

Geneva

Rights strides stressed

Minister highlights Kingdom's consistent stances in line with UN goals

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Abdullatif Al Zayani, has affirmed Bahrain's commitment to continuing its efforts to attain many pioneering achievements and initiatives to protect and promote human rights at all levels, within the framework of an effective partnership between its official governmental institutions and civil society, and in constructive co-operation with the United Nations Human Rights Council and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on basis of transparency, openness and objectivity.

This came in the speech delivered yesterday by the Minister of Foreign Affairs before the high-level conference of the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, with the participation of the Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs, Abdulla Al Doseri, the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the United Nations Office and other international organisations, Dr Yusuf Bucheeri, and the delegation accompanying the minister.

In his speech, the Minister of Foreign Affairs expressed his pride that the first year of the membership of the Kingdom of Bahrain in the Human Rights Council coincides with the continuous momentum of the Kingdom's achievements in many areas of human rights, as these achievements are based on constitutional and legislative foundations that reflect the respect of the Kingdom of Bahrain and its international obligations to protect human rights, it is embodied in initiatives and policies that are implemented from the perspective of the comprehensive vision of respecting political, civil, economic, social and cultural human rights, and achieving security, welfare and development for all, which was affirmed by the National Action Charter that was approved in February 2001.



Dr Al Zayani speaks at the session.



Dr Al Zayani with Mrs Bachelet.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs expressed the Kingdom of Bahrain's pride in its consistent stances and policies that are committed to the principles and goals of the United Nations in the field of human rights protection, which are represented in the pioneering civilisational initiatives adopted by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, noting in this regard the courageous ini-

tiative adopted by His Majesty in July 2011 when he commissioned an international legal fact-finding committee on the events in the Kingdom

voted to announcing the report of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry, without being aware of the findings and recommendations of the report alongside His Royal Highness Prime Minister Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, he noted.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs added that the committee presented its report and recommendations in an official meeting in which more than 600 local, regional and international personalities participated and in the presence of the international media, noting that His Majesty the King announced without hesitation and with full confidence that the Kingdom of Bahrain accepted all the committee's recommendations and issued his high orders to implement them.

Separately, Dr Al Zayani met with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mrs Michelle Bachelet, on the sidelines of the meetings of the 43rd session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva.

During the meeting, the Minister of Foreign Affairs affirmed the keenness of the Kingdom to respect human rights principles and abide by international agreements in accordance with the National Action Charter and the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bahrain and its national legislation.

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DR AL ZAYANI

tiative adopted by His Majesty in July 2011 when he commissioned an international legal fact-finding committee on the events in the Kingdom

of Bahrain, which was chaired by an internationally respected legal personality, Professor Mahmoud Cherif Bassiouni, and including prominent international jurists known for their integrity and professionalism as members.

Dr Al Zayani stated that it is an affirmation by His Majesty the King to implement the principles of transparency and justice, as he granted the committee, by royal order, full access to government entities, officials and documents, in addition to meet with those seen fit according to the requirements of the legal procedures.

In addition, His Majesty the King attended the session de-




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The first-ever Ethiopian Business and Cultural Week was inaugurated at the LuLu Hypermarket in Juffair Mall in a sunny display of colour, culinary flavours and a showcasing of entrepreneurship. Inaugurated in the presence of the Ethiopian Minister of State for Culture and Tourism, Ms Bizunesh Meseret, the show gave over 100 guests a glimpse of Ethiopia's emerging image as an entrepreneurial powerhouse and a peek into its culture and heritage. With kiosks serving specially brewed Ethiopian coffee which affirmed the country's status as the 'birthplace of coffee', the culinary journey extended to a lively cookery demo by celebrity Ethiopian chef Yohanis Gebreyesus. LuLu Regional Director Mohammed Kaleem attended the event along with many dignitaries.



As part of its ongoing World Cuisine Food Festival, LuLu Hypermarket welcomed visitors to the "Sri Lankan Produce and Food Mart" at the Dana Mall. The cultural and culinary festival will feature promotions on Sri Lankan vegetables, exotic fruits and unique processed foods. It will run till 29th Feb 2020. The festival will feature culinary by Sri Lankan chef Samitha Pathmakumara, a Senior Sous Chef at the Gulf Hotel. He will also be one of the celebrity chefs to be featured at the LuLu Hypermarket's food promotion outlet at the BTEA Bahrain Food Festival in Bahrain Bay. It was inaugurated by Sri Lanka Ambassador Pradeepa Saram in the presence of LuLu Group director Juzer Rupawala and other dignitaries.