

Unified stances needed to address regional issues

Premier hails UK role in enhancing regional security

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Manama

His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa has hailed the joint understanding between Bahrain and the United Kingdom vis-à-vis various issues, which, he said, reflects the strength and advanced level of bilateral relations.

"In the region, we look forward to being preoccupied with development and nation-building, and not with wars and conflicts which resulted in wasted potentials and depleted resources," he said.

HRH the Premier expressed hope in the ability of the region's leaders and



HRH the Premier receives Lieutenant-General Sir John Lorimer.

governments to rally together with allies and friends against attempts to target the stability and security of such a vital part of the world.

"Therefore, we, as brotherly and friendly countries, have to unify stances

and cooperate to confront the challenges that we all face," he said, stressing the need to reduce differences in order to achieve security and stability across the region, which is the ultimate goal for everyone.

The Prime Minister made the stances while receiving UK's Senior Defence Advisor for the Middle East, Lieutenant-General Sir John Lorimer, at the Gudaibiya Palace yesterday.

They reviewed the long-standing

Bahraini-UK relations and ways to bolster them in various fields, particularly the defence and military ones.

The Prime Minister stressed that the deep-rooted Bahraini-British relations have always been based on mutual respect and shared interests, which, he said, has paved the way for wider cooperation in various fields.

HRH Premier highlighted Bahrain's keenness to always maintain the advanced level of its relations with the UK, praising the role played by the British expertise in the kingdom's various development fields.

The Prime Minister commended the efforts being exerted by the United Kingdom, alongside the International Community, to achieve security, stability and peace.

HRH Premier discussed with the UK officials the latest regional developments, and ways to safeguard regional security and stability.

UK's Senior Defence Advisor for the Middle East expressed his country's appreciation of the support of the government, led by HRH Premier, for enhancing bilateral relations, commending the government's efforts in this regard.

Bahrain's judicial strides highlighted

Manama

Assistant Foreign Minister and head of Bahraini delegation Abdullah Al Doseri, told the Human Rights Committee in Geneva that the reform approach of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa has led to pioneering achievements in the fields of democracy, ensuring public rights and freedoms, and human, political, economic and social development in various fields, including education, health, communication, information and sustainable development.

The Minister also affirmed the success of the independent electoral experiment and the active parliamentary practices that took place in the years 2002, 2006, 2010 and 2014, which will be followed by the next elections by the end of this year.

In his opening address to the Committee, the Assistant Foreign Minister explained that despite many challenges, the Kingdom has made great achievements in implementing the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and was keen to continue to take legislative and non-legislative measures to ensure respect for civil and political rights.

He affirmed the keenness of



Mr Al Doseri speaks at the meeting.

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sessions of the Human Rights Committee were held in the past decades.

the Kingdom to consolidate the efforts of comprehensive sustainable development and to protect and promote human rights, despite the security challenges facing it which emerge through acts of violence and terrorism.

Al Doseri affirmed that the rule of law, the integrity of the judiciary and its independence are the basis of governance in the Kingdom, and are among the most important pillars of the

protection of human rights.

At the 123rd session, the Human Rights Committee discussed the reports of Algeria, Lao, Liberia and Lithuania, as well as the report of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The delegation included the Ombudsman Secretary-General, Nawaf Mohammed Al-Maawda, the SCW Administrative and Media Policies Director, Ezzedine Khalil Almoayyed, the Assistant Undersecretary for Labour Affairs, Dr. Mohammed Ali Al Ansari.

The delegation of the Ministry of Interior was headed by the Director-General of Women Police of the Ministry of Interior, Brigadier Mona Abdulraheem, the Chief Prosecutor of the Public Prosecution, Abdullah bin Issa al Dosari, and Legal Advisor for Information Affairs, Fawzan Khalifa Bufarsan.



Bahrain's Ambassador to the United Kingdom, Fawaz bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, held a dinner banquet in honour of Sir Geoffrey Tantom to celebrate the title of knighthood granted by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II last month. Sir Geoffrey Tantom has been honoured for his outstanding service and contributions towards the development of relations between Bahrain and the United Kingdom for over twenty years.

SCH holds urgent meeting to implement Premier's directives



Shaikh Mohammed and Ms Al Saleh at the meeting.

Manama

To implement HRH the Premier's directives during the weekly Cabinet session to deliver best health services, President of the Supreme Council of Health (SCH), Lt Gen Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, chaired a meeting in the presence of Health Minister Faeqa Al Saleh, senior health officials and representatives of private health sector.

The SCH President said the directives of HRH Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa reflect his keenness to ensure the provision of best health services to meet citizens and residents' needs.

He stressed the need to promptly implement the Premier's directives to regulate and develop the management of medicines at the Salmaniya Medical Complex (SMC) and health centers to ensure constant availability of the same to patients.

He attached great significance to coordinate with the National Committee for the Unified Purchase of Drugs in respect of medicine orders to avoid shortage of medicines.

He directed to adopt the drug management system followed by the Military Hospital and to benefit from its doctors' expertise in the management of medicines supplies in terms of procurement, storage and dispensing of medicines.

Piracy devices seized from shops

● The Ministry of Information Affairs stressed that it would spare no effort in order to reduce piracy, through reinforcing the regulations and mechanisms stipulated by the law to deter the perpetrators.

Manama

The Mass Media Directorate at the Information Affairs Directorate has carried out an inspection campaign against shops that sell encrypted receivers that broadcast illegally, as well as against buildings with unlicensed cable networks.

The campaign resulted in confiscating a number of devices that violate the kingdom's laws and regulations.

The directorate stressed its keenness to increase its inspection campaigns to monitor Copyright and Related Rights crimes, out of its belief in the importance of respecting intellectual property, and reinforcing regulations and laws, and to refer violators to the Public Prosecution.

The Ministry of Information Affairs stressed that it would spare no effort in order to reduce piracy, through reinforcing the regulations and mechanisms stipulated by the law to deter the perpetrators.

The Ministry lauded the commitment of some parties to laws and regulations in order to preserve the kingdom's gains and reputation in this regard.