

Bahrain Chamber reshapes committees to boost governance and efficiency

Forms coordination body, revamps advisory and joint panels to strengthen private sector voice

● **New Committees**
Coordination Committee to define mandates and streamline appointments

● **Advisory Council** and key joint committees reconstituted to support policy and reforms

● **Push to fast-track** sectoral committees for stronger, balanced business representation



TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Chamber has moved to tighten its institutional structure, forming a new Committees Coordination Committee and reconstituting key advisory and joint bodies to strengthen decision-making and private sector representation.

At its second meeting of the

31st term on April 28, 2026, chaired by Nabeel Khalid Kano, the Board adopted a series of measures aimed at improving efficiency and aligning its operations with current and future priorities. Central to the decisions was the creation of the new committee, tasked with defining mandates, recommending committee structures, and setting clear criteria and timelines for appointments, subject to Board

approval.

The Board also stressed the need to fast-track the formation and restructuring of sectoral committees to ensure balanced representation and more effectively convey private sector perspectives.

To support informed policy-making, members approved the reconstitution of the Advisory Council, bringing together experienced business leaders,

and agreed to reform the joint committee with the Ministry of Industry and Commerce to address economic challenges and legislative improvements.

Further reinforcing regional ties, the Board endorsed reconstituting the Bahraini side of the Bahrain-Saudi Joint Business Council to boost cooperation and investment opportunities.

In addition, the Board approved the formation of an In-



The Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry, established in 1910, is the oldest chamber of commerce in the Gulf region and serves as the main representative of Bahrain's private sector.

ternal Audit Committee with an expanded mandate and reaffirmed its commitment to transparency, accountability,

and active member engagement, following strong participation at the General Assembly held on April 25.

Bahrain Bourse announces promotions to management positions

Manama

Bahrain Bourse (BHB) and its fully-owned subsidiary, Bahrain Clear (BHC) has announced the promotion of several team members in recognition of their strong performance, dedication, and ongoing contributions to the organization.

These promotions reflect Bahrain Bourse's continued focus on investing in its national talent and strengthening internal capabilities to support the growth and advancement of Bahrain's capital market. The promotions stem from the company's broader strategy to invest in human capital and empower Bahraini professionals to assume leadership roles. By doing so, Bahrain Bourse seeks to foster a culture of corporate excellence and drive operational sustainability. It also highlights the organization's confidence in the caliber of its talent pool to lead innovation, deliver added value to its wider stakeholder group, and contribute towards the recently unveiled Capital Market Development



Plan aimed at elevating the market.

Commenting on the announcement, Shaikh Khalifa bin Ebrahim Al-Khalifa, Chief

Executive Officer of Bahrain Bourse, said, "We are extremely proud to see our local talent progress into leadership positions within the organiza-

tion. Recognizing and developing our talent remains a key priority for Bahrain Bourse. These promotions reflect the commitment and perfor-

mance of our team members as well as a forward-looking investment, as we are confident they will continue to play an integral role in advancing our strategic objectives and supporting the development of the recently unveiled Capital Market Development Plan (2026-2028).

Salman Alzayani, Director of Human Resources of Bahrain Bourse stated, "We are committed towards building a strong and capable team that can support the recently unveiled Capital Market Development Plan. Investing in our people is a core part of how we strengthen our organization and ensure we continue to deliver at a high standard."

Bahrain Bourse remains committed towards nurturing Bahraini talent and strengthening its organizational capabilities in line with its Capital Market Development Plan. Bahrain Bourse continues to focus on operating a secure, efficient, and internationally aligned market infrastructure that supports sustainable economic growth.

Don't 'loot a charity': Musk takes stand against OpenAI

AFP | Oakland, United States

Billionaire Elon Musk took the stand Tuesday to accuse OpenAI and its boss Sam Altman of betraying the AI company's altruistic origins, in a trial that could have far-reaching consequences for the industry and oblige the ChatGPT maker to profoundly revamp its business.

The legal clash across the bay from San Francisco is widely seen as a battle of egos pitting the world's richest person against a startup Musk once backed and now trails in the booming AI sector.

At the heart of the case is Musk's accusation that Altman drove OpenAI to become a profit-seeking juggernaut looking to dethrone the likes of Google, Apple and Microsoft, and betraying its nonprofit mission.

"If a verdict comes up that effectively makes it okay to loot a charity, the entire foundation of charitable giving in America will be destroyed -- that's my concern," Musk said on the stand after being called as the trial's first witness.

He told the court he backed the project in the spirit of it being a nonprofit endeavor that made the good of society the top priority, with any technology developed made open source. "I didn't want to pave the road to hell with good intentions," Musk said of his vision for OpenAI. "I didn't want to fund OpenAI to make safe AI and then find out that it was actually making unsafe AI."

US Fed chief's plans in focus as central bank set to hold rates steady

AFP | Washington, United States

The US Federal Reserve is widely expected Wednesday to keep interest rates unchanged for a third straight meeting, likely the last with chairman Jerome Powell at its helm.

Powell, who has been a frequent target of President Donald Trump, is set to hold a press briefing at 2:30 pm (1830 GMT) and all eyes will now be on his future plans.

The Fed said officials reconvened at 9:00 am for the second

day of their policy meeting.

Fed officials will weigh the risks of surging energy prices and snarled supply chains due to the US-Israeli war on Iran, and analysts expect another pause in rate adjustments as effects of the conflict ripple through the

world's largest economy.

The halt would keep interest rates at a range between 3.50% and 3.75%.

As Powell's tenure as Fed chairman ends May 15, pressure is mounting for the US Senate to confirm Trump's

choice of his successor, Kevin Warsh.

The Senate Banking Committee is due to vote to advance Warsh's nomination on Wednesday morning too, which would mark a key step forward in his confirmation.