

# Batelco launches 'Postpaid World' for local and International data and calls within same plan

Seamless connectivity in Bahrain and over 140 international destinations

● Developed with frequent travelers in mind

Manama

Batelco by Beyon has introduced 'Postpaid World', a new offering that enables customers to use their data and minutes both locally and internationally as part of a single plan, with no additional setup required and no hidden roaming fees, starting from only BD15 per month.

Developed with frequent travelers in mind, including GCC commuters and business professionals, Postpaid World brings local and international



Aseel Mattar, Chief Consumer Officer at Batelco

connectivity together in one seamless plan. By incorporating roaming within the existing core plan at fixed monthly charges, Batelco offers a solution focused on convenience, cost efficiency, and reliability.

Designed to simplify the connectivity experience for cus-

Details of the Postpaid World plans:	
Postpaid World BD15	Local & Roaming Data Allowance -15GB Local Social Media - Unlimited Minutes to Batelco - Unlimited Minutes to other local operators & Roaming Minutes - 150
Postpaid World BD30	Local & Roaming Data Allowance - 40GB Local Social Media - Unlimited Minutes to Batelco - Unlimited Minutes to other local operators & Roaming Minutes - 400

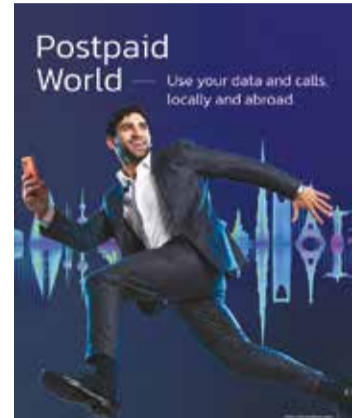
tomers who are regularly on the move, PostPaid World allows users to continue using their existing mobile plan while travelling, as roaming is automatically available when travelling, without the need to switch SIM cards or manage multiple plans. With coverage across more than 140 international destinations, customers can enjoy uninterrupted connectivity, making travel

more efficient and hassle free. Commenting on the launch, Aseel Mattar, Chief Consumer Officer at Batelco by Beyon, said: "We designed 'Postpaid World' to address a common challenge for our customers, particularly those who travel frequently. We understand the inconvenience of having to think about data roaming, whether it involves activating

services or managing additional eSIMs while moving between countries."

"With this plan, customers can seamlessly use their data and minutes at home and abroad as part of the same plan. It's one less thing to think about, making connectivity while travelling a smoother and hassle-free experience," she added.

Batelco by Beyon continues



to enhance its offerings through innovative solutions that combine value, quality, and simplicity. 'Postpaid World' reflects this commitment by delivering a connectivity plan that travels with customers wherever they go.

## US extends sanctions waiver on Russian at-sea oil by 30 days

AFP | Washington, United States

The US Treasury secretary on Monday said Washington was extending by 30 days its sanctions waiver for Russian oil cargoes already at sea, as global energy prices continue to surge due to the Iran war.

The latest "temporary 30-day general license" will "provide the most vulnerable nations with the ability to temporarily

access Russian oil currently stranded at sea," Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said in a social media post.

Monday's announcement is the second time US authorities have extended the temporary measure, which is meant to address oil supply shortages sparked by the US-Israel war on Iran.

Iran's retaliatory action has targeted US regional allies and virtually blocked the Strait of

Hormuz, through which roughly a fifth of the world's oil and gas supplies normally pass.

The previous waiver for Russian at-sea oil expired on May 16.

Global oil prices have spiked since the start of the war, with US consumers feeling the pinch of gasoline costs that are more than 50 percent higher than when the war began.

The United States first issued a sanctions waiver on Russian

oil cargoes that were at sea in March.

The moves have been criticized by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, whose country has been locked in war with Russia since its 2022 invasion.

Bessent said the extension would "provide additional flexibility" and "will help stabilize the physical crude market and ensure oil reaches the most energy-vulnerable countries."

## Trump to host swearing-in of new US Fed chair on Friday

Washington, United States

New US Federal Reserve chairman Kevin Warsh will be sworn in on Friday at the White House in a ceremony hosted by President Donald

Trump, a White House official said. "The President will host a swearing-in ceremony for Kevin Warsh at the White House on Friday," the White House official said in a statement to AFP.

## Germany to deploy Patriot air defence to Turkey

Berlin, Germany

Germany will deploy a Patriot missile air defence battery to Turkey as part of a NATO rotation, Berlin's defence ministry said Monday.

About 150 soldiers currently based in the northern city of Husum would move with a Patriot anti-missile system to Turkey from the end of June to September, the ministry said.

## Hormuz tanker traffic edges higher after wartime low

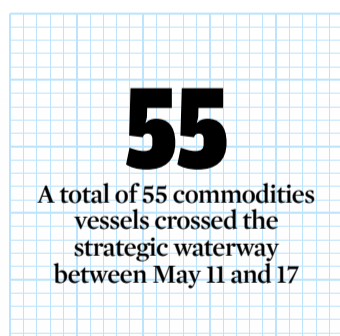
AFP | London, United Kingdom

Traffic through the Strait of Hormuz was slightly higher last week, returning to levels in line with the average recorded since the start of the Middle East conflict after hitting a wartime low.

A total of 55 commodities vessels crossed the strategic waterway between May 11 and 17, according to data from maritime tracking firm Kpler as of Monday morning.

That marked a sharp increase from the previous week, when just 19 vessels crossed -- the lowest weekly figure since the first US-Israeli strikes on Iran on February 28, which led to widespread disruption of traffic through the strait.

Iranian state



television said Friday the Revolutionary Guards were allowing more ships to transit the strait, after reporting a day earlier that "more than 30 ships" had been permitted to pass.

Despite the increase, last week's crossings remain broadly in line with wartime averages.

Since March 1, Kpler has recorded 663 commodity vessels

transiting the strait, 55 per week on average.

Around half the tankers crossing last week carried liquids.

These included three very large crude carriers, reportedly bound for China, Oman and Japan.

Kpler data also showed 15 dry bulk commodity vessels and 16 liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) tankers crossed the strait last week.

Only one liquefied natural gas tanker carrying Qatari gas to Pakistan crossed, on May 12.

That brought the total number of LNG tanker crossings since the start of the war to eight.

In peacetime, the Strait of Hormuz handles roughly a fifth of global oil and LNG shipments, as well as other major commodities, including

fertiliser.

Iran has repeatedly warned that maritime traffic through the shipping lane would "not return to its pre-war status".

On Monday, Tehran announced the creation of a new body to oversee the strait and charge vessels for transiting the waterway, which Iran has reportedly been doing since early on in the war.

### Chinese vessels crossing

Iranian officials said on Thursday that Chinese vessels had been allowed to transit, after a slowdown the previous week.

According to Kpler, only three commodities vessels linked to China through their flag, ownership or cargo crossed the strait last week.

Two additional Hong

Kong-flagged vessels also transited and were heading to Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

The data may not provide a complete picture, however, as vessels do not always disclose final destinations while crossing.

Traffic through the strait since the start of the war has depended on nationality, with Iran saying on May 10 that countries complying with US sanctions against the Islamic republic would face difficulties crossing.

Since the start of the conflict, China and India have been among the most frequently reported non-Gulf destinations or departure points for commodity carriers transiting the strait.

Other non-Gulf destinations listed in Kpler's shipping data

include Brazil, Pakistan, Thailand and Malaysia, while relatively few vessels reported Western countries as destinations.

Iran's control of the Strait of Hormuz remains one of the central issues in stalled negotiations with the United States, which have yet to produce a breakthrough.

Vessels are seen anchored in the Strait of Hormuz, off the port city of Khasab on Oman's northern Musandam Peninsula

