

Bahrain-Pakistan talks



Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani meets Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Muhammad Ishaq Dar in New York on the sidelines of the 81st UN General Assembly session, with the two sides discussing bilateral ties, regional developments, maritime security and cooperation at the United Nations.

Grossi discusses UN candidacy



Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani meets IAEA Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi in New York on the sidelines of the 81st UN General Assembly session, where they discussed Grossi's programme for his candidacy for UN Secretary-General for the 2027-2031 term.

Bahrain, Marshall Islands join hands



Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani meets Marshall Islands Foreign Affairs and Trade Minister Kalani Kaneko in New York on the sidelines of the 81st UN General Assembly session, where the two ministers signed a joint statement establishing diplomatic relations between Bahrain and the Marshall Islands.

Bahrain-Germany ties discussed



Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani meets German Foreign Minister Dr Johann Wadephul at the UN headquarters in New York, where they discussed Bahrain-Germany relations, bilateral cooperation and the impact of disrupted navigation through the Strait of Hormuz on international trade and the global economy.

Bahrain backs 80-nation call for open Hormuz

TDT | Manama

Bahrain has joined a call by 80 UN member states for the immediate and full reopening of the Strait of Hormuz, warning that continued disruption to the vital waterway is putting global trade, energy security and the world economy at risk.

Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani made the call during a media briefing at the United Nations headquarters in New York, where participating countries also urged full implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2817.

The minister said the threat in the region remained serious



and had worsened since a similar statement was issued five months ago.

He highlighted an attack on a vessel off Oman on Wednesday that killed an Indian national and referred to earlier Houthi missile attacks towards Saudi Arabia. Dr Al Zayani expressed condolences to India and the

victim's family and reaffirmed Bahrain's solidarity with Saudi Arabia.

Reading the joint statement on behalf of the 80 countries, Dr Al Zayani said attacks and disruption to maritime routes were affecting international trade and global energy security, with wider consequences for the world

economy.

The countries called for the Strait of Hormuz to be reopened urgently and completely, allowing vessels to pass safely and without obstruction, including unlawful fees, conditions or other restrictions.

The demand echoes Resolution 2817, adopted by the UN Se-

curity Council in March, which condemned actions or threats aimed at closing, obstructing or interfering with international navigation through the Strait of Hormuz and called for such measures to cease.

The joint statement also raised concerns over renewed Houthi military operations in Yemen

and attacks against Saudi Arabia and in the Red Sea, warning that any further advance towards the Bab el-Mandeb Strait could increase risks to international shipping and global trade.

The countries warned that prolonged disruption to major trade routes could also put pressure on food systems, potentially driving up prices, increasing hunger and reducing agricultural output, particularly affecting vulnerable communities.

They stressed that freedom of navigation through the Strait must be protected in accordance with international law and the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Damage repairs on war footing

● Crown Prince meets families as repairs begin after Iranian attacks

● MPs back quick payouts for attack damage

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Families whose homes and cars were damaged in Iranian attacks are being promised swift compensation and repairs, as the Crown

Mohsen Al Asbool, MP

Dr Maryam Al Dhaen, MP

Mohammed Janahi, MP

Ahmed Al Musallam, Speaker of Parliament

Prince and Prime Minister visited affected residents in Sitra and Hidd.

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa toured the two areas, inspecting damaged homes, meeting families and checking repair work ordered by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

The visit drew strong support from MPs, who said the priority now was to help affected families rebuild their homes and return to normal life.

Parliament Speaker Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam said the visit demonstrated that residents' safety and losses were being addressed directly.

"The citizen always comes first, and their security, safety and comfort are the highest priority," he said.

Mr Al Musallam welcomed orders for ministries to work together, ensure families receive compensation quickly and repair damaged homes. He also praised residents for standing

together during the attacks, as well as government teams that worked together to repair homes and support affected families.

MP Mohsen Al Asbool said the compensation orders and the Crown Prince's visit had reassured families in Sitra whose homes and vehicles were damaged.

"The security, safety and stability of citizens are a red line," he said, praising the solidarity shown by residents in Sitra and across Bahrain.

MP Dr Maryam Al Dhaen said the visit gave affected families an opportunity to speak directly

with the leadership about what they had experienced.

She stressed the need for residents to be heard, damaged homes to be repaired and government agencies to coordinate their response.

MP Mohammed Janahi said the visit showed that residents remained the priority, praising HRH CP, PM for personally inspecting the damage and following up on compensation and repairs.

He said affected families should receive support, damaged homes should be restored and normal life should return as quickly as possible.

Tougher bite sought for animal abusers

● BD100,000 fine and five years in jail proposed

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

A cat burned, a foal killed and horses allegedly abused at a farm are among more than 1,000 animal cruelty reports that have prompted calls for much tougher penalties in Bahrain.

Mahmood Faraj, chairman of the Bahrain Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, is urging MPs to raise the punishment for the

worst cases of torture, severe cruelty and deliberate killing to fines of up to BD100,000 and five years in prison.

The proposed penalties would represent a major increase from those currently set out in Bahraini law.

Under Law No. 52 of 2014, animal-welfare offences can carry up to one month in prison and a fine of up to BD1,000, or either punishment.

The Penal Code separately provides penalties for cruelty to domesticated animals. Torturing, exhausting or mistreating an animal, or failing to care for it, can result in up to three months in prison or a fine of up to BD20.

Deliberately killing or poisoning a domesticated animal without justification, or causing it serious harm, can carry up to one year in prison or a fine of up to BD100.

Mr Faraj said some of the cases reported to the society were so severe that existing penalties did not reflect the seriousness of the alleged offences.

"Some people act as though abusing an animal carries no serious legal penalty," he said.

The society's reports include allegations of stray animals being tortured or killed, dogfighting and cock-

fighting, including gambling linked to such fights.

Other complaints involved a pet cat being burned, a foal being killed and several horses allegedly abused at a farm in Karzakkan. Complaints have also involved the mistreatment of a donkey, cats and dogs.

Mr Faraj said stronger fines and prison terms could deter cruelty and help prevent repeat offences.

"The aim is to protect animals, stop these acts from happening again and make clear that cruelty has no place in society and should carry serious punishment under the law," he told The Daily Tribune.

The society is prepared to provide Parliament with its views and experience as lawmakers consider possible changes to animal-welfare legislation.

Mr Faraj said the society documents suspected cruelty, gathers evidence and refers complaints to authorities with the power to take legal action.

Mahmood Faraj, chairman of the Bahrain Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals