

# LMRA Board holds regular meeting

Manama

The Board of Directors of the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) held its regular meeting, chaired by Yusuf bin Abdulhussain Khalaf, Minister of Labour and Minister of Legal Affairs, in the presence of the Board members and Nibras Mohamed Ali Taleb, CEO of the LMRA.

During the meeting, the Board reviewed the Authority's efforts in implementing its strategic plans aimed at further enhancing the work environment and improving regulatory and supervisory efficiency, in line with the Government Programme (2023-2026) and the National Labour Market Plan (2023-2026).

The Board was also briefed on the latest developments of the enhanced Wage Protection System, which facilitates the electronic payment of wages for national and expatriate work-



ers through approved financial and banking institutions. The system supports employers,

particularly small and medium-sized enterprises (SME), in organising, managing, and doc-

umenting their financial and administrative operations with greater efficiency.

## Al Baraka Islamic Bank Launches Revamped Credit Cards Made from Recycled Materials



Mr. Mazin Dhaif, Chief Retail Officer at Al Baraka Islamic Bank Manama

Al Baraka Islamic Bank Bahrain, a leading Islamic bank in the Kingdom of Bahrain, announced the launch of its revamped credit cards: Mastercard Titanium, Platinum, and World. The launch follows the successful rollout of the bank's enhanced debit cards.

Featuring a modern design, the new credit cards are constructed from recycled materials, reflecting the bank's commitment to environmental preservation and sustainability. In addition, a special notch is included on the edge to aid identification and use by visually impaired individuals, underscoring Al Baraka's dedication to a comprehensive banking experience for all customers.

This launch further solidifies the bank's commitment to innovative, sustainable banking solutions that cater to customer needs and reinforce its leadership in Islamic finance.

As part of the Al Baraka Credit Cards portfolio, cardholders will enjoy a broad range of benefits, including complimentary access to over 1,200 airport lounges worldwide, 24-hour concierge services, comprehensive travel insurance, and emergency medical coverage of up to \$500,000. The cards include the Al Baraka Rewards Program, enabling points collec-



tion and redemption for valuable rewards, plus exclusive offers and discounts on hotels, flights, and shopping.

Commenting on the launch, Mr. Mazin Dhaif, Chief Retail Officer at Al Baraka Islamic Bank, stated, "We are proud to introduce our new credit cards with a modern, sustainable design. This follows the success of our revamped debit card and demonstrates our commitment to delivering banking products that meet our customers' needs and improve their daily experience both inside and outside Bahrain."

He continued, "Using recycled materials in card manufacturing reflects our environmental responsibility and our pursuit of a more sustainable banking future. The prominent notch reinforces our goal of designing integrated, user-friendly products for everyone, including those with visual impairments."

Mr. Dhaif added, "We are determined to continue launching innovative banking initiatives focused on sustainability and customer experience, reinforcing our role as a leading financial institution in Bahrain and the region."

## Israel says approved \$35 bn gas deal with Egypt

The agreement is with the American company Chevron

Deal raises volume of gas supplied to Egypt to 130 billion cubic metres

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he approved on Wednesday a major gas export deal with Egypt worth nearly \$35 billion.

"Today, I approved the largest gas deal in Israel's history. The deal is worth 112 billion shek-

els (\$34.7 billion). Of this total, 58 billion shekels (\$18 billion) will go to the state coffers," Netanyahu said during a televised address.

"The agreement is with the American company Chevron, with Israeli partners who will supply gas to Egypt," Netanyahu added.

Energy Minister Eli Cohen, who was present during the address, said it was the "largest export deal in the state's history".

Netanyahu said the money would "strengthen education, healthcare, infrastructure, se-

curity, and the future of the next generations", as well as bolster "Israel's status as a regional energy power".

Israeli firm NewMed Energy announced in August the signing of a \$35 billion deal to provide Egypt with natural gas.

The deal would increase the total volume of gas supplied to Egypt to 130 billion cubic metres, according to a report published by the firm.

In a statement issued late on Wednesday, NewMed CEO Yossi Abu said it was "a historic day for the natural gas sector, one

that guarantees continued investment in Israel and creates regulatory stability for years to come".

But Israeli NGO Movement for Quality Government, which advocates for greater state transparency, said it was "deeply concerned about how the largest gas deal in the country's history was approved".

It called on the government to make the details of the agreement public, and to explain its implications for long-term reserves and consumer prices.

## Hilton Bahrain Hosts the Ladies of Bahrain Parent Care Society

A National Day Celebration Rooted in Community



Manama

Marking Bahrain National Day in a deeply meaningful way, Hilton Bahrain chose to celebrate the Kingdom by honoring those who embody its living heritage—the inspiring elderly ladies of the Bahrain Parent Care Society.

In a celebration rooted in community rather than convention, the hotel opened its doors to a heartfelt cultural experience that brought generations together. The ladies delighted guests with traditional dance performances in the hotel lobby, filling the space with joy, pride, and a powerful sense of national



identity, followed by a symbolic cake-cutting ceremony.

The celebration continued at Origin Kitchen & Culture, where the ladies were treated to a specially prepared lunch buffet. Music, laughter, and dancing carried on throughout the afternoon, creating an atmosphere of warmth, connection,

and genuine celebration.

Tamer Farouk, General Manager of Hilton Bahrain, commented:

"Bahrain National Day is a celebration of people, memories, and shared values. Welcoming the ladies of the Bahrain Parent Care Society was incredibly moving for us. Their



warmth, stories, and spirit are a beautiful reflection of Bahrain's heritage, and we were truly honored to celebrate this special day with them."

This unique collaboration reflects Hilton Bahrain's commitment to meaningful community engagement through Hilton's Travel with Purpose platform,

reinforcing the hotel's dedication to celebrating culture, respect, and human connection beyond hospitality.

Hilton Bahrain extends its heartfelt thanks to the Bahrain Parent Care Society for being part of this memorable and truly distinctive National Day celebration.