

NBB reports record net profit attributable to the shareholders for six months ended 30 June 2025

The Board of Directors proposed an interim cash dividend amounting to BHD 22.6 million

- Net profit attributable to shareholders was BHD 19.4 million (USD 51.5 million) for the second quarter
- Earnings per share increased to 9 fils (USD 2 cents) for the second quarter of 2025
- NBB has reported a 2% increase in its net profit attributable to the shareholders for the six months ended 30 June 2025

Manama

National Bank of Bahrain B.S.C. (NBB) has reported a 2% increase in its net profit attributable to shareholders reaching BHD 19.4 million (USD 51.5 million) for the second quarter ended 30 June 2025, compared to BHD 19.1 million (USD 50.7 million) in the same period of 2024.



Mrs. Hala Yateem, Chairperson of NBB



Usman Ahmed, Group Chief Executive Officer of NBB

The increase is supported by the Group's diversified revenue streams including fee-based income which registered a 45% growth, gains from client-related activities and lower provisioning requirements. Earnings per share increased to 9 fils (USD 2 cents) for the second quarter of 2025 compared with 8 fils (2 cents) in the same period of 2024. Total comprehensive income attributable to NBB's shareholders for the quarter decreased by 28% to BHD 13.9 million (USD 36.9 million) compared to BHD 19.4 million (USD 51.5 million) in the same period 2024. The decrease is attributable to the

negative mark-to-market movements of the equity and bond portfolios. **Year-to-date** NBB has reported a 2% increase in its net profit attributable to the shareholders for the six months ended 30 June 2025, recording BHD 47.5 million (USD 126.0 million) compared to BHD 46.6 million (USD 123.6 million) for the same period of 2024. The increase was driven by higher operating income supported by stable operating expenses. Earnings per share remained at 21 fils (USD 6 cents) compared with the same period in 2024. Total comprehensive in-

come attributable to NBB's shareholders for the period decreased by 33% to BHD 34.3 million (USD 91.0 million) compared with 51.4 million (USD 136.3 million) in 2024. The decrease is attributable to the negative mark-to-market movements of the equity and bond portfolios. **Balance sheet** The Group's total equity attributable to shareholders decreased by 4% as of 30 June 2025 to BHD 560.4 million (USD 1,486.5 million) compared to BHD 583.8 million (USD 1,548.5 million) reported as of 31 December 2024. The change is mainly a reflection of the Group's proactive distribution of value to its shareholders following the approval and declaration of BHD 56.4 million in year-end cash dividends for 2024, while maintaining a robust capital position. The Group's total assets increased by 8% during the period to BHD 5,967.7 million (USD 15,829.4 million) compared to BHD 5,522.2 million (USD 14,647.7 million) recorded on 31 December 2024. **Interim dividends**

Following the Group's strong performance, the Board of Directors proposed an interim cash dividend amounting to BHD 22.6 million which represents 10% of share nominal value, equivalent to 10 fils per share. The payment is subject to regulatory approval. **Commentary** On the occasion, Mrs. Hala Yateem, Chairperson of NBB said, "NBB has maintained a strong financial performance in the first half of 2025, registering an attributable net profit of BHD 47.5 million, an increase of 2% compared to the same period last year, and a record result for the first six months of any year. This growth was underpinned by a robust balance sheet, with total assets up 8% from the year-end level. Following this sustained positive trajectory, the Board has approved an interim cash dividend of 10%, underscoring our ability to deliver consistent returns to shareholders. Our return on average equity of 16.9% further highlights the Group's financial resilience. Beyond the financial metrics, we remain focused on supporting the national developmental agenda through

continued investments in community-focused and ESG-driven initiatives. Our progress so far reflects the strength of our current market position as we move into the second half of the year." Usman Ahmed, Group Chief Executive Officer of NBB commented, "Our operating profit for the first six months of 2025 reached BHD 53.6 million, representing a 4% increase over the same period last year. A growth of 8% in total assets and 5% in customer deposits indicates the strength of our balance sheet and the continued trust of our clients. These results additionally showcase how we continue to enhance our service quality and broaden our social contributions with work that has garnered industry acclaim. During the second quarter of the year, NBB received the Euromoney Awards for Excellence for 'Best Bank in Bahrain', 'Best Bank for ESG', and 'Best Bank for Corporate Responsibility' for our standout financial performance, digital transformation initiatives and customer-centricity. We were also named the 'Best Retail Bank – Bahrain' and 'Best Payment Ecosystem Integration for Corporates' at MEED's MENA Banking Excellence Awards.



Declaration of Interim Dividends

The Board of Directors of National Bank of Bahrain B.S.C. resolved, at its meeting held on 12 August 2025, to recommend the distribution of interim dividends for the six months ending 30 June 2025 to the shareholders whose names are registered on the Bank's register on the Record Date. This is subject to the approval of the regulatory authorities. The proposed distribution is as follow:

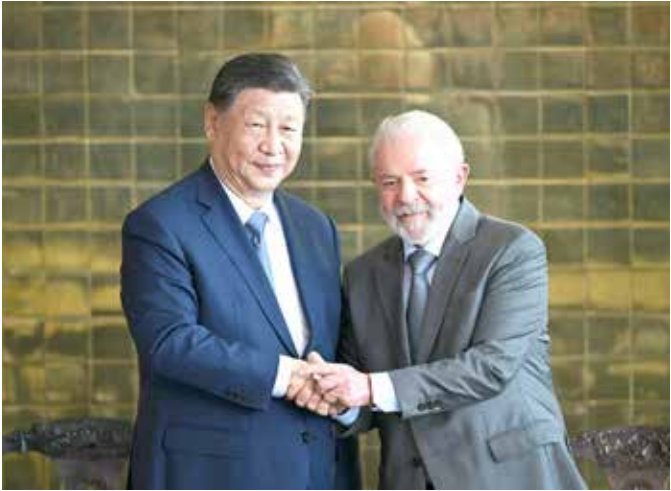
- **Cash Dividend:** 10% of share nominal value, equivalent to 10 fils per share amounting to BD 22.6 million.

Below are the key dates to be taken note of:

Event	Date
Cum-Dividend Date (Last day of trading with entitlement to dividends)	18/8/2025
Ex-Dividend Date (First day of trading without entitlement to dividends)	19/8/2025
Record Date (The day on which all shareholders whose names are on the share register will be entitled to dividends)	20/8/2025
Payment Date (The day on which the dividends will be paid to the entitled shareholders)	31/8/2025

Mrs. Hala Ali Husain Yateem
Chairperson
12/8/2025

Xi says China, Brazil can model 'self-reliance' for Global South



(FILES) China's President Xi Jinping shakes hands with Brazil's President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva after a meeting at Alvorada Palace in Brasilia

Beijing, China

China's President Xi Jinping told his Brazilian counterpart Tuesday the two countries could set an example of "self-reliance" for emerging powers, as trade and geopolitical challenges mount. The two leaders have both sought in recent months to present their countries as staunch defenders of the multilateral trading system -- in stark contrast with US President Donald Trump's tariff onslaught. Xi's call with Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on Tuesday came just hours after Trump announced another 90-day pause to blistering tariffs on China. It also followed indications from Lula last week he planned to speak with the leaders of India and China to consider a coordinated response to US trade measures. Xi told Lula that ties between China and Brazil are

now at an all-time high, according to state news agency Xinhua. He said China would "work with Brazil to set an example of unity and self-reliance among major countries in the Global South" and "jointly build a more just world and more sustainable planet", according to Xinhua. Xi added that "all countries should unite and firmly oppose unilateralism and protectionism", Xinhua reported -- a thinly veiled reference to US tariffs. A statement by the Brazilian presidency said the phone call lasted about an hour, during which time Lula and Xi discussed a range of topics including the war in Ukraine and combatting climate change. "Both agreed on the role of the G20 and BRICS in defending multilateralism", the statement said, referring to the Group of Twenty major economies and a bloc of emerging powers.

Council of Europe cautions on weapon sales to Israel

AFP | Strasbourg, France

The Council of Europe urged its member states on Tuesday to halt deliveries of weapons to Israel if they could be used for human rights violations. Michael O'Flaherty, the Council's commissioner for human rights, said member states should do "their utmost to prevent and address violations of international human rights" in the conflict. "This includes applying existing legal standards to ensure that arms transfers are not authorised where there is a risk that they may be used to commit human rights violations," he said, in a statement. It was also "essential to intensify efforts to provide relief to those affected by the conflict, by supporting efforts to ensure unhindered access for humanitarian assistance and by pressing for the immediate release of hostages", O'Flaherty said. The call by the Council -- a human rights organisation representing 46 states -- comes shortly after Germany said it would halt delivery to Israel of some weapons that could be used in Gaza as part of Israeli plans to take control of Gaza City. O'Flaherty said the Council had taken note of this and other government initiatives, and also of contributions by some national human rights structures in raising awareness.