

# Praise for banking and finance sector

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**H**is Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, commended the banking and finance sector's contributions in creating quality opportunities for citizens and in supporting the Kingdom's comprehensive development, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

This came as HRH Prince Salman met yesterday with a delegation from Grow Digital Bank, at Gudaibiya Palace.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister emphasised the importance of banking and financial institutions in supporting various economic sectors, generating substantial growth, and raising Bahrain's global competitiveness.

He noted the rapid growth of financial services, which will continue to benefit from further plans, initiatives, and strategies



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister meets with the Grow Digital Bank delegation

that aim at increasing the efficiency of the sector.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister highlighted the Kingdom's strategic location as an integral investment hub for regional and global companies.

The Grow Digital Bank dele-

gation expressed their gratitude to His Royal Highness for his support in developing the banking and finance sector, wishing the Kingdom further progress and prosperity.

Finance and National Economy Minister Shaikh Salman bin

Khalifa Al Khalifa, Central Bank of Bahrain Governor Rasheed Mohamed Al Maraj, Cabinet Affairs Minister Hamad bin Faisal Al Malki and Bahrain Economic Development Board Chief Executive Khalid Humaidan also attended the meeting.

## Cabinet reviews government priority projects

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**T**he Cabinet reviewed a memorandum submitted by the Government Executive Committee on the implementation of the Government Priorities Framework 3.1.

The Cabinet directed the ministries, each in its respective capacity, to develop the implementation plan for the remaining 16 projects within the GPF 3.1, aimed at achieving financial sustainability and securing a supportive environment for development.

It also reviewed the progress of a number of development initiatives for electricity and water services, including measures that have been taken to address the gathering of rainfall in certain areas.

In this regard, the Cabinet commended the efforts made by the concerned authorities, led by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture and the Ministry of Works.

The Cabinet discussed several memorandums during the meeting with the following outcomes:

The approval of the following memorandum:

1- A memorandum by the Ministerial Committee for Legal and Legislative Affairs regarding a draft decision outlining which governmental health facilities are subject to the health insurance law.



**The 16 projects within the GPF 3.1 are aimed at achieving financial sustainability and securing a supportive environment for development.**

2- A memorandum by the Minister of Municipalities and Agriculture Affairs regarding the acquisition of real estate for public use to provide the necessary spaces for urban development.

The Cabinet then took note of the ministerial reports regarding the visit of the GCC Secretary General's to Bahrain and the visit of the Minister of Sustainable Development to Saudi Arabia.

## Consensus on Government Action Programme reached

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**A**n agreement was reached yesterday between the executive and legislative branches to enter amendments in the Government Action Plan.

The consensus was reached during the fourth joint meeting which was held between the Government Programme Study Committee and the Government Team.

The two sides agree to designate the first priority within



The fourth joint executive-legislative meeting in progress

the program to become under the title "Raising the standard of living of citizens in a way

that preserves the gains of citizens.

They also reached a consen-

sus on adding a new initiative to the program that provides for "development of social assistance provided to citizens, including the inflation allowance," and "adopting policies that raise the standard of living in a way that preserves the purchasing power of retirees."

Representatives Council Speaker Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam and Deputy Prime Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa co-chaired the session.

### Bahrain-US cooperation

Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh received US Ambassador to Bahrain Steven C. Bondy. Al Saleh praised the strong ties and cooperation between Bahrain and the US, mainly in trade, investment, economy, security and culture. Ambassador Bondy expressed pride in the deep-rooted Bahrain-US relations and stressed that shared bonds are reinforced by the leadership of the two countries, mutual visits and keenness to widen cooperation and support common interests.



## Harlow and Hart live at Al Dana Amphitheatre next month

Staff Reporter

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**L**ast year, it was announced that Americans Jack Harlow, rapper, and Kevin Hart, comedian and actor, were set to perform at Al Dana Amphitheatre.

As they are now performing next month, many are waiting in anticipation and are even considering travelling to Bahrain to see the live performances.

Users on social media have stated that: "I am so close to going to Bahrain to see Jack Harlow perform live."

Another user posted: "I have already purchased my ticket to

Bahrain to see Jack Harlow perform and I am so excited!"

The Daily Tribune previously reported the Kingdom's commitment to boosting tourism in the Arab region, as well as utilising recent global developments to attract Arab and foreign tourists to the region.

The Kingdom has been working on ways to strengthen cooperation in Arab tourism integration, tourism marketing, training Arab nationals in the tourism sector, attracting tourism investments to the Arab region, keeping pace with the digital transformation in the tourism industry, and promoting tour-



Al Dana Amphitheatre is the ideal destination for hosting live entertainment events in Bahrain

ist sites and destinations in the Arab world.

According to the World Economic Forum's 2021 Travel and

Tourism Development Index, Bahrain ranked first amongst Arab countries and second in MENA in Ground and Port Infrastructure.

The report also highlighted other strong rankings for the Kingdom, as it was ranked 12th globally in business development.

As the Kingdom continues to progress their tourism and travel development, it has been announced that Harlow will be performing live at Al Dana Amphitheatre on 23 February 2023.

Also announced last year, Al Dana Amphitheatre will be hosting Hart for the first time ever on

February 24, 2023.

Government plans aim to hold more entertainment events to boost tourism and entertainment in the region. Developing the tourism sector is key for supporting the Kingdom's economy.

Additionally, they are aimed at diversifying its tourism offerings, positioning the country as a major global tourist destination, and expanding on existing source markets, attracts more tourists and boosts average daily visitor spending. Moreover, boosting economic growth also creates and provides more jobs for Bahrainis.