

Subscription opens in 45th issue of government development bond through Bahrain Bourse

BHD 200 Million size with a return of 6.25%

Manama

Bahrain Bourse (BHB) announced that as of Wednesday, 29th of April 2026, and according to the invitation announced by the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB), Bahraini and Non-Bahraini investors can directly subscribe through the primary market of BHB in the Government Development Bond Issue 45 (BHD 200 million) that



has been issued by the CBB on behalf of the Government of

Bahrain by executing their orders through registered brokers at Bahrain Bourse. Thereafter, investors will be able to trade the Bond on the secondary market at BHB once listed, which is expected to be on 19th May 2026.

Bahrain Bourse specified that the subscription period through the registered brokers is effective on Wednesday, 29th of April 2026 until Thursday, 30th of

April 2026. The subscription will be open on Wednesday from 9:30 am until 1:00 pm and on Thursday from 9:30 am until 11:00 am. The minimum subscription size is 500 bond per subscriber.

The BHD 200 million Bond issued at a par value of BHD 1 each on the 5th of May 2026 for a period of 3 years maturing on the 5th of May 2029. The annual fixed return on these securities

500

The minimum subscription size is 500 bonds per subscriber

is 6.25%, and will be paid bi-annually on 5th of May and 5th of November every year throughout the period of this issue, commencing on 5th of November 2026 up to and including the Maturity Date.

The Central Bank of Bahrain issued the Government Development Bond on behalf of the Government of Bahrain. The Government of Bahrain directly guarantees the Bond securities.

NBB offers second opportunity to benefit from instalment deferral

Apply via Innovative Digital Platform

● Submit requests seamlessly through the digital platform available on the Bank's website, without the need to visit a branch

● Available to eligible customers who did not apply previously, through the Bank's dedicated digital portal from 1 May to 10 May 2026

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The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) has announced the reopening



of its instalment deferral applications for retail customers, providing another opportunity for customers who were unable to apply during the initial phase to benefit from the initiative.

The option will be available exclusively to eligible customers who did not apply previously, through the Bank's dedicated digital portal from 1 May to 10 May 2026. This will allow them to defer their Personal and Mortgage Finance instalments for a period of three months, from May to July, including interest and insurance charges applied to the deferred instalments, with no additional fees. Customers can submit their requests seamlessly through the digital platform available on the Bank's website, without the need to visit a branch, reflecting NBB's continued focus on de-



As some clients may not have had the opportunity to benefit from this initiative earlier, we have reopened the instalment deferral applications to continue supporting their evolving needs and expectations."

SUBAH ABDULLATIF AL ZAYANI, CHIEF EXECUTIVE - RETAIL BANKING AT NBB

Retail Banking at NBB, said, "As some clients may not have had the opportunity to benefit from this initiative earlier, we have reopened the instalment deferral applications to continue supporting their evolving needs and expectations."

Ahead of that, NBB's credit card skip payment option remains available through the digital platform on the Bank's website until 30th April 2026, offering customers further convenience and flexibility in managing their financial commitments.

As a national institution, NBB remains committed to helping safeguard financial stability across the Kingdom.

For more information, please visit nbbonline.com, call 1721 4433, or visit any NBB branch.

delivering simple and accessible solutions.

Commenting on the announcement, Subah Abdullatif Al Zayani, Chief Executive -

Crude back above \$110 on Strait stalemate fears

● Oil prices rallied, with Brent crude for June delivery rising 2.7% to \$111.19 a barrel

AFP | London, United Kingdom

Oil prices jumped yesterday, climbing back above \$110 per barrel, amid a lack of progress in re-opening the key Strait of Hormuz.

Meanwhile, tech stocks took a hit and investors turned their attention to corporate earnings and the outlook for interest rates.

Efforts to end the Middle East war appeared at a standstill on Tuesday, with the United States considering Tehran's latest offer to unblock the strait, and Iran saying Washington could no longer dictate terms.

Iran has blockaded the waterway -- a vital conduit for oil and gas shipments -- since the start of the US-Israeli offensive two

Key figures at 1530 GMT

New York - Dow:	▲ 0.1% at 49,221.82 points
New York - S&P 500:	▼ 0.7% at 7,121.08
Nasdaq Composite:	▼ 1.4% at 24,549.10
London - FTSE 100:	▲ 0.1% at 10,332.79 (close)
Paris - CAC 40:	▼ 0.5% at 8,104.09 (close)
Frankfurt - DAX:	▼ 0.3% at 24,293.56 (close)
Tokyo - Nikkei 225:	▼ 1.0% at 59,917.46 (close)
Hang Seng Index:	▼ 1.0% at 25,679.78 (close)
Shanghai - Composite:	▼ 0.2% at 4,078.64 (close)
Euro/dollar:	▼ at \$1.1712 from \$1.1722 on Monday
Pound/dollar:	▼ at \$1.3509 from \$1.3534
Dollar/yen:	▲ at 159.59 yen from 159.39 yen
Euro/pound:	▲ at 86.70 pence from 86.61 pence

months ago, sending shockwaves through the global economy.

CNN, however, reported that US President Donald Trump was unlikely to accept Iran's proposal to restore traffic in the strait, as Qatar warned of the possibility of a "frozen conflict" if a definitive resolution is not found.

Oil prices rallied, with Brent crude for June delivery rising 2.7% to \$111.19 a barrel.

The benchmark US contract, WTI for June delivery, rose 3.4% to \$99.68 per barrel.

Hopes for a deal had been rising going into last weekend but Trump dashed them on Saturday by scrapping a planned trip by his envoys Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner to Islamabad.

"Right now, the market is not optimistic about the chance of a deal to reopen the Strait due

to Iran's request to push discussions about nuclear disarmament into the future," said Kathleen Brooks, research director at XTB trading platform.

Meanwhile, the United Arab Emirates announced it will withdraw from the OPEC and OPEC+ oil cartels on May 1, calling it a strategic decision by the major producer.

Rystad Energy analyst Jorge Leon said the UAE's move is significant as, alongside Saudi Arabia, it is one of the few nations with significant spare production capacity.

"While near-term effects may be muted given ongoing disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz, the longer-term implication is a structurally weaker OPEC" and potentially more market volatility.

AI concerns

The tech-heavy Nasdaq Composite fell 1.4%, with shares in companies linked to OpenAI hit by a report in the Wall Street Journal that the ChatGPT maker

had missed targets on the number of users and revenue.

Shares in Oracle, which is building massive data centre capacity for Open AI, fell more than four%.

XTB's Brooks said that if Open AI struggles to meet sales targets, it may be forced to spend on data centres needed to expand the use of AI.

"This news may threaten the AI investment theme that has driven US stock markets to record highs," she warned.

The news also means that AI spending by tech giants Amazon, Google, Meta and Microsoft will come under even closer scrutiny when they report results later this week.

Europe's main equity markets ended mostly lower.

Stock markets mostly fell in Asia, under further pressure after the Bank of Japan sharply raised its inflation forecasts for the current year and halved its growth projections owing to surging oil prices while leaving its key interest rate unchanged.

"This triggered profit-taking. A similar picture could emerge at the meetings of the US Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank," said analyst Andreas Lipkow at CMC Markets.

The US Federal Reserve begins a two-day meeting Tuesday amid the same growing inflationary concerns over the surge in energy costs.

The European Central Bank meets Thursday.



Nearly one in every five barrels of oil traded globally passes through the Strait of Hormuz.