

GHG brings Bahraini hospitality to UAE

Gulf Court Hotel Business Bay - Dubai marks the first phase of the group's expansion plan across the region



Pictured cutting the ribbon (L-R): GHG Vice Chairman, Fawzi Ahmed Kanoo, Dr Shaikh Ahmed bin Saif Al Nayhan and GHG Chairman, Farouk Almoayyed, together with GHG Board members, management and guests



Gulf Court Hotel Business Bay

● Opens first property in UAE, The Gulf Court Hotel Business Bay

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Gulf Hotels Group (GHG) celebrated the official opening of its first UAE property, The Gulf Court Hotel Business Bay.

The opening ceremony was held under the patronage of Dr

Shaikh Ahmed bin Saif Al Nayhan, who was Vice - Chairman of Gulf Hotels Group in 1995/96 and Chairman from 1997 to 1999.

The 4 star Gulf Court Hotel Business Bay marks the first phase of the Group's expansion plan across the region and is fully operational, forecasting an occupancy of 75 per cent for the first 3 months of the year.

The property has 270 rooms, categorised between Stand-

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ard Rooms, Superior Rooms, Deluxe Rooms, Grand Deluxe Rooms, Executive Suites, Luxury Suites and 2 Penthouse Suites. Guests can also enjoy Club Lounge/ benefits, business centre, swimming pool, gym, and a choice of six dining options that include Café Délices, Al Waha Restaurant, Naisa Oriental Restaurant, Sports On 4, The Canal Lounge, and The Other Office Karaoke.

Business travellers can

take advantage of the meeting rooms that are equipped with state-of-the-art AV equipment.

On this occasion, Chairman of the Group, Farouk Almoayyed said: "GHG has been committed to delivering the highest standards of Bahraini hospitality since the opening of the Gulf Hotel Bahrain Convention & Spa back in 1969. Recognising a significant increase in demand in the MENA region,

we believe this is the right time to launch our expansion plans."

Garfield Jones, Gulf Hotels Group CEO, said, "The Gulf Court Hotel offers visitors a true taste of Arabic hospitality that our hotels in Bahrain - the Gulf Hotel, The K Hotel and Asdal Gulf Inn - are renowned for. It also builds on the company's reputation for delivering excellent food, beverage and leisure product."



Gulf Air officials with the executive management of Al Baraka Banking Group at the airline's headquarters in Muharraq, Bahrain. They discussed potential business cooperation specifically in geographical areas where the bank currently operates. In picture (from left to right): Ammar Al Saad - Gulf Air Acting Chief Financial Officer, Captain Waleed Al Alawi - Gulf Air Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Tariq Kazim - Acting CEO of Al Baraka Islamic Bank- Bahrain, Adnan Ahmed Yousif - President & Chief Executive of Al Baraka Banking Group, Kresimir Kucko - Gulf Air Chief Executive Officer, Mohamed El Qaq - Senior Vice President - Head of Commercial Banking of Al Baraka Banking Group.

BCCI closed sessions continue

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In implementation to the directives of His Royal Highness the Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and in a bid to support the growth and success of small businesses, the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) continues holding its closed-sessions.

The forthcoming closed session will be held today from 11 am to 1 pm in Al Majlis Hall of Bait Al Tijjar building, and will deliberate about the education,

food wealth, hospitality, tourism, and health sector.

It is worth mentioning that another closed session will be held in Al Majlis Hall and is scheduled for tomorrow. The session will extend between 11 am and 1 pm and will centre on the financial sector, commercial markets, industry, transport, logistics, and telecommunication.

Interested members should register to attend the sessions, by sending their details to alaa@bccibh

Oil spill fears for ship stranded on Pacific reef



Picture courtesy of the Guardian

Wellington, New Zealand

A bulk carrier stranded on a coral reef off the Solomon Islands is being battered by heavy seas whipped up in a tropical cyclone, sparking fears a major environmental disaster.

Officials said water had already breached the hull of the MV Solomon Trader, which ran aground on February 5, and one unconfirmed report said oil was leaking from the vessel. The 225-metre (740-foot)

ship hit a reef near Rennell Island, the largest raised coral atoll in the world, part of which is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

NDMO director Loti Yates said there was "no sign of oil spillage" although the Guardian, citing government sources, said there was some leakage which was forming a slick.

Island Sun News reported the Hong Kong-flagged ship's owners Bintan Mining had flown in salvage experts from Australia and the US.



Chairman of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) Sameer Nass alongside his first deputy Khalid Najibi and Chief Executive Officer Shaker Al Shater recently participated in the 129th meeting of the Union of Arab Chambers held in Muscat-the Sultanate of Oman. On the sideline of their participation, Nass, Najibi, and Al Shater met Sayyid Asaad bin Tariq Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for International Relations and Cooperation Affairs, and Personal Representative of His Majesty the Sultan. The meeting probed the prospect of economic cooperation among Arab countries and stressed the importance of consolidating efforts to step-up trade, stimulate joint projects, and encourage the flow of investments. BCCI's delegation headed by Sameer Nass also took part in a ceremony organised by Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) marking 45 years since its inception.