in the approved form;
(c) appears on its face to be capable of being registered; and
(d) is accompanied by any form of application or other document, and payment of any applicable fee, that may be required by the Registrar or by this or any other law.

(2) Despite paragraph (1)(b), the Registrar may register or record an instrument that is not in the approved form if:

(a) there is no approved form; or
(b) the Registrar is satisfied that it is not reasonable to require the instrument to be in the approved form.

424-127. Address for service to be provided

(1) An instrument lodged for registration shall specify an address in the UAE for the service of notices on any person taking under that instrument.

(2) Each person referred to in paragraph Article 127(1) shall ensure that the Registrar is notified of any change in the address for service.

(3) The Registrar shall record in the Register:

(a) the address for service provided under paragraph Article 127(1); and
(b) any change of address provided under paragraph Article 127(2).
CHAPTER 3 — THE PROCESS OF registering instruments

425-128. Lodgement etc of instruments by electronic or other means

The Registrar may:

(a) permit instruments to be executed;

(b) permit instruments or documents to be lodged or deposited for Registration; and

(c) correct instruments that have been lodged or deposited, to be lodged for Registration, by any means, including by electronic means.

426-129. Registrar’s power to correct obvious errors in instruments

(1) Where the Registrar considers that an instrument lodged for registration contains an obvious error, the Registrar may correct the error by noting the correction on the instrument.

(2) The Registrar:

(a) may not act under paragraph (1) unless satisfied that the correction will not prejudice the rights of a person; and

(b) shall, as soon as practicable after making the correction, notify the person who lodged the instrument that the correction has been made.

(3) An instrument corrected by the Registrar under this Article has the same effect as if the error had not been made.

427-130. Registrar’s requisitions

(1) Before registering or recording an instrument, the Registrar may serve on the person who lodged it a notice requiring:

(a) the instrument to be re-executed, completed or corrected, if the Registrar considers it to be defective, incomplete or incorrect; or

(b) the person to supply information or produce documents the Registrar considers necessary or appropriate in order to register or record the instrument.

(2) The Registrar may require any information supplied or produced under paragraph (1)(b) be verified by statutory declaration or other form of sworn statement.

428-131. Rejecting instrument if requisitions not complied with

(1) If within twenty (20) days of service of the notice under Article 130, or any extended period the Registrar considers appropriate, the person does not comply with the notice, the Registrar may reject the instrument and any instrument that depends on it for registration.

(2) An instrument rejected under paragraph (1) loses its priority under Article 21.

(3) Where the Registrar rejects an instrument under paragraph (1), the Registrar shall return it to the person who lodged it, and may endorse a note on the instrument that it has been rejected.

(4) This Article does not prevent a rejected instrument being re-registered after the notice has been complied with.
129.132. Requiring plan of survey to be lodged

(1) If the Registrar considers that it is necessary or appropriate, the Registrar may require a person who lodges an instrument for registration or recording to lodge a plan, map or diagram of the lot or part of the real property to be affected by the instrument.

(2) The plan, map or diagram shall comply with the Registrar’s directives as to dimensions, scale and contents.

130.133. Protection of persons under disability

(1) Where it appears to the Registrar that a registered freehold owner is a minor or under some other legal disability, the Registrar shall record a Caveat noting the disability in the folio of the Register.

(2) Where a Caveat noting a disability is recorded, the Registrar shall not register an instrument executed by that owner, unless:

(a) the Court has authorised the execution of the instrument;

(b) the Registrar considers that execution of the instrument is within the registered freehold owner’s legal capacity.

131.134. Minors

(1) Where it appears to the Registrar that a proposed Registered Owner is a minor as at the date of the transfer, the Registrar shall not register the Minor as the Registered Owner in the Folio and shall register the Minor’s appointed guardian as the Registered Owner and shall register a Caveat noting the beneficial ownership interest of the Minor.

(2) Where a Caveat noting the beneficial ownership interest of the Minor is registered, the Registrar shall not register an instrument in respect of the Real Property, unless:

(a) the Court has authorised the execution of the instrument; or

(b) the Minor has attained the age of eighteen (18) years and consents in writing to the registration of the instrument.

(3) In the event the Minor reaches the age of eighteen (18), the Registrar shall upon receiving a transfer instrument transferring the Real Property Interest in the Lot to the Minor, register the same without delay.

CHAPTER 4 — STANDARD TERMS INCORPORATED INTO INSTRUMENTS

132.135. Standard terms documents

(1) The Registrar or another person may lodge a standard terms document and may amend the document by lodging a further standard terms document.

(2) The Registrar shall give each standard terms document a distinguishing reference.

(3) All or part of a standard terms document lodged under paragraph 135(1) forms part of a registered instrument if the instrument says that it forms part of the instrument.

(4) In this Article, “standard terms document” means a document containing provisions that are intended to be incorporated into a registered instrument.
133. Prescribed standard terms

Where the Authority DIFCA has made Regulations under Article 172 prescribing standard terms and conditions for instruments, the terms and conditions are taken to be incorporated into instruments executed after the date the Regulations come into operation, unless varied or negatived by express provision in the instrument.

CHAPTER 5 — Covenants in registered instruments

134. Covenants in registered instruments: successors in title implied

In an Instrument relating to real property governed by this Law, unless a contrary intention is expressed, covenants in such Instrument:

(a) are deemed to be made by the covenantor parties to the Instrument and the covenantor’s successors in title with the covenantee and the covenantee’s successors in title; and

(b) have effect as if those successors were expressly referred to in such Instrument.

135. Registration does not impute validity or enforceability

(1) The Registration of an Instrument does not in itself impute or imply the validity or legal enforceability of the subject matter of the Instrument which at all times remains subject to the contractual and statutory rights and obligations of the parties to the Instrument.

(2) The Registrar may, for information purposes only, require the parties to an Instrument provide supporting documentary evidence of the subject matter of such Instrument for the purpose of determining the Prescribed Fee or for such other purposes at the Registrar may consider appropriate from time to time. Nothing contained in this Article 138(2) obliges the Registrar to request, collect or retain any supporting documentary evidence of the subject matter of an Instrument.

(3) The Registrar is not obliged to confirm the correctness of an Instrument, or any supporting documentary evidence of the subject matter of such Instrument, which obligation remains at all times solely on the parties to the Instrument.
PART 19— SUBDIVISIONS

136–139. Subdivision approval before dealing with part of lot

Subject to Article 147, the Registrar shall not register an instrument affecting part only of a lot unless the Registrar is satisfied that in relation to the part:

(a) the relevant authority, Master Developer or the Relevant Authority, has certified that its requirements relating to subdivision have been met; and

(b) the boundaries and dimensions of the part accord with the boundaries and dimensions shown in a plan for that part lodged with and approved by the Registrar.
137. Subdivision of buildings

(1) Subject to paragraph (4), where the relevant authority has approved building plans which provide for the division of a building into 2 or more units adapted for separate occupation or use, the Registrar may, instead of creating a folio of the Register for the real property on which the building is erected or proposed to be erected, create folios of the Register for each unit in the building as if it were a separate lot, but only if the requirements of paragraph (2) are satisfied.

(2) The requirements referred to in paragraph (1) are that:

(a) the Authority has assented through a notification authorising the subdivision of the building or the class of buildings to which it belongs;

(b) under DIEC law, the approval by the relevant authority of a subdivision plan is not required for the building or class of buildings; and

(c) the approved building plans:
bear a certificate by the Registrar that the boundaries of all the units delineated on the approved building plans have been endorsed by the owner of the development as correct and in accordance with what the owner has sold or agreed to sell; and

(ii) contain all other certifications and information required by the Registrar.

(3) Where the Registrar acts under paragraph (1) and creates a folio of the Register for each unit, the Registrar shall:

(a) create a folio of the Register for any one or more common areas created under any building sales agreement, co-owners association constitution, master community declaration, or similar document;

(b) register as the freehold owner of those common areas the person or persons the Registrar considers to be the freehold owner of those areas; and

(c) record in the folio for that unit that:

(i) ownership of the unit may be subject to the benefits and burdens created under any building sales agreement, co-owners association constitution, master community declaration, or similar document applying to the unit;

(ii) ownership of the unit may include a proportionate interest in any common property associated with the development of which the building forms part; and

(iii) an official survey of the unit may not have been carried out.

(4) Despite paragraph (1), if the Registrar considers that, in the interests of uniformity of title-holding in the DIFC, the building should be dealt with under the Strata Title Law (DIFC Law No. 5 of 2007), the Registrar may require that the building be subdivided in accordance with the requirements of that law and be dealt with under that law.
(5) If the Registrar acts under paragraph (4), then if and when the requirements of the Strata Title Law are complied with, the Registrar shall cancel any folio or folios of the Register for the real property on which the building is erected or proposed to be erected, and create folios of the Register for the lots and common property in accordance with the provisions of the Strata Title Law.
PART 20—POWERS OF AND PROCEEDINGS AGAINST REGISTRAR

CHAPTER 1—POWERS

138-140. General powers of the Registrar

The Registrar has the power to do whatever the Registrar considers necessary to carry out, for or in connection with, or reasonably incidental to, the exercise and performance of his or her powers and functions under this Law, inclusive of the power of delegation, subject to the applicable decision making procedures.

139-141. Registrar may correct Real Property Register

(1) The Registrar may correct the Real Property Register if satisfied that:

(2) The Registrar may correct the Register if satisfied that:

(a) the Real Property Register is incorrect; and

(b) the correction will not prejudice the rights of a Registered Owner, Beneficiary or Caveator.

(3)(2) The Real Property Register as corrected by the Registrar has the same effect as if the error had not been made.

(4)(3) For the purposes of determining whether a correction will not prejudice the rights of a Registered Owner, Beneficiary or Caveator of Article 141(1)(b), the rights of a registered owner, such as the Registrar or Caveator are not prejudiced if the Registrar or Beneficiary has acquired or dealt with a registered interest or Real Property Right with actual or constructive knowledge that the Real Property Register was incorrect.

(5)(4) Before taking action under this Article 141, the Registrar may give notice of the proposed action to any person the Registrar considers should be notified of it. However, no action lies against the Registrar for failure to give notice.

140-142. Registrar may prepare and lodge caveat

(1) The Registrar may prepare and lodge a caveat over a lot:

(a) to prevent a dealing that, in the Registrar’s opinion, may prejudice a person who has an interest in a Real Property Interest or Real Property Right in the lot;

(b)(a) to give effect to a Court order directed to the Registrar; or

(b)(b) whenever the Registrar considers it appropriate to do so to protect the integrity of the Real Property Register.

(2) The Registrar will prepare and register a caveat over a lot to give effect to a Court order directed to the Registrar.

(2)(3) The caveat may be in the form the Registrar considers appropriate.

144-143. Registrar may state a case

(1) Whenever a question arises concerning the performance of Registrar’s duties or the exercise of the
Registrar's functions, the Registrar may state a case for the opinion of the Court.

(2) The Court’s decision binds the Registrar and any other parties to the case.

(3) If the Court considers that the question is of public importance, the Court may order that the costs of the proceedings, or the costs of some of the persons appearing in the proceedings, be paid out of the assurance fund.

442. Registrar may demand fees

(1) The Registrar may demand and receive fees and charges.

(2) The Registrar shall pay the fees and charges into the funds of the Authority.

443. Registrar may approve forms

The Registrar may approve forms for use under this Law.

The Registrar may issue, amend, substitute and remove any redundant Approved Forms and Instruments from time to time in the Registrar's absolute discretion.

CHAPTER 2 — PROCEEDINGS AGAINST REGISTRAR

444. Registrar may be summoned for refusal to perform duty

(1) A person who considers that the Registrar has refused to perform a duty under this Law may require the Registrar to state in writing the grounds of the refusal.

(2) The Registrar shall state the grounds within thirty (30) days of receiving the request.

(3) On receiving the grounds, or if no grounds are received within the thirty (30) days, the person may commence proceedings against the Registrar to substantiate those grounds or the refusal.

(4) The Court may make the order it considers appropriate, and may give any directions it considers necessary for performance of the order.

(5) The Court may make the order as to costs and expenses it thinks appropriate. Any costs or expenses payable by the Registrar are to be paid out of the assurance fund.

445. Protection from liability

The Registrar, or any person acting under the Registrar's authority, is not liable for anything done in good faith in the exercise or purported exercise of a power under this Law.
PART 21—COMPENSATION FOR LOSS

446-148. The assurance fund Assurance Fund

(1) This Article establishes the assurance fund.

(1) The Authority DIFCA shall pay into an Assurance Fund for the purposes set out in this Part 21.

(2) The DIFCA shall determine the manner in which claims for compensation against the Assurance Fund are funded which may be by way of prescribing a proportion of the fees collected by the Registrar under this Law. Prescribed Fees to be paid into the Assurance Fund or by such other means as determined by the DIFCA.

(3) The Authority may make Regulations under Article 172 prescribing the proportion of the fees to be paid into the assurance fund.

(4) If the amount to the credit of the assurance fund Assurance Fund is inadequate to meet a claim, the deficiency is payable by the Authority DIFCA.

447-149. Compensation from assurance fund Assurance Fund

(1) A person who is deprived of, or suffers loss or damage in relation to, Real Property because of the circumstances in paragraph Article 149(2), may make a claim against the assurance fund Assurance Fund.

(2) The circumstances are:

(a) an error in the Real Property Register;

(b) tampering with the Real Property Register; or

(c) loss, destruction or improper use of a document lodged or deposited with the Registrar or held by the Registrar;

(d) an omission, mistake, breach of duty, negligence or misfeasance of or by the Registrar or a member of the Registrar’s staff; or

(e) the Registrar’s exercise of a power in relation to an application or dealing with which the person had no connection.

(3) Despite paragraphs—Articles 149(1) and 149(2), a claim against the assurance fund Assurance Fund may not be made by a person who is able to recoup their loss or damage by an action for the recovery of:
REAL PROPERTY LAW

148.150. Time limit on claims against assurance fund Assurance Fund

Any claims pursuant to the terms of Article 149 shall be made before the expiry of the earlier of:

(a) two (2) years from the date of the cause of loss; or

(b) six (6) months from the date of the claimant becoming aware of the cause of the claim.

149.151. Court order about deprivation, loss or damage

(1) A person may apply to the Court for an order:

(a) determining whether compensation is payable from the assurance fund Assurance Fund under Article 149, and the amount of the compensation; or

(b) directing the Registrar to take action in relation to the deprivation, loss or damage.

(2) The Court may make the order it considers appropriate.

(3) In considering the amount of compensation to be paid from the assurance fund Assurance Fund, the Court shall take into account any contributory neglect, default or lack of caution by or on behalf of the claimant. Compensation shall be calculated on the basis of the lesser of:

(a) actual direct loss; and

(b) the current value of the property.

Any compensation payable shall not take into account any consequential or indirect loss.

(4) Without limiting paragraph Article 151(2), the Court may direct the Registrar to:

(a) cancel or correct a folio of the RegisterFolio or other information in the Real Property Register;

(b) create a new folio of the RegisterFolio; or

(c) do anything else.

150.152. Matters for which there is no compensation

A person is not entitled to compensation from the assurance fund Assurance Fund for deprivation, loss or damage occasioned by:

(a) a breach of a trust or fiduciary duty (whether express, implied or constructive), including a breach of duty arising in the administration of the estate of a deceased person;

(b) any incorrect description of boundaries;

(c) any incorrect description of parcels or the dimensions of any Lot; or

(d) the Registrar’s act in lodging a caveat Caveat under Article 150.
151. (1) When compensation is paid from the Assurance Fund, the Registrar, acting on behalf of the Authority, is subrogated to the claimant’s rights against the person responsible for the deprivation, loss or damage.

(2) Without limiting paragraph (1), the Registrar has rights of subrogation against persons (including legal practitioners, conveyancing agents and surveyors) who in the course of their professional duties have prepared documents for registration that have, in whole or in part, led to the loss, deprivation or damage.

(3) If the Registrar exercises the right of subrogation under this Article, the Registrar shall pay any moneys recovered into the Assurance Fund.
PART 22—SEARCHES

452-154. Entitlement to search Register, Folio and Instruments

(1) During normal business hours, the adequate access:

(2)(1) The Registrar shall provide to a Registered Owner, Beneficiary or an Interested Party an Official Search Certificate where the request is on the Register, Approved Form from such party and accompanied by the Prescribed Fee.

(3) to registered instruments or copies of them.

(4)(2) Access An Official Search Certificate may be provided by way of certificate, statement, computer print-out or any other means the Registrar considers appropriate.

(5) A person for whom an official search Official Search Certificate is obtained, and who suffers loss or damage by reason of any error in it, may recover compensation from the assurance fund Assurance Fund.

(6) A legal practitioner acting for a person for whom an official search Official Search Certificate is obtained is not liable for any loss or damage that may arise from reliance on it.

(5) During normal business hours, the Registrar shall provide a Registered Owner, and to any party to whom the Registered Owner consents in writing, a copy of any Instrument Registered against the Registered Owner’s Folio.

(6) The Registrar shall provide a copy of an Instrument where the consent is in writing from the Registered Owner in the Approved Form and accompanied by the Prescribed Fee.

453. Evidentiary effect of documents issued by Registrar

(1) A document issued by the Registrar conveying information relating to real property is to be taken to be correct, unless the contrary is shown.

(2) A document issued by the Registrar purporting to be a certified copy of a registered instrument is to be taken to be an accurate copy, unless the contrary is shown.

454. Official searches

(1) A person may apply, on payment of the prescribed fee, for an official search to be made in the Register.

(2) The Registrar shall make the search and issue the applicant with a certificate of the result.

455. Final official searches

(1) A person who is in the course of acquiring an interest in real property may apply
to the Registrar, on payment of the prescribed fee, for a final official search of the folio of the Register for the lot or lots concerned.

(2) If satisfied that the applicant is in the course of acquiring an interest in the real property, the Registrar may issue the search to the applicant and record the date and hour on which it was issued.

(3) The Registrar shall not register or record any instrument lodged in relation to the lot (other than an instrument lodged by, or on behalf of, the applicant) until 21 days after that date and hour, or until the registration of an instrument in favour of the applicant, whichever is the earlier.

(4) On the expiration of that period of 21 days, or on registration of the instrument in favour of the applicant (whichever is the earlier), instruments affecting the lot are to be registered in the order directed by Article 21.

(5) A person who has obtained a final official search is not entitled to obtain any further final official search for the same lot until the expiration of 21 days after the date and hour on which the earlier search was issued.
155. **Evidentiary effect of Documents issued by Registrar**

(1) A Document issued by the Registrar conveying information relating to a Lot is to be taken to be correct, unless the contrary is shown.

(2) A Document issued by the Registrar purporting to be a certified copy of a Registered Instrument is to be taken to be an accurate copy, unless the contrary is shown.
PART 23—MISCELLANEOUS: OFF PLAN SALES

156. **Words Off Plan Register**

(1) The Registrar shall as part of the Real Property Register establish an Off Plan Register to Register:

(a) all Developers;

(b) all Off Plan Developments; and

(c) all Off Plan Sales.

(2) A Developer shall not enter into any Off Plan Sales Agreement until the Developer:

(a) is licensed as an Developer in accordance with Article 157;

(b) has Registered the Off Plan Development in accordance with Article 158;

(c) has complied with the Directives of the Registrar (if any) with respect to the form of Off Plan Sales Agreement in accordance with Article 159;

(d) has provided the Prospective Owner with a Disclosure Statement in accordance with Article 160;

(e) has established an Escrow Account in accordance with Article 161;

(f) has paid to the Registrar the Prescribed Fee; and

(g) complied with all and expressions used—any further Directives and requirements of the Registrar.

(3) Article 156(2) does not limit the matters that the Registrar may require a Developer to undertake to be entitled to conduct Off Plan Sales.

(4) A Developer must lodge for Registration each Off Plan Sale in instruments the Off Plan Register no later than twenty (20) days after the entering into of an Off Plan Sales Agreement with the Prospective Owner.

(5) A Developer who breaches an obligation under Law Article 156(2) commits a contravention of this Law.

(6) Any person that seeks to circumvent, or assist the Developer in circumventing, directly or indirectly, the Developer’s obligations under Article 156(2) commits a contravention of this Law.

157. **Developer license**

A Developer shall not enter into any Off Plan Sales Agreement until the Developer has been licensed by the Relevant Authorities to undertake development activities in the DIFC with respect to an Off Plan Development.

158. **Off Plan Development Registration**

(1) A Developer shall not enter into any Off Plan Sales Agreement until the Registrar has approved and recorded the Off Plan Development in the Off Plan Register.

(2) The Registrar may issue Directives from time to time specifying the information and Documents that a Developer must produce to the Registrar when seeking approval of the Off Plan Development which may include:

(a) a detailed business plan and financial costing;

(b) details of proposed financing arrangements;
(c) details of sales plan and forecast; and
(d) the proposed construction program.

(3) The Registrar may refuse to approve an Off Plan Development if:
(a) the Developer fails to provide the information specified in Article 158(2);
(b) the Developer (or its affiliate) is not the Registered Owner or has not fully paid for the Lot upon which the Off Plan Development is to be constructed; or
(c) the Registrar considers that the Developer does not have sufficient resources to complete the Off Plan Development without relying upon Off Plan Sales; or
(d) the Developer does not have sufficient experience or expertise in property development.

(4) Article 158(2) does not limit the information that the Registrar may request and Article 158(3) does not limit the basis upon which the Registrar may refuse to approve the Off Plan Development.

159. Off Plan Sales Agreements

(1) A Developer shall not enter into any Off Plan Sales Agreement that does not comply with this Law and any Directives of the Registrar.

(2) The Registrar may issue Directives from time to time specifying the information and Documents that a Developer must include in an Off Plan Sales Agreement which may include the:
(a) form of the finishes specification;
(b) form of the Lot layout plan;
(c) proposed car parking arrangements;
(d) proposed payment plan; and
(e) proposed construction completion and handover date.

(3) Article 159(2) does not limit the information that the Registrar may require to be included in an Off Plan Sales Agreement.

160. Disclosure Statement

(1) A Developer must provide each Prospective Owner a Disclosure Statement prior to the Prospective Owner entering into the Off Plan Sales Agreement.

(2) A Developer shall not enter into any Off Plan Sales Agreement until the Registrar has approved the form of the Disclosure Statement.

(3) The Registrar may issue Directives from time to time specifying the information and Documents that a Developer must include in the Disclosure Statement which shall include, where applicable, the following:
(a) a copy of the draft plan clearly depicting the Off Plan Lot prepared by a Licensed Surveyor;
(b) the area of the Lot which shall include a statement specifying the internal area of the Lot, the balcony and any Accessory Lot calculated by a Licensed Surveyor in accordance with the Directives of the Registrar;
(c) a copy of the proposed Strata Plan or Strata Plans identifying the Common Property;
(d) a copy of the proposed Strata Management Statement or Strata Management Statements disclosing the proposed management structure and rules;
(e) details of the shared facilities that will be provided in the Common Property and the materials and finishes to be installed;
(f) details of the Permitted Uses in the Lots and Common Property;

(g) a copy of the Master Community Declaration;

(h) the estimated service charge rate including general fund and reserve fund contributions, and including the Prospective Owners proportionate share of the Master Community Service Charges;

(i) details of the proposed management arrangements including any special management arrangement and brand standards;

(j) details of the proposed arrangements for the supply of utility services including any mandatory utility arrangements;

(k) the project anticipated construction commencement and handover dates; and

(l) such other disclosures that the Registrar may require from time to time.

(4) The Registrar may refuse to approve the form of the Disclosure Statement if:

(a) the Developer fails to provide the information specified in Article 160(3); or

(b) the Registrar considers that the Disclosure Statement has not been prepared to an appropriate standard.

(5) Article 160(3) does not limit the information that the Registrar may require to be included in the Disclosure Statement and Article 160(4) does not limit the basis upon which the Registrar may refuse to approve the form of the Disclosure Statement.

(6) Should the Developer fail to provide a Prospective Owner with a Disclosure Statement prior to the Prospective Owner entering into the Off Plan Sales Agreement, the Prospective Owner may elect, but is not obliged, to terminate the Off Plan Sales Agreement at any time prior to the date being twenty (20) days after the date that the Developer provides the Prospective Owner a Disclosure Statement.

(7) If a Prospective Owner terminates an Off Plan Sales Agreement pursuant to Article 160(6), the Developer shall within twenty (20) days refund to the Prospective Owner all moneys paid by the Prospective Owner to the Developer prior to the date of termination.

(8) The Developer is deemed to warrant to the Prospective Owner that the information and disclosures specified in the Disclosure Statement is accurate and complete.

(9) If a Developer fails to deliver the Off Plan Development substantially in accordance with the Disclosure Statement and such failure results in a materially and detrimental change to the Off Plan Development, the Prospective Owners may, individually or collectively, raise a claim against the Developer for any loss arising from such material and detrimental change.

161. Escrow Account

(1) A Developer shall not enter into any Off Plan Sales Agreement until the Developer has established an Escrow Account with an Approved Escrow Agent in accordance with an Approved Escrow Agreement.

(2) A Developer must deposit all Sales Revenue into the Escrow Account no later than five (5) days after receipt of such payments from the Prospective Owners.

(3) All Sales Revenue deposited into the Escrow Account must first be used exclusively for the construction of the Off Plan Development and shall be released by the Escrow Agent directly to the nominated Contractors substantially in accordance with in accordance with construction progress as verified by an Approved Project Assessor.

(4) Following Building Completion, subject to the retention under Article 161(7), any surplus held in the Escrow Account may be released to the Developer.
5. The Registrar may issue Directives from time to time specifying the criteria for the release of the Sales Revenue from the Escrow Account which Directives shall be strictly followed by the Escrow Agent.

6. The Escrow Agent shall provide the Registrar with regular statements as to the Sales Revenue and released funds from the Escrow Account.

7. The Escrow Agent shall retain in the Escrow Account an amount equivalent to five (5) percent of the Project Costs for a period of twelve (12) months commencing on the date of Building Completion as security for the Developer’s obligation to rectify construction defects in accordance with Article 162(1).

8. A Developer must not charge, pledge or offer as security its Escrow Account in any manner whatsoever and any purported charge, pledge or security is void and of no effect. Nothing contained in this Article 161(8) shall prevent a Developer assigning its interest in any monies payable to the Developer from the Escrow Account following the satisfaction of the Developer’s construction obligations.

162. Construction Defect Rectification

(1) A Developer is responsible for repairing, rectifying or replacing all defective building works, materials, equipment and installations (including mechanical, electrical, sanitary and drainage works and the like) in the Off Plan Development of a non-structural nature for a period of one (1) year from the date of Building Completion, as notified to the Developer by the Registered Owners (or the Body Corporate on their behalf) within such one (1) year period, including all non-structural defective building works, materials, equipment and installations in the Lots and the Common Property where applicable.

(2) The Developer is responsible for repairing, rectifying or replacing all defective building works, materials, equipment and installations (including mechanical, electrical, sanitary and drainage works and the like) in the Off Plan Development of a structural nature for a period of ten (10) years from the date of Building Completion, as notified to the Developer by the Registered Owners (or the Body Corporate on their behalf) within such ten (10) year period, including all structural defective building works, materials, equipment and installations in the Lots and the Common Property where applicable.

(3) Upon receipt of notification from the Registered Owners (or the Body Corporate on their behalf) of the defects under Article 162(1) and Article 162(2), the Developer shall promptly rectify such defects in accordance with industry standards.

(4) The effect of this Article 162 shall survive the Transfer of any Lot and apply notwithstanding any contractual provision between the Developer and the Prospective Owner to the contrary.

(5) The Developer must provide disclosure to any Purchaser of a Lot prior to entering into a binding sale and purchase agreement with respect to the Transfer of such Lot, whether the defect liability periods under Article 162(1) and Article 162(2) have expired, and if not expired the dates that each defect liability period under Article 162(1) and Article 162(2) are to expire.

(6) If the Developer fails to comply with its obligations under Article 162(1) or Article 162(2) the Registered Owners (or the Body Corporate on their behalf) may apply to the Registrar for an Order against the Developer enforcing the Developer’s obligations Article 162(1) and/or Article 162(2) as applicable including an Order for the release of the retention amount retained under Article 161(7) to the appointed Contractor towards the cost of undertaking such defect rectification works.

163. Mortgagee’s priority

(1) If a Mortgagee consents to a Developer conducting Off Plan Sales, the Mortgagee’s right to take possession or exercise any step in rights under the Mortgage or exercise its power of sale under Article 62 is subject to the Mortgagee or transferee, as the case may be, remaining liable to perform the obligations of the Developer to the prospective Owner under the respective Off Plan Sales Agreements entered into by the Developer with the consent of the Mortgagee.
(2) For the avoidance of doubt, if a Mortgagee consents to a Developer conducting Off Plan Sales, the Mortgagee is estopped under the principles of English common law and equity from exercising its rights under the Mortgage or elsewhere under this Law in a manner that defeats the interests of the Prospective Owner under their respective Off Plan Sales Agreements, and if the Mortgagee, or transferee following the exercise of the Mortgagee’s power of sale, as the case may be, takes possession or exercises any step in rights under the Mortgage, the Mortgagee or the transferee, as the case may be, is responsible for delivering the Off Plan Lots to the Prospective Owner in accordance with the Off Plan Sales Agreements.
PART 24: MASTER COMMUNITY ADMINISTRATION

164. Registered Owners and Occupiers Bound by Master Community Declaration

(1) The Master Community Declaration is a statutory Covenant in Gross that is enforceable under this Law and is binding on:

(a) the Registered Owners;

(b) the Occupiers, to the extent that the provisions of the Master Community Declaration applies to Occupiers;

(c) the Master Developer; and

(d) any other party that benefit from the Master Community or any Lots within the Master Community that the Master Developer considers to be bound by the Master Community Declaration.

(2) each party in Article 164(1) is bound by the provisions of the Master Community Declaration and must strictly comply with the provisions contained therein.

(3) The Master Community Declaration shall be Registered by the Registrar as a Covenant in Gross on each Folio. The Registrar shall be entitled to Register the Master Community Declaration against any Folio existing as at the enactment of this Law and any Folio created thereafter, including at any time after the Folio was created.

(4) The Master Community Declaration shall take priority over all other Registered Instruments notwithstanding the date of its Registration may be after the date of Registration of such Instruments.

(5) The Master Developer shall raise Master Community Service Charges to fund the Operation of the Master Community Facilities and shall levy such charges on the Registered Owners in accordance with the Master Community Declaration. The Registered Owners must pay the Master Community Service Charges levied against their Lot when due and payable without set-off or reduction.

(6) A person who fails to comply with any obligation under this Article 164 commits a contravention of this Law.

165. Registrar may Issue Orders

(1) The Master Developer may apply to the Registrar for an Order that another party in Article 164(1) comply with such party’s obligations under the Master Community Declaration and pay its Master Community Service Charges should such party be in default of its obligations under the Master Community Declaration or fail to pay its Master Community Service Charges when due and payable.

(2) Any party that does not comply with an Order of the Registrar issued under Article 165(1) commits a contravention of this Law.

166. Form and Variation of Master Community Declaration

(1) The form of Master Community Declaration shall be approved by the Registrar and shall be declared by the Master Developer. The Master Developer may vary, amend and replace the Master Community Declaration from time to time subject to obtaining the approval of the Registrar.

(2) Any variation, amendment or replacement of the Master Community Declaration approved of the Registrar shall have the effect from the date of such variation, amendment or replacement.
PART 25: MISCELLANEOUS

456-167. Words and expressions used in Instruments under Law

(1) Words and expressions used in instruments registered under this Law have the same meanings as they have in this Law.

(2) The application of paragraph Article 167(1) to an instrument may be displaced, wholly or partly, by a contrary intention appearing in the instrument.

457-168. Reference to instrument is reference to instrument completed in approved form

In this Law, a reference to a particular type of instrument for which there is an approved form is a reference to the instrument completed in the approved form.

458-169. Service of notices

(1) A notice or document may be served on, or given to, a person by delivering it to:
   (a) the person’s address for service;
   (b) in the case of an individual, the person’s place of residence; or
   (c) in the case of a corporation, the corporation’s registered office or principal place of business.

(2) A person’s address shown in any instrument by which the person became the registered owner, or the address for service stated in any caveat lodged by the person, may be treated as the person’s address for service.

(3) A notice or document may also be served on, or given to, a person by means of fax transmission, and is to be treated as served or given on receipt of a confirmation by electronic or other means that it has been received.

(4) This Article does not limit the way in which notices may be served in court proceedings.

459-170. Deemed receipt in certain cases

(1) Where a notice or document is served or given in accordance with Article 169, on a day that is not a business day, or after 5pm on any day, then it is to be treated as being served or given on the next business day.

(2) This Article does not apply to notices to be served in court proceedings.

460. Registrar’s directives

461-171. Registrar’s Directives

(1) The Registrar may issue directives, not inconsistent with this Law, relating to the requirements to be followed in relation to this Law.

(2) In issuing the directives, the Registrar shall have regard to:
   (a) the purpose of this Law; and
   (b) the principle that a registered interest or Real Property Interest or Real Property

Confidential
Right is not to be adversely affected except with the registered owner's or Beneficiary's consent.

(3) Without limiting paragraph Article 171(1), the Registrar's directives may provide for:

(a) the form and content of and the requirements for instruments, documents and plans;

(b) the number of copies of instruments, documents and plans to be lodged;

(c) the need for lodging consents, certificates and other documents;

(d) the execution of instruments (including in electronic form);

(e) the practice of carrying forward registered interests onto new folios of the Register;

(f) the time and method of paying fees and charges; and

(g) the circumstances in which, and the methods by which, the Registrar publishes, or requires others to publish, notifications of actions the Registrar intends to take.

(4) The Registrar's directives shall be complied with unless the Registrar dispenses with compliance.
162. Offences against Contraventions of this Law

A person who commits an offence against a contravention of this Law is liable to any penalty specified under Regulations made or Directives.

163. Orders by Registrar in relation to breaches of this Law

(1) If the Registrar is satisfied that a party has contravened or failed to comply with a requirement of this Law, the Registrar may make an Order:

(a) requiring a party to take, or refrain from taking, any specified action;

(b) requiring a party to pay any Prescribed Fees or penalties levied against the party under this Law any other amount the Registrar considers is validly due and payable by such party to the Registrar or another party; or

(c) requiring a party to pay monetary compensation (not exceeding a Prescribed Fee, if an amount is Prescribed) to the Registrar or another party.

(2) An Order:

(a) may require immediate compliance or fix a period for compliance; and

(b) may be made subject to any conditions the Registrar considers appropriate.

(3) An Order under this Article may be made on an interim basis if necessary to preserve the subject matter of the application, or to prevent prejudice to a party while the application is being investigated and determined.

(4) DIFC Authority. If an Order is made on an interim basis, it operates for a period (not exceeding three (3) months) fixed in the Order and may be renewed from time to time for a further period (not exceeding three (3) months).

164. DIFCA may make Regulations

(1) The Authority DIFCA may make Regulations, not inconsistent with this Law, prescribing matters that are necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Law.

(2) Without limiting the generality of paragraph Article 174(1), the Authority DIFCA may make Regulations:

(a) prescribing standard terms and conditions for instruments;

(b) prescribing fees to be charged by the Registrar;

(c) prescribing that a contravention of, or a failure to comply with, this Law or a Regulation is an offence; and

(d) regulating the Registrar’s practice in relation to matters arising under this Law.

(3) The Authority DIFCA may also make Regulations providing for:

(a) the Transfer, surrender or granting to the Authority DIFCA of real property or interests in real property, Real Property, or Real Property Interests or Real Property Rights in return for the grant of other real property or interests in real property, Real Property, Real Property Interests or Real Property Rights, but not so as to prejudice the interests of registered owners registered owners;

(b) the bringing under this Law of real property that was not within the Real Property.
jurisdiction of the DIFC at the time that this Law came into force;

(c) a duty to notify and to pay fees in respect of transactions with shares in companies or units in unit trusts, regardless of the location of the company or trust, where the company or trust holds real property or rights to real property Real Property Interests within the jurisdiction of the DIFC.

(4) If there is an inconsistency between Regulations made by the Authority and directives issued by the Registrar, the Regulations prevail.
SCHEDULE 1

1. Rules of Interpretation

(1) In this Law, unless the context requires otherwise, a reference to:

(a) a statutory provision includes a reference to the statutory provision as amended or re-enacted from time to time;

(b) a person includes any natural person, body corporate or body unincorporate, including a company, partnership, unincorporated association, government or state;

(c) an obligation to publish or cause to be published a particular document includes publishing or causing to be published in printed or electronic form;

(d) a day means a calendar day, unless expressly stated otherwise. If an obligation falls on a calendar day which is either a Friday or Saturday, or an official UAE holiday in the DIFC, the obligation shall take place on the next calendar day which is a business day being a normal working day in the DIFC;

(e) a calendar year means three hundred and sixty five (365) days;

(f) a year means a year of the Gregorian calendar;

(g) a reference to the masculine gender includes the feminine and vice versa;

(h) the singular includes the plural and vice versa; and

(i) Headings in this Law includes any Regulations made under this Law.

(2) The headings in this Law do not affect its interpretation.

(3) A reference in this Law to a Part, Chapter, Article or Schedule by number only, and without further identification, is a reference to the Part, Chapter, Article or Schedule of that number in this Law.

(4) Reference in an Article or other division of this Law to an Article by number or letter only, and without further identification, is a reference to the Article of that number or letter contained in the Article or other division of this Law in which that reference occurs.

(5) Unless the context otherwise requires, where this Law refers to an enactment, the reference is to that enactment as amended from time to time, and includes a reference to that enactment as extended or applied by or under another enactment, including any other provision of that enactment.

(6) In this Law, a reference to registering or recording an instrument or information in the folio of the Register is a reference to registering or recording it in (or in the case of a folio kept in paper form, on) the folio of the Register for the lot concerned.

2. Legislation in the DIFC

References to any legislation and Guidance in this Law shall be construed in accordance with the following provisions:

(a) Federal Law is law made by the federal government of the United Arab Emirates;

(b) Dubai Law is law made by the Ruler, as applicable in the Emirate of Dubai;

(c) DIFC Law is law made by the Ruler (including, by way of example, this Law), as applicable in the DIFC;
(d) this Law is the Real Property Law DIFC Law No. 4 of 2007, made by the Ruler;

(e) the Regulations are legislation made by the Board of Directors of the DIFCA under this Law and are binding in nature;

(f) the Enactment Notice is the enactment notice pursuant to which this Law is brought into force;

(g) Guidance is indicative and non-binding and may comprise (i) guidance made and issued by the Registrar under this Law or the Regulations and (ii) any standard or code of practice issued by the Board of Directors of the DIFCA which has not been incorporated into the Regulations; and

(h) references to “Legislation administered by the Registrar” are references to any DIFC Law and any regulations conferring functions and powers on the Registrar.

2.3. Defined terms

In this Law, unless the context indicates otherwise:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Approved Escrow Agent</td>
<td>an escrow agent approved by the Registrar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approved Escrow Agreement</td>
<td>an escrow agreement prepared in accordance with the directives of the Registrar (if any).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>approved form</td>
<td>means a form:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approved Form</td>
<td>(a) the approved form of Instrument that has been issued by the Registrar, to be used to deal with a Lot; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) the approved form of Survey Plan prepared in accordance with the Directives, in each case as may be varied by the Registrar from time to time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approved Project Assessor</td>
<td>a consultant experienced in assessing construction progress as approved by the Registrar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>assurance fund</td>
<td>Assurance Fund means the fund constituted under Article 156;148.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiary</td>
<td>the beneficiary of a Real Property Right being the beneficiary under the Instrument creating such right.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Directors of the DIFCA</td>
<td>the governing body of the DIFCA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authority</td>
<td>Building Completion means the Dubai International Financial Centre Authority, established under Dubai Law No. 9 of 2004, the completion of the development in accordance with the requirements of the Master Developer and the Relevant Authorities enabling occupation by Registered Owners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caveat</td>
<td>a notice to the Registrar in the Approved Form that the Caveator purports to have a Real Property Interest or Real Property Right in the Real Property (or part thereof) Registered under Part 17 of this Law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caveatee</td>
<td>the Registered Owner, or the Registered Owner of a Registered Real Property Interest described in a Caveat, as the case may require.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term/Definition</td>
<td>Definition</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caveator</td>
<td>the person by whom or on whose behalf a Caveat is lodged.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bankruptcy/Change of Control</td>
<td>includes a proceeding under a bankruptcy law, an insolvency law, or a law relating to the liquidation of corporations in respect of a person that is a company or other entity, any assignment or transfer of the legal and/or beneficial ownership of any shares or units in that company or other entity or any change in the voting control or effective control (whether direct or indirect) of that company or other entity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Property</td>
<td>has the meaning as defined in the Strata Title Law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractors</td>
<td>the contractor(s) appointed by a Developer to construct an Off Plan Development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court</td>
<td>the DIFC Court as established under Dubai Law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covenant</td>
<td>a positive or negative covenant Registered against a Lot that grants right or imposed obligations on the use and enjoyment of the Lot as specified in the Instrument creating such covenant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>caveatee/Covenant in Gross</td>
<td>means the registered freehold owner of real property described in a caveat, or the registered owner of a registered interest in real property described in a caveat, as the case may require; a Covenant that is granted in favour of a person that is not necessarily a Registered Owner of a Lot including a Covenant in favour of a Relevant Authority including the Master Developer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>caveator/Developer</td>
<td>means the person by whom or on whose behalf a caveat is lodged; the developer of a Strata Development and by or on whose behalf a Strata Plan is lodged for Registration being the person or entity Registered as the Registered Owner of the Strata Development immediately before the Registration of a Strata Plan relating to the Strata Development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIFC Centre</td>
<td>means the DIFC; the master community known as the Dubai International Financial Centre as depicted on the DIFC Master Plan from time to time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIFCA</td>
<td>the DIFC Authority established under Dubai Law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>correct/DIFC Master Plan</td>
<td>used as a verb, includes correct by addition, omission or substitution; the master plan of the DIFC issued by the Master Developer as may be varied by the Master Developer with the approval of the Relevant Authorities from time to time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directive</td>
<td>a directive issued by the Registrar under Article 171.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disclosure Statement</td>
<td>a disclosure statement prepared by a Developer of an Off Plan Development in accordance with Article 160.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Document</td>
<td>paper or other material (including electronic material) containing writing, words, figures, drawings or symbols.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court/Dubai Real Estate Laws</td>
<td>means the all laws, regulations, circulars and the like issued by the Government of Dubai or any Relevant Authority in respect of land and/or real estate rights or interests outside of the jurisdiction of the DIFC, including Dubai Law No. 7 of 2006 DIFC Court as established under Dubai Law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Term</strong></td>
<td><strong>Definition</strong></td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Easement</strong></td>
<td>an exclusive or non-exclusive right to use or occupy a Lot or part of a Lot for a specified purpose Registered against such Lot as specified in the Instrument creating such easement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Easement in Gross</strong></td>
<td>an Easement that is granted in favour of a person that is not necessarily a Registered Owner of a Lot including an Easement granted in favour of a Relevant Authority including the Master Developer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Escrow Account</strong></td>
<td>an escrow account operated by an Approved Escrow Agent in accordance with the provisions of an Approved Escrow Agreement and this Law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Folio</strong></td>
<td>a folio of the Real Property Register created for a Lot under this Law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fraud</strong></td>
<td>a consciously dishonest act, and not mere constructive or equitable fraud.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Guidance</strong></td>
<td>has the meaning given in Article 2(g) of Schedule 1 to this Law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Insolvency</strong></td>
<td>includes a proceeding under the Insolvency law relating to the liquidation of corporations in the DIFC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Insolvency Law</strong></td>
<td>the Insolvency Law DIFC Law No. 3 of 2009 and includes any law which regulates Insolvency in the DIFC.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Instrument** | means:  
(a) a Document that relates to or may be used to deal with a Lot;  
(b) a Survey Plan that depicts a Lot or Lots (or the subdivision of a Lot or Lots), that creates a Real Property Interest or grants a Real Property Right that has been submitted to the Registrar in the Approved Form. |
| **Interested Party** | means file with the Registrar other than for registration or recording a person that the Registrar considers to have a valid and legitimate interest in obtaining an Official Search Certificate in respect of a Real Property Interest including:  
(a) a Mortgagee or person purporting to be a Mortgagee in respect of a Real Property Interest;  
(b) a Caveator or person purporting to be a Caveator in respect of a Real Property Interest or Real Property Right;  
(c) a Purchaser;  
(d) a Prospective Owner;  
(e) a Lessee;  
(f) a creditor or person purporting to be a creditor in respect of a Registered Owner; and  
(g) such other person as the Registrar may consider to have a valid and legitimate interest in respect of a Real Property Interest or Real Property Right from time to time. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term/Terms</th>
<th>Definition/Definitions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lease</td>
<td>a lease under which a person lets premises. A Lease includes a sublease and any form of agreement (howsoever described) which gives a legal right of exclusive possession of premises to the occupant for a specific or ascertainable term in exchange for another consideration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lease Plan</td>
<td>a plan of the premises the subject of the Lease prepared by a Licensed Surveyor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leasing Law</td>
<td>any law enacted by the Ruler of Dubai that regulates leasing in the DIFC and any Regulations issued by the DIFCA and Directives issued by the Registrar under such law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lessee</td>
<td>the lessee under a Lease or the proposed lessee under a prospective Lease.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lessor</td>
<td>the lessor under a Lease or the proposed lessor under a prospective Lease.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Surveyor</td>
<td>a surveying company licensed to prepare an Instrument that comprises a map, survey or diagram within the Emirate of Dubai and approved by the Registrar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lot</td>
<td>a separate, distinct parcel of Real Property allocated for separate ownership, occupation and/or use and capable of being Transferred to a third party. A reference in this Law to a Lot includes a reference to an Off Plan Lot where the context requires. A reference to a Lot in the singular, where the context permits, shall be deemed to include the plural and vice versa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Community Declaration</td>
<td>the master community declaration declared by the Master Developer and approved by the Registrar and the DIFCA as may be amended, supplemented and replaced from time to time by the Master Developer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Community Facilities</td>
<td>the shared areas and facilities within the Master Community made available by the Master Developer to the Registered Owners and Occupiers (and in some cases the members of the public) as further defined in the Master Community Declaration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Community Service Charges</td>
<td>the community service charges raised by the Master Developer in respect of the Master Community in connection with various services and facilities that are administered and managed by the Master Developer in accordance with the Master Community Declaration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Developer</td>
<td>the DIFC Investments LLC or its affiliate, nominees, assigns, transferees, successors or successors-in-title or any other entity or Relevant Authority as may assume responsibility for the development, management or control of the Master Community from time to time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor</td>
<td>a person under the age of 18.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortgage</td>
<td>a charge on a Lot or an Real Property Interest or Real Property Right for securing a debt or any other obligation and a reference to “Mortgaged” has a corresponding meaning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortgagee</td>
<td>the grantee or lender under a Mortgage that has taken a pledge as security over the Lot that is the subject of the Mortgage including the granting of a submortgage under Article 58.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortgagor</td>
<td>the grantor or borrower under a Mortgage that has pledged as security the Lot which is the subject of the Mortgage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupier</td>
<td>any person using or occupying a Lot (or any part thereof) including any Mortgagee in possession and “Occupiers” shall be construed accordingly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off Plan Development</td>
<td>a development where the Developer intends to sell Lots prior to Building Completion and/or the issuing of a Folio for the Lots within the development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off Plan Lot</td>
<td>a Lot in an Off Plan Development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off Plan Register</td>
<td>the register maintained by the Registrar for the purpose of Registering Off Plan Developments and Off Plan Sales established under Article 156 being part of the Real Property Register.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off Plan Sale</td>
<td>the sale of an Off Plan Lot that is capable of being Registered in the Off Plan Register.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off Plan Sales Agreement</td>
<td>any form of binding agreement between a Developer and a Prospective Owner for the sale and purchase of an Off Plan Lot including but not limited to a sale and purchase agreement, a reservation agreement and an expression of interest where the Prospective Owner forfeits any amount of deposit exceeding AED 5,000 should the Prospective Owner not proceed with the transaction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official Search Certificate</td>
<td>a certificate issued by the Registrar in respect of a Lot that states the Registered Owner of the Real Property Interest and the Registered Real Property Rights registered against such Lot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation</td>
<td>the use, administration, control, operation, management, insurance, maintenance, repair, refurbishment, replacement and (where necessary) renovation and renewal and “Operate”, “Operating” and “Operational” shall have corresponding meanings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Order</td>
<td>an order of the Registrar under this Law which is binding on the parties to whom the order applies as specified in the order.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permitted Use</td>
<td>the permitted use of a Lot and/or Common Property as approved by the Master Developer and the Relevant Authorities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescribed</td>
<td>prescribed under the Regulations made by the DIFCA under Article 174.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescribed Fee</td>
<td>a fee payable to the Registrar under this Law including any fee payable under any Regulation or Directive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>the president of the DIFC appointed by a decree of the Ruler pursuant to Dubai Law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printed</td>
<td>includes typewritten and a photocopy of a Printed or typewritten Document.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Costs</td>
<td>the cost of constructing an Off Plan Development as verified by an Approved Project Assessor including all soft and hard costs and fees payable to all Relevant Authorities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prospective Owner</td>
<td>a person who has entered or intends to enter into an Off Plan Sales Agreement to purchase an Off Plan Lot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TermTerms</td>
<td>DefinitionDefinitions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchaser</td>
<td>a person who acquires or intends to acquire a Real Property Interest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Property</td>
<td>has the meaning as defined in Article 11.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Property Interest</td>
<td>any ownership interest in Real Property, including any ownership interest in any permanent structure or improvement (known in English Law as a &quot;fixture&quot;) forming part of the Real Property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Property Register</td>
<td>the register of all Real Property in the DIFC established under Article 15 and includes the Off Plan Register where the context requires.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Property Right</td>
<td>any statutory or contractual right in respect of Real Property, including any statutory or contractual right in respect of any permanent structure or improvement (known in English Law as a &quot;fixture&quot;) forming part of the Real Property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receiver</td>
<td>includes a receiver appointed under the Insolvency Law DIFC Law No. 7 of 2004, including an administrative receiver.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognised Jurisdiction</td>
<td>a Recognised Jurisdiction is one where a state or territory has effective anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism legislation in place which conform to the Financial Action Task Force directives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Register</td>
<td>means to register an Instrument in relation to a Real Property Interest or Real Property Right in the Real Property Register and a reference to “Registered”, “Registering” and “Registration” have corresponding meanings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Owner</td>
<td>a person or persons Registered as owner of the Real Property Interest, whether that Real Property Interest is freehold.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Owner(s)’s Address</td>
<td>the street address of the Registered Owner(s)’s as notified to the Registrar at the time of the Registration of the Real Property Interest as may be amended by the Registered Owner(s) by written notice to the Registrar from time to time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registrar</td>
<td>the Registrar of Real Property appointed pursuant to Article 12.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>the Real Property Regulations issued by the DIFCA under Article 174.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Relevant Authority | as the context requires:  
(a) the DIFCA;  
(b) any authority within the DIFC charged with the duty of implementing the policies and laws of the DIFC whose subject matter falls within its authority;  
(c) the Dubai Creative Clusters Authority;  
(d) the Government of the UAE;  
(e) the Government of the Emirate of Dubai;  
(f) any other ministry, department, local authority or entity having jurisdiction over the Master Community (including any regulator appointed pursuant to any applicable laws); and  
(g) any service provider approved by the Master Developer and having jurisdiction over the Master Community (including but not limited to the Dubai Electricity and Water Authority). |
<p>| Rent | includes any amount due under a Lease, whether or not described in the Lease as Rent. |
| Ruler | the Ruler of the Emirate of Dubai. |
| Sales Revenue | any sales revenue received directly or indirectly by the Developer under any Off Plan Sales Agreement excluding any Prescribed Fees payable in respect of the Off Plan Sales. |
| Schedule | a schedule to this Law. |
| Strata Development | a multiply-owned development which is the subject of a Strata Scheme or Strata Schemes. |
| Strata Management Statement | has the meaning as defined in the Strata Title Law. |
| Strata Scheme | has the meaning as defined in the Strata Title Law. |
| Strata Title Law | the Strata Title Law DIFC Law No. 5 of 2007. |
| Survey Plan | means a survey plan that depicts a Lot, Lots, or Lots and Common Property or the subdivision of a Lot, Lots, or Lots and Common Property prepared by a Licensed Surveyor including a Strata Plan. |
| Transfer | any dealing with Real Property in any way whatsoever that has the effect, directly or indirectly in the transfer of a Real Property Interest from the Registered Owner to another party or the creation of a Real Property Interest in Real Property or any part or proportion thereof. A reference to a Transfer includes a Change of Control and a reference to “Transferred” has a corresponding meaning. |
| Transfer Instrument | an Instrument giving effect to a Transfer. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UAE</td>
<td>the United Arab Emirates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writ of Execution</td>
<td>a writ or warrant of execution after judgment in a court.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIFC</td>
<td>means the Dubai International Financial Centre;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>document</td>
<td>means paper or other material (including electronic material) containing writing, words, figures, drawings or symbols;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dubai Property Law</td>
<td>means Dubai Law No. 7 of 2006;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dubai real property laws</td>
<td>means any Dubai laws relating to real property, including Dubai Law No. 7 of 2006;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>error</td>
<td>includes an error by omission;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fee</td>
<td>includes tax;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>folio of the Register</td>
<td>means a folio of the Register created under this Law;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fraud</td>
<td>means a consciously dishonest act, and not mere constructive or equitable fraud;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>instrument</td>
<td>includes:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(a) a document that relates to or may be used to deal with a lot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) a map, survey or diagram;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(c) an order of court;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>interest</td>
<td>in relation to real property, means any interest in the real property, and any permanent structure or improvement (known in English law as a “fixture”) on the real property;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>law</td>
<td>includes legislation and subsidiary or delegated legislation;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lease</td>
<td>includes a sublease;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lot</td>
<td>means a separate, distinct parcel of real property for which a Centre survey lot number has been allotted;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>minor</td>
<td>means a person under the age of 18;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mortgage</td>
<td>includes a charge on a lot or an interest in a lot for securing a debt or any other obligation;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prescribed</td>
<td>means prescribed under the Regulations made by the Authority under Article 172;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>means the President of the DIFC appointed under Law No. 9 of 2004, and includes any delegate of the President authorized to act in the President’s name or place;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>primary application</td>
<td>means an application made under Article 38 or Article 39;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>purchaser</td>
<td>means a person who acquires an interest in real property, and includes a mortgagee and lessee; and purchase has a corresponding meaning;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>real property</td>
<td>see Article 11;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>real property governed by this Law</td>
<td>means the real property referred to in Article 8;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>receiver</td>
<td>includes a receiver appointed under the Insolvency Law (DIFC Law No. 7 of 2004), including an administrative receiver;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognised Jurisdiction</td>
<td>a Recognised Jurisdiction for the purposes of Article 19 (1) (a) is one where a state or territory has effective anti-money-laundering and anti-terrorism legislation in place which conform to the Financial Action Task Force directives;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>register</td>
<td>in relation to a lot, interest, instrument or other thing, means record the particulars of the thing in the Register;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Register</td>
<td>means the Register established under Article 14;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>registered real property</td>
<td>means real property for which a folio of the Register has been created;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>registered owner</td>
<td>in relation to a lot, means a person recorded in the Register as owner of an interest in the lot, whether that interest is freehold or other than freehold;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registrar</td>
<td>means the Registrar appointed under Article 12;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>relevant authority</td>
<td>means the authority within the DIFC charged with the duty of implementing the policies and laws of the DIFC whose subject matter falls within its authority;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>renew</td>
<td>in relation to a lease, includes extend;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rent</td>
<td>includes any amount due under a lease, whether or not described in the lease as rent;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>transmission</td>
<td>means the passing of title to real property in any manner other than by transfer;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UAE</td>
<td>means the United Arab Emirates;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>writ of execution</td>
<td>means a writ or warrant of execution after judgment in a court.</td>
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