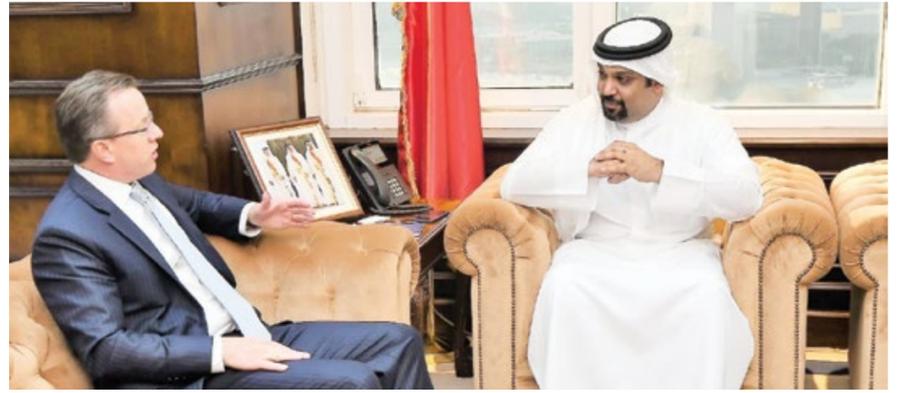




Southern Governor Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa yesterday received Philippine President's Special Envoy to the Gulf Co-operation Council countries (GCC) Dr Amabel Aguiluz, in the presence of Bahrain Basketball Association (BBA) Chairman Shaikh Isa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa. Shaikh Khalifa welcomed the Filipino envoy and hailed the advanced level of bilateral relations, stressing the importance of enhancing joint ties and expanding co-operation. Dr Aguiluz expressed thanks to the Governor and hailed his keenness on strengthening relations of friendship and expanding co-operation, wishing the Kingdom further progress and prosperity.



Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance and National Economy, has affirmed the importance of continuing to promote economic and investment co-operation with the United States of America. This came during a meeting with Justin Siberell, US Ambassador to the Kingdom. Mr Siberell praised the deep historical relations between the two countries and the importance of pushing them towards a broader horizon of joint action and co-ordination. During the meeting, they discussed ways of boosting bilateral co-operation between Bahrain and the United States in various fields to serve the interests of the two friendly countries and reviewing the latest developments in the world economy.

Spotlight on rights strides

Kingdom's initiatives to uphold human rights hailed

London

The Assistant Foreign Minister, Abdullah Al Doseri, yesterday affirmed that the Kingdom's advanced achievements in the human rights field stem from the reform approach of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and his wise directives.

This came during a meeting with the Minister of State for the Commonwealth and the UN at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the Prime Minister's Special Envoy on Freedom of Religion or Belief, Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon at his office in London, in the presence of the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the United Kingdom, Shaikh Fawaz Bin Mohammed Al Khalifa and the Ambassador of the United Kingdom to the Kingdom of Bahrain, Simon Martin.

The Assistant Foreign Minister highlighted the most significant initiatives launched by the Kingdom in the field of the promotion of human rights, including the "Declaration of the Kingdom of Bahrain" as a document emphasising the importance of peaceful coexistence and religious tolerance.

He noted that His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, has cited on several times that the Bahraini society "is based on a longstanding tradition of val-



Mr Al Doseri with Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon.

ues of coexistence and spiritual and cultural tolerance, and the Bahraini society is a model to be followed when it comes to coexisting with various types of people".

He also mentioned the Royal Decree No. 51 of 2018 that establishes the King Hamad Global Centre for Peaceful Coexistence, which aims to promote universal peace and coexistence among human beings through the embodiment of inter-cultural partnerships, and the launch of Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa Award for Women's Empowerment, in addition to the promulgation of many laws and legislation pro-

Many initiatives launched by the Kingdom emphasise the importance of peaceful coexistence and religious tolerance.

MR AL DOSERI

tecting the rights of the family and protection from domestic violence and the alternative penal law.

The Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the United Kingdom stressed the importance of enhancing cooperation

between the two friendly countries in a number of fields to meet common interests, noting that the Kingdom has promoted the concept of human rights through a series of measures and legislation aimed at achieving the necessary protection and development of human rights.

For his part, Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon hailed the distinguished historical relations between the two countries, affirming the importance of exchanging visits to further strengthen this relationship in all fields.

He also affirmed the need to further co-ordination between them to benefit and exchange experiences at various levels, and reviewed a number of issues of common interest in the regional and international arenas.

The Assistant Foreign Minister also met with the Director of Human Rights and Democracy of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Richard Jones and the Special Envoy for Gender Equality, Joanna Roper, where he showcased the Kingdom's latest achievements and advancements in the field of human rights.

The two sides also discussed bilateral cooperation frameworks and the exchange of experiences in various fields related to human rights, in addition to discussing a number of issues and topics of common interest.

Need to adapt to digital press stressed



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Traditional press institutions must continue even with the emergence of the social media and modern technologies as they are capable of creating a comprehensive media content.

MR AL HAMER

Tunis

Deputy President of Bahrain Journalists Association (BJA), Rashid Nabeel Al Hamer, has stressed that the traditional press institutions face serious crises due to the increasing presence of social media and smart phone applications.

In a statement to the Middle East News Agency on the sidelines of his participation in the 30th Congress of the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) held in Tunis, Al Hamer said the press institutions have become aware of the significance of the challenges that threaten their existence and therefore they have adopted a series of actions to adapt to the new world.

He said the traditional press

institutions must continue even with the emergence of the social media and modern technologies as they are capable of creating a comprehensive media content.

He said the continuity of the traditional press institutions and their capability to face challenges depend on two factors, firstly coping with modern technological development and secondly the support and protection they receive from information ministries and authorities overseeing information and communications affairs.

With regard to the Bahraini-Egyptian co-operation, he said it is solid in various fields, and that joint workshops and the exchange of expertise among the press institutions of the two countries have constantly been going on.

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The Bahrain Economic Development Board (EDB)'s Chief Executive Khalid Al Rumaihi yesterday welcomed the fourth intake of the Office of the First Deputy Prime Minister (OFDPM) Fellowship for a roundtable discussion. During the meeting, he highlighted the importance of the OFDPM Fellowship in strengthening the leadership and management skills of Bahrainis working in the public sector in line with Bahrain Economic Vision 2030's goal of placing citizens at the centre of the Kingdom's development efforts. He went on to outline the EDB's role and areas of focus, as well as its efforts in attracting investment in key sectors such as financial services, tourism, ICT, manufacturing, transport and logistics.



In line with ongoing efforts to attract new business to Bahrain International Airport (BIA), Bahrain Airport Company (BAC) participated at Transport Logistic Europe 2019, the world's biggest gathering for the logistics industry. BAC team members met with senior representatives from leading global airlines, airports, freight forwarders, and couriers, highlighting the important steps BIA is taking to develop its air cargo infrastructure to support the rapid growth in e-commerce in the region. More than 60,000 visitors and 2,374 exhibitors from 63 countries attended the event, which took place in Munich, Germany from 4 to 7 June.