

# **LAW FOR HUNTING AND PROTECTION OF THE GAME**

*Prom. SG. 78/26 Sep 2000, amend. SG. 26/20 Mar 2001, amend. SG. 77/9 Aug 2002, amend. SG. 79/16 Aug 2002*

## **Chapter one. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Art. 1. The law shall provide the relations, connected with the ownership, the protection and the management of the game, the organisation of hunting economy, the right to hunt and the trade with game and game products.

Art. 2. (1) The game in the Republic of Bulgaria shall be private ownership.  
(2) The game shall be managed in hunting economic regions on the population principle.

Art. 3. (1) The protection of the game as national asset aims at preservation of the genetic fund and the species diversity, increase and sustainable development of the game reserves, enrichment of fauna and preservation of the ecological equilibrium in natural environment.

(2) (suppl. SG 79/02) The protection of the game is a basic principle for the organisation of the hunting area and management of hunting economy, management of the game, its habitats, ecosystems and processes, conducted therein, and exercising of the right to hunting.

(3) The protection shall include the activities for preservation, guarding and control at managing the game and exercising of the right to hunting.

Art. 4. The organisation of the hunting area, the management of hunting economy and the control of management of the game shall be implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests.

Art. 5. (1) Game in the context of the law are all mammals and birds – subject to hunting, which live freely under natural conditions or are bred in fenced territories with hunting economic purpose.

(2) Subject to hunting are:

1. (amend. SG 79/02) mammals and birds according to appendix No 1;
2. mammals and birds, introduced in the country with hunting economic purpose;
3. dogs and cats got wild and wandering in the hunting economic regions.

(3) The mammals and the birds of para 1, bred and grown in zoos, zoo gardens and zoo centres, as well as these, bred in farms, till the moment of settling in nature, are not subject of hunting.

(4) According to the time of staying on the territory of the country the game shall be divided into local and migrating.

(5) (amend. SG 79/02) depending on the biological peculiarities, the regime of management and the way of hunting the game is divided into big and small, pointed out in appendix No 1.

## **Chapter two. ORGANISATION OF THE HUNTING AREA AND MANAGEMENT OF HUNTING ECONOMY**

### **Section I. Organisation of the hunting area**

Art. 6. The hunting area of the country shall include all lands, forests and water areas, dwelled by

game or where there are conditions for its existence, out of the settlements, determined with general and detailed urban development plans or with surrounding polygons.

Art. 7. (1) The hunting area of the country is distributed into hunting economic regions regardless of the land entirety boundaries and the ownership of the lands, the forests and the water areas.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02) No hunting economic regions shall be detached on natural reserves.

(3) (amend. SG 79/02) On the protected territories the management of the game shall be implemented according to their regime and management plan, and in the sites, immediately connected with the defence and the national security of the country – by an order, determined with an order by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests and the Minister of Defence.

(4) (amend. SG 79/02) The area of the hunting economic regions depends on the basic kind of game and shall be determined under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law. In the territory, belonging to one settlement – village, shall not be detached more than one hunting economic region.

(5) (new – SG 79/02) The hunting economic regions shall be:

1. hunting economic regions of the hunting companies under art. 29;
2. hunting economic regions of state game breeding stations;
3. hunting economic regions of bases for intensive management of the game;
4. hunting economic regions of game breeding sections.

(6) (prev. (5) – SG 79/02) The boundaries of the hunting economic regions shall be determined along permanent terrain forms and facilities, complying with the boundaries of the territories, belonging to the settlements, and shall be approved with an order by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests upon a proposal by the chief of the National Forest Department.

Art. 8. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) State game breeding stations, game breeding sections and bases for intensive management of the game shall be established for increase of the game resources, protection of the game diversity and preservation of the genetic fund.

(2) The boundaries of the state game breeding stations, the game breeding sections and the bases for intensive management of the game shall be determined along durable terrain forms and facilities regardless of the boundaries of the territories, belonging to the settlements and the land entirety boundaries. Their total area shall be up to 15 percent of the hunting area of the country.

(3) The establishing of bases for intensive management of the game with area bigger than 5 hectares shall be co-ordinated with the Minister of Environment and Waters.

Art. 9. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) The state game breeding stations according to appendix No 2 are corporate bodies with statute of state enterprises under art. 62, para 3 of the Commercial Law.

(2) The basic subject of activity of the state game breeding stations shall be:

1. preservation and enrichment of the species diversity of game;
2. construction of hunting economic facilities and conducting of bio-technical measures;
3. reproduction, settlement, preservation and guarding of the game;
4. acclimatisation and re-acclimatisation of the game;
5. improvement of the exterior and the trophy qualities of the game;
6. use of the game, the game products and conducting of organised hunting tourism;
7. use of the forests of state forest entirety for preservation of the qualities of the bio-types and improvement of the habitats.

(3) The chief of the National Forest Department shall determine with an order regions for activities of the state game breeding stations, which shall implement activities, connected with:

1. reproduction of the forests in the forest entirety;
2. uses in the forests and the lands of the forest entirety;
3. preservation of the forests and the lands of the forest entirety;
4. design and construction in the forest entirety

5. management of the forests of the state forest entirety;

6. guarding of the forests and the lands of the forest entirety and the forests, created on land entirety;

(4) The state game breeding stations can implement also other activities, connected with their basic subject of activity.

(5) The assets of the state game breeding stations shall be comprised by assets, conceded to them in kind, amount and value by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests and by the assets, acquired by them as result of their activity.

(6) Insolvency procedures cannot be opened against the state game breeding stations.

(7) The activity of the state game breeding stations of para 2, items 1 – 5 and of para 3 shall be supported by the state through the budget of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests.

(8) The state game breeding stations shall be assignors of public procurement orders and for implementing their activity they shall organise and carry out procedures under the Law for the public procurement.

Art. 9a. (new – SG 79/02) Management bodies of the state enterprises of art. 9, para 1 are:

1. the Minister of Agriculture and Forests;

2. the chief of the National Forest department;

3. the director.

Art. 9b. (new – SG 79/02) The Minister of Agriculture and Forests or a person, authorised by him shall:

1. exercise the rights of ownership of the state in the state game breeding stations and conduct the state policy in the field of the organisation of the hunting area, the preservation and the management of game;

2. take decisions about disposition with long term material assets, for establishing or real rights and for letting for rent immovable properties, managed by the state game breeding stations;

3. implement the authorities, connected with the state game breeding stations, given to him with a law;

4. approve the annual accounts of the separate state game breeding stations;

5. exercise control over the preservation of the assets of the state game breeding stations.

Art. 9c. (new – SG 79/02) (1) The chief of the National Forest Department shall appoint the directors of the state game breeding stations for a term of 5 years and conclude with them contracts for management.

(2) The chief of the National Forest Department shall discharge before the elapse of the term a director of state game breeding station, who:

1. violates the conditions, provided in the contract for management;

2. has submitted written application for discharge;

3. is in actual impossibility to fulfil his obligations more than 6 months.

(3) The chief of the National Forest Department shall:

1. approve the annual financial plan of the state game breeding stations;

2. approve the structure, the payroll list of the positions and the resources for salary of the state game breeding stations in compliance with the annual financial plan;

3. co-ordinate the annual accounts of the state game breeding stations and present it for approval to the Minister of Agriculture and Forests;

4. appoint diplomaed expert – accountant or auditing enterprise for certifying of the annual accounts;

5. propose to the Minister of Agriculture and Forests decisions for disposing with long term material assets, for establishing of real rights and for letting for rent of immovable properties;

6. propose to the Minister of Agriculture and Forests to undertake actions by the order of art. 6 of the Law for the state ownership;

7. take decisions for using of credits;

8. assign checks of the activity of the state game breeding stations;

9. take decisions for discarding of long term material assets, managed by the state game breeding

stations;

10. exercise control over the observing of the normative acts and the financial discipline at the state game breeding stations;

11. implement also other functions, connected with the management of the state game breeding stations in compliance with the normative acts in effect or assigned to him by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests.

Art. 9d. (new – SG 79/02) (1) The director of the state game breeding station shall:

1. represent the game breeding station before the state bodies, the courts and third persons in the country and abroad;

2. implement the operational management of the state game breeding station;

3. conclude contracts for the activities, implemented by the state game breeding station;

4. conclude and terminate the employment contracts with the workers and the employees at the state game breeding station;

5. prepare and present for co-ordination to the chief of the National Forest Department the annual accounts;

6. prepare and present to the chief of the National Forest Department annual report about the activity of the state game breeding station;

7. make proposal to the chief of the National Forest Department for discarding of long term material assets;

8. take decisions for letting for rent of chattels, managed by the state game breeding station.

(2) The director of the state game breeding station can delegate part of his authorities of para 1 to other employees in it.

Art. 10. (amend. SG 79/02) The Minister of Agriculture and Forests shall, upon proposal by the chief of the National Forest Department, detach with an order:

1. the game breeding sections within the boundaries of the state forestries;

2. bases for intensive management of the game upon proposal by the persons, who manage it also without the conditions of art. 7, para 4.

Art. 11. (amend. SG 79/02) In forests and lands of the forest entirety where right to use has been established for scientific institutes and higher schools, which scientific and education activity is connected with forest and hunting economy, can be detached game breeding sections by the order of art. 10 and bases for intensive management of the game.

Art. 12. (1) (amend. SG 79/02) On the territory of one or more hunting economic regions with common boundaries breeding farms can be detached for certain period. In them shall be conducted the planned hunting economic measures without hunting except predators.

Art. 13. (1) (amend. SG 79/02) Hunting development plans shall be worked out for the hunting economic regions according to ordinances, issued by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests about:

1. the development of the forests and the lands of the forest entirety and of the hunting economic regions;

2. the grading of game habitats;

3. taxation of the game.

(2) The hunting development plans shall be approved by the chief of the National Forest Department after co-ordination with the corresponding ministries and departments.

## Section II. Management of hunting economy

Art. 14. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forests shall, by the National Forest Department, manage and control:

1. the organisation of the hunting economy;
2. the preservation, the reproduction, the settlement and the use of game;
3. the acquisition and the exercising of the right to hunting;
4. the conducting of organised hunting tourism;
5. the trade with game and game products;
6. the implementation of the hunting development plans;
7. the financing of the activities in the hunting economic regions, managed by its bodies.

Art. 15. (1) Hunting council shall be established at the National Forest Department as consultative body for the organisation of the hunting area, the management of the hunting economy, the preservation, the reproduction, the settlement and the use of the game in national scale.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02) The Minister of Agriculture and Forests shall determine with an order the members of the Hunting council. Chairman of the Hunting council shall be the sector deputy Minister of Agriculture and Forests.

Art. 16. (1) (amend. SG 79/02) The regional forest departments shall implement the activities of art. 14 in the regions determined for their activity except the regions of activity of the state game breeding stations, where are implemented activities, connected with the guarding of the game as well as control of the fulfilment of forest and hunting development projects.

(2) The chief of the National Forest Department shall establish with an order hunting councils at the regional forest departments for discussing the problems of hunting and preservation of the game.

(3) Chairman of the hunting council of para 2 shall be the chief of the regional forest department and members – representatives of the regional administration, the regional directorate of the interior, the regional inspectorate for preservation of environment and waters, the hunting association and of other interested organisations.

Art. 17. The state forestries and the state game breeding stations shall implement their activities of art. 14 and the immediate guarding of the game in the regions determined for their activity and the adjacent hunting economic regions.

Art. 18. (1) (suppl. SG 79/02) Commissions for hunting economy shall be established state forestries and the state game breeding stations as consultative bodies for issues, connected with the organisation of the hunting areas, the management of the hunting economy and the management of the game.

(2) The chief of the regional forest department shall approve with an order the commission of para 1, in which shall be included representatives of the state forestries, the state game breeding stations, the regional inspectorates for environment and waters, the regional police departments, the municipal administrations and of the persons, managing the game.

(3) (suppl. SG 79/02) Chairman of the commission for hunting economy shall be the director of the state forestry or the state game breeding station, who if necessary can attract other specialists and representatives of the owners of lands and forests.

Art. 19. The Minister of Agriculture and Forests shall issue regulations for the organisation and the activity of the consultative bodies of art. 15, para 1, art. 16, para 2 and art. 18, para 1.

Art. 20. The chief of the National Forest Department shall appoint the directors of the state game breeding stations, who shall meet the requirements of art. 31, para 1 of the Law for the forests.

### Chapter three. RIGHT TO HUNTING

Art. 21. (1) The right to hunting shall include hunting and acquisition of game, hunting trophies and game products.

(2) The obligation for preservation of the game shall also be connected with the right to hunting.

Art. 22. (1) (amend. SG 79/02) Right to hunting shall have major Bulgarian citizens, who have passed successfully theoretic and practical exam on the topics knowledge of game, hunting legislation; game breeding, management, use and preservation of game; ways, methods and means for hunting; knowledge of arms and hunting shooting; knowledge of hunting dogs; diseases of game; rendering of first medical aid. The exam shall be before a commission, appointed with an order by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests or an official authorised by him.

(2) The commission shall issue a certificate to the persons, who have succeeded in the exam.

(3) The hunting and the forest guards, as well as other officials, implementing the control and the and the guarding of the game, can exercise the right to hunting out of the guarding sections determined for them.

Art. 23. (1) A document shall be issued for the right to hunting – a hunting license, which is personal and its rights cannot be transferred.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02) The hunting license shall be issued by the state forestry or by the state game breeding station, in which region of activity is the permanent address of the person, acquired right to hunting after presenting of certificate under art. 22, para 2. The hunting license shall be according to model, approved by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests and it shall be certified every calendar year at the corresponding state forestry or state game breeding station under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

(3) The persons, who have not certified their hunting license for the calendar year, cannot exercise their hunting right during the year.

(4) The persons, who have not certified their hunting license for three consecutive years, shall be deprived from the acquired right to hunting.

(5) (suppl. SG 79/02) The state forestries and the state game breeding stations shall keep a public register of the issued and re-certified hunting licenses according to a model, approved by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests.

Art. 24. The graduates of higher and high schools, where the discipline “hunting economy” is studied, shall not pass theoretic exam of art. 22.

Art. 25. The National Forest Department shall issue to foreigners hunting licenses as follows:

1. to representatives of diplomatic missions – under the conditions for reciprocity;
2. to foreigners, staying for a long time in the Republic of Bulgaria – after passing an exam by the order of art. 22 or presenting a license for hunting, valid in the country, which citizens they are, after coordination with the Ministry of Interior for carrying hunting arms;
3. to foreigners, staying for a short time in the Republic of Bulgaria – for a term of one month - after presenting a license for hunting, valid in the country, which citizens they are.

Art. 26. (1) Right to selective hunting shall have persons, who have acquired right to hunting, with practice as hunters not less than 2 years and successfully passed exam before a commission, appointed with an order of the chief of the National Forest Department.

(2) A certificate according to a model, approved by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests, shall be issued to the persons, acquired rights under para 1.

(3) Right to selective hunting shall have also the persons of art. 25, for them para 1 and 2 being not

being applied.

Art. 27. (1) Hunting guides are the persons, acquired rights under art. 26, para 1, graduated a special course for preparation and successfully passed an exam.

(2) The exams of para 1 shall be carried out by a commission, appointed with an order by the chief of the National Forest Department. A certificate according to a model, approved by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests, shall be issued to the persons successfully passed the exam.

Art. 28. (1) (amend. SG 79/02) The order and the way for acquiring right to hunting, to selective hunting and for hunting guides shall be determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

(2) For passing an exam under art. 22, issuing of hunting license, as well as for their re-certifying fees shall be paid in extent, determined with tariff of the Council of Ministers.

(3) The persons of art. 22 older than 65 years shall pay the fees provided in para 2 with 50 percent discount. The disabled shall be exempt from payment of fees under para 2.

Art. 29. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) Bulgarian citizens, acquired right to hunting, shall unite in hunting company with regard to the community of their interests for managing and preservation of the game in one hunting economic region.

(2) The maximum number of the hunters in one state forestry or state game breeding station shall be determined with an order by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests on the basis of recommended standard for area of 75 hectares per hunter and complied with the status of the game and the number of the hunters.

(3) For the formation of hunting company shall be necessary at least 20 hunters.

(4) The hunting companies shall be registered at the state forestry, respectively at the state game breeding station.

(5) The registration of para 4 shall be implemented after submitting of application, to which shall be attached:

1. list of the members of the company;
2. record from a meeting of the company.

Art. 30. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) The persons of art. 29, united in hunting companies with neighbouring hunting economic regions shall establish hunting associations with objective implementing of activities, connected with reproduction, management, preservation and use of the game.

(2) The hunting associations shall manage and organise the activities of the companies for reproduction, management, preservation and use of the game on the hunting economic regions, conceded to them.

(3) The hunting association shall represent and protect the interests of the hunters, associated under the conditions of art. 29 before the respective state and municipal bodies.

(4) The hunting associations of para 1 shall be corporate bodies, registered under the conditions and by the order of the Law for the corporate bodies with no economic objective.

Art. 31. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) The hunting associations of art. 30, para 4 can establish on voluntary principle regional hunting associations and national hunting association.

(2) The national hunting association shall be the association, uniting hunting associations in which the number of the member hunters is more than half of the total number of the persons, registered in the country with acquired right to hunting.

(3) The hunting associations of para 1 shall be corporate bodies registered under the conditions and by the order of the Law for corporate bodies with no economic objective.

(4) The national hunting association shall represent the hunters, united under the conditions of para 2 and protect their interests at national and international level as well as implement activities in connection with the training, the increase of the hunting culture of its members, promoting of the hunting sport, co-operation for

preservation of the ecosystems and enrichment of the game resources.

Art. 32. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) The persons of art. 30, para 4 and art. 31, para 3 cannot participate in commercial companies and in other bodies, registered under the Commercial Law.

(2) The persons of art. 30, para 4 and art. 31, para 3 can establish commercial companies without right to non pecuniary payment in them. The profit, realised from the activity of the commercial companies shall be distributed for achieving of the objectives, determined in the statute of the hunting associations.

## Chapter four. MANAGEMENT AND PRESERVATION OF THE GAME

### Section I. Management of the game

Art. 33. The management of the game encompasses the activities for preservation and enrichment of the species diversity, improvements of the habitats, preservation and reproduction of the game, guaranteeing of the biological minimum, achieving and maintaining of the admissible reserves, ensuring of rational and sustainable use in the hunting economic regions.

Art. 34. (amend. SG 79/02) The game in the country shall be managed by state game breeding stations, by the state forestries, by the persons of art. 11 and the hunting associations of art. 30, para 4 and art. 31, para 1.

Art. 35. (amend. SG 79/02) The state game breeding stations and the persons of art. 11 shall manage the game in the hunting economic regions determined for them and in detached bases for intensive management of the game.

Art. 36. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) The state forestries shall manage the game in the game breeding sections of art. 10 and detached bases for intensive management of the game in their region of activity, determined with an order by the chief of the National Forest Department.

(2) The state forestries shall concede the management of the game in the hunting economic regions and detached bases for intensive management of the game, out of these of para 1 and art. 35, to the hunting associations of art. 30, para 4, by direct contracting.

(3) The conditions and the order for direct contracting for management of the game shall be provided with regulation for the implementation of the law.

Art. 37. The persons of art. 34 shall be obliged to:

1. organise and implement the feeding of the game;
2. create and maintain specialised fodder base for game;
3. construct hunting economic facilities;
4. adjust the number of the game;
5. participate in the taxation of the game;
6. preserve the game and participate in its guarding.

Art. 38. The construction of hunting economic facilities on lands and in forests, property of individuals and corporate bodies, shall be implemented after concluding a contract with them and observing the requirements of the forest development designs.



Art. 39. (1) A specialised fodder base shall be created and maintained for the feeding up of the game under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

(2) Areas for specialised fodder base shall be conceded gratuitously from the state farm and forest entirety.

Art. 40. (1) For preservation of the ecological balance and the sustainable development of the populations, at proven need the number of some kinds of game shall be regulated under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

(2) The dogs and cats got wild and wandering in the hunting economic regions shall be destroyed.

Art. 41. (1) The acclimatisation and the re-acclimatisation of the game in the country shall be implemented according to a long term programme, co-ordinated with the Ministry of Environment and Waters and approved by the chief of the National Forest department.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02) The settlement of game shall be implemented for refreshing the blood, stock with game, maintaining bio-diversity and hunting according to annual programme, approved by the chief of the National Forest Department, under conditions and by order, determined in the regulation for implementation of the law. The settlement and the use shall be implemented under the control of the state forestries, the state game breeding stations and the hunting associations of art. 30 and 31.

(3) (amend. SG 79/02) The shooting of the settled game for hunting shall be according to approved additional plan for use, the persons who manage it not making payment for using it.

Art. 42. (prev. art. 42 – SG 79/02) The veterinary – medical supervision and the fight with the diseases of the game in national scale shall be implemented by the specialised bodies of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests – the National Veterinary Medical Service and the National Forest Department.

(2) (new – SG 79/02) The Minister of Agriculture and Forests shall issue ordinance for the conditions and the order for production of game in farm conditions and semi-free breeding.

(3) (new – SG 79/02) The prophylactics of the game shall be implemented according to state prophylactic programme according to the Law for the veterinary – medical activity, approved by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests.

Art. 42a. (new – SG 79/02) (1) The chief of the National Forest Department shall establish division National scientific research station for hunting economy, biology and game diseases, which shall be independent corporate body.

(2) The National scientific research station for hunting economy, biology and game diseases shall be specialised for scientific research, diagnostic and consultative activity for:

1. hunting economy, biology, technologies for raising and breeding of game;
2. diseases and monitoring of the sustainable development of the game and zoo-prophylactics.

(3) The structure and the order for implementing the activity of the National scientific research station for hunting economy, biology and game diseases shall be provided with a regulation, issued by the chief of the National Forest Department

## Section II. Use of the game

Art. 43. (1) The use of the game shall be implemented by hunting.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02) Hunting is killing, catching, chasing and injuring of game, as well as taking, carrying, hiding, transport of found, injured and killed game or identifiable parts of it, collecting and taking of eggs of birds – subject to hunting.

(3) Hunting is also staying or movement of persons out of the settlements with hunting arms out of the case and assembled, regardless whether it is charged or not.

Art. 44. (1) The hunting shall be implemented individually or in groups.

(2) Big game shall be hunted individually according to the methods of the selective hunting. Group hunting of bore shall also be admitted.

(3) Small, local and passage game shall be hunted individually or in groups.

(4) Predators shall be hunted individually, in groups, by organising battue and during the hunting of other kinds of game.

(5) (amend. SG 79/02) Battues shall be organised by the persons, managing the game, on their initiative, upon request by the municipal administration or the National veterinary – medical service. An order shall be issued by the director of the state forestry or the state game breeding station, co-ordinated with the respective regional forest department, for the conducting of a battue.

Art. 45. (1) (amend. SG 79/02) For each hunting economic region every year shall be approved a plan for using of the game.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02) The general plan for using of the game in the country shall be approved by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests or by a person authorised by him upon proposal by the chief of the National Forest Department.

Art. 46. (1) The plan for using of the game in the state game breeding stations and in the sites of art. 11 shall be approved by the chief of the National Forest Department.

(2) The plan for use in the other hunting economic regions shall be approved by the chief of the regional forest department upon a proposal by the director of the state forestry.

(3) The plan for use of the settled game shall be approved by the director of the state forestry.

(4) The draft plans for use of the game shall be prepared by the persons of art. 34.

(5) The conditions and the order for preparing of the plans for use shall be provided with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 47. The organised hunting tourism shall be conducted under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 48. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) The hunting in the state game breeding stations, in the game breeding sections and in the bases for intensive management of the game, managed by the state forestries, shall be implemented by the order of the organised hunting tourism.

(2) The selection and the sanitary shooting as well as the shooting of predators in the state game breeding stations, in the game breeding sections and in the bases for intensive management of the game, managed by the state forestries, shall be implemented by the employees in them or by persons with acquired qualification by the order of art. 26 and 27 or by the order of the organised hunting tourism.

Art. 49. The hunting in the sites of art. 11 shall be implemented by the order of the law according to their statute.

Art. 50. The hunting in the hunting economic regions, where the management of the game is conceded by the state forestry by the order of art. 36, shall be implemented by the order of the law and under conditions, determined by the persons, who manage the game.

Art. 51. (revoked – SG 79/02).

Art. 52. (amend. SG 26/01, revoked – SG 79/02).

Art. 53. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) The persons, managing the game, shall pay annual fee for use.

(2) The terms, the conditions and the order for determining the amount of the annual fee for use of the game and for its spending shall be provided with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 54. (1) The terms, the days, the methods and the standards of hunting shall be determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02) Depending on the biological development of the game, the damages, caused by it, and the epizootic situation, the Minister of Agriculture and Forests shall, upon proposal by the chief of the National Forest Department or of the general director of the National veterinary – medical service and after co-ordination with the Minister of Environment and Waters, with an order change the terms for hunting, regulate the number of the game reserves, as well as restrict or prohibit the hunting of some kinds of game.

(3) (amend. SG 79/02) For regulation of the number of some kinds of game and at occurred epizootic situation resources shall be ensured from the state budget.

(4) Hunting with scientific objectives shall be permitted by the chief of the National Forest Department during all the year under conditions and by order, determined in the regulation for implementation of the law.

(5) The regulating of the number of protected and other kinds of wild animals shall be permitted by the chief of the National Forest Department after co-ordination with the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

Art. 55. A hunter, who has shot down big game, shall mark it with the mark conceded for this purpose by the state forestry or the game breeding station.

Art. 56. (1) The hunting shall be implemented with smooth barrel or grooved barrel hunting fire arms.

(2) Hunting fire arms are the arms, which are adapted for this purpose as construction and meet the technical requirements for safety.

(3) Permission for buying, carrying and preservation of hunting arms and ammunition shall be issued by the bodies of the Ministry of Interior by the order of the Law for control over the explosive substances, the fire arms and the ammunitions.

(4) (suppl. SG 79/02) The selective hunting shall be implemented with grooved hunting arms or with smooth barrel hunting arms with bullet. Right to acquiring, carrying and use of hunting grooved arms shall have only the persons, acquired qualification by the order of art. 26

(5) (amend. SG 79/02) Hunting dogs can be used while hunting. The breed groups and the requirements, which must be met by the hunting dogs, the conditions for their use and the order for conducting trials with them shall be determined with an ordinance by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests.

(6) The regulating of some kinds of game, as well as the catching live game, can be implemented also with other appropriate means under conditions and by order, determined in the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 57. (1) A written permission shall be issued for carrying out a hunting under conditions and by order, determined in the regulation for implementation of the law after payment of a fee for issuing it according to a tariff, approved by the Council of Ministers.

(2) The permissions for hunting are according to a model, approved by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests, and shall be accounted for at the state forestries and at the game breeding stations.

Art. 58. In the permission for hunting shall be entered the names of the hunters, the numbers of the hunting licenses, the way, the date and the place of hunting, the kind and the number of the permitted game for hunting and the name of the chief of the hunting in case of group hunting.

Art. 59. The game shot down, the game furs and hunting trophies shall belong to the hunter, who has acquired them, observing the conditions, determined by the manager of the game.

Art. 60. (1) The hunting trophies shall be registered at the state forestries or at the state game breeding stations at the place of obtaining them in one month term. The non registered hunting trophies shall be taken in favour of the state.

(2) The hunting trophies shall be assessed by assessment commissions, appointed with an order of the chief of the National Forest Department.

Art. 62. For registration and assessment of the hunting trophies a fee shall be paid according to a tariff, approved by the Council of Ministers.

Art. 63. (1) The persons, who have found and taken fallen game horns, shall submit them to the state forestries or to the game breeding stations.

(2) The persons of para 1 can acquire the fallen game horns after payment of a fee according to a tariff, approved by the Council of Ministers.

Art. 64. Hunting shall be forbidden in:

1. (suppl. SG 79/02) nurseries and hunting breeding centres and fish farms;
2. trial fields and areas for variety seed production;
3. meadows – till their mowing;
4. newly planted vineyards;
5. vineyards – from pruning till the end of the grape harvest;
6. vegetable gardens and orchards and melon gardens – till harvesting;
7. cereals – from April 1 till harvesting;
8. rice fields – from March 15 till harvesting;
9. (revoked – SG 79/02).

Art. 65. The use of the following means and methods shall be prohibited at hunting:

1. fire arms, not meeting the requirements of art. 56, para 1 and 2, bows and arbalests;
2. traps, loops, nets, glues and pits (ditches), if they are applied for non selective hunting;
3. poisonous or anaesthetic substances, as well as baits with such substances;
4. (amend. SG 79/02) electric sound reproducing devices and artificial sources of light, as well as facilities for lighting the target;
5. mirrors and other blinding subjects;
6. electric appliances, able to kill or stun;
7. live animals, used as bait;
8. explosives, gas or smoke;
9. appliances for night shooting, containing electronic transformer or magnifier of the image;
10. motor vehicles;
11. aviation means;
12. hunting falcons and other pray birds, regardless of species and origin, as well as hunting greyhounds;
13. (new – SG 79/02) motor sailing vessels, which move with speed over 5 km/h and in Black Sea – over 18 km/h.

### Section III. Preservation of the game

Art. 66. (1) The control for the preservation of the game in all hunting economic regions shall be implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests and by the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

(2) The Ministry of Environment and Waters shall implement control of the preservation of the genetic fund.

Art. 67. (1) (amend. SG 79/02) The preservation and the guarding of the game in all hunting economic regions shall be implemented by the state forestries and the game breeding stations. The immediate guarding shall be implemented by hunting guards.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02) The hunting associations of art. 30 and 31 can organise guarding of the game, conceded for management in the hunting economic regions, determined for them. Immediate guarding of the game shall be implemented by hunting supervisors.

(3) The hunting guards shall have the rights of the forest guards of the Law for the forests.

(4) The hunting guards in the sections assigned to them shall:

1. guard the game and the fish;
2. follow the observing of the regime for management and use of the game;
3. follow the status of the game and the fulfilment of the hunting economic measures in the sections assigned to them;
4. check all documents for hunting, fishing, felling, pasture and use of herbs, established with the Law for the herbs;
5. make checks of the personal luggage of the hunting persons;
6. (amend. SG 79/02) stop for check vehicles in the guarded sections assigned to them, using stop truncheon and green signal lamp for the motor vehicles with special regime for movement according to a model, approved by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests and the Minister of Interior;
7. (amend. SG 79/02) compile acts about established breaches under this law;
8. keep the chattels – subject of the breach, as well as the chattels, that have served in its implementation;
9. follow the observing of the fire safety rules;
10. preserve the specialised fodder base, the constructed hunting economic facilities, buildings and other sites in the guarded sections assigned to them;
11. follow the preservation of the bird coupling plots;
12. follow about damages, incurred by or caused the game;
13. (new – SG 79/02) capture and take the violators with unknown identity to the nearest department of the Ministry of Interior;
14. (new – SG 79/02) regulate the number of the predators, the wild and stray dogs and cats;
15. (new – SG 79/02) guard the protected animal species and follow the observing of the regime of the protected territories.

(5) The forest guards in the sections assigned to them and the forest employees in the sense of art. 30 of the Law for the forests, as well as the employees for guarding of the protected territories – exclusive state ownership, shall implement the functions and have the rights of the hunting guard.

(6) (new – SG 79/02) The hunting supervisors in the hunting economic regions, assigned to them, shall have the rights of the hunting guards except these of para 4, items 4 and 13, having right to check all documents for hunting and fishing as well as to stop for check vehicles in the guarding sections, assigned to them, using stop truncheon of para 4, item 6.

Art. 68. (1) (amend. SG 79/02) Th the state game breeding stations the guarding shall be implemented in guarded sections with area 1500 ha.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02) In the region of activity of the state forestries out of the forest entirety the guarding shall be implemented in guarded sections with area over 5000 ha.

(3) In the sites of art. 11 the guarding of the game shall be implemented by the persons who manage them.

(4) The hunting associations and the Bulgarian corporate bodies, to which has been conceded the management of the game, can organise also their own guarding of the game under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 69. (1) The setting on fire of stubble fields, hedges, strips along the road, areas with dry vegetation and the vegetation in the high mountain pastures shall be prohibited for protection of the game and its habitats.

(2) The agricultural and forest machinery shall be equipped with facilities for preservation of the game.

Art. 70. (1) The planing of the hunting economic measures shall be co-ordinated with the commission for hunting economy at the state forestry.

(2) (amend. SG 79/02) The damaging or the destroying of the birds' coupling places shall be prohibited.

(3) (amend. SG 79/02) During the mating season of the red deer and the wood-grouse in the permanently places for reproduction shall be terminated forest economic, construction, repair and other works, breaching the calmness of the game.

## Chapter five. TRADE WITH GAME AND GAME PRODUCTS

Art. 71. (1) (prev. art. 71 – SG 79/02) Trade with live game shall be implemented for settling in nature, for farm breeding, for the needs of zoo centres, zoo gardens, for import and export.

(2) (new – SG 79/02) The settlement of game according to the conditions of the programme of art. 41, para 2 between the state game breeding stations, the game breeding sections, managed by the state forestries, and the bases for intensive management of the game shall not be commercial transaction.

Art. 72. (amend. SG 79/02) The trade with game and game products shall be implemented under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 73. (1) Th Bulgarian hunters, who have hunting trophies and game furs, can grant, exchange or sell them. The new owners of the hunting trophies shall in 14 days term after the transaction register them at the state forestry at the place of living.

(2) The fallen game horns shall be granted, exchanged or sold, accompanied with a document for paid fee.

(3) The owners of hunting trophies shall be obliged to concede them for participation in national and international exhibitions.

(4) Transactions with non registered hunting trophies shall be forbidden.

(5) (new – SG 70/02) The activities for processing of hunting trophies shall be organised under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 74. (1) The export and the import of live game and genetic material shall be permitted by the chief of the National Forest Department after coordination with the Minister of Environment and Waters.

(2) The hunting trophies, the fallen game horns and the game products shall be exported from the country under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 75. The import of live game and eggs of birds – subject to hunting, designated for acclimatisation, refreshment of the blood and settling, shall e exempt from customs duties and fees.

Art. 76. (1) The organised hunting tourism shall include offering and use of game, acquisition of hunting trophies and game products, photo-hunting, as well as the activities servicing it.

(2) The Minister of Agriculture and Forests shall, upon a proposal by the chief of the National Forest Department approve every year minimum prices for the organised hunting tourism.

(3) The activities of para 1 shall be organised by the managers of the game under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 77. (amend. SG 79/02) The chief of the National Forest Department shall categorise the bases for hunting tourism under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

#### Chapter six. DAMAGES AND INDEMNIFICATION

Art. 78. (1) The persons managing the game shall implement the measures provided with the hunting development plan for restriction of damages from the game.

(2) The owners of lands and forests shall implement the measures with objective restriction of damages, which can be caused by game, provided in the Law for preservation of the agricultural property, the Law for the forests and in other normative acts.

Art. 79. (1) (prev. art. 79 – SG 79/02) The indemnification for damages, caused by the game in the hunting economic regions to farm crops, forest vegetation and domestic animals in the region permitted for grazing, shall be paid by the persons managing the game.

(2) (new – SG 79/02) Indemnification for damages, caused by the brown bear and the cormorant shall be paid by the Ministry of Environment and Waters.

Art. 80. Indemnification for damages, caused by the game, shall not be paid in the cases, when:

1. there are no visible damages of the forests;
2. the damages, caused to the farm crops and the perennial plantations are up to 5 percent;
3. the measures of art. 78, para 2, have not been implemented;
4. the damages are caused by passage game;
5. the damages are caused to agricultural crops and forest vegetation in regions, where grazing of domestic animals takes place.

Art. 81. (1) The indemnification for damages, caused by the game as result of incorrect use of chemicals for protection of agricultural and forest crops or such prohibited for use, shall be paid by the persons, who have taken decision for their use or have admitted their use.

(2) The indemnification for damages, caused by the game at exploitation of forest and agricultural machinery, shall be paid by the perpetrator.

(3) The indemnification for damages, caused to the specialised fodder base and to the hunting – economic facilities, shall be paid by the perpetrator.

(4) (amend. SG 26/01) The indemnification for damages, caused to the game, shall be paid to the persons managing the game, in which hunting – economic region the damage has been caused.

Art. 82. (amend. SG 79/02) The damages, caused by the game, shall be established by a commission, appointed with an order by the director of the state forestry or the state game breeding station under conditions and by order, determined with the regulation for implementation of the law.

Art. 83. The extent of the indemnification for the damages, caused by the game, shall be determined with an ordinance, approved by the Council of Ministers.

#### Chapter seven. ADMINISTRATIVE PUNITIVE PROVISIONS

Art. 84. (1) Who hunts without having lawfully certified hunting license or with a hunting license, but without written permission for hunting, or hunts out of the places determined in the permission, without having

killed or caught game, shall be punished with a fine from 50 to 400 leva.

(2) When the breach of para 1 has been made during time prohibited for hunting, at a place prohibited for hunting or with prohibited means, the person shall be punished with a fine from 100 to 800 leva.

(3) (new – SG 79/02) Who hunts without carrying hunting license, shall be punished with fine of 50 leva unless he is subject to a heavier penalty.

(4) (new – SG 79/02) When the number of the hunters at group hunting is bigger than the permitted, the leader of the hunting shall be punished with fine from 50 to 300 leva.

Art. 85. (amend. SG 79/02) Who takes, carries, transports or hides found live, injured or killed game or identifiable parts of it without a written permission for hunting, shall be punished with fine from 200 to 1000 leva.

Art. 86. (1) Who kills or catches game without having properly certified hunting license, or with a hunting license, but without a permission for hunting, or out of the place determined for it, shall be punished with a fine:

1. for small game – from 300 to 1000 leva, but not less than the triple extent of the caused damage;
2. for big game – from 500 to 5000 leva, but not less than the triple extent of the caused damage.

(2) Who kills or catches game at a time prohibited for hunting, at a place prohibited for hunting, or with prohibited means, shall be punished with a fine:

1. for small game – from 600 to 2000 leva, but not less than the triple extent of the caused damage;
2. for big game – from 1000 to 10 000 leva, but not less than the triple extent of the caused damage.

(3) (new – SG 79/02) Who kills at selection hunting or as hunting guide allows to be killed big game, different from the entered in the permission for hunting, shall be punished with fine from 50 to 400 leva.

Art. 87. Who surmounts the standards for shooting down, determined in the regulation for implementation of the law, shall be punished with a fine from 50 to 500 leva, and the game shall be taken in favour of the state.

Art. 88. (amend. SG 79/02) Who collects and takes eggs of birds – subject to hunting, without a written permission for hunting, collects and misappropriates game horns in breach of art. 63, shall be punished with a fine from 50 up to 100 leva, unless subject to a more serious punishment.

Art. 89. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) When the breach of art. 84, para 1 and 2, art. 85 and 86, para 1 and 2 has been done for second time within two years after the punitive decision has entered into force, the fine shall be in double extent.

(2) When the breach of art. 86, para 3 has been done for second time within two years after the punitive decision has entered into force, the fine shall be in triple extent.

Art. 90. Who hides, sells or transports unlawfully acquired by other man game or game trophy, or non registered hunting trophies, unless subject to a graver punishment, shall be punished with a fine from 100 to 2000 leva.

Art. 91. (amend. SG 79/02) Who does not fulfil orders of the officials for the guarding of the game, given within their authorities of art. 67, para 4, items 4 – 12 shall be punished with a fine from 50 to 200 leva, unless subject to a more serious punishment.

Art. 92. A driver, who does not stop after a signal by an official for the guarding of the game, shall be punished with a fine from 50 to 500 leva, unless subject to a more serious punishment.



Art. 93. (1) Who causes damages to the hunting economic facilities and to the specialised fodder base, shall be punished with a fine from 50 to 1000 levs.

(2) Who breaches the prohibition of art. 69, para 1, shall be punished with a fine from 50 to 1000 levs.

Art. 94. (amend. SG 79/02) (1) A person, who has committed violation of art. 84, pasra 1 and 2, art. 85 and 86, para 1, shall also be deprived from the right to hunt for a term from 1 to 3 years.

(2) A person, who has committed violation of art. 86, para 2, and art. 89, para 2 shall also be deprived from the right to hunt for a term from 3 to 5 years.

Art. 95. (1) At the breaches of art. 84, 85 and 86 the weapons and the other means for hunting shall be taken in favour of the state and the unlawfully acquired game, hunting trophies and game products shall be delivered to the bodies of the National Forest Department.

(2) When in the cases of para 1 as means for hunting a vehicle is used, regardless of which ownership it is, it shall be taken in favour of the state.

(3) When the game, the hunting trophies, the game products, the vehicles, the weapons and the other means for hunting of para 1 and 2 cannot be taken, the violators shall pay apart from the indemnification also their equal value.

Art. 95a. (new – SG 79/02) Upon killing or poisoning of game due to use of toxic preparations the violators shall be punished with fine from 500 to 1500 levs, but not less than the value of the caused damage.

Art. 96. (1) The violations of the law shall be established with acts, compiled by the officials of art. 67 or authorised employees of the Ministry of interior, and the punitive decisions shall be issued by the Minister of Agriculture and Forests or by the Minister of Interior, or by officials authorised by them.

(2) The establishing of the violations, the issuing, the appealing and the implementation of the punitive decisions shall be implemented by the order of the Law for the administrative breaches and penalties.

(3) (amend. SG 79/02) Punitive decisions, with which has been imposed fine up to 100 levs, including taking in favour of the state of chattels with value up to 1000 levs, or when the indemnification for caused damage is at the same value, shall not be subject to appeal.

#### Additional provisions

§ 1. In the context of the law:

1. “Hunting economy” is a complex of activities, connected with the management, the preservation and the use of the game, with the organisation and the development of the hunting area in the Republic of Bulgaria and with the trade with game and game products.

2. “Population principle” is large scale management of the game, complied with its biological peculiarities and whole year habitats, combining the interests of the species within the framework of the population at certain sexual ratio and age structure.

3. “Population” is a multitude of individual animals of certain kind of game, characterised with density of the resource, ensuring the existence and the normal reproduction of the species on certain territory.

4. “Farm” is a fenced territory for breeding or raising of animal species, subordinating to certain technological and veterinary – medical requirements.

5. “Breeding centre” is a part of a hunting economic region, where are created all the necessary conditions for guarding and reproduction of the game. Hunting shall take place as exception for some kinds of prey animals.

6. “Selective hunting” is a hunting economic measure for maintaining game resources at certain age structure, sexual ratio and trophy qualities.

7. “Biological minimum” is the number of animals under which the existence of certain species is

threatened.

8. “Admissible resource” is the number of certain species, which can be maintained in the hunting economic region on the basis of the natural productivity of the habitats, combined with conducting of hunting economic measures, accounting the interaction with the competitive species and non admitting damages over 10 percent.

9. “Bird coupling place” is the place for coupling of wood-grouses and other birds.

10. “Organised hunting tourism” is paid use of game and game products, connected with creating of certain organisation and use of services.

11. “Boundaries of land entireties” are the boundaries between the agricultural and the forest land entireties.

12. “Hunter” is an individual, who has acquired right to hunting.

13. “Introduction” is a successful implemented acclimatisation of foreign animal species.

14. “Photo-hunting” is taking pictures with photo appliances of wild animals and birds in their natural environment.

15. “Base for hunting tourism” are buildings and terrains and infrastructure, adjacent to them, specialised for the needs of the hunting tourism.

16. “Right to hunting” is the right to be killed, cached, chased and injured game, to be taken, transferred, transported found, injured and killed game or identifiable parts of it, to be collected and taken eggs of birds – subject to hunting, as well as the staying or the movement of persons out of the settlements with hunting weapons assembled and out of the case, regardless whether it is charged or not.

17. (new – SG 79/02) “Base for intensive management of the game” is a fenced territory, developed with regard to hunting economy for semi – free breeding of game with number over the admissible resource of the habitat according to the grade.

18. (new – SG 79/02) “Fish farm” is artificial water site, constructed according to the requirements for intensive breeding of different kinds of fish.

19. (new – SG 79/02) “Breed groups” are detached groups of dogs of and the same breed with equal exterior indices.

#### Transitional and concluding provisions

§ 2. (1) The Minister of Agriculture and Forests shall in six months term after the law enters into force approve the boundaries of the hunting economic regions.

(2) Till the approval of the boundaries of the hunting economic regions the game shall be managed according to the existing distribution of the hunting area of the country.

§ 3. (1) The persons, managing the game till the law enters into force, shall preserve their right to use the game for the hunting season 2000 – 2001.

(2) The right to hunting, to selective shooting and to accompanying (hunting guide), acquired by individuals till the law enters into force, shall be preserved.

(3) (revoked – SG 79/02).

(4) The hunting associations of art. 30 cannot refuse membership of persons, who have acquired right to hunting, meet the requirements of their statutes and when these persons do not participate in other hunting associations.

§ 4. The owners of hunting trophies shall, in one year term after the law enters into force, be obliged to register them.

§ 5. The hunting associations shall be registered observing the requirements of this law in months term after the law enters into force.

§ 6. (amend. SG 79/02) The financing of the activities for management, preservation and guarding of the game of the state game breeding stations as well as the state forestries for the game breeding sections, where they manage the game shall be implemented through the budget of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests.

§ 7. The law shall revoke the Law for the hunting economy (prom. SG 91/82; amend. SG 13/97, SG 11/98).

§ 8. In the Law for value added tax (prom. SG 153/98; amend. SG 1/99; amend. SG 44, 62, 64, 103, 111/99, SG 83/00) in art. 14, para 1 item 7 shall be created:

“7. The sale of game, game trophies, game products and the activities servicing them to foreigners by organised hunting tourism in the context of the Law for the hunting and the preservation of the game”.

§ 9. In the Law for the forests (prom. SG 125/97; amend. SG 79/133/98, SG 26/99, SG 29/00) the following amendments and supplements shall be made:

1. In art. 21 item 7 shall be created:

“7. the hunting economy.”

2. In art. 23, para 2 item 5 shall be created:

“5. the hunting economy.”

3. In art. 57:

a) new para 5 shall be created:

“(5) The timber from forests – ownership of the state, shall be used by the state game breeding stations in the region determined for them against a fee paid per standing trees.”;

b) the previous para 5 shall become para 6.

4. In art. 93 the following amendments and supplements shall be made:

a) items 6, 7 and 21 shall be changed to:

“6. fees for right to hunting, for issuing and certification of hunting licenses, for issuing certificates for selective hunting, for hunting guides etc. underart. 28, para 2 of the Law for hunting and protection of the game;

7. fees for issuing and coordination of certificates, permissions and other written documents, required under the Law for hunting and protection of the game;”

“21. Fees for registration and assessment of hunting trophies under art. 62 and fees for fallen game horns”

22. fines for committed violations under the Law for hunting and protection of the game;

23. resources from selling of chattels, taken in favour of the state under the Law for hunting and protection of the game;

24. fees of art. 52 and payments of art. 53, para 1 of the Law for hunting and protection of the game;

25. resources from the state budget for maintenance, insurance and indemnification of the forest guide;

26. resources from Bulgarian and foreign individuals and corporate bodies and non government organisations for development of the hunting economy, scientific and research and applied activity;

27. . resources from the state budget under art. 54, para 3 of the Law for hunting and protection of the game;

26. remainders from the previous year.”

5. In art. 95 the following amendments and supplements shall be made:

a) the previous text shall become para 1 and in it:

aa) item 11 shall be changed to:

“11. Maintenance of the state game breeding stations;”

bb) items 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47 and 48 shall be created:

“29. The reproduction of the game;

30. construction, maintenance and repairs of hunting economic facilities and buildings;

31. acclimatisation, re-acclimatisation and settlement of the game;
32. creating and maintenance of specialised fodder base;
33. payment of remuneration for regulating the number of the prey animals;
34. protection and guarding of the game in the hunting economic regions;
35. maintenance of hunting museums and organising of hunting exhibitions;
36. publishing of printed materials, promotion and advertising activity, illustration material and training;
37. maintenance, insurance and indemnification of the hunting guard;
38. preparation of hunting development plans;
39. supply of materials, instruments, weapons and facilities for the state game breeding stations and the state forestries;”
40. scientific servicing and introduction activity in the hunting economy;
41. conducting of international activity, connected with the hunting economy;
42. construction, acquisition, maintenance , repair and other intrinsic expenses for long term material assets – ownership of the state game breeding stations;
43. assessment of hunting trophies;
44. additional material stimulation in extent of 30 percent of the sums received in the National fund “Bulgarian forest” from punitive decisions entered into force, determined by the chief of the National Forest Department;
45. hunting economic region, conceded for management of the game by the state forestries, in extent of 80 percent of the payments received from this under art. 53, para 3 of the Law for hunting and protection of the game;
46. game breeding sections, conceded to scientific institutes, higher schools and sites for particularly important state needs, in extent of 80 percent of the fees received for them under art. 52 of the Law for hunting and protection of the game;
47. the owners of lands and forests, who’s property is in the region of state game breeding stations, in extent of 24 percent of the fees received for them under art. 52 of the Law for hunting and protection of the game, and they shall be distributed by the commissions for hunting economy;
48. buying of lands by individuals or corporate bodies for game fields.”;
- b) para 2 shall be created:
- “(2) The resources of para 1, items 45 and 46 shall be distributed by the commissions for hunting economy at the state forestries in the following way: 30 percent for the owners of lands and forests and 70 percent – for hunting economic measures and indemnification for caused damages by the game for the hunting economic region, from which they have been received.”

§ 10. In the Law for the protected territories (prom. SG 133/98; amend. SG 98/99, SG 28, 48/00) in art. 14 para 4 shall be created:

“(4) Fencing of the areas in protected areas, without these in reserves and national parks, shall be admitted for construction of bases for breeding game after coordination with the Minister of Environment and Waters.”

§ 11. The Council of Ministers shall approve a regulation for implementation of the law in 6 months term after its entering into force.

§ 12. The implementation of the law shall be assigned to the Minister of Agriculture and Forests. In the protected territories – exclusive state ownership, announced with the Law for the protected territories, the implementation of the law shall be assigned to the Minister of Environment and Waters.

The law was passed by the 38th National Assembly on September 12, 2000 and is affixed with the official seal of the National Assembly.

#### **Appendix No 1 of art. 5, para 2, item 1 and para 5 (title amend. SG 79/02)**

## LIST OF THE MAMMALS AND BIRDS – SUBJECT TO HUNTING

### I. Mammals:

#### A. BIG GAME

1. *Cervus elaphus* L.
2. *Cervus dama* L.
3. *Capreolus capreolus* L.
4. *Sus scrofa* L.
5. *Rupicapra Rupicapra* L.
6. (Revoked, SG 79/02)
7. *Ovis musimon* Pall.
8. *Bison Bonasus* L.
9. *Bos mutus* P.
10. *Capra idex* L.
11. *Canis lupus* L.

#### B. SMALL GAME

12. *Lepus europaeus* Pall.
13. *Sciurus vulgaris* L.
14. *Ondatra zibethica* L.
15. *Miocastor coypus* Mol.
16. *Canis aureus* L.
17. *Vulpes vulpes* L.
18. *Nictereutes procyonoides* Greg
19. *Felis silvestris* Schreb.
20. *Martes foina* L.
21. *Mustela putorius* L.
22. *Meles Meles* L.

### II. Birds:

#### A. BIG GAME

1. *Tetrao urogallus* L.
2. *Meleagris gallopavo* L.

#### B. SMALL GAME

3. *Phasianus colchicus* L.
4. *Phasianus* sp.
5. *Perdix perdix* L.
6. *Alectoris graeca graeca* Meisner
7. *Alectoris graeca cupriotes* Hartert.
8. *Coturnix coturnix* L.
9. *Numida meleagris* L.
10. *Columba palumbus* L.
11. *Streptopelia turtur* L.
12. *Streptopelia decaocto* Friv.
13. *Anas albifrons* Scop.
14. *Anas platyrhynchos* L.
15. *Anas platyrhynchos* L.
16. *Anas guerguedula* L.
17. *Anas crecca* L.
18. *Anas penelope* L.
19. *Anas clypeata* L.
20. *Aythya/ Nycora/fuligula* L.
21. *Anas acuta* L.
22. *Fulica atra* L.
23. (Revoked, SG 79/02)

24. *Scolopax rusticola* L.
25. *Callinago gallinago* L.
26. *Sturnus vulgaris* L.
27. *Pica pica* L.
28. *Corvus cornix* L.
29. *Cornus frugilegus* L.
30. *Coloeus monedula* L.

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§ 61. The hunting companies and associations of art. 29 and art. 30, para 1 shall bring their structures in compliance with the requirements of this law in 9 months term after it enters into force.

§ 62. The contracts for management of the game, concluded till this law enters into force, except the contracts of art. 36, para 2 shall have effect till the end of hunting season 2002 – 2003. The contracts for management of the game after hunting season 2002 – 2003 shall be concluded observing the provisions of this law.

§ 65. The state enterprises of art. 9, para 1 shall be legal successors of the respective game breeding stations, existed till this law enters into force and assume their assets and liabilities according to the balance sheet by January 1, 2002.

§ 66. The employment legal relations with the workers and employees of the state game breeding stations shall be provided by the order of art. 123 of the Labour Code.

§ 67. The state enterprises of art. 9, para 1 shall not be subject to privatisation by the order of the Law for privatisation and post-privatisation control.

§ 68. The hunting economic regions of the hunting farms “Voden – Iry Hisar” and “Iskar”, established with acts of the Council of Ministers, shall be detached as state game breeding stations under art. 8 and art. 9, para 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 8 and shall be managed by the Council of Ministers without right to let to other individuals or corporate bodies.

§ 69. (1) The hunting farms “Studen kladenets” and “Eledzhik” at the National association “Union of the hunters and the fishermen in Bulgaria” shall be detached as game breeding sections by the order of art. 10 and without the conditions of art. 7, para 4 and 6 to exist.

(2) The managing of the game in the sections of para 1 shall be conceded by the National Forest department to the persons, managed the game in the respective areas till September 30, 2000 or to their legal successors by direct contracting against payment under art. 53.

(3) The contracts of para 2 shall be concluded for a term from 5 to 13 years depending on the basic kind of game in the hunting economic region

§ 71. Appendix No 2 of art. 9, para 1 shall be created:

List of the state game breeding stations

1. RUSALKA - Apriltsy
2. ROSITSA – locality Lagat

3. CHEPINO – locality Chehliovo, Velingrad municipality
4. CHERKEZITSA – locality Chekeritsa, village Stryama
5. CHERNY LOM – Popovo
6. ARAMLIETS – village Ognyanovo, Elin Pelin municipality
7. BOROVO – locality Valcha polyana, Batak municipality
8. IZVORA – Devin
9. BEGLIKA – locality Beglika, Batak municipality
10. ZHENDA – Kardzhaly
11. SHERBA – village Goren chiflik
12. ROPOTAMO – locality Arkutino, Burgas region
13. VITOSHKO – STUDENA – village Kladnitsa
14. KORMISOSH – vilage Laky
15. PALAMARA – village Venets, Shumen region
16. OSOGOVO – Kyustendil
17. MIDZUR – Belogradchik
18. MAZALAT – village Gorno Sahrane
19. SESLAV – Kubrat
20. DIKCHAN – village Satovcha, Blagoevgrad region
21. VITINYA – locality Vitinya, Sofia region
22. RAZLOG – Razlog
23. DUNAV – Ruse
24. TERVEL – Tervel
25. KARAKUZ – Dulovo
26. BALCHIK – Balchik
27. RODOPY – locality Snezhana
28. SHIROKA POLYANA – locality Shiroka polyana
29. NESEBAR – Nesebar
30. TOPOLOVGRAD – Topolovgrad
31. PRES LAV – Preslav
32. TUNDZHA – Yambol
33. KOTEL – Kotel
34. BOLYARKA – Veliko Tarnovo
35. RAKITOV O – Rakitovo
36. GRAMATIKOV O – Gramatikovo
37. ALABAK – Valingrad
38. VODEN – IRY HISAR
39. ISKAR.

The law was passed by the 39th National Assembly on August 2, 2002 and is affixed with the official seal of the National Assembly.