

US Embassy announces Fulbright program competition

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The US Embassy is pleased to announce the competition for the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Program for 2022.

The Fulbright FLTA is a nine-month, non-degree seeking program sponsored by the US Department of State.

The FLTA program provides participants with an opportunity to increase their English language proficiency and extend their knowledge of the

society and culture of the US.

They will also have a chance to refine their teaching skills while teaching their native language (Arabic) to US students and strengthen foreign language instruction at US colleges and universities.

LTA participants also interact with their host communities through extracurricular activities and community outreach projects.

The deadline for accepting applications is August 1, 2021.

46 restaurants, cafes violate COVID-19 health protocols

● They were referred to the relevant authorities for legal action

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Forty-six violations were reported as the Health Ministry's Public Health Department continued its inspection visits to ensure full application of precautionary measures to address the coronavirus (COVID-19).

The restaurants and cafes were referred to the relevant



An inspector visit to a vegetable and fruit shop

authorities for legal action.

The department on Saturday inspected an additional 211 establishments in its campaign to ensure public health and safety.

Establishments that failed to meet the required standards were warned to address the issues and rise up to the needed responsibility levels and implement anti-COVID measures.

Digital government success

Bahrain hailed for strengthening cooperation and exchange of experiences with Arab countries

● iGA holds virtual Regional eGovernment Experts workshop

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Bahrain's efforts to strengthen cooperation and exchange of experiences with Arab countries in the field of e-government was praised by speakers and participants during a regional workshop.

A virtual Regional eGovernment Experts workshop was held to provide vital inputs to improve eGovernment Development Indicators for the upcoming United Nations eGovernment Survey Report 2022, a globally recognised index and benchmark on the development of eGovernment.

The workshop, organised under the patronage of iGA Chief Executive Mohammed Al Qaed, brought senior UNDESA officials, leaders of digital government in the Arab and Gulf region, ICT experts, decision makers, academicians, researchers, government officials and practitioners across the globe.

iGA held an engaging and productive discussion with the participants.

The event granted the participants deep insights into the



The online discussion in progress



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achievements of GCC countries in the digital government field as well as the ways to address

across the region and how ICT advancements have accelerated the diversification of the economy in many countries in the region.

Al Qaed stressed how technological advancement had supported the government's effort to address the challenges related to COVID-19 pandemic, and he highlighted the importance of reflecting the regional challenges and technological advancement aspirations in the UN Report.

In his keynote speech, Vincenzo Aquaro, Chief, Digital Government Branch, Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) provided a glimpse of Global eGovernment scenario and the methodology associated with various components of eGovernment development components such as Online Service Index (OSI), Telecommunication Infrastructure Index (TII) and Human Capital Index (HCI).

He also highlighted the proposed improvements in Online Service Index and other pilot initiatives including use of AI for more effective groupings of member states.

The digital leaders of eGovernment in the GCC and Morocco presented their digital achievements and their plans with the participation of Egypt and Jordan.

the issues and challenges pertaining to UN eGovernment indicators.

In his opening remarks, Al Qaed talked about the significance of the UN eGovernment Development Report and how it paves the way for the future direction of the Digital Government.

He added that the UN eGovernment Report provides visionary directions to set the international ICT Trends.

He stressed the importance of cooperation between the GCC and Arab region and UNDESA.

The region takes the report seriously by embedding it in their national strategies and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

He discussed the major technological advancements such as 5 G, Cloud Computing, Artificial Intelligence that has been implemented in many countries

Solid Bahrain and Pakistan ties praised

● Shura Chairman receives Pakistani Ambassador

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Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh has lauded the depth of the distinguished friendly Bahraini-Pakistani relations, praising their steady progress mainly in the trade, security and economic fields.

He also hailed the ongoing cooperation between the Shura Council in Bahrain and the leg-



Chairman Al Saleh with Ambassador Ayub

islative branch in Pakistan.

While receiving yesterday, the newly-appointed Pakistani Ambassador to Bahrain, Muhammad Ayub, the Shura head stressed the need to take advantage of the two countries' shared values in order to bolster bilat-

eral cooperation at all levels.

Al Saleh highlighted the Shura Council's keenness to develop parliamentary relations with the Pakistani legislative branch, through exchanging expertise and coordinating at international gatherings in order to support

efforts to achieve global peace, security and coexistence.

He also praised the contributions of the members of the Pakistani expatriate community in Bahrain and their good relations with the Bahraini society.

Ambassador Ayub praised the advanced level reached by relations between the two friendly countries across all fields, hailing the support of the Bahraini leadership to his country.

He affirmed his country's keenness to enhance its coordination with Bahrain in order to achieve regional security and stability, wishing Bahrain further progress and prosperity.

Tender Board opens envelopes for 19 bids



The procedure in progress

● It included the opening of a tender for Bapco regarding the provision of reagents

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The Tender Board, the independent regulatory body tasked with supervising government bidding and bidding practices, has opened envelopes for 19 bids for five bids offered by three administrators.

The opening committee's agenda included the opening of a tender for the Bahrain Petroleum Company (Bapco) regarding the provision of reagents and spare parts for the organic chemistry analyser device for the Awali Hospital

laboratory with a three-year contract, and one bid was received for this tender.

The committee opened three tenders for the Petroleum Development Company, the first one regarding the provision and renewal of the current software hardware, NetPack Veritas, and two bids were received for this tender.

The second tender was for the supply of industrial gases, and one bid was received for this tender, and four bids were received. The third tender was for maintenance, repair, overhaul and testing of electric motors.

The committee also opened 11 bids for the Housing Bank tender for the appointment of a contractor to construct two service store buildings in Al Luzi and Al Haninieh.

Enhancing partnership to develop AI

● Nasser Vocational Training Center, UAE company sign agreement

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Nasser Vocational Training Center (NVTC) and UAE National Program for Artificial Intelligence (AI) signed an agreement to enhance partnership and cooperate to develop AI skills and the digital economy, and improve virtual education and training systems by exchanging experiences.

The agreement was signed virtually by UAE Minister of State for Artificial Intelligence, Digital Economy and Remote



The stakeholders during the agreement-signing ceremony

Work Applications Omar Sultan Al Olama, and NVTC General Director Dr Abdullah Nasser Al Nuaimi.

A delegation from NVTC head-

ed by Secretary General of the Royal Humanitarian Foundation (RHF) and NVTC Board of Trustees Vice Chairman Dr. Mustafa Al Sayed, visited UAE Artificial

Intelligence Office, where they were briefed on the National Program for AI initiatives and the projects implemented to achieve UAE Strategy goals for AI.