

Workers sharing a boon for Bahrain Cos

More flexibility for firms, more job opportunities for Bahrainis, MPs stress

- Companies can use licensed foreign workers employed by businesses within the same group.
- Workers can work for another employer for up to three months with LMRA approval and the consent of all parties.
- The system could help businesses meet temporary staffing needs without recruiting workers from overseas.

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's new worker-sharing framework could help businesses manage fluctuating workloads, reduce recruitment costs and make better use of foreign workers already licensed to work in the Kingdom, MPs said.

MP Dr Maryam Al Dhaen said the changes give businesses a



clearer way to handle temporary staffing needs through defined and officially registered procedures.

The rules allow workers to be moved between businesses owned by the same employer or within the same group. They also allow a foreign worker to work for another employer for up to three months, with Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) approval and the consent of the worker and both employers.

Dr Al Dhaen said both employers would remain responsible for protecting the worker's rights during the three-month period.



Dr Maryam Al Dhaen, MP

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Jalal Kadhem, MP

rates.

MP Jalal Kadhem said the move matched a legislative proposal he had previously submitted to allow firms to make short-term use of foreign workers already licensed to work in Bahrain.

He said companies would not need to bring in new workers from abroad whenever they faced a temporary increase in demand.

"This kind of regulation helps cut recruitment costs, supports small and medium-sized businesses and gives firms a clear legal route to make use of workers already in Bahrain," he said.

Mr Kadhem also said the system could help curb irregular work by bringing such arrangements under formal rules and official oversight.

He reiterated that the added flexibility must not come at the expense of Bahraini jobseekers or Bahrainisation requirements.

LMRA Decision No. 2 of 2026 permits an employer to use a licensed foreign worker at another business owned by the same employer or within the same group, subject to the Bahrainisation rate for the activity.

It also permits a foreign worker to work for another employer for up to three months, subject to LMRA approval and the consent of the worker and both employers.

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War, terrorism and AI on agenda as Bahrain lawmakers head to Tanzania

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Bahraini lawmakers are heading to Tanzania for a global parliamentary summit where they will join the race to choose a new Inter-Parliamentary Union president and debate issues ranging from war and terrorism to artificial intelligence and food security.

The five-day 153rd IPU Assembly will be held in Arusha from October 5 to 9, with Bahrain's delegation led by Jamal Fakhro, First Deputy Chairman of the Shura Council.

Hala Ramzi will serve as deputy head of the delegation, joined by MPs Ahmed Al Salloom, Hassan Ebrahim, Zainab Abdulameer and Ali Sager Al Dosari.

The assembly will elect its president and vice-presidents and choose a new IPU president. Members will also consider requests for emergency

agenda items and discuss major international developments.

This year's theme is "Enhancing good governance and empowering communities through inclusivity, trust and opportunities for all", linked to UN Sustainable Development Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions.

The Bahraini delegation will take part in meetings of the Gulf, Arab, Islamic and Asian parliamentary groups to discuss common positions and cooperation.

The programme includes the 218th session of the IPU Governing Council, the Women Parliamentarians' Forum and meetings involving young MPs.

Bahraini lawmakers will also participate in committees covering democracy and human rights, international peace and security, UN affairs and sustainable development. An open session will focus on respect

for international humanitarian law.

Bahrain is also due to participate in the signing of a co-operation agreement between the Latin American and Caribbean geopolitical group and GCC parliaments within the IPU.

Workshops during the assembly will examine parliamentary responses to terrorism, oversight of extractive industries, mental health across

generations and the ethical use of AI in protecting children's rights.

Other sessions will address access to healthy food amid climate change, digital violence in politics, enforcement of international humanitarian law and the role of women in diplomacy and peacebuilding.

The Bahraini delegation will also attend a hearing featuring candidates for the IPU presidency.

Iranian aggression monitored closely

● Derasat committee documenting attacks on Bahrain under leadership directives

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Bahrain is closely monitoring and documenting Iranian attacks on the Kingdom, Derasat Chairman Dr Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa said.

He said the efforts are guided by the vision of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the directives of His Royal High-



ness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

Dr Shaikh Abdullah, also the Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications, made the remarks while chairing Derasat's third-quarter board meeting, attended by board members and CEO Abdullah Mohammed Al Ahmed.

He said investment in people remains central to Bahrain's development, with Derasat supporting national priorities through strategic research, specialised talent and international partnerships.

The board reviewed a high-level dialogue on Bahrain's digital transformation, organised by Derasat and the

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Bahrain at UN headquarters in New York during the 81st session of the UN General Assembly.

It also reviewed preparations for Bahrain's National Human Development Report, being developed with UNDP and focused on placing people at the centre of digital transformation.

Dr Shaikh Abdullah highlighted the second round of the Strategic Dialogue Initiative between Gulf and US think tanks, which concluded in Washington. Organised by Derasat with the American Foreign Policy Council and in coordination with the GCC Secretariat General, the initiative promotes research and diplomatic engagement. Its third phase will conclude with an expanded event in Manama in November.

The board also reviewed Dr Shaikh Abdullah's visit to the King Fahd National Library in Riyadh, where a memorandum of understanding was signed to strengthen scientific and knowl-

edge cooperation, including exchanges of expertise, information and documents and joint programmes.

The board praised Derasat for completing its "Energy Transition and Decarbonisation Pathways in Alba" study for Aluminium Bahrain (Alba). The study examines pathways through 2050 using modelling and scenario analysis to support a more sustainable and diversified energy mix.

The meeting also reviewed Derasat's third-quarter research, international dialogues, partnerships and academic activities, along with priorities for the final quarter of 2026.