

Competitiveness

▶ NCC's 4Q Newsletter, 2021 of the National Competitiveness Center.

▶ **Crown Prince Launches
Major Economic Projects**

▶ **Custodian of the Two Holy
Mosques Announces 2022
Budget**



▶ **Acting Governor of Riyadh Reviews
Competitive Environment Development**

▶ **NCC Holds its Regular Meeting with the
American Chamber of Commerce**

Editorial

This fourth quarter Competitiveness newsletter of 2021 accompanied the developments that the Kingdom had witnessed on the local and international levels.

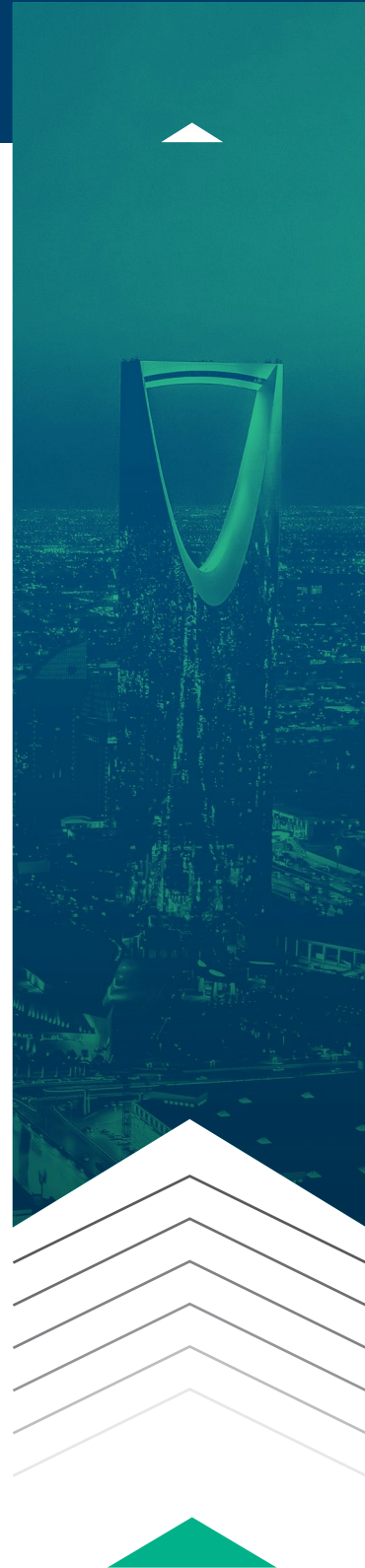
It also monitors the most prominent activities and initiatives of the National Competitiveness Center aimed at improving the business environment and raising the Kingdom's competitiveness locally and globally.

The speech delivered by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz, announcing the 2022 budget is at the forefront of this newsletter, in which he said that the Kingdom has overcome the economic effects of the exceptional stages of the COVID-19 pandemic and announced the Kingdom's continuing economic breakthrough as a result of the economic and financial reforms in accordance with the Saudi Vision 2030.

This newsletter also includes the speech of His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman, the Crown Prince, on the announcing of the 2022 budget, in which he stressed that the journey of economic transformation adopted by the Kingdom's government continues to accomplish achievements and targets in accordance with the directives of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz.

This newsletter also includes the major economic projects that His Royal Highness the Crown Prince recently launched, and at the forefront of which is the Saudi Green Initiative. As well as establishing OXAGON industrial city at NEOM and launching strategic offices to develop Al Baha, Al Jouf, and Jazan regions to establish their future development authorities. In addition to the establishment of Prince Mohammed bin Salman Non-Profit City, which is the first non-profit city in the world, and approving the master plan for the "Downtown Jeddah" project.

This newsletter also covers the internal and external activities of the NCC, such as the Acting Governor of Riyadh receiving the Minister of Commerce, COB of the NCC, and the Ministry's officials. In addition to the regular meetings with the American Chamber of Commerce, receiving ambassadors and business delegations visiting the NCC, and the workshops and seminars aimed at monitoring and analyzing the obstacles facing the business environment and proposing solutions to enhance the Kingdom's competitive environment.



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.

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques Announces 2022 Budget



The speech of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz announcing the 2022 budget carried many economic implications, most notably:

The Kingdom's overcoming of the economic effects, and the exceptional stages of the (Covid 19) pandemic



► Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, we are determined to:

- 01 Continuing to implement economic initiatives and reforms, to achieve the goals of the Saudi Vision 2030.
- 02 Continuous improvement of quality of life.
- 03 Optimum utilization of available resources.
- 04 Raising the level of transparency, efficiency and quality of government spending.
- 05 Promote growth and development rates.
- 06 Developing basic facilities and services for citizens and residents.
- 07 Developing the educational environment.
- 08 Support housing plans.



Revenues
1045
SAR billion



Spending
955
SAR billion



Surplus
90
SAR billion

The journey of economic transformation continues to achieve the achievements and targets in accordance with the directives of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques. The budget was a confirmation of the results achieved from economic and financial reforms aimed at promoting economic growth and financial sustainability together towards a vibrant society, a prosperous economy and an ambitious nation.

From the speech of His Royal Highness Prince
Mohammed bin Salman
the Crown Prince, on the announcing of the 2022 budget



October 30, 2021

The King at the G20 Summit:

Saudi Arabia Will Continue its Leadership Role on Global Crises



► The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud virtually headed the Kingdom's delegation to the summit's work. At the first session the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques delivered a speech saying that "The circumstances of the pandemic required activating the pivotal role that must be played

by the G20 members. Indeed, the member states took unprecedented measures to deal with these circumstances". Adding that "The Kingdom will continue its leading role in economic and health upturn and recovery from the global crises, and in finding a balance to achieve security and stability in energy markets".

► Saudi Arabia in the G20:

- 01 Organized "Riyadh Summit" in November, 2020.
- 02 Hosted the extraordinary "Leaders' Summit" in March, 2020.
- 03 Participated in the first economic summit in 2008.
- 04 The world's largest oil exporter.
- 05 The only Arab country in the G20.

دعواتنا لندوة

November 16, 2021

Largest Floating Industrial Complex in the World

Crown Prince Announces Establishment of OXAGON



▶ Crown Prince Muhammad bin Salman, Chairman of the NEOM Company Board of Directors, announced the establishment of OXAGON, forming the next phase of NEOM's master plan; it will be the first integrated

seaport around the world, powered by a highly developed supply chain, and whose operations run on a single digital platform with precision.



Intelligent unloading system



Integrated warehouses



Automated transportation systems



Smart centers for packing



Self-driving devices at all stages



October 23, 2021

HRH Crown Prince Inaugurates



Saudi Green Initiative” Forum

► His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister, who is also Chairman of the Supreme Committee for Green Saudi Arabia, launched the inaugural edition of the annual forum of the Saudi

Green Initiative in Riyadh, concerned with launching new environmental initiatives for the Kingdom and monitoring the impact of the previously-announced initiatives, in order to achieve the goals of the Saudi Green Initiative.



10

billion trees will be planted in the Kingdom



40

million hectares to be rehabilitated



94%

of waste will be diverted from landfills



1%

contribution to the global target for planting a trillion trees



4%

million hectares to be rehabilitated



30%

of the Kingdom’s area will be reserves areas



4%

contribution to reducing carbon emissions globally



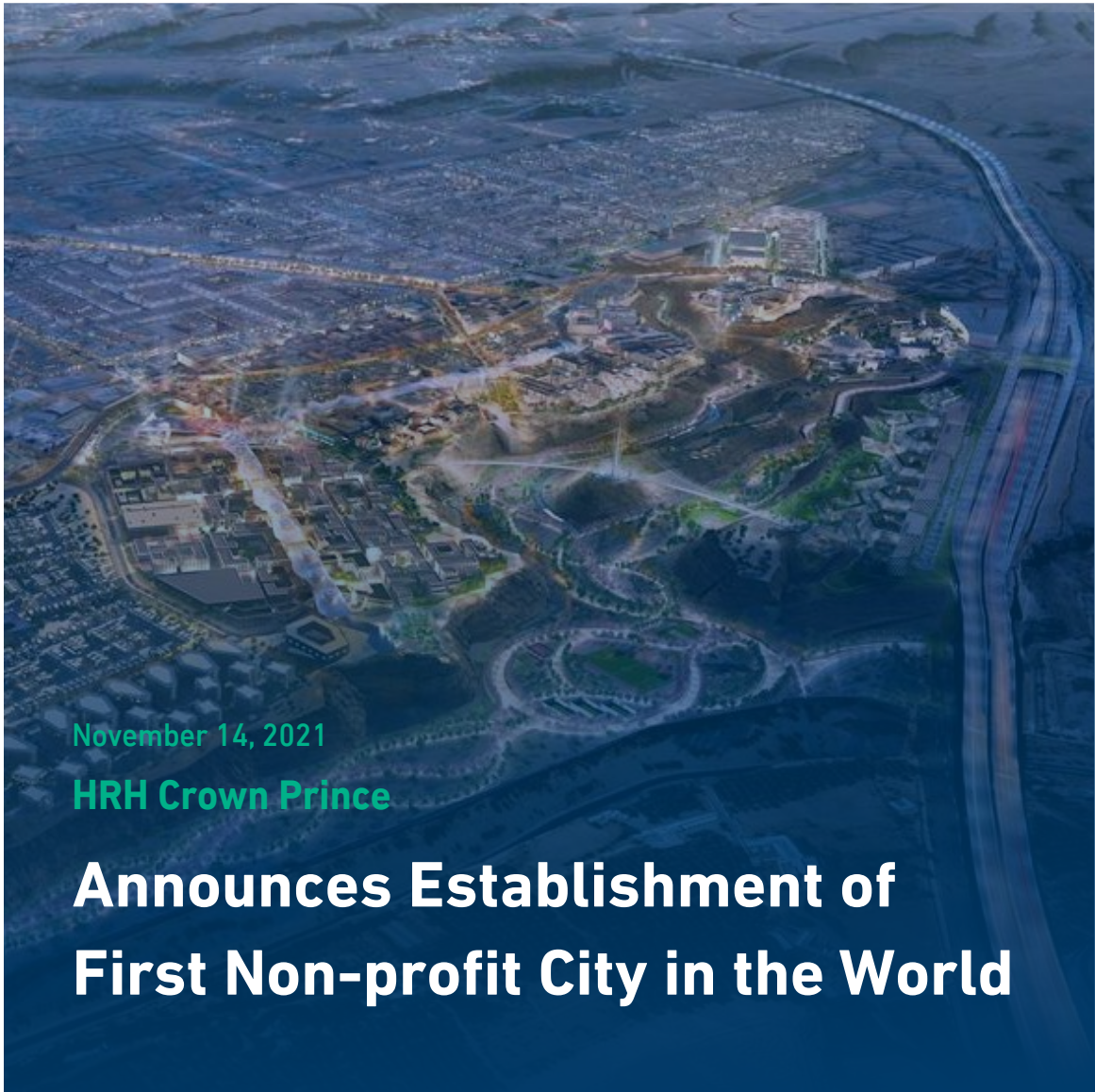
12

times increase in area covered by trees



130

million tons of carbon emissions will be eliminated



November 14, 2021

HRH Crown Prince

Announces Establishment of First Non-profit City in the World

► His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin, Crown Prince, announced the launch of Prince Mohammed bin Salman Non Profit City, the first non-profit city in the world, to be a model for the development of the non-profit sector globally and an incubator for youth and volunteer groups as well as local and international non-profit institutions.



3.4 square kilometers area



44% of its area is open green spaces



An incubator for local and international non-profit institutions



Supporting innovation, entrepreneurship and qualifying future leaders



Host academies, colleges, Misk Schools



Sustainable and pedestrian friendly



Hosts venture capitalists and community-based investors around the world



▶ His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Public Investment Fund and Chairman of the Board

of Directors of Jeddah Central Development Company, has launched the master plan and main features of the Jeddah Central Project (previously known as New Jeddah Downtown).

 **75**
billion riyals total investment

 **47**
billion riyals added value to the Kingdom's economy by 2030

 **5.7**
million square meters to be developed

 Global landmarks

 Opera house

 Museum

 Stadium

 Coral farms



The project aims to

create a global destination in the heart of Jeddah with direct views of the Red Sea, which contributes to enhancing the economic position of Jeddah



October 17, 2021

HRH Crown Prince

Launches Strategic Offices for Development of Al-Baha, Al-Jouf and Jazan



The establishment of Strategic Offices in other regions where there are no development authorities or strategic offices will follow with the aim of developing all regions in the Kingdom without exception

His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Crown Prince



His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister, Chairman of the Council of Economic and Development Affairs, announced the establishment and launch of the Strategic Offices for the Development of Al-Baha, Al-Jouf and Jazan regions, which are considered to be the basis for the establishment of development authorities in the future. The Strategic Offices aim to capitalize on the unique competitive advantages each of the three regions have to offer, while ensuring the development of a strong investment environment in partnership with the private sector.

The announcement of the Strategic Offices in the three regions amplifies His Royal Highness' affirmation of comprehensive development throughout all cities and regions across the Kingdom benefiting all citizens as part of a vibrant society, a thriving economy and an ambitious nation. HRH also assured that the establishment of Strategic Offices in other regions where there are no development authorities or strategic offices will follow with the aim of developing all regions in the Kingdom without exception.



October 07, 2021

Minister of Commerce Reviews Promising Opportunities for Swedish Companies

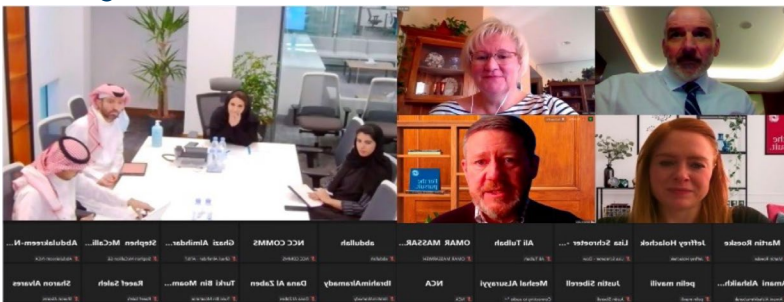


► The Minister of Commerce, BOD of NCC, Dr. Majid Al-Qasabi, presented the Swedish companies with promising investment opportunities in the Kingdom in various promising sectors in accordance with the

initiatives and economic reforms of the Kingdom's Vision 2030, during the inaugurating of the Saudi-Swedish Business Council in Stockholm on October 7, 2021, in the presence of the Swedish Minister for Foreign Trade, Anna Hallberg.

October 08, 2021

The National Competitiveness Center holds its Regular Meeting with the American Chamber of Commerce



► The National Competitiveness Center held, "by video conference", its periodic meeting with the American Chamber of Commerce, in the presence of 23 American companies, and the participation of representatives from the Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization as well as the National Cybersecurity Authority.

The meeting, which was held on November 8, 2021, in the presence of the Deputy Minister of Commerce and CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, and the Vice President of the American Chamber of Commerce for the Middle East, Steve Lotts, discussed growth opportunities and the competitiveness of promising sectors, in addition to addressing the challenges facing American companies, and ways to address them in cooperation with the relevant entities.

October 08, 2021

Deputy Minister of Commerce was briefed on Projects Specialized in Technology and Entrepreneurship in Sweden

► Deputy Minister of Commerce, CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, was briefed on a number of projects specialized in advanced technologies and entrepreneurship in Sweden. She also met, on October 8, 2021, a group of male and female entrepreneurs, on the sidelines of her participation in the activities of the Saudi-Swedish Business Council in Stockholm.



December 15, 2021

Deputy Minister of Commerce Participates in a Panel “Discussion on “Transformation and Sustainability



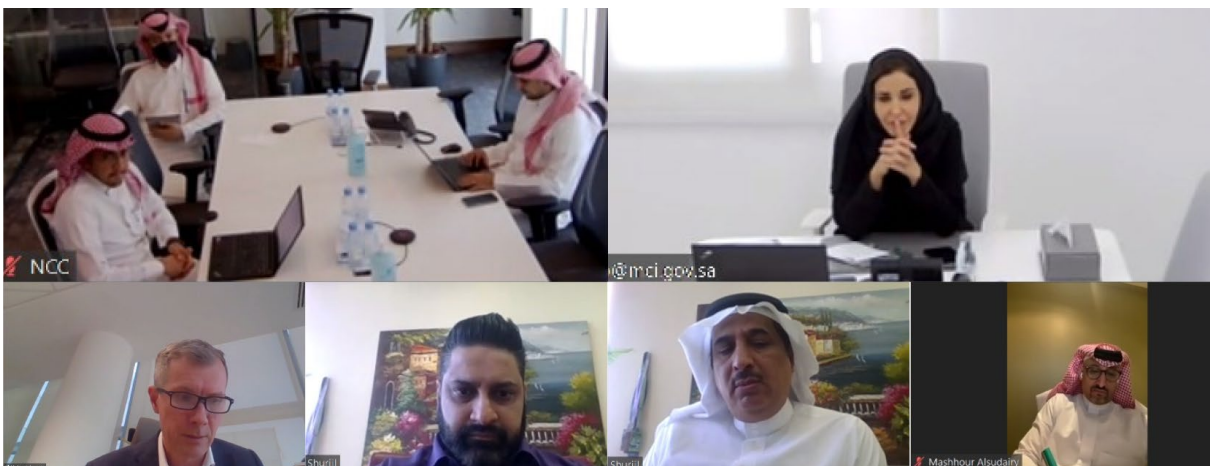
► On Wednesday, December 15, 2021, the Kingdom of Sweden’s pavilion, at Expo Dubai 2020, hosted a panel discussion on “Transformation and Sustainability”, in which the Deputy Minister of Commerce and CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, along with a group of CEOs of major Swedish companies, have participated in, as within the activities of the Swedish National Day.

Dr. Al-Mutairi talked about the importance of

cooperation between the public and private sectors to reach regulations that achieve sustainability and help shift towards productivity that takes into account environmental practices. Pointing out that the National Competitiveness Center works with more than 50 government entities to improve and develop the competitive environment in the Kingdom, propose reforms related to economic and development affairs, and follow up their implementation.

October 17, 2021

CEO of NCC holds Meetings with 3 of the Largest Swedish Companies



► The Deputy Minister of Commerce, CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, discussed in a virtual meeting, held on October 17, 2021, with major Swedish

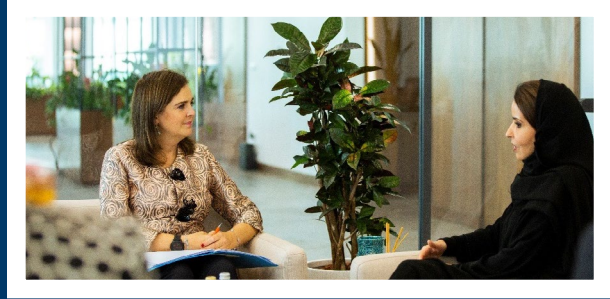
companies areas of joint cooperation and enhancing the competitiveness of the business environment.



October 25, 2021

Deputy Minister of Commerce Receives the Dutch Human Rights Ambassador

► The Deputy Minister of Commerce, CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, received the Human Rights Ambassador at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bahia Tahzib-Lie, and they reviewed the reforms and initiatives that contributed to raising the Kingdom's competitiveness, enhancing women's participation in economic development, and discussing areas of bilateral cooperation between the two countries.



October 26, 2021

CEO of NCC Meets with an American Business Delegation



► The Deputy Minister of Commerce, CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, reviewed with a delegation of American business owners from Colorado, in a meeting held at the NCC's headquarters, on October 26, 2021, ways to enhance cooperation between

American companies and the Saudi business sector, especially sectors that contribute to diversifying the sources of the national economy, and support its competitiveness regionally and globally, in line with the plans and objectives of the Kingdom's Vision 2030.

November 14, 2021

Minister of Commerce Meets with Irish Deputy Prime Minister

► The Minister of Commerce, BOD of NCC, Dr. Majid Al-Qasabi, met with Ireland's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Leo Varadkar, in the presence of the Saudi Deputy Minister of Commerce, CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi.

Dr. Al-Qasabi stressed, during the meeting which was held on November 14, 2021, the importance of strengthening economic ties between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Ireland, benefiting from trade opportunities in light of the Kingdom's Vision 2030, promoting partnership in all fields and raising the level of bilateral commercial.



November 14, 2021

Acting Governor of Riyadh Reviews Competitive Environment Development



▶ His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Abdurrahman bin Abdulaziz, the Acting Governor of Riyadh Region, received in his office at Al-Hukm Palace on Sunday, November 14, 2021, the Minister of Commerce BOD of NCC, Dr. Majid Al-Qasabi, in the presence of the Deputy Minister of Commerce and CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, and the Assistant Minister of Commerce, Badr Al-Hadab, in addition to a number of the Ministry of Commerce officials. The Acting Governor of Riyadh Region was briefed

on a report on the business and services of the trade system and future projects that are being worked on within the framework of achieving the goals of the Kingdom's Vision 2030. The most prominent challenges facing investors and the private sector and ways to address them were also reviewed, in addition to reviewing opportunities to develop and improve the business sector and the competitive environment in the Kingdom, as well as reviewing the most prominent achievements of the national program to combat commercial cover-ups.

October 21, 2021

NCC, in Cooperation with UNCITRAL, Organizes a Webinar on “Digital Economy Law”



▶ The National Competitiveness Center, in cooperation with the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law “UNCITRAL”, held on October 21, 2021, a seminar on the “Digital Economy Law” in the presence of the Deputy Minister of Commerce and CEO of

NCC, Dr. Iman Al-Mutairi, in which the Chairperson of the UNCITRAL Commission on E-Commerce and Legal Expert at the World Bank, Dr. Gisela Dolores Vinociaro, talked about data privacy and means of protecting it, and electronic transactions.

October 15, 2021

NCC Organizes a Workshop to Enhance the Economies of Dates



► The National Competitiveness Center organized a workshop on “Promoting the Economies of Dates”, which was inaugurated virtually by His Royal Highness Prince Dr. Faisal bin Mishaal bin Saud bin Abdulaziz, Governor of Qassim Region, in the presence of the Minister of Commerce, BOD of

NCC, Dr. Majid Al-Qasabi, and the Deputy Minister of Commerce, CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, in addition to a number of officials in the relevant entities, as well as the participation of about 50 investors in the dates sector and the relevant sectors.

► Prominent Themes:

- ▾ The Governor of Al-Qassim region stressed the importance of marketing palm products and crops, and care of agricultural cooperative societies
- ▾ Saudi Arabia aims to reach 2.5 billion riyals of exports in 2025
- ▾ Current procedures that hinder investors and entrepreneurs in the dates production sector and related supply chains
- ▾ Ease of procedures for obtaining international practices certificates for Organic Farming and Sound Fgriculture
- ▾ Challenges facing investors at the level of laws and regulations

November 09, 2021

The Arab-Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce Organizes a Webinar on Promising Opportunities in Saudi Arabia



▶ The Deputy Minister of Commerce and CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, has participated in the webinar “Saudi Arabia, the Land of Infinite Opportunities and Bold Initiatives”, which was organized by the “Arab Belgian-Luxembourgish Chamber of Commerce” in cooperation with the Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Brussels. This webinar was attended by the Ambassador of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques in Brussels, Dr. Khaled Al-Jindan, the Ambassador of Belgium to Saudi Arabia, Dominique Mineur and Caesar Hijazin, the Secretary General of the Arab-Belgian Chamber.

In this webinar, which was held on November 9, 2021, Dr. Al-Mutairi talked about the radical transformations that the Kingdom is witnessing since the launch of the Saudi Vision 2030, which led to the opening of many new promising sectors, and contributes to diversifying the economy and providing opportunities for investors. In addition to providing support and overcoming the obstacles they face, in light of the presence of a competitive environment that enhances economic growth through the implementation of many legislative and procedural reforms in integration with government entities and with the participation of the private sector.

December 09, 2021

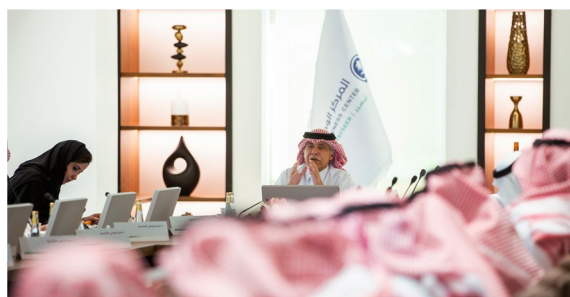
NCC holds a Workshop on “Saber” Platform

▶ The National Competitiveness Center held, on December 9, 2021, a virtual workshop on “Saber” platform, in the presence of the Minister of Commerce, BOD of NCC, Dr. Majed Al-Qasabi, and the Deputy Minister of Commerce, CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, as well as the Governor of the Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization, Dr. Saad Al-Qasabi, in addition to the participation of about 120 investors.



December 12, 2021

Minister of Commerce Chairs the First Meeting of the Legal Committee of the “Laws and Regulations Support Unit”



► The Minister of Commerce and BOD of NCC, Dr. Majid Al-Qasabi, chaired the first meeting of the legal committee of the “Laws and Regulations Support Unit” at the National Competitiveness Center. The meeting,

which was held on December 12, 2021, was attended by the Deputy Minister of Commerce and CEO of NCC, Dr. Eman Al-Mutairi, as well as agents and directors of legal departments in 25 government agencies.

December 08, 2021

Deputy Minister of Commerce meets with the Singapore Minister of Manpower



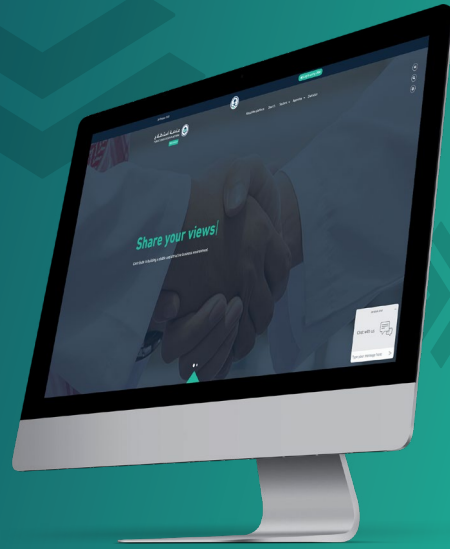
► Deputy Minister of Commerce and CEO of NCC, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, met with the Minister of Manpower, Second Minister of Commerce and Industry of Singapore, Dr. Tan See Leng.

During the meeting, which was held on December 8, 2021, Dr. Al-Mutairi stressed the importance of strengthening economic ties between Saudi Arabia

and Singapore, benefiting from trade opportunities in light of the Kingdom's Vision 2030, and strengthening partnership in emerging fields such as energy, education, training, data and innovation, cooperation in the areas of competitiveness, as well as raising and enhancing the level of trade exchange between the two countries.



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 4th quarter of 2021** <<<<<<

126
submitted law
projects

1090
feedback and views
were received

31
government
entities

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

finance
and control
sector

commerce,
economy and
investment sector

Hajj and
Islamic Affairs
sector

the Judiciary
and human
rights sector

health
sector

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

the executive
regulations law
project of the judicial
costs

the law project of
providing services
for pilgrims and
visitors to the
Prophet's Mosque

the law project
of closed stores
requirements

the law project
of business
transactions law

the law project of controlling the issuance and
publication of the organizational decisions and
circulars

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.



The Translation work done by the Official Translation Department in the Bureau of Experts at the Council of Ministers



93

statutory documents were translated and published by the Official Translation Department

The Translation work done by the Government Entities



894

statutory documents were translated by the government entities



60

statutory documents are being translated and will be published

The National Center for Archives and Records:



(Directory of Documents and Archives)

444

statutory documents are translated and published on NCAR website in September 2021

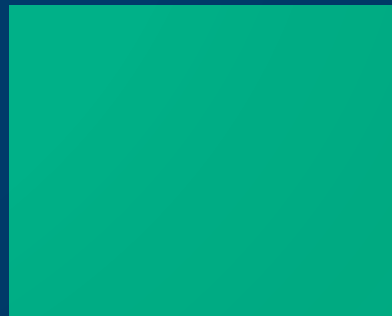
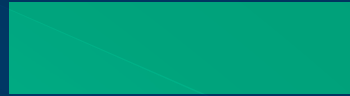


Journal Club

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 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.

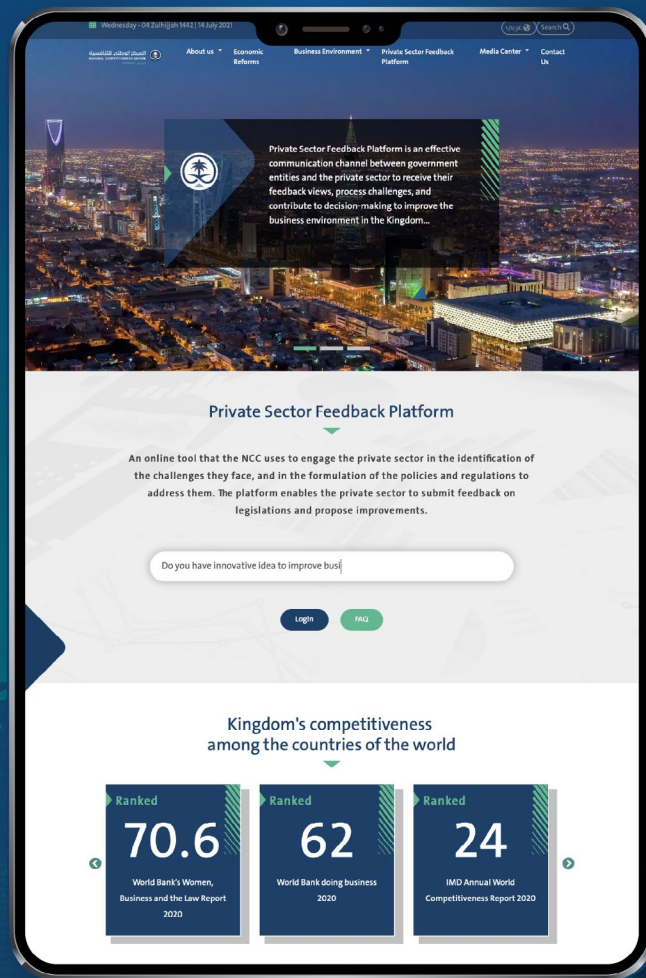


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