

Airlines Face Shutdown

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent warned that American sanctions could effectively shut down Iranian airlines worldwide. | **P6-7**

Bahrain Canada Cooperation



Dr. Shaikh Abdullah bin Rashid Al Khalifa, Ambassador of Bahrain to Canada and Resident Ambassador in Washington, met Alexander Leveque, Assistant Deputy Minister for Europe, Arctic and Middle East Affairs at Global Affairs Canada, during his official visit to Canada.

The ambassador highlighted recent progress in Bahrain-Canada cooperation, welcomed the visit of Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand to Bahrain, and praised Canada's support for Bahrain and GCC countries following Iranian attacks.

50 Years Strong



Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs, met Cho Hyun, Minister of Foreign Affairs of South Korea, at the Korean Mission in New York on the sidelines of the 81st session of the UN General Assembly.

The ministers discussed strengthening Bahrain-Korea relations as the two countries mark 50 years of diplomatic ties, as well as coordination at international forums.

Strengthen Youth Partnerships



Minister of Youth Affairs Rawan bint Najeeb Tawfiqi received Lebanese Ambassador to Bahrain Hadi Hashem to discuss cooperation in youth affairs and opportunities to strengthen exchanges between the two countries.

The meeting explored developing joint youth programmes and initiatives and exchanging expertise. The Lebanese ambassador praised Bahrain's support for youth and highlighted the importance of expanding cooperation.

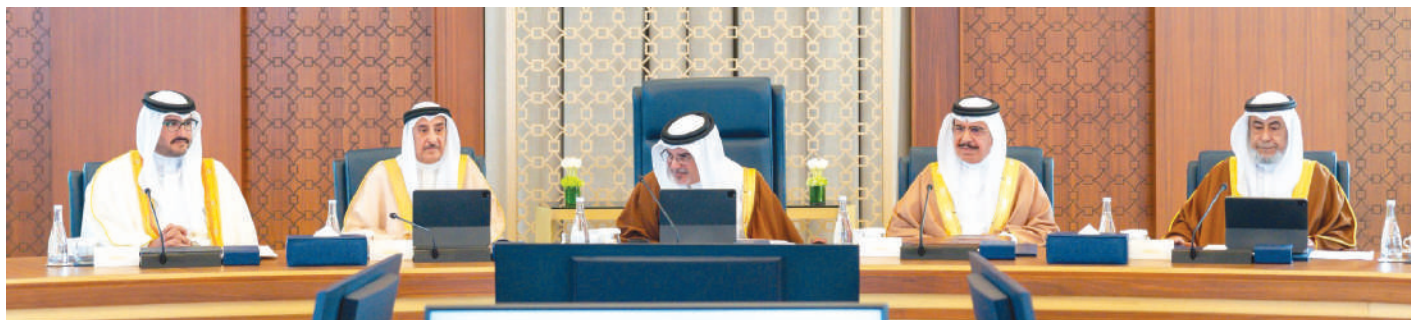
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Cabinet Approves UN Convention against Cybercrime

New agreements span education, taxation and sustainability



New Bahrain-Saudi deals approved

Cybersecurity, education and development in focus

Cabinet advances key national measures

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His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Deputy King, chaired the weekly Cabinet meeting at Gudaibiya Palace, where the government approved a series of legal, economic and cooperation measures.

The Cabinet noted His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's meetings with Greek President Constantine An. Tassoulas and Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis during His Majesty's

visit to Greece, highlighting the shared commitment to strengthening bilateral relations and cooperation.

On the International Day of Peace, the Cabinet reaffirmed Bahrain's support for initiatives that promote peace and stability, noting the importance of peace in advancing the aspirations of peoples and nations.

The Cabinet also welcomed Bahrain International Airport's three awards at the 2026 Skytrax World Airport Awards, describing the achievement as a reflection of continued development in the Kingdom's aviation sector.

The meeting also included congratulations to Saudi Arabia on its National Day and condemnation of what the Cabinet described as escalating terrorist attacks by the Iranian-backed Houthi militia against Saudi Arabia and attempts to target civilian areas.

Among the measures approved was a draft law ratifying the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime.

The Cabinet also approved the UN political declaration on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, along with a memorandum between Bahrain's National Bureau for Revenue and Saudi Arabia's Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority.

Other approvals included a scientific and educational cooperation memorandum between Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, and two agreements supporting the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture's "Estidama" Sustainability Center with Bahrain Islamic Bank and Safa Company.

The Cabinet also approved the expropriation of several properties for public benefit to support urban development, as well as the government's response to proposals submitted by the Council of Representatives.

The meeting reviewed the performance of the Ministerial Committee for Community Services from August 2025 to August 2026, including progress on its priorities and key issues

CABINET APPROVALS

- UN Convention against Cybercrime
- UN pandemic preparedness declaration
- Bahrain-Saudi tax cooperation
- Bahrain-Saudi education cooperation
- Support for Estidama Sustainability Center
- Properties approved for urban development
- Government responses to parliamentary proposals

addressed during the period.

The Cabinet also reviewed reports covering Bahrain's participation in Arabian Travel Market 2026, the GCC tourism ministers' meeting, the Arab Media Summit 2026, GCC meetings on education and higher education, and the Brain Bar 2026 Festival.

GCC and US Think Tanks Deepen Strategic Dialogue



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The future of GCC-US cooperation took centre stage in Washington as Gulf and American think tanks held the second round of a strategic dialogue focused on security, energy, technology and economic ties.

The Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies (Derasat) organised the meetings in cooperation with the American Foreign Policy Council (AFPC), in coordination with the General Secretariat of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). The dialogue was sponsored by the Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain

in Washington DC and brought together senior representatives and experts from leading Gulf and US think tanks.

The opening session featured GCC Secretary General Jassem Mohamed AlBudaiwi, Dr. Shaikh Abdulla bin Rashed Al Khalifa, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the United States, Derasat CEO Abdulla Mohamed Alahmed, and Ilan Berman, AFPC Executive Vice President.

Discussions reflected the changing strategic environment in the Gulf, with participants examining how GCC states and the US can strengthen cooperation in the years ahead.

The first session focused on

security cooperation following recent regional developments. Participants discussed deterrence and defence capabilities, crisis management, de-escalation and closer coordination among GCC states, while also examining how growing Gulf capabilities and wider international partnerships could shape future security cooperation.

Energy resilience formed the focus of the second session. Participants explored ways to protect critical infrastructure and secure energy supplies, including alternative transport and export routes, strategic reserves and maritime corridors.

The discussions also examined how artificial intelligence, digital

twinning and smart energy systems could improve risk management and strengthen the energy sector's ability to respond to disruptions.

The Washington meetings mark the second stage of an initiative launched in June 2026. Bahrain is scheduled to host the third and expanded stage in November, bringing together officials, experts and think tank representatives from GCC countries and the United States.

The initiative is part of Derasat's wider efforts to expand cooperation between Gulf and US think tanks and create platforms for dialogue, research and the exchange of expertise on strategic issues of mutual interest.

HM King Sends Condolences

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa sent a cable of condolences to His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, following the passing of Shaikh Ahmed bin Rashid Al Maktoum. His Majesty expressed his sincere condolences and sympathy to Shaikh Mohammed and the bereaved family.

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, also sent a cable of condolences, conveying sincere sympathy to the bereaved family.

Police Transport Talks



Lt. General Tariq bin Hassan Al Hassan, Chief of Police, met Badr Hoda Al Mahmood, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications for Ports and Maritime Affairs, and his delegation, in the presence of Interior Ministry officials.

The meeting focused on strengthening cooperation and coordination between the two sides, exchanging expertise and reviewing areas of mutual interest. The officials also discussed proposals aimed at improving integration and coordination between the relevant authorities.

Wallonia Day



Bahrain's Ambassador to Belgium Mohammed Ali Behzad took part in the official Wallonia Day celebrations organised by the Parliament of Wallonia at the Royal Theatre in Namur, in the presence of King Philippe of Belgium.

The ambassador also attended receptions hosted by the Government of Wallonia and the City of Namur, including a diplomatic reception featuring the signing of the Golden Book and events attended by Belgian federal and regional officials.