

# Specialised prosecution office hailed

● **Bahrain first to establish Prosecution Office for Trafficking in Persons**

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Bahrain is the first Arab country to establish a prosecution office specialised in human trafficking cases.

This was emphasised by Dr Ali Al Shuwaikh, head of the Trafficking in Persons Prosecution Office.

He said that the attorney general issued a decision to form a Prosecution Office for Trafficking in Persons that will be consisted of a number of prosecutors who have experience in investigating this case.

Also the head of the Public Prosecution Office for the College Prosecution, Dr Al Shuwaikh stressed that the decision supports the competent national efforts concerned with combatting trafficking in persons.

It also reinforces the advanced position of Bahrain at the international level in combatting this type of crime, Dr Al Shuwaikh added.

The Kingdom of Bahrain has maintained for the third year



Human trafficking is a global problem

running its Tier 1 ranking in the US Department of State Trafficking in Persons (TiP) Report.

The Chief Prosecutor indicated that the establishment of the Trafficking in Persons Prosecution Office aims to provide a specialised and trained environment for members of the Public Prosecution Office to investigate such crimes, which requires knowledge of them in a precise manner.

The work involves exploitation carried out by the crime of trafficking, in addition to strengthening criminal protection for victims of trafficking in persons in a manner that guarantees the rights of the victim established by law.

Since the beginning of this



Dr Ali Al Shuwaikh

year, the number of registered cases regarding trafficking in persons has reached 20, of which the Public Prosecution has referred eight cases to the

High Criminal Court.

Three of the accused have been convicted and slapped three to 10 years in jail in addition to fines.

**20**

The number of cases registered this year regarding trafficking in persons, of which the Public Prosecution has referred eight cases to the High Criminal Court.

They were also deported after the execution of punishment, while the victims returned to their respective country.

Five cases are still pending before the court, while the prosecution concluded, in light of the findings of the investigations, to exclude the suspicion of the crime in eight cases, and to refer two of them to the court for the crime in which that suspicion was raised. The investigation is still underway in four cases.

The Public Prosecution, since the issuance of Law No. (1) of 2008 regarding combatting trafficking in persons, has taken interim and gradual measures that are qualified to establish this prosecution in order to develop capabilities and provide the necessary expertise to investigate this type of crime through an initial system of jurisdiction, and to participate in national activities.

**Information Minister pays homage to UAE media icon**



Information Minister

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Information Affairs Minister Ali bin Mohammed Al Romaihi mourned the sad demise of Emirati journalism pioneer Ibrahim Al Abed, adviser to the chairman of the UAE's National Media Council (NMC), who passed away yesterday, leaving behind a prolific legacy in serving his nation, contributing to the development of the press and media and enriching scientific research.

"The GCC and Arab press and media communities have lost an iconic pioneer of responsible media", the Minister said, praising his contributions which span almost five decades of devoted services in the UAE media industry.

## Salmaniya Complex set to open evening clinics

● **It aims to provide better health services to all**

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Salmaniya Medical Complex has announced work on a project to open clinics in the evening as part of its missions to provide better health services to all.

It is also increasing the workforce for the clinics to reduce the waiting list for the first consultation.



Patients at Salmaniya Medical Complex

The project is in line with the direction of Shaikh Hisham bin Abdulaziz Al Khalifa, chairman of the Board of Trustees of Governmental Hospitals, to improve healthcare services particularly in outpatient clinics.

Work on the project has already started on 4 October and in several stages.

The first phase included outpatient clinics for the following departments: urology, gastrointestinal diseases, nervous system diseases, ear, nose and throat diseases, and ophthalmology department, at a rate of 20 to 30 patients per day in each

specialty, where approximately 90 to 120 new patients are received per week in the evening.

The next stage includes clinics of dermatology, plastic surgery, endocrinology, rheumatology and orthopedics.

In the initial plan for the first phase, and for the dermatology department, it is working to reduce the current waiting list for the first consultations in the dermatology department from eight months to less than four months.

In the ophthalmology department from five months to three months. The numbers vary according to specialisation, but the goal remains to reduce these lists within three to five months.

Based on the data collected, the complex management can determine the clinics of the highest priority, then classify them further, determine the recommended number of additional clinics required, and set future plans to reduce waiting lists according to strategic plans to provide better services.

## Bahrain pavilion construction work on track

● **Shaikha Mai receives project contractors**

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Her Excellency Shaikha Mai Bint Mohammed Al Khalifa, president of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA) and commissioner general of the Bahrain National Pavilion at Expo 2021 Dubai, received Giuseppe Antonio and Chiaranda Gregory from Raymond Medell Asset, the contracting company operating on the pavilion, to discuss the latest developments in the implementation of the project.

Shaikha Mai affirmed that the Kingdom of Bahrain is moving steadily towards the completion of its pavilion at Expo 2021 Dubai, stressing that it will be a great opportunity to promote the ancient Bahraini heritage and introduce the world to Bahrain sites on the UNESCO World Heritage List, and other Bahraini heritage, material and immaterial components.

During the meeting, the latest achievements of the 2,000-square-metre Bahrain Pavilion were reviewed, as it



The design of the pavilion takes the form of a cube, supported by 126 columns and 169 panel façades made of steel.



The Bahrain pavilion

was confirmed that 60% of the project had been completed and that the construction work would be completed according to the time plan in January 2021.

The design of the pavilion, which takes the form of a cube, supported by 126 columns and 169 panel façades made of steel, was also addressed.

Implementation teams de-

veloped a special engineering system for installing columns and façades, which was used for the first time in building the wing.

The Bahrain National Pavilion at Expo 2021 Dubai was designed by the Swiss engineer Christian Kerees, who is considered an important name in the world of architecture and research related to construction and installation.

## Bahrain welcomes US decision on Sudan

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The Ministry of Foreign Affairs welcomes the US administration's decision to remove Sudan from the list of countries sponsoring terrorism.

The Ministry stressed that it is a positive step that supports the efforts of Sudan's transitional government and is in the interest of enhancing security and stability in its territories.

The Ministry affirms the Kingdom of Bahrain's support for Sudan and its people, and the country's development.



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

## AGU opens tenders for furnishing equipment

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The Arabian Gulf University held a meeting to open the envelopes of financial bids for furnishing equipment for the King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Medical City Hospital project in Bahrain.

Present were three companies that qualified for the final qualifiers, namely Al Bassam Trading Company, Mofen Al

Rassam Company and Half Lock One Company.

AGU vice-president Dr Khaled Saeed Tabbara said the university has made great strides in building the Medical City project, and this stage comes to choose the body responsible for taking over the furnishing of the Medical City buildings.

Next week, another meeting will be held to open the bids

submitted to equip the hospital with medical devices.

He pointed out that the three winning bids were chosen after reviewing all the other bids and selecting the best ones from the technical point of view.

Dr Tabbara pointed out that King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Medical City Hospital will be ready by the end of 2021. It will start its work at the beginning of 2022.