

# HM King's reform project promotes gender equality

Parliamentary delegation participates in IPU's seminar on women

TDT | Cairo

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's Reform Project has enabled Bahraini women to enjoy the status they well-deserve in various sectors, said Second Deputy Chairperson of the Shura Council, Jameela Ali Salman.

She was heading the kingdom's parliamentary delegation to the Regional Seminar on the Sustainable Development Goals and Gender Equality for Parliaments of the Middle East and North Africa, held in Alexandria, Egypt.

Bahrain's constitution and the National Action Charter, Salman told the conference, guarantee the protection of women's right enabling their role in nation-building and development process.

Bahrain, she explained, has achieved remarkable progress in lifting some reservations on the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), as well as in enacting many laws aimed at protecting the family from violence and regulating the personal status.



Bahrain delegates during the seminar held in Alexandria, Egypt

The constant support of Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of HM the King and SCW President, and her follow-up on the issues of Bahraini and Arab women, Ali Salman said, have contributed significantly to the kingdom's success in reaching advanced levels at the interna-

tional level.

Ali Salman also pointed out that the existing fruitful cooperation among the Shura and Representatives councils, the government and the official entities, particularly the Supreme Council for Women (SCW), has resulted in enacting many laws that regulate women's rights and

enable them to enjoy their role in the nation-building and development process to the fullest.

The Regional Seminar on the Sustainable Development Goals and Gender Equality for Parliaments of the Middle East and North Africa is organised by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the Arab Inter-Parliamen-

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JAMEELA ALI SALMAN

tary Union and Egypt's House of Representatives.

The seminar, bringing together Arab and GCC parliamentary delegations, offers a platform for participants to discuss concrete solutions from the region to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and especially gender equality and women's empowerment.

## Azeri parliament's centennial celebration

TDT | Baku

Speaker of the Council of Representatives, Ahmed bin Ibrahim Al-Mulla, arrived in Baku yesterday on a three-day official visit to Azerbaijan at the invitation of his Azeri National Assembly counterpart, Ogtay Asadov.

Al-Mulla is visiting Baku, along with a delegation comprising the Representatives Council's Financial and Economic Committee Chairman, MP Abdulrahman Bu Ali, and Human Rights Committee Chairman, MP Abdulrahman Bu Majeed, to attend Azerbaijan's celebration of the centenary of its parliament.

## Work scheduled for Saudi bridge

Zawya

Construction work on the KingHamad Causeway that will connect Bahrain to Saudi Arabia will begin in 2021.

The upcoming months will see a tender for construction, Saudi ambassador to Bahrain, Abdullah Al Sheikh told *Al Arabiya*.

Work will take approximately three years *Construction Week* reported.

## Ambassador participates in Bali ministerial conference



Dr Adnan Sheikh participating in the conference

TDT | Jakarta

Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the Republic of Indonesia Dr Mohammed Ghassan Mohammed Adnan Sheikh yesterday took part in a High-Level Ministerial Conference on South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation.

The conference in Bali was held under the theme "Population and Development Issues and their Impact on the 2030 Agenda".

The participation of the Ambassador came at the invitation of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Sub-Regional Office for the Gulf Cooperation Council States in Muscat,

in collaboration with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) and Partners in Population and Development.

The Ministerial Conference in Bali kicked off on Tuesday with the participation of a number of elite senior officials from several countries.



Electricity and Water Affairs Minister Dr Abdulhussain Mirza and Electricity and Water Authority (EWA) Chief Executive Officer Sheikh Nawaf bin Ibrahim Al Khalifa, along with the Deputy CEO and Directors attending a ceremony to bid farewell to Director of Human Resources Rajia Baqer Hussain Baqer, on her retirement after 31 years of service. Baqer expressed her thanks and gratitude to the Minister and the officials for their continuous and unlimited support.

## Bahrain sees 'interest' from tech firms

CNBC

Bahrain has been receiving more attention from Chinese e-commerce companies as it diversifies its economy away from oil, according to the Bahrain Economic Development Board. There's "growing interest" from China's tech sector, said Simon Galpin, managing director of the Bahrain EDB.

"Chinese e-commerce companies recognise that the Mid-

dle East and the Gulf Cooperation Council, in particular, are really good markets," he said at the World Economic Forum in Tianjin yesterday.

Like many other Middle Eastern economies, the Kingdom is focusing on building a digital economy in an effort to reduce reliance on revenues from energy.

"Bahrain, because its a great transportation hub, is seen as a great place for fulfilment cen-

tres so companies that are going to do deliveries into Saudi Arabia can position themselves in Bahrain and make those deliveries over the causeway," Galpin explained.

Galpin also noted that the Kingdom has seen "strong growth" in the start-up and fintech space.

International companies are increasingly setting up shop in the kingdom due to its nature as a cost-effective hub, he said.



The Employee of the month for August, Yousef Al-Kuwari from Human Resources Department, of Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC) receiving his award and certificate from Company Managing Director Ibrahim Al-Musaitir, in the presence of its President, Dr Abdulrahman Jawahery, the Executive Management and the Deputy Chairman of the Company's Labour Union. Al-Kuwari joined the company in 2010 and is the Library and Data Research Assistant