



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa yesterday received at Al-Sakhir Palace, the newly-appointed Bahraini Plenipotentiary Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah bin Ali Al-Khalifa, who took his oath. HM the King congratulated the new head of diplomatic mission and commended his competence in assuming his national responsibility, wishing him success in performing his diplomatic duties. He directed the ambassador to consolidate bilateral relations binding the Kingdom of Bahrain and the UAE, stressing the need to heed the interests of Bahraini citizens and meet their needs. HM the King extended greetings to UAE President His Highness Shaikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al-Nahyan, Vice President, Prime Minister and Dubai Ruler HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al-Maktoum and Abu Dhabi Crown Prince and UAE Armed Forces Deputy Supreme Commander HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al-Nahyan and the Emirati people, wishing them all further progress and prosperity.

Govt committed to the growth of real estate sector: PM

Manama

The government is fully committed to driving the growth of realty sector by ensuring a business-friendly environment capable of pushing the sector to a higher growth trajectory, said His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa yesterday.

Bahrain, HRH the Premier said, has put in place suitable atmosphere as well as "legislative and technical infrastructure" to support investors in the real estate sector. His Royal

"Private sector plays a key role in boosting development"

Highness further stressed that "development projects are being implemented in the Kingdom in accordance with a well-thought-out vision, thanks to a highly motivated private sector."

This came as HRH the Premier was opening the Gulf

Construction Expo (GC Expo 2018), the Gulf Property Show 2018 and the Gulf Interiors 2018, HRH the Premier, at the Bahrain International Exhibition and Convention Centre.

Bahrain, the Prime Minister said, has maintained its leading position in the sector by providing required guarantees and protection for investors. "This has been greatly helpful in attracting foreign investors to the country," HRH Premier stressed.

Following the opening ceremony, the Premier was

taken on a tour of the expo, where he was informed about various products.

Prince Khalifa expressed his admiration of the exhibits and affirmed that the construction and real estate sector is witnessing continuous progress.

The Premier also lauded the role played by the private sector and real estate developers in supporting development saying, "The current boom in the real estate projects provides more opportunities to carry on the sustainable development march."

HRH Prince Salman thanked by Saudi King, Crown Prince



Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier received a cable of thanks from Saudi Crown Prince, Deputy Premier and Defence Minister His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdul-Aziz Al-Saud in reply to a cable in which HRH the Crown Prince strongly condemned the Houthi militias for launching ballistic missiles targeting civilian populated areas in parts of Saudi Arabia.

The Saudi Crown Prince extended deepest thanks

to HRH the Crown Prince, praying to Allah the Almighty to protect the two kingdoms from any harm and bless them with security, development and progress.

His Royal Highness also received a similar cable of thanks from Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdul-Aziz Al-Saud.

The Saudi leader extended deepest thanks to HRH the Crown Prince, praying to Allah the Almighty to protect the two kingdoms from any harm and bless them with security, development and progress.

ASBB announces new group CEO

Manama

Al Salam Bank-Bahrain (ASBB) yesterday announced the appointment of Rafik Nayed as Group Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Bank following the approvals of the Board of Directors and the Central Bank of Bahrain.

Chairman of the Board of Directors of ASBB, Khaleefa Butti Bin Omair Al Muhairi, said: "Rafik has a proven international track record in banking and finance as well as the necessary expertise which we are confident will give the Bank the momentum to reach new heights in Bahrain and beyond."

Rafik Nayed is a seasoned banker with over 25 years' experience. He joins Al

Salam Bank from Deutsche Bank where he was most recently the Vice Chairman of the MENA region, Chief Country Officer for the UAE and Senior Executive Officer of Deutsche Bank AG Dubai (DIFC). Before joining Deutsche Bank, Rafik was the Chief Executive Officer of the Libyan Investment Authority and prior to that worked for many years in the oil and gas and financial services industries in a variety of international senior positions.

Commenting on his appointment, Rafik Nayed, Group CEO of ASBB said: "It is an honor to join Al Salam Bank, a successful organization that is fast establishing itself as one of the pioneering Banks in the Kingdom with strong ambitions for growth."



Rafik Nayed

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