Sabra (1995:31) states that the verb preceded by *shall* is usually translated into the present tense, and he stresses that it should not be used as a verb which indicates future. He lists some examples:

1. Amoco <u>shall</u> be exempted from all customs and duties.

   <u>تعفى</u> أموكو من كل الرسوم الجمركيه.

2. The arbitration <u>shall</u> be held at Paris.

   <u>يعقد</u> التحكيم في باريس.

3. The life insured <u>shall</u> pay to the Insurance Society every subsequent premium in due time.

   يدفع الشخص المؤمن عليه الى شركه التامين كل قسط تال في موعده المستحق.

By the same token, Hatim (1997:30) stresses that the modal "shall" is not the future shall but rather an empty legal "shall". Thus, it should be rendered as the Arabic present simple verb which is intrinsically timeless and legally binding. However, he states that "shall" could be rendered as the verbs "يتم" or "يجب" depending on the legally "obligatoriness" the context requires. It should be noted that the verb "يتم" is used mainly in the case of rendering an agentless passive. For example:

1. An amount of_____ JDs shall be paid upon signing the Contract (Saqf Al-Hait, 2009).

   يتم دفع مبلغ_____دينار عند توقيع العقد.

2. In normal circumstances, the period of notice shall not be less than one month (Hatim et al., 1995:168).

   و في الحالات العادية يجب أن لا تقل مدة الشعار عن شهر واحد

On the other hand, *may* as a modal in legal discourse should be rendered as "يجوز" and the negative form of it is "لا يجوز". "يحق" and "لا يحق" are equivalent to