

Competitiveness

► The Third Quarter Newsletter, 2021 of the National Competitiveness Center.

Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques:

**We have made
great progress
since launching the
ambitious vision**

- HRH Crown Prince Launches
 - [The Human Capability Development Program.](#)
 - [The National Transport and Logistics Strategy.](#)
 - [Asir Region Development Strategy.](#)
- The Saudi Trade System Delegation and UNCITRAL [review the prospects for Saudi trade.](#)
- The National Competitiveness Center and Saudi Council of Engineers [organize an open meeting with engineering offices.](#)

Editorial

This third quarter Competitiveness newsletter of 2021 accompanied the developments that the Kingdom had witnessed on the local and international levels. It also monitors the most prominent activities and initiatives of the National Competitiveness Center aimed at improving the business environment and raising the Kingdom's competitiveness locally and globally. The speech delivered by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz to the United Nations General Assembly at the forefront of this newsletter. In the speech, King Salman stressed that the essence of the Kingdom's Vision 2030 is to achieve prosperity, build a better future, and create a leading economy as well as dynamic society engaged with the world. Five years since the inception of Vision 2030, we have made tremendous headway in supporting local industry, developing infrastructure, information technology and energy solutions, investing in many other sectors as well as empowering women and youth, and improving the quality of life for all.

This newsletter also includes the programs and strategies recently launched by His Royal Highness the Crown Prince to enhance the competitiveness of human capabilities, as well as enhance integration in the logistics system, and modern modes of transportation, to support the comprehensive development process in Saudi Arabia.

Moreover, many meetings and workshops are in this newsletter. Including the meeting with Prince Faisal bin Nawaf bin Abdulaziz, Governor of Al Jouf Region, in which he reviewed with Dr. Majed Al-Qasabi, Minister of Commerce, COB of NCC, and Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, Deputy Minister and CEO of NCC, the Kingdom's efforts to enhance and develop the competitive environment, and to monitor and analyze the obstacles and challenges facing the business environment in the region.



What is Competitiveness?

The state's ability to make optimal use of all its resources, policies, and institutions to raise the adequacy and quality of services provided to individuals and the business sector, in a way that contributes to achieve sustainable development for the state and placing it in an advanced competitive position.

Our Vision



By 2030, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will be one of the world's 10 most competitive economies driven by our focus on investment, entrepreneurship, innovation and productivity.

Our Mission



To strengthen the global competitiveness of the Saudi economy through the promotion of an investment and business - friendly regulatory environment and the alignment of all government sectoral strategies around a unified vision of competitiveness.

22, 2021 - SPA

Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to the United Nations General Assembly:

The Kingdom's Vision 2030 aims to achieve prosperity, create a better future, and build a leading economy



► The Custodian of Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, confirmed the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's perpetual commitment with the international legitimacy principles and resolutions, respect of national sovereignty of all countries and non-interference in other countries internal affairs. The monarch also underscored the importance of making the Middle East a mass destruction weapons free, and his country's continuation to confront extremist thought based on the rhetoric of hate and exclusion as well as the practices of terrorist groups and sectarian militias, which manage to destruct people and nations.

The Custodian of Two Holy Mosques, reiterated in the speech of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia he delivered via virtual communication before the 76th UN general assembly in New York, the Kingdom's keenness on the recovery of the global

economy, citing the pioneering efforts the Kingdom has exerted, in cooperation with its partners in OPEC+ and within the framework of the G20 to address the severe consequences of the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic in order to enhance the world oil market stability, its balance and supplies in a way that preserves the interests of producers and consumers as well.

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques said that the essence of the Kingdom's Vision 2030 is to achieve prosperity, build a better future, and create a leading economy as well as dynamic society engaged with the world. Five years since the inception of Vision 2030, we have made tremendous headway in supporting local industry, developing infrastructure, information technology and energy solutions, investing in many other sectors as well as empowering women and youth, and improving the quality of life for all.



The essence of the Kingdom's Vision 2030 is to achieve prosperity, build a better future, and create a leading economy as well as dynamic society engaged with the world. Five years since the inception of Vision 2030, we have made tremendous headway in supporting local industry, developing infrastructure, information technology and energy solutions, investing in many other sectors as well as empowering women and youth, and improving the quality of life for all.



The Custodian of Two Holy Mosques' Address to the 76th UN general Assembly

September 28, 2021

Crown Prince launches

Asir Region Development Strategy

رؤية
2030
المملكة العربية السعودية
KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

to turn it into a year-round global tourism destination and attract more than 10 million visitors by 2030



His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Council of Economic and Development Affairs, launched Asir Region Development Strategy under the theme of "The Arabian Highland". The strategy's objective is to achieve a comprehensive, unprecedented and sustainable growth for the region through an investment of 50 billion Saudi Riyals to finance major vital projects from different sources and develop tourism attractions on and around the peaks of Asir mountains, turning the region into an all-year-round world destination. The region will rely on the beauty of its nature and its rich culture,

which combines authenticity and modernity. The strategy will also contribute to the social and economic prosperity of the region.

His Royal Highness announced that the strategy seeks to make of Asir region by 2030 a year round world tourist destination catering for more than 10 million visitors from inside and outside the kingdom. He added that the natural assets of the region underpin the strategy. These assets will be utilized, he added, through major tourist projects that will highlight the region's high mountain peaks as well as its geographic and natural varieties and reveal the richness of its cultural heritage.

Asir Strategy seeks to attract local and international investments, which will contribute to producing effective and sustainable economic growth through a facilitating package of comprehensive administrative measures that will reinforce the role of tourism and culture as major economic development mechanisms in Asir.

HRH Crown Prince stated on launching Asir Region Development Strategy



HRH Crown Prince highlighted that Asir Region Development Strategy seeks to attract local and international investments, which will contribute to producing effective and sustainable economic growth through a facilitating package of comprehensive administrative measures that will reinforce the role of tourism and culture as major economic development mechanisms in Asir.

His Royal Highness asserted that the implementation of the strategy will contribute by 2030 to providing new job opportunities in addition to raising the quality of life and to improving the region's basic services and infrastructure, including communication, healthcare, transport, and other citizen empowering services and facilities.

On this occasion, Prince Turki bin Talal bin Abdulaziz, Chairman of Asir Development Authority, conveyed his highest expressions of gratitude and recognition to HRH the Crown Prince for his constant support and deep interest in Asir region and its people. Prince Turki bin Talal's address came following His Royal Highnesses' launching of Asir Region Development Strategy with the objective of achieving comprehensive growth and prosperity for the region, and its people by improving their living standards, developing the region's infrastructure and services, attracting investment, and ensuring sustained social and economic progress.

September 15, 2021

HRH Crown Prince Launches the Human Capability Development Program, and confirms his confidence in the capabilities of every citizen



His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Human Capability Development Program Committee, launched today the Human Capability Development Program (HCDP), one of the vision realization programs to achieve the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030. The program represents a national strategy to strengthen citizen's capabilities locally and globally by seizing promising opportunities resulting from accelerated and renewed changes around the world.

"The Human Capability Development Program represents a national strategy to enhance the competitiveness of national human capabilities locally and globally to be ready for the current and future labor market with capabilities and ambitions that compete with the world, and that is through: instilling and promoting values, developing basic

and future skills, and developing knowledge", HRH the Crown Prince said.

"Because of my confidence in every citizen's capabilities, this program has been developed to meet the needs and aspirations of all segments of society, beginning from childhood passing through universities, colleges, technical and vocational institutes, and reaching the labor market, with the goal of preparing citizens for the future, as this contributes to building a solid economy based on skills and knowledge and with human capital at its core," HRH the Crown Prince added.

HRH the Crown Prince continued: "The program includes 89 initiatives aimed at achieving 16 strategic objectives of Saudi Vision 2030. The program's strategy is built on three pillars: develop a resilient and strong educational base, prepare for the future labor market locally and globally, and provide lifelong learning opportunities."

The Human Capability Development Program represents a national strategy to enhance the competitiveness of national human capabilities locally and globally.

HRH Crown Prince said on launching the Human Capability Development Program

June 29, 2021

His Royal Highness the Crown Prince launches the National Transport and Logistics Strategy aimed at consolidating the Kingdom's position as a global logistics center and improving services and means of transportation

His Royal Highness, Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister, Chairman of the Council of Economic and Development Affairs, and Chairman of the Higher Committee for Transport and Logistics launched on Wednesday, June 29, 2021, the National Transport and Logistics Strategy. The comprehensive strategy that aims to solidify the Kingdom's position as a global logistics hub connecting the three continents, it will uplift and improve all forms of transport services and strengthen the integration of logistical services and future technologies, supporting and enabling the Kingdom's national development plans.

In line with changing the Ministry's name from the Ministry of Transport to the Ministry of Transport and Logistics Services. This strategy entails an ambitious package of Mega projects, enabling economic and social goals, and the adoption of effective governance models to institutionalize efforts in the transport sector.

HRH the Crown Prince noted, "This strategy will contribute to advancing technical capabilities and human capital in the Transport and Logistics Sector, it will invest our country's strategic position at the heart of three continents, further concreting our integral part of global economies; by creating advanced logistical industries, ensuring high quality services and applying competitive business models, we will strengthen productivity and sustainability in the logistics sector. Being a key pillar of Vision 2030 and an enabling sector for industries the transport and logistics sector strategy aims to diversify our economy and achieve sustainable development."

HRH the Crown Prince added, the strategy will focus on developing infrastructure, launching key platforms and Logistic zones across the Kingdom, adopting advanced operating systems and optimizing partnerships between the public and private sector, achieving the four key targets of: solidifying the Kingdom's position as a global logistics hub, uplifting quality of life in the Kingdom, achieving efficient fiscal management and enhancing public sector performance.

HRH the Crown Prince further highlighted, through this strategy we aim to advance the Kingdom's position to become the 5th global Air Transit Passenger route, increase international destination reach to 250 destinations, alongside the launch an additional new national carrier, in Air Cargo capacity we aim to double our



capacity to more than 4.5 million tons, all of which will enable adjacent sectors of Hajj and Umrah and Tourism to achieve their national targets.

On Maritime transport HRH the Crown Prince added, "we set a target to achieve an annual container capacity of over 40 million containers, including the associated value chain investments, in developing ports' infrastructure, enhancing integration with Logistic zones, expanding connectivity with international shipping routes and integrating this all with rail and road networks. By enhancing the entire value chain, we ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of the transport ecosystem and its economics".

HRH the Crown Prince further explained, the Kingdom's current railway network provides services for passengers and freight across a track of 5,330km, 450km of which are the Haramain high - speed railway – the largest high-speed transport project in the region between the two holy cities of Makkah and Madinah. Whereas the strategy will increase the total future length of railways to an estimated 8,080km, including the flagship "Land Bridge" project, spanning more than 1,300km, with a capacity of over 3 million passengers and 50 million tons per annum and connecting the Kingdom's ports from the Arabian Gulf to the Red Sea, by doing so we are opening the market and creating new and promising opportunities for investors and operators, this rail network will pass through modern logistic zones, economic hubs, industrial cities, and mining clusters. It will enhance the Kingdom's logistic performance index to be among the top ten countries globally, significantly contribute to the regional goal of achieving a railway network connectivity between Arabian Gulf Countries, positioning the Kingdom as a key regional and global transportation axis.

HRH the Crown Prince further highlighted, this strategy is built on several key strategic pillars, including the Kingdom's major road networks –which are currently among the highest globally ranked in terms of connectivity, as it includes various initiatives aimed at reducing the number road accident victims, ensuring efficient connectivity and public transportation services, alongside achieving sustainable and environmentally conscious targets of reducing fuel consumption by 25% and adopting the latest technologies of passenger and cargo transportation following best global practices, the strategy will aim to position the Kingdom at the forefront of road quality and safety.

Through this strategy we aim to advance the Kingdom's position to become the 5th global Air Transit Passenger route and increase the contribution of the transport and logistics sector in National GDP to 10%.

HRH Crown Prince said on launching the National Transport and Logistics Strategy

July 13, 2021

Minister of Commerce and Deputy Minister participate in Saudi-British Sustainable Investment Forum



Minister of Commerce and Deputy Minister participate in Saudi-British Sustainable Investment Forum

On Tuesday, July 13, 2021, the Saudi-British Sustainable Investment Forum kicked off in London, organized by the Saudi-British Joint Business Council, in the presence of HRH Prince Khalid bin Bandar bin Sultan, the Saudi Ambassador to the United Kingdom, and the Minister of Commerce, Dr. Majid Al-Qasabi.

In the forum, the Lord Mayor of the City of London, William Russell, delivered a speech expressing his aspirations to work with Saudi Arabia to achieve sustainable development goals in the green energy sectors, indicating that global financial services will play a major role in supporting economic transformation and achieving a carbon-free future.

The Saudi Ambassador, Prince Khalid bin Bandar bin Sultan, welcomed the attendees and guests, stressing that the relations between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom are historical and ancient. He added that the United Kingdom is not just an ally, but also a friend, considering this forum as an important occasion to discuss investment opportunities between the two countries, and joint work towards a green future.

The forum began with a ministerial session entitled "Opportunities and Challenges Facing Recovery after the Outbreak of Corona epidemic, and Rebuilding Better and Greener," where the Minister of Commerce, Dr. Majid Al-Qasabi said that the recent visits of the British ministers to Saudi Arabia testament to the strength of the relationship between the two countries. He also called for establishing a communication channel between investors to open new investment areas.

The Minister of Commerce and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Competitiveness Center, Dr. Majid Al-Qasabi, stressed that the Saudi Vision 2030 opened new horizons for the future, and various opportunities in promising sectors, such as technology, energy, tourism, entertainment, mining, logistics and others. He stressed that the Kingdom has unique opportunities that cover many important aspects such as the digital technology sectors and others, looking forward to strengthening and developing cooperation, exchanging experiences and attracting British investments in light of the great facilities and reforms that the business sector enjoys.

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, reviewed the exceptional

The Saudi Vision 2030 opened new horizons for the future and various opportunities in promising sectors, such as technology, energy, tourism, entertainment, mining and logistics

Dr. Majid Al-Qasabi,
Minister of Commerce and COB of NCC

The exceptional achievements of Saudi Vision 2030 in the past five years, including providing a competitive business environment through multiple reforms in various sectors

Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi,
Deputy Minister of Commerce and CEO of NCC

achievements of Saudi Vision 2030 in the past five years, including providing a competitive business environment through multiple reforms in various sectors. Adding that how the recent updates have helped to create a business environment that promotes growth and enables rapid economic transformation. She explained that the commercial and economic reforms and policies adopted by Saudi Arabia to develop the business environment contributed to reducing the negative effects of the Corona pandemic towards accelerating economic recovery and making the Kingdom an

attractive destination. Noting that in the context of empowering women, new laws have been enacted that encourage women's effective participation in the new economic transformation at all levels.

The forum also included two sessions, the first is to discuss investment opportunities in the clean energy sector, innovations and infrastructure in Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom, and the support available to companies and investors. The second session dealt with the exchange of knowledge between Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom in the field of green finance.



July 4, 2021

NCC's Board of Directors holds the fifth meeting



► The Board of Directors of the National Competitiveness Center held its fifth meeting virtually on Sunday, July 4, 2021, headed by Dr. Majed Al-Qasabi, Minister of Commerce and COB of NCC, in the presence of Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, Deputy Minister and CEO of NCC, and members of the Board.

The meeting reviewed the topics on the agenda, especially regarding NCC's level of performance in the first half of this year, and the plans and programs that the center is following up on their implementation, aimed at improving and developing the business environment in Saudi Arabia, and improving the Kingdom's ranking in global indicators and reports.

July 15, 2021

Dr. Al-Qasabi participates in the meeting of the Saudi-British Strategic Partnership Council

► The Economic and Social Committee of the Saudi-British Strategic Partnership Council held its second meeting in London, on July 15, chaired by the Saudi Minister of Commerce, Dr. Majid Al-Qasabi, and the British Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, Kwasi Kwarteng.

The meeting discussed revitalizing bilateral relations and enhancing cooperation between the two countries within the framework of the areas agreed upon in the strategic partnership.

Then, a joint statement was issued stating that the United Kingdom acknowledged the great economic and social progress that Saudi Arabia has witnessed since launching Vision 2030 in 2016, and reaffirmed its continues commitment to support the Vision and the Saudi program for economic diversification and social reform.



Moreover, Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom affirmed their joint commitment to developing trade and investment, in addition to achieving prosperity in many sectors for the citizens of the two countries.

September 5, 2021

A delegation from the Saudi Shura Council visits the National Competitiveness Center

Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi reviews the most prominent legislative and regulatory reforms to enhance women's participation in economic development

Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, Deputy Minister of Commerce and CEO of NCC, received on Sunday, September 5, 2021, a delegation from the Saudi Shura Council at the center's headquarters, headed by Shura Council member Dr. Mastourah Obaid Al-Shamri, head of the Social, Educational, Cultural, Women and Youth Affairs Committee in the Arab Parliament.

The meeting reviewed the achievements of women's empowerment in Saudi Arabia according to the "Saudi Vision 2030". Dr. Al-Mutairi also highlighted the participation of Saudi women in economic and social development, and the most prominent legislative, regulatory and procedural reforms in the field of conducting commercial activities

and improving the business environment. She also highlighted the role played by the National Competitiveness Center in achieving these reforms in cooperation with more than 50 government entities in addition to the private sector.

Moreover, Dr. Al-Mutairi also reviewed the most prominent reforms of regulations and executive regulations related to enhancing the role of women to participate in economic development. Including gender equality in obtaining financing services, establishing and practicing business, retirement age, salaries and jobs. In addition to preventing pregnancy discrimination and firing a pregnant woman from work and ensuring that salaries are paid during the maternity leave.

September 6, 2021

Governor of Al-Jouf Region and Minister of Commerce discuss improving the business environment

His Royal Highness Prince Faisal bin Nawaf bin Abdulaziz, Governor of Al-Jouf Region, visited the National Competitiveness Center on Monday, September 6, 2021, and was received by Dr. Majid Al-Qasabi, Minister of Commerce and COB of NCC, and Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, Deputy Minister of Commerce and CEO of NCC.

During the meeting, they reviewed the Kingdom's efforts to enhance and develop the competitive environment, monitor and analyze obstacles and challenges facing the business environment and ways to develop them and raise the level of their attractiveness by proposing legislative, regulatory and procedural reforms and following up on their implementation, in line with the "Saudi Vision 2030".

For his part, Prince Faisal reviewed the initiatives of the Emirate of Al-Jouf Region in enhancing the business environment and raising competitiveness, most notably supporting the growth of small and medium enterprises, motivating entrepreneurs by establishing an integrated guide to operating stores, reducing operational costs, raising and motivating the competitiveness of entrepreneurs' stores.

The meeting also discussed plans and initiatives to develop media activities in Al-Jouf Region and their impact and advantages on media platforms, especially in traditional media (radio and television), in addition to the initiative to establish a media and development forum to attract investors and enhance the region's role in the media.

September 27, 2021

To promote Saudi trade policy

The Trade System and UNCITRAL review the prospects for Saudi trade



United Nations
UNCITRAL

وزارة التجارة
Ministry of Commerce



► The Minister of Commerce and COM of NCC, Dr. Majed Al-Qasabi, headed, on Monday, September 27, 2021, the delegation of the Saudi Trade System in the workshop organized by "UNCITRAL", which was held in Austria and lasted for two days, to discuss the internal and external trade policy of Saudi Arabia.

The workshop, which was attended by, Deputy Minister and CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, as well as the Assistant Minister of Commerce, Badr Al-Haddab, and a number of officials, reviewed the current situation of the Kingdom in domestic and international trade and the prospects for Saudi trade in the next three years. As this workshop will be a mainstay in strengthening the trade system policy aimed at promoting the new trend to enter new sectors and benefit from the experience of UNCITRAL in enacting foreign trade laws in accordance with best practices.

The discussions focused on the Kingdom's benefit (represented by the Trade System) from the long experience of UNCITRAL in the field of drafting commercial regulations and laws, facilitating

the flow of trade to global markets, in addition to settling commercial disputes, international contract practices and the prevailing practices of trade legislation, and e-commerce and digital transformation in commercial services. That, in order to enhance the internal and external trade policy supervised by the Ministry of Commerce and its affiliated entities, in addition to the National Competitiveness Center, by developing the trade system, improving the business environment and the Kingdom's competitiveness locally and globally.

This visit came in light of the Council of Ministers' decision, early last year, to approve a memorandum of cooperation between Saudi Arabia represented by NCC with the UN represented by the Office of Legal Affairs in order to create a conducive legal environment for international trade and investment. As this commission has been working for more than 50 years in harmonizing the rules relating to the conduct of foreign business and addressing disparities in national laws regulating international trade.

September 30, 2021

Minister of Commerce meets with a number of officials and business owners in Austria



► The delegation of the Saudi Trade System, headed by the Minister of Commerce and COB of NCC, Dr. Majid Al-Qasabi, met with a number of business owners and officials in the Austro-Arab Chamber of Commerce (AACC).

The meeting discussed opportunities to enhance and develop commercial relations and raise the level of trade exchange and cooperation between the two countries in light of the qualitative facilities and reforms enjoyed by the business sector in Saudi Arabia.

At the beginning of the meeting, Dr. Al-Qasabi stressed the depth of the historical relations between the two countries, indicating that the two sides aspire to strengthen bilateral trade relations, especially since the Saudi economy has been witnessing, since the launch of the Kingdom's Vision 2030, radical transformations that have led to the opening of many new sectors. As this contributes to the diversification of the economy and the availability of many opportunities for investors, in addition to providing support and overcoming the obstacle. Moreover, the Deputy Minister of Commerce and CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, reviewed the

exceptional achievements made by the Kingdom in the past five years, which contributed to creating a competitive environment that enhances economic growth through many regulatory, legislative and procedural reforms in various sectors.

The Vice-President of the AACC, Mag. Maria Mittermair, explained the AACC's keenness to strengthen commercial relations with Saudi Arabia, praising the economic reforms, facilitating procedures and support directed to the business sector in the Kingdom. Pointing out the interest of a number of business owners to enter the Saudi market and take advantage of the opportunities and incentives that the Kingdom offers to foreign investors in order to encourage Austrian companies to expand their businesses and establish new ones in promising sectors.

The meeting was attended by the Assistant Minister of Commerce in Saudi Arabia, Bader Al-Hadab, the Secretary General of the AACC, Mouddar Khouja, the Regional Director for the Middle East and Africa, Martin Waller, and members of the AACC, including business owners.

August 11, 2021

Deputy Minister of Commerce and CEO of NCC receives the Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh

► The Deputy Minister of Commerce and CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, received at the NCC's headquarters on Wednesday, August 11, 2021, the Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh, Denison Offutt. In the meeting, they reviewed the distinguished relations of cooperation between Saudi Arabia and the United States, ways to enhance them and bilateral coordination, as well as a number of issues of common interest.



August 18, 2021

Minister of Commerce and COB of NCC receives South Korean ambassador to Saudi Arabia



► The Minister of Commerce and COB of NCC, Dr. Majed Al-Qasabi, received at the NCC's headquarters on Wednesday, August 18, 2021, the South Korean Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Park Joon-yong.

In the meeting, they discussed ways to enhance bilateral cooperation relations between the two countries, and prospects for their development, especially in the areas of cooperation regarding efforts to develop the business environment in the two countries.

August 26, 2021

Deputy Minister of Commerce and CEO of NCC receives the Director General of Foreign Economic Relations in Netherland

► The Deputy Minister of Commerce and CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, met on Thursday, August 26, 2021, with the Director General of Foreign Economic Relations in Netherland, Hanneke Schuiling, in the presence of the Dutch Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Janet Alberda, at the NCC's headquarters.

In the meeting, they discussed areas of bilateral cooperation between the two countries and ways to enhance them.



September 20, 2021

NCC and SCE organize an open meeting with engineering offices



▶ The National Competitiveness Center, in cooperation with the Saudi Council of Engineers, organized an open meeting virtually with about a thousand engineering offices, on Monday, September 20, 2021, to discuss the “Saudi Building Code”.

This meeting witnessed the participation of representatives of the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and Housing, the General Directorate of Civil Defense, the National Committee for the Saudi Building Code, and the High Commission for Industrial Security.

The meeting aimed to know the opinions of those interested, government entities and the private sector, especially the owners of engineering offices, regarding the regulatory procedures related to the implementation of the Saudi Building Code, safety standards in buildings, procedures for licensing safety offices, in addition to the role of engineering offices in labor housing licenses and commercial licenses.

Representatives of the competent authorities gave a brief explanation about ways to activate the terms and conditions of the Saudi Building Code and apply safety standards. As the procedures and requirements for

safety licenses on buildings were explained by the Civil Defense, and they clarified the required role of the engineering offices to implement the requirements of the Saudi Building Code, in addition to the engineering office issuing the license for the building, after submitting the necessary plans to build the project.

They also clarified the role of the responsible engineering offices in terms of supervising and following up the work of the building contractor, and after issuing the insurance certificate against hidden defects. They pointed out that these requirements are to appoint an approved engineering designer office, to prepare designs and drawings according to the Saudi code for residential buildings. In addition to appointing a certified engineering office to supervise the works and submit reports through “Baladi” platform according to the Saudi Building Code. The requirements also include appointing an approved building contractor to carry out the works in accordance with approved plans and designs, and purchasing a mandatory building insurance policy, which includes insurance against hidden defects for residential buildings.

▶ Highlights of the workshop

- ▶ The required role of engineering offices in issuing licenses for buildings.
- ▶ The future of cooperation with engineering offices in licensing procedures.
- ▶ The engineering offices are required to supervise and follow up on the work of the building contractor after the issuance of the insurance certificate.
- ▶ Applying the Saudi Building Code will be mandatory on all buildings in 1444 AH. (July 30, 2022)
- ▶ Allocating an electronic window on “Baladi” platform, which will collect the licensing variables according to each region.
- ▶ The importance of providing indicative models matching the code to support engineering offices.



August 9, 2021

NCC and the Ministry of Justice organize a workshop on the New Implementation Law Project

► Under the patronage of the Deputy Minister of Commerce and CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, the National Competitiveness Center has organized on Monday, August 9, 2021, in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, a virtual workshop on the “New Implementation Law Project”.

This workshop aimed to explore the opinions and feedback of interested parties, government entities, and the private sector regarding the provisions of the project and its objectives aimed at raising the efficiency of the execution judiciary, enforcing contracts, strengthening the assignment of non-judicial work to the private and non-profit sectors, and limiting the role of

the judge to judicial work.

Moreover, the representative of the Ministry of Justice reviewed the elements and objectives of this Law Project, and the development of the stages of its formulation, pointing to benefiting from international experiences in this regard. The most prominent provisions included in the project, the executive document, the forced execution procedures, the tracking of funds and the sale of the seized money were also clarified. Furthermore, the views of more than 146 specialists and researchers, participating in the workshop, were discussed, and their observations, inquiries, and suggestions were answered.

► Highlights of the workshop

▾ Presenting the New Implementation Law Project, its stages, and the studied international experiences before drafting this law project, and been submitted on the Public Consultation Platform to receive the views and feedback.

▾ Clarifying the most prominent contents covered by this law project, the general provisions of this law project, the executive document, the procedures for forced execution, the tracking of funds and the sale of the seized money.

▾ Discussing the inquiries and views of specialists, stakeholders and researchers participating in the workshop, and responding to their observations and suggestions.

المركز الوطني للتأهب
NATIONAL COMPETITIVENESS CENTER
الرياض | RYD



اليوم الوطني
السعودي ٩١



The Public Consultation Platform of the National Competitiveness Center has enabled the general public, the private sector and the government entities to view the new law projects and regulations related to economic and development affairs, then express their feedback before these new law projects and regulations been approved.



>>>>> **The Public Consultation Platform in the 3rd quarter of 2021** <<<<<<



>>>>> **The most prominent sectors** <<<<<<

health
sector

commerce,
economy and
investment sector

education
and science
sector

the Judiciary
and human
rights sector

labor and
social care
sector

>>>>> **The most prominent submitted law projects** <<<<<<

the updated law
project of the
cooperative health
insurance document

the executive
regulations law
project of objection
to judgments

the law project
of amending the
regulation of
classifying the
Saudi Building Code
violations

the law project
of amending the
regulation of the
judicial pleadings
law

Translating laws and regulations related to the business sector

The National Competitiveness Center works in cooperation with government agencies to translate and publish all laws and regulations related to the business sector in Arabic and English, in order to facilitate procedures and enable local and foreign investors to access all information and legal documents electronically.



Coordinating with the Official Translation Department in the Bureau of Experts at the Council of Ministers:



Coordinating with government entities concerned with the implementation of the Royal Order:



Coordinating with the National Center for Archives and Records:

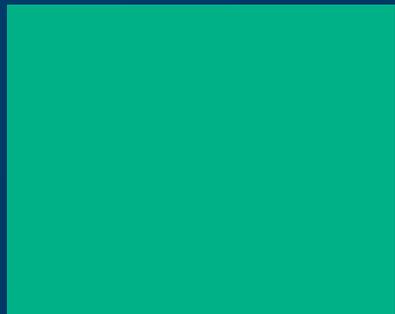




Journal Club

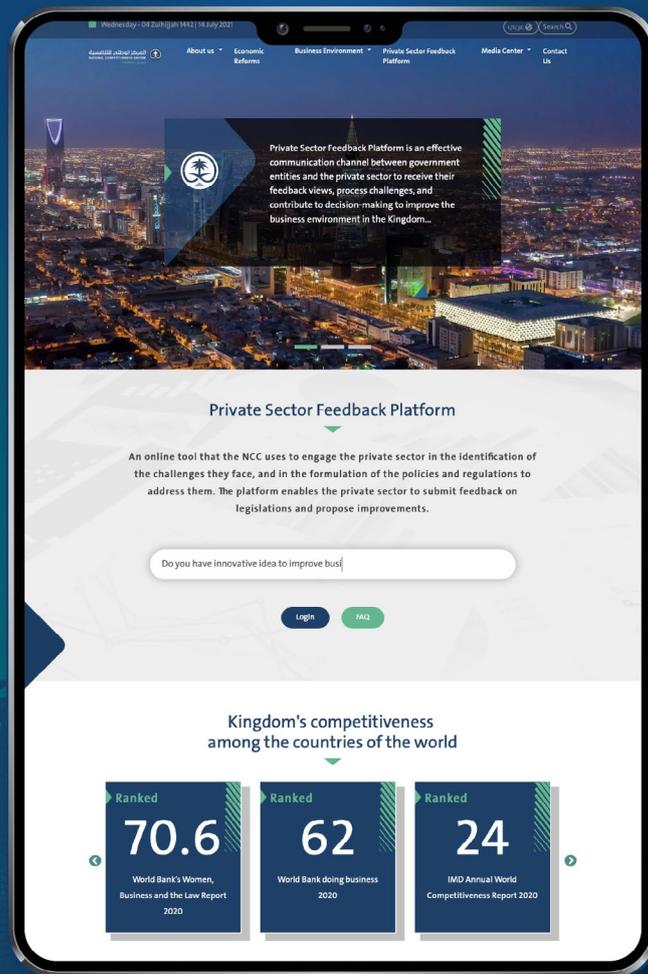
A weekly educational program held at the National Competitiveness Center, which aims to develop the cognitive capabilities and functional skills of the NCC's team, and create a creative work environment for them. This is by hosting prominent speakers in various fields, in addition to the NCC's employees, to talk about the most prominent topics of the economy and global competitiveness published in the global media.





Facing Challenges in the Work Environment?

"The "Private Sector Feedback Platform
is your gateway to reform



The Communication Center

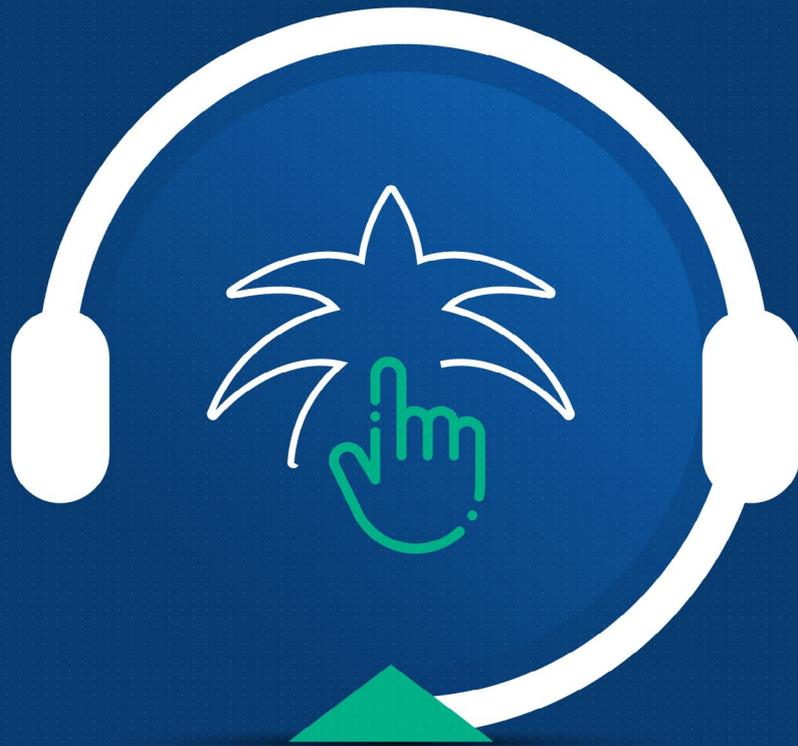
Always at your service



Sunday to Thursday



from 08:00 a.m. to 08:00 p.m



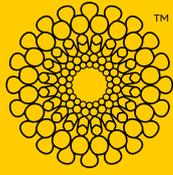
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