

Regional cooperation key to achieve growth

Dr Al Zayani and GCC Secretary General hold meeting with C5 member states to discuss establishment of strategic dialogue

Nur-Sultan | Kazakhstan

It is important to promote cooperation between the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and Central Asian Group (C5) in all fields.

This was emphasised by Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Abdullah bin Rashid Al Zayani as he stressed the depth of both sides' historical and cultural relations.

Dr Al Zayani, also Chairman of the current session of the GCC Ministerial Council, and GCC Secretary General Dr Nayef Falah Mubarak Al Hajraf held a meeting in Kazakhstan with the foreign ministers of the member states of C5 to discuss the establishment of a strategic dialogue between GCC countries and the countries of Central Asia.

The minister explained that the GCC Ministerial Council took a decision to hold a strategic dialogue between GCC and C5



Minister Al Zayani with the C5 foreign ministers

to discuss regional and international issues and cooperation in all fields, stressing the need to intensify joint efforts between GCC countries and Central Asian republics, to develop mechanisms of economic cooperation to increase trade exchange and

encourage investment in various fields.

He expressed GCC's aspiration to approve the draft joint action plan between the two sides (2022-2026), which includes political, economic, educational, health, cultural, and sports fields

of cooperation.

Dr Al Hajraf delivered a speech in which he stressed that the Central Asian countries are among the countries in which GCC leaders were interested in opening up ways of dialogue and cooperation, as the signing of the

memorandum of understanding is the first step in the strategic dialogue towards moving relations to broader areas in all fields.

He also stressed the importance of GCC role in achieving stability, security and peace in the Middle East.



“There is a need to intensify joint efforts between GCC countries and Central Asian republics, to develop mechanisms of economic cooperation to increase trade exchange and encourage investment in various fields.”

- DR ABDULLATIF BIN RASHID AL ZAYANI, FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER

Dr Al Hajraf pointed out that the economic field in the joint action plan helps provide an attractive climate for trade and investment and enhances private sector relations between the two regions.

He noted that the presence of many historical cultural ties between the two regions will encourage strategic dialogue with Central Asian countries, cultural communication and dialogue between people.

The C5 foreign ministers expressed their appreciation for the decision of the GCC Ministerial Council to hold a strategic dialogue, stressing the interest of their countries in promoting and consolidating friendship and cooperation relations between the two sides in various fields and at all political, economic and cultural levels to meet the aspirations of both sides and achieve common interests.

HM King message boost for private sector

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Bahrain Businesswomen's Society (BBS) has said that His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's speech at the opening of the Shura and Representatives Councils' fifth legislative term fourth session was comprehensive and faithful, and expressed the aspirations of the various economic sectors in Bahrain.

It carried strong implications, especially with regard to the role

of the Bahraini private sector in achieving comprehensive development, the Society added.

BBS President Ahlam Janahi said that HM the King's speech drew the features of the future of the national economy, and emphasised the role of the private sector in bringing about comprehensive development.

Janahi stressed the importance of the role of businesswomen in the economic community, noting that Bahraini women play a very influential

role in achieving growth and represent a large proportion of small and medium enterprises, which are the largest job provider in the Bahraini private sector.

She expressed the aspirations and hopes of the Bahraini private sector and its great confidence in its rational political leadership, noting that the speech, with its promising future visions for a comprehensive development stage at all levels and various fields, addressed all national issues.

Bahrain-US trade relations reviewed



The meeting in progress

● **Industry, Commerce and Tourism Ministry officials meet US delegation**

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The Industry, Commerce and Tourism Ministry officials held a meeting with the US delegation from the Senate and House of Representatives

chaired by the Assistant Undersecretary for Domestic and Foreign Trade at Industry Ministry Shaikh Hamad bin Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa.

The meeting reviewed the longstanding relations between Bahrain and the US and the efforts made by the leaderships to achieve the goals of common interest.

They discussed issues of common interest and reviewed the economic environment in Bahrain and the government's

initiatives, which contributed to enhancing the investment sector, making Bahrain a hub for various international projects in the region.

The meeting praised relations between Bahrain and the US, especially those related to trade and economic affairs.

They signed a free trade agreement, which had a great impact in raising the rates of trade exchange in large proportions between the two countries.

Dr Al Zayani attends MoU-signing ceremony between GCC, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan



The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Secretariat signed in Nur Sultan two memoranda of understanding on political consultations and cooperation with the foreign ministries of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. Minister of Foreign Affairs and Chairman of the current session of the GCC Ministerial Council Dr Abdullah bin Rashid Al Zayani attended the ceremony. The memorandum of understanding was signed on behalf of Kazakhstan by Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs Akan Rakhmetullin and on behalf of Uzbekistan by Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdulaziz Kamilov. The two memoranda were signed on behalf of the GCC by GCC Secretary General Dr Nayef Falah Al Hajraf.

Bahrain, US cooperation stressed



Shura First Deputy Chairman Jamal Mohammed Fakhro received US Charge d'Affairs Margaret Nardi and Economic and Commercial Officer at the US embassy Emma Tewksbury. Fakhro lauded the steady development of the Bahraini-US relations in many fields thanks to the support and interest of the leaderships of the two countries. He stressed the Kingdom's keenness to promote ties and deepen cooperation and coordination, especially in the legislative field. The meeting covered financial and economic issues, women and the challenges facing the environment.

Khalaf receives His Grace Bishop Mar Coorilose of Indian Orthodox Church

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Minister of Works, Municipalities and Urban Planning Essam Khalaf received in his office His Grace Geevarghese Mar Coorilose, the Metropolitan of Mumbai Diocese of the Indian Orthodox Church.



Minister Khalaf receives a memento from Bishop Mar Coorilose

The bishop, who was in Bahrain to take part in the consecration of the renovated building of St Mary's Syrian Orthodox Cathedral, thanked the Minister for all the help extended by him for the new building.

He presented a memento to the minister.

Khalaf welcomed it and said all help would be extended in future.

The meeting was attended by Municipal Affairs Undersecretary Shaikh Mohammed bin Ahmed bin Sultan Al Khalifa and Capital Municipality Director General Mohamed Saad Al Sehali.