Bahrain Chamber Launches "Tojjar Talk"

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The Bahrain Chamber, through its SME Support Department, has launched "Tojjar Talk", a dedicated communication and feedback platform designed to provide business owners with a unified channel to submit opinions, feedback, suggestions, and inquiries, while enabling them to track the progress of their requests through to completion. The initiative aims to strengthen direct engagement with Chamber members, enhance responsiveness to their needs, and support the continued development of Bahrain's business environment.

Chairman of the Bahrain Chamber, Nabeel Kanoo, stated that the launch of the platform reflects one of the key priorities of the Chamber's 31st Board of Directors and highlight its commitment to maintaining close communication with members and transforming their feedback into practical initiatives that support the private sector.

Nabeel Kanoo, Chairman of the Bahrain Chamber

He explained that Tojjar Talk is more than a communication platform; it is a strategic tool that enables the Chamber to identify the challenges and priorities of the business community, coordinate with relevant ministries and government entities, and develop practical solutions that contribute to improving the business environment while strengthening public-private sector collaboration.

Kanoo added that the feedback received through Tojjar Talk will play a key role in shaping the Chamber's priorities, enhancing its services and initiatives, and conveying the views of the private sector to the relevant authorities.

He also noted that the Chamber has coordinated with several ministries and government entities to appoint liaison officers who will facilitate the review of feedback submitted on behalf of business owners. Matters requiring broader discussion will refer to the agendas of the Chamber's joint committees with government entities to support the development of effective solutions.

Kanoo encouraged all Chamber members to make full use of the platform by sharing their feedback, suggestions, and inquiries, reaffirming the Chamber's commitment to strengthening communication with the business community and ensuring that members' voices remain at the heart of its efforts to improve Bahrain's business environment.

Mazad Integrates Bahrain's National Digital Identity Solution, eKey 2.0, into Its Digital Platform

The eKey 2.0 service is delivered through Beyon Connect, part of the Beyon Group, in partnership with the Information & eGovernment Authority (iGA)

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Mazad, Bahrain's leading digital auction and marketplace platform and a Mumtalakat portfolio company, specializing in live and online auctions in the Kingdom of Bahrain, has announced the integration of eKey 2.0 into its platform, becoming the first online auction platform in the Kingdom to adopt Bahrain's national digital identity authentication solution. The milestone reflects Mazad's ongoing commitment to enhancing user experience, advancing digital innovation, and delivering a secure and trusted marketplace for its customers.

The eKey 2.0 service is delivered through Beyon Connect, part of the Beyon Group, and in partnership with the Information & eGovernment Authority (iGA). The integration with the eKey 2.0 system provides Mazad users with a simpler and more secure way to access the platform, helping create a smoother and more trusted digital experience.

The integration of eKey 2.0 lets Mazad users register and log in to the app using their national digital identity credentials, with biometric and facial recognition replacing separate usernames and passwords. New and existing users can create an account and complete identity verification in a single secure step, making onboarding faster and more convenient by simplifying the registration process, accelerating identity verification, while strengthening trust across the platform.

Commenting on the announcement, Nezar Habib, Chief Executive Officer of Mazad, said: "At Mazad, we are continuously looking for ways to improve the experience we provide to users while maintaining the highest standards of trust and security. Integrating our platform with eKey 2.0 marks an important milestone in that journey by providing users with a fast, seamless, and highly secure login experience through the Kingdom's national digital identity infrastructure, making it easier, faster, and more secure for customers to access our platform and verify their identity. This achievement reflects our ongoing commitment to innovation and our vision of delivering a fully integrated digital experience to meet the evolving expectations of our users."

Dr. Khaled Al Motawa, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations and Governance at the Information & eGovernment Authority (iGA), said: "Mazad's integration with the eKey 2.0 ecosystem marks a continuation of the Authority's efforts to expand the adoption of Bahrain's national digital identity authentication system and enhance the integration of digital services across various sectors. In collaboration with its partners, the Authority remains committed to supporting the adoption of innovative digital solutions that deliver secure and trusted digital services while enhancing the user experience, thereby advancing the Kingdom's digital transformation journey."

Shaikh Mohamed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Chief Executive Officer of Beyon Digital Growth, said: "We are delighted to welcome Mazad as the first online auction platform to join the eKey 2.0 ecosystem. This partnership extends the reach of Bahrain's national digital identity solution into the e-commerce and marketplace sector, demonstrating the confidence businesses place in eKey as a foundation for secure and frictionless customer engagement. Together, we are advancing a trusted digital future that benefits consumers and businesses alike, in line with the Kingdom's Economic Vision 2030."

eKey 2.0 is Bahrain's national authentication system, providing a unified and secure method for identity verification and access to government and private-sector services through biometric authentication, without the need for passwords. This enhances security and trust while delivering a seamless and integrated digital experience for users. Through this integration, Mazad continues to invest in innovative digital solutions that simplify the user experience, strengthen trust, and deliver greater value to buyers, sellers, and partners across various sectors in the Kingdom.

Bahrain Bourse Appoints Marwa AlMaskati as Chief Strategy Officer

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Bahrain Bourse (BHB), a licensed exchange by the Central Bank of Bahrain, has announced the appointment of Marwa AlMaskati as Chief Strategy Officer (CSO), heading the Business Development organizational area. The appointment follows the approval of a strategic enhancement to BHB's organizational structure, reinforcing Bahrain Bourse's commitment to operational excellence, innovation, and the effective execution of its strategic priorities as it embarks on its next chapter of growth and market development.

In her new role, AlMaskati will lead the execution of Bahrain Bourse's strategic agenda, driving corporate innovation, sustainable growth, market development, and stakeholder engagement in support of Bahrain Bourse's long-term vision and the successful implementation of the Capital Market Development Plan 2026–2028 "Elevate".

AlMaskati has been a key member of Bahrain Bourse's leadership team, most recently serving as Senior Director of Partnership Development, Sustainability & Communications, where she has been heading marketing and communications, investor relations, corporate access programmes, partnership development, and the implementation of Bahrain Bourse's sustainability strategy.

AlMaskati is an MBA holder from the University of Strathclyde, UK. She is a Certified Investor Relations Officer (CIRO) accredited by the UK Investor Relations Society. Her executive leadership education includes the Regulators Securities Market Program by Harvard Law School and International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO), HSBC's Diversity on Board Programme, the Oxford Executive Leadership Programme at Saïd Business School, University of Oxford, and Executive Management Leadership Program at Harvard Business School.

Marwa AlMaskati as Chief Strategy Officer (CSO)

Beyond her responsibilities at Bahrain Bourse, AlMaskati will continue to serve as Head of the Bahrain Chapter of MEIRA and a Board Member of MEIRA, while maintaining an active role within the Arab Federation of Capital Markets (AFCM).

Bringing in excess of 20 years of experience in the financial services industry, 12 of which have been within the capital markets, AlMaskati has developed extensive expertise across strategy development, private equity, business development, and financial markets.

Commenting on her appointment, Shaikh Khalifa bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa, Chief Executive Officer of Bahrain Bourse, commented, "We are pleased to appoint Marwa AlMaskati as Chief Strategy Officer, a role that reflects both her exceptional contributions to Bahrain Bourse over the past decade and our strong confidence in her ability to lead the next phase of the Exchange's growth and transformation. Her industry expertise, strategic vision, and proven leadership will be invaluable as we execute our Capital Market Development Plan 2026–2028 'Elevate', and further enhance BHB's role as a catalyst for capital market growth and innovation in the Kingdom of Bahrain."

Commenting on her appointment, Marwa AlMaskati said: "I have strong conviction in the new strategic direction, and I look forward to actively driving it and being part of the transformation Bahrain Bourse is undergoing to further strengthen Bahrain's capital markets and support BHB's strategic objectives as we continue to create value for our stakeholders and market participants."

This appointment reflects Bahrain Bourse's ongoing commitment to developing national talent and strengthening its leadership capabilities to support the continued growth and evolution of Bahrain's capital markets.

Bahrain Family Leisure Company Appoints New Chairman Following Truffle Reverse Merger

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Bahrain Family Leisure Company B.S.C. (BFLC) (Bahrain Bourse: FAMILY) a public shareholding company listed on Bahrain Bourse, announced the appointment of its new Chairman and Board of Directors.

The new Board will be chaired by Mohamed Nedham Khonji. The Board also comprises Vice Chairman Mahmood Mohammed Ali and Non-Executive Directors, Khaled Mohamed AlHammadi, Wissam Hussein, and Faisal Hassan AlJalahma, together with Independent Directors Farooq Mohamed AlKhaja, and Ayman Moussa Abdelghany Gadallah. The Board is appointed for a three-year term in accordance with the Bahrain Commercial Companies Law and the Company's Articles of Association.

The appointments follow the completion of the share-swap reverse merger between BFLC and Truffle Hospitality Holding W.L.L., the hospitality and entertainment subsidiary of Dividend Gate Capital W.L.L. (DGC), pursuant to which DGC became the majority shareholder of the Company.

The Board extended its appreciation to the outgoing Directors, recognising their dedicated service and valued contributions throughout their tenure.

Mohamed Nedham Khonji, Chairman, Bahrain Family Leisure Company B.S.C.

The new Board will oversee the next phase of the Company's growth, building on its position as one of Bahrain's largest listed hospitality and entertainment groups and supporting the continued expansion of its portfolio across Bahrain and the wider GCC.

Commenting on the appointment, Mohamed Nedham Khonji, Chairman of BFLC and Founder and Managing Director of DGC, said: "The appointment of the new Board marks an important milestone for BFLC as we begin the next phase of our journey following the merger with Truffle. We are focused on strengthening the Company's governance framework and creating sustainable long-term value for our shareholders. We look forward to working closely with management to build on the strong foundation that has already been established."

The Company's portfolio comprises more than 20 brands, spanning fast-casual and upper-casual dining, café concepts and a central kitchen. These operations are supported by SoleCorp, the Group's centralised operating platform, which manages finance, human resources, procurement and logistics to drive operational efficiency and scalable growth.

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BFLC is one of Bahrain's largest listed hospitality and entertainment groups, operating more than 20 brands across dining, cafes, and food services.