



Labour and Social Development Minister, Jameel Humaidan, received MP Dr Hisham Ahmed Al-Ashiri in the presence of the chairmen and officials of several non-governmental organisations. Discussions focused on ways to meet the needs of the charity and voluntary work sector here. The minister underlined the importance of developing voluntary work to make it more professional.



Finance and National Economy Minister Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa taking part in a remote session with directors and heads of financial resources departments as part of regular meetings to follow up policies and strategies aimed at optimising spending. The minister stressed the importance of launching new initiatives to optimise government spending and reviewed the system of rotating financial resource managers between government agencies.



Education Minister and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Higher Education Council, Dr Majid bin Ali Al-Nuaimi, received the HEC's Secretary-General, Dr Shaikha Rana bint Isa bin Daij Al Khalifa, and congratulated her on her appointment to the post as per a Royal Decree. The minister stressed that the council is keen to develop the higher education sector by attracting prestigious universities into Bahrain. The minister wished Dr Shaikha Rana every success in assuming the duties entrusted to her.



Minister of Youth and Sports Affairs, and the Board Chairman of the Education and Training Quality Authority, Ayman bin Tawfeeq Al Moayed, received Minister of Electricity and Water Affairs, and the Board of Trustees Chairman of Bahrain Polytechnic, Wael bin Nasser Al Mubarak. Al Moayed congratulated the Electricity and Water Affairs Minister on the royal trust appointing him as Board of Trustees Chairman of Bahrain Polytechnic. Al Mubarak underlined the importance of cooperation to carry out the education development strategy and commended Al Moayed for improving the educational and training outcomes in the kingdom.



Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, receiving diplomatic employees at the headquarters of the ministry. Abdullah bin Faisal bin Jabr Al Dossari, the Assistant Foreign Minister, Dr Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, the Undersecretary for Political Affairs, Tawfiq Ahmed Al-Mansour, the Undersecretary for Consular and Administrative Affairs, and Dr Shaikha Muneera bint Khalifa Al Khalifa, the Executive Director of the Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa Academy for Diplomatic Studies were present. The officials took their oath and affirmed keenness to continue performing their duties with devotion and loyalty to the homeland and wise leadership.



Shaikh Abdullah bin Rashid Al Khalifa presented a copy of his credentials as Ambassador of Bahrain to the United Mexican States residing in Washington. The Ambassador of the United Mexican States to the USA, Esteban Moctezuma, received them on behalf of the Mexican Foreign Secretary, Marcelo Ebrard. Shaikh Abdullah took great pride in the confidence of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and in representing the Kingdom of Bahrain to the United Mexican States.



Bahrain and Saudi Arabia have agreed to form joint working committees in various media sectors to sustain communication and enhance media coordination to achieve their common goals. Information Minister Ali bin Mohammed Al Romaihi and Saudi Acting Minister of Media Dr Majid bin Abdullah Al Qasabi signed the deal during a meeting in Makkah. Al Qasabi extended an official invitation to Al Romaihi to meet in Makkah and discuss cooperation between the two countries.



Assistant Foreign Minister, Abdullah bin Faisal bin Jabr Al Dossari, receiving acting Resident Coordinator of the United Nations Activities of Bahrain, Mohammed El-Zarqani, in the presence of Head of the Human Rights Affairs Sector, Ambassador Dr Arwa Hassan Al-Sayed, and Acting Head of the Organisations sector, Ambassador Shaikha Aisha bint Ahmed bin Saqr Al Khalifa. The Assistant Foreign Minister welcomed El-Zarqani and praised his efforts in strengthening the strategic partnership between Bahrain and the United Nations agencies. El Zaqani stressed the UN's keenness to continue cooperation in various fields, wishing Bahrain continued progress and prosperity.

ICT committee discuss guidelines for government app development

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Strategic projects and purchase requests worth BD1.2 million were up for discussion at the 44th Information and Communication Technology Governance Committee (ICTGC) meeting on Thursday.

The meeting, chaired by Information & eGovernment Authority Chief Executive Mohammed Ali Al Qaed, was held remotely.

They also discussed a summary of standards and guidelines for government systems and Apps development to reduce operating costs in the public sector and improve security. The project, Al Qaed said, will reduce the dupli-



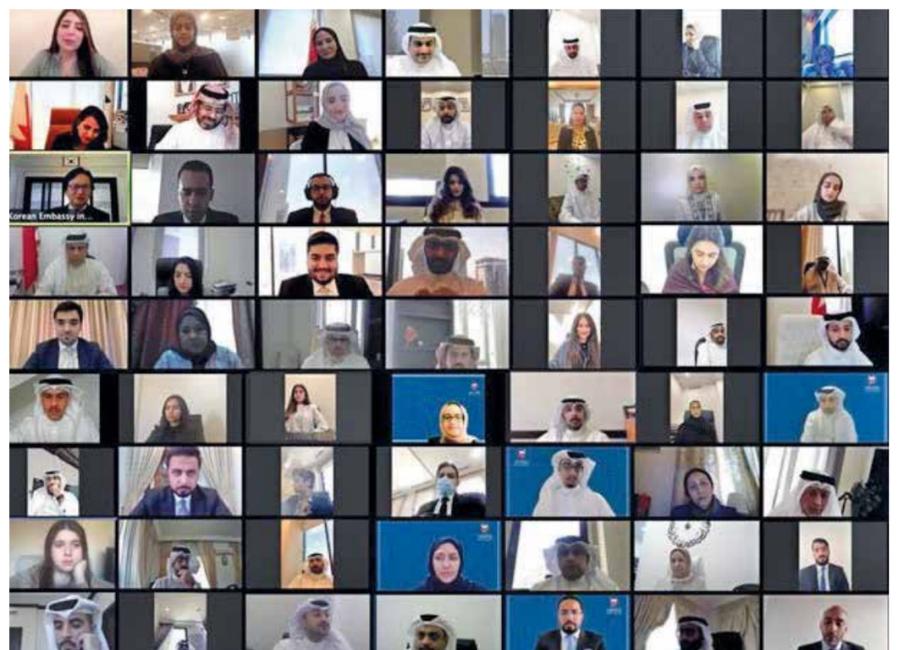
Officials during the meeting

cation of processes, improve compatibility, and result in greater interconnectivity between government organizations.

The committee also discussed a proposal to improve the IT skills of government directors and department heads in line with the

national digital transformation strategy.

Discussions also focused on the progress in adopting its previous decisions.



The Ramadan Ambassadors' Council Programme organised by the Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa Academy for Diplomatic Studies virtually concluded during its seventh session on Thursday. The 7th session kicked off with the participation of Ambassador of Korea, Hae-Kwan Chung, under the moderation of the Academy's Executive Director, Dr Muneera bint Khalifa Al Khalifa. During the session, the Korean ambassador talked about the importance of Korea's public diplomacy based on culture, knowledge, and foreign policy. Dr Shaikha Muneera said the Academy plans to host more ambassadors during the second version of the programme.