

# “Gulf stability is global necessity”

Minister delivers keynote at Abu Dhabi Global Sustainable Security Summit 2026

● **Calls for stronger international coordination against cybercrime**

● **Praises Bahrain's digital governance**

● **Highlights Gulf role as cornerstone of global economy**

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Bahrain's Interior Minister General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa reaffirmed the “deep-rooted” ties between Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates during an official visit to Abu Dhabi, where he also delivered the opening address at a major international security summit.

The visit, conducted within the framework of longstanding bilateral relations, highlighted what the minister described as the “solid brotherly bonds” between the two Gulf nations, underpinned by the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and UAE President Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

Shaikh Rashid reiterated Bahrain's full solidarity with the UAE and support for measures aimed at safeguarding its sovereignty and stability, while praising close

security coordination between the two countries.

“The stability of the Gulf is no longer solely a regional concern, but an international necessity,” he said in his keynote speech at the Abu Dhabi Global Sustainable Security Summit 2026, held alongside the International Exhibition for National Security and Resilience (ISNR 2026).

He said the Gulf region has become central to global stability, stressing that threats such as cybercrime, extremism and transnational criminal networks require deeper international cooperation and faster security coordination.

Shaikh Rashid also said Bahrain and the UAE have demonstrated that sustainable security depends on long-term strategy rather than short-term responses,

adding that modern security must integrate governance, technology, legislation and public awareness.

He highlighted Bahrain's experience in digital governance and crisis management, including the use of real-time performance monitoring systems and national cybersecurity strategies, describ-

ing data as a “strategic resource” for modern state security.

During his visit, the minister toured the ISNR 2026 exhibition, reviewed advanced security technologies and praised the UAE's organisational capabilities. He also attended the graduation of a joint Bahrain-UAE child protec-

tion training programme aimed at enhancing expertise in safeguarding children online and in society.

The exhibition, featuring hundreds of companies from dozens of countries, also serves as a platform for discussions on emerging security challenges, artificial intelligence, and national resilience strategies.



## Bahrain Ranked High for AI and Cybersecurity

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Mohammed Darwish

Bahrain has been ranked among the Arab world's strongest performers for government readiness in artificial intelligence and the use of new technology in public services, a UN report has found.

The Kingdom was also placed in the top global tier for cybersecurity in the 2026 Annual Review of the Sustainable Development Goals, issued by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.

The report, which looked at AI policies for social inclusion across the Arab region, said Arab states scored an average of 39 out of 100 in the 2025 Government AI Readiness Index, against a world average of 41.

Bahrain came among the leading Arab countries in the index, behind Saudi Arabia and the UAE, and ahead of Kuwait, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia, Iraq and Mauritania.

The review said Bahrain also scored highly in the 2024 Online and Mobile Government Services Maturity Index, which covers the use of AI and other new tools in public services.

It said the Kingdom was among a small group of Arab countries that had worked on the infrastructure and training needed to bring such tools into government work.

## Over 10,500 loans issued under women's support portfolio



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The Supreme Council for Women held a meeting on Tuesday with a microfinance company to explore ways to further develop soft financing solutions for Bahraini women entrepreneurs.

The meeting brought together Lulwa Al Awadhi, Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for Women, and Professor Badruddin Abdulrahim, Acting CEO of Al Eibdaa Microfinance Company.

Discussions focused on strengthening cooperation between the two sides and expanding access to tailored financial solutions aimed at supporting women-led enterprises in Bahrain.

Al Awadhi stressed the council's continued commitment to monitoring and evaluating the

impact of the “Shaikha Sabikha bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa Portfolio” for supporting women's business activities, ensuring the effectiveness and sustainability of soft financing initiatives designed for Bahraini women entrepreneurs.

During the meeting, representatives from Al Eibdaa presented an update on the portfolio's operational progress, highlighting that 10,568 loans have been issued since its launch.

According to the data, the total value of financing reached 12,590,743.623 Bahraini dinars, with the portfolio being rotated more than 12 times since its establishment in 2010.

The session also addressed the importance of identifying and assessing challenges faced by certain projects to improve performance and outcomes.



From  
The Court

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Rehab Mohammad

## Court orders BD 15,000 compensation in traffic accident disability case

Victim suffers lasting injuries including fractures and rib damage

The High Civil Court ordered an insurance company and a driver to jointly pay BD 15,000 in compensation to a traffic accident victim who suffered a permanent disability of 30 percent, in addition to court fees and legal costs.

Court ruled that the driver and the insurance company must jointly and severally pay the compensation after finding the accident resulted from the driver's negligence. The vehicle involved was insured by the defendant company.

Court documents show the driver had already been convicted in criminal proceedings

and sentenced to three months in prison and a BD 500 fine. The ruling became final after his appeal was rejected, leading the victim to file a civil compensation case.

According to the case, the victim sustained serious injuries, including fractures to the right leg, head and hand injuries, as well as damage to the ribs and joints. The plaintiff continues to undergo medical treatment, while medical committees assessed the permanent disability at 30 percent.

The insurance company argued that the claim was time-barred. However, the court

noted that limitation periods in civil claims related to criminal acts are suspended until criminal proceedings conclude and resume only after a final judgment.

The court awarded BD 14,000 for physical injuries and permanent disability, and BD 1,000 for moral damages including pain and suffering, bringing the total compensation to BD 15,000. It also imposed 3 percent annual interest on the insurance company, calculated from the filing date until full payment, in addition to court expenses, translation fees, medical assessment costs, and legal fees.

## Prosecutors seek maximum penalty in fake certificate institute case

The head of the Cybercrime Prosecution called for the maximum penalty against the owner of an educational institute accused of issuing forged academic certificates, during proceedings before Bahrain's Third Minor Criminal Court.

The prosecution presented its case using a digital visual presentation supported by artificial intelligence tools, outlining the sequence of events and investigation findings.

According to the prosecution, the case involves an unlicensed institute that allegedly issued fake academic certificates for money.

Investigators said searches of the premises uncovered additional forged certificates, official-looking seals, documents, tools used in the alleged forgery operation, financial records and digital evidence. This included communications with an individual outside the country who reportedly requested the preparation of certificates.

The institute had no legal licence to operate or issue academic qualifications, the prosecution said.

The head of prosecution argued that the conduct went beyond forgery and fraud, describing it as an attack on the credibility of academic qualifications and the integrity of the education system.

## Asian Woman Jailed Five Years For Human Trafficking

Court orders BD 3,000 fine and permanent deportation after sentence

First High Criminal Court sentenced an Asian woman to five years in prison after convicting her in a human trafficking case, authorities said.

The court also imposed a BD 3,000 fine and ordered her permanent deportation from the Kingdom after completing her prison term. Additionally, she was ordered to cover the costs of returning the victim to her home country.

According to the Deputy Chief Prosecutor of the Human

Trafficking Prosecution, the case began after the Anti-Human Trafficking Directorate at the General Directorate of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Science received a report about the incident.

Investigations revealed that the defendant deceived the victim by offering her a job in Bahrain. However, once she arrived in the country, she was allegedly confined to an apartment and threatened to force her into unlawful activities.

The prosecution said it im-

mediately launched an investigation after receiving the report. The victim's statement was recorded, and she was placed in a shelter under the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking for protection and support.

The accused was interrogated and detained during the investigation. Authorities also collected statements from investigating officers and conducted further inquiries to establish the case's circumstances.

## Trafficker Extradited To Bahrain

As part of efforts to enhance international cooperation and coordination in combating organised and cross-border crimes and pursuing their perpetrators, the Interior Ministry announced that the International and Interpol Affairs Directorate of the General Directorate of Anti-Corruption and Economic and Electronic Security, in cooperation with the Interior Ministry of the brotherly Saudi Arabia, had received an Asian suspect wanted in the Kingdom of Bahrain in a case involving the possession of

narcotic substances and psychotropic substances with intent to traffic.

The ministry expressed appreciation to the Saudi Interior Ministry for its cooperation and for arresting the wanted suspect after a temporary arrest request was issued through the Arab Interior Ministers Council.

The Directorate said the wanted suspect was handed over by the concerned security mission, in accordance with the agreements and legislation regulating international security cooperation.