

HH Shaikh Khalid hails decision to suspend Olympics to 2021

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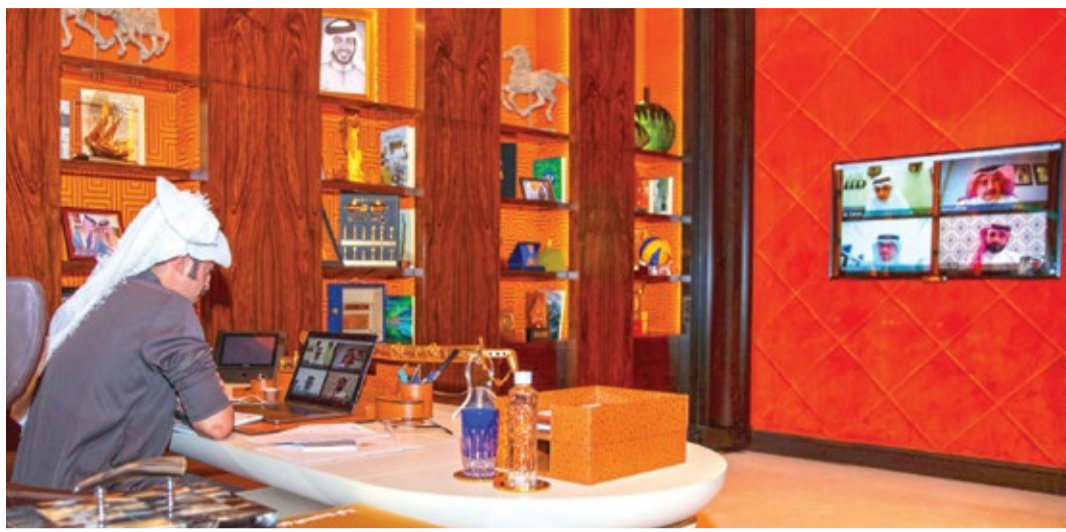
Supreme Council for Youth and Sports (SCYS) deputy chairman and Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) president HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa lauded the decision of the International Olympic Committee to adjourn the Olympic Games until the summer of 2021.

HH Shaikh Khalid said this as he chaired a meeting with officials in the sports and youth sector via video call.

HH Shaikh Khalid implemented the directives of His Majesty the King's Representative for Charity Works and

Youth Affairs, National Security Advisor and SCYS chairman HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa to apply the precautionary measures for coronavirus (COVID-19) in line with the Coordinating Committee's recommendations.

The meeting was attended by leading figures in youth and sports, including SCYS secretary general Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa, Minister of Youth and Sports Affairs Ayman Tawfiq Almoayyed, SCYS assistant secretary-general Dr. Abdulrahman Sadiq Askar, BOC secretary general Mohammed Al Nusuf and SCYS advisor to the



Shaikh Khalid during the video conference

president Mohammed Hamad Al Ajmy.

HH Shaikh Khalid hailed the efforts being exerted by HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier to tackle COVID-19.

He also expressed his utmost thanks and appreciation to the officials in the video call for their efforts in implementing the precautionary measures to combat the pandemic.

HH Shaikh Khalid praised the response of Bahrain's sports men and women in their execution of the precautionary measures.

Unacceptable!

Speaker, Foreign Affairs Minister deplore Qatar's irresponsible conduct, blatant interference

Council of Representatives Speaker rejects, condemns "irresponsible" measures taken against Bahraini travellers, as well as fallacies in statement from Qatar's communications office

Foreign Affairs Minister disapproves of Qatari authorities transporting Bahrainis from Iran without taking the necessary preventive measures to ensure their safety, as well as that of the crew and other passengers

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Top government officials spoke out yesterday against the "irresponsible" measures taken by Qatari authorities towards Bahraini travellers, as the Kingdom steps up its repatriation of citizens stranded abroad due to the outbreak of



Officials at the meeting

the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Speaker of the Council of Representatives Fawzia bint Abdulla Zainal and Foreign Affairs Minister Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani were among those who expressed their disapproval of actions taken by the relevant authorities in Doha.

Their stances were made during a meeting between a number of ministers and the Representatives Council's Bureau, chaired by

Speaker Zainal. The joint meeting further discussed the national plan to bring home Bahraini citizens abroad.

Speaker Zainal expressed the Representative Council's rejection and denunciation of Qatar's "irresponsible" measures towards Bahraini travellers, as well as the fallacies included in the statement of their Government Communications Office.

Meanwhile, Foreign Affairs Minister Dr. Al Zayani expressed

the Kingdom's disapproval of Qatar's transporting Bahraini citizens from Iran without any pre-coordination with authorities in Bahrain.

He said this was also done without taking the necessary preventive measures to ensure their safety, as well as that of the crew and other passengers, as recommended by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

The Foreign Affairs Minister indicated that authorities in the Kingdom are constantly in

Qatar must adhere to GCC Health Ministers' decisions, says Information Minister

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Information Minister Ali bin Mohammed Al Romaihi asserted last night that GCC Health Ministers underscored in their meeting the existence of tough preventative measures concerning movement between the GCC countries, which Qatar did not adhere to.

In a brief statement on the "A Conscious Society" programme broadcast by Bahrain TV, the Information Minister stressed that taking advantage of the exceptional circumstances for political ends is no stranger to the Qatari mass media.

He added that bringing a group of people from Iran to Qatar and, then, the Sultanate of Oman without the knowledge of any competent authority in Bahrain raises many question marks.

The Information Minister pointed out that the discontent of many Qatari nation-



Minister Al Romaihi

als in many countries in the world, with not allowing them to return to Qatar, is evidence that the current circumstance requires many preventative measures and medical preparations that are being made by the Kingdom of Bahrain in a well-studied way, and in cooperation with the relevant parties.

The Information Minister affirmed that it is unacceptable from a humanitarian perspective to exploit this issue by the Qatari mass media.

Foreign Minister holds call with Omani counterpart

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Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani held a phone call with Omani Minister Responsible for Foreign Affairs Yusuf bin Alawi bin Abdullah.

They discussed cooperation between both countries in fac-



Minister Al Zayani Abdullah

ing the coronavirus pandemic, which poses a challenge to the

region and the whole world.

The Foreign Affairs Minister expressed the Kingdom's appreciation to the Sultanate of Oman for its cooperation in facilitating the return of Bahraini nationals arriving from Iran.

He affirmed that this noble gesture reflects the strength of brotherly relations between the two countries.

Shura Council calls for national unity to overcome COVID-19

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The Shura Council stressed yesterday the importance of cooperation of all citizens and residents during these exceptional circumstances, through their commitment to the measures taken by the government to limit the spread

of COVID-19.

It affirmed that the current critical period requires more national unity, cohesion and solidarity in order to overcome the situation.

The Shura Council reiterated its full support for all the national efforts and measures to address COVID-19.

It expressed confidence in

the ability of the Kingdom, under His Majesty the King's leadership, and the follow-up of HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, the Prime Minister, and HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, to overcome this period safely.

Joint committee formed to follow up on work-from-home directives

Civil Service Bureau, Supreme Council for Women to follow up implementation of HM the King's order for public sector working mothers

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The Civil Service Bureau (CSB) and the Supreme Council for Women (SCW) yesterday formed a joint committee to follow up on the implementation of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's directives on allowing mothers affiliated with ministries,

entities and government departments to work from home.

The joint committee shall also ensure the effective implementation of the resolutions of the Government Executive Committee, chaired by HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, aiming

mainly to achieve maximum levels of family stability amid the current circumstances the Kingdom is going through, in line with the set of precautionary measures in force to combat the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The panel has held three consecutive meetings to support government departments' implementation of the work-

from-home system for working mothers.

They addressed the challenges that may face the application of the system, in accordance with the top interests of work institutions, and put forward suitable mechanisms to ensure its ideal application, according to the needs of various work sectors and in a way that would support the kingdom's efforts to

curb the COVID-19 spread.

The joint committee said that it will continue following up on the implementation of the work-from-home system for working mothers while relying on the best administrative practices to ensure that the policy is implemented to the fullest, and also make the necessary recommendations whenever need arises.