

المركز الوطني للتنافسية
NATIONAL COMPETITIVENESS CENTER
تيسير | TAYSEER

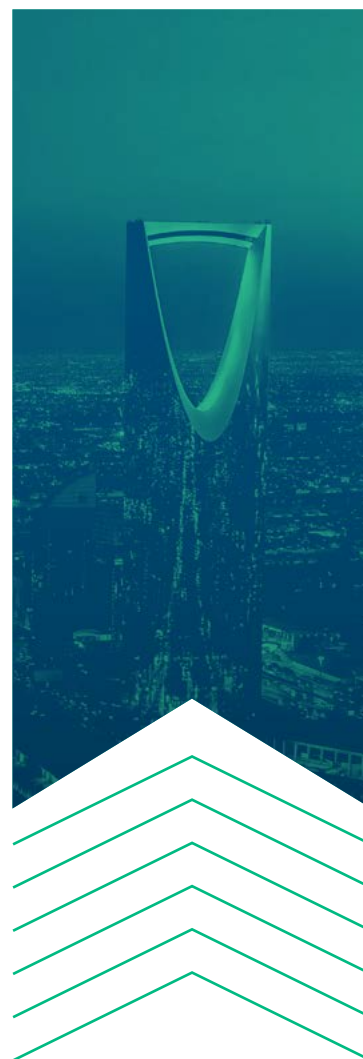


Inspiring Leadership
for an Exceptional Year



The National Competitiveness Center (TAYSEER) presents its newsletter for the fourth quarter of 2020. In this newsletter, NCC focus on workshops and meetings, which were held with government entities and private sector, in addition to a set of reforms to improve the business environment, as well as the G20 Leaders' Summit, which was chaired by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques.

This newsletter also sheds light on NCC's participation in local and international seminars that took place during the 4th quarter of 2020. In addition to the Council of Ministers approval to sign a memorandum of cooperation between the Kingdom represented by the National Competitiveness Center, and the United Nations represented by the Office of Legal Affairs, regarding the financial contribution to the UNCITRAL Trust Fund.



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.



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 business sector, in a way that contributes to achieving the state's sustainable development and making it in an advanced competitive position.

► What did they say about competitiveness?



“The Kingdom today has become the most advanced and reforming among 190 countries, according to the World Bank, and the Kingdom has achieved the first position in the Gulf region and the second in the Arab world according to the World Bank report “Women, Business and the Law 2020”.

Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques

Opening the work of the 8th session of the Shura Council
November 12, 2020



Reforming the work environment and developing the services are major enablers; for example, the total requirements for investment licenses were reduced by 50%, commercial records and municipality licenses are issued immediately and electronically, and containers are cleared within 24 hours after they were up to two weeks.

Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman

Opening the work of the 8th session of the Shura Council
November 12, 2020



The Council of Ministers Approves the Signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation between NCC and the United Nations (UNCITRAL)



The memorandum of cooperation between the National Competitiveness Center and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) aims to:

- 01 ✓ Raise awareness and enhance understanding of UNCITRAL texts.
- 02 ✓ Analyze existing gaps, and identify topics for legislative reform in specific fields.
- 03 ✓ Supporting the unified interpretation of UNCITRAL texts and the standards of international trade law.
- 04 ✓ Preparing and disseminating information explaining the rationale for UNCITRAL texts and standards of international trade law in addition to the details of their use.
- 05 ✓ Raise awareness of other standards of international trade law and enhance their understanding, when required.
- 06 ✓ Supporting the legislative formulation process in adopting and using UNCITRAL texts, and other standards
- 07 ✓ Monitor the implementation of legislative texts, and formulate proposals for additional improvements



Public Consultation Platform

An electronic window for
public consultation feedback
on laws and regulations



▶ The Platform Goals

- Enabling the government entities, the private sector, and the public to provide views and feedback
- Developing the legislative environment
- Spreading the culture of public consultation on law projects and regulations
- Emphasizing the importance of participating in evaluating the regulatory effects of law projects and regulations

▶ The Platform Features

- Allows the public and both the government and private sectors to express their views and feedback on law projects, regulations, rules and decisions related to economic and development affairs in Saudi Arabia
- Contributes to build a stable and an attractive business environment, by enabling investors to share their views and feedback on the proposed projects before been approved
- Collect the views on law projects and regulations, circulate them to government entities, and provide the project owner with the feedback of the public consultation

▶ Target Sectors

- Commerce, economy and investment
- Media, culture and publishing
- Health and military service
- Judiciary and human rights
- Education, science, agriculture, water and natural living wealth
- Municipal services and urban planning
- Tourism, heritage, transportation and communications

Crown Prince:

Saudi Arabia Devoted G20 Presidency to Stronger, more Robust and Sustainable World



Speaking on behalf of Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, chair of this year's summit, the Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman appreciated and thanked leaders of the G20 countries, heads of states, international organizations, the business community and civil societies who contributed throughout the Kingdom's G20 presidency.

✓ The Crown Prince affirmed that Saudi Arabia has devoted its G20 presidency to building a stronger, more robust and more sustainable world. The Crown Prince added it is aligned with Saudi Arabia undergoing major economic and social transformation, guided by the Kingdom's Vision 2030.

✓ The Crown Prince stated that the Kingdom will continue to support international efforts related to providing vaccines and treatments for coronavirus in an equitable and affordable manner, once available, and will work with its international partners and the Italian Presidency of the G20 next year to achieve this.



An Inspirational Leadership

Created our Opportunity to Inspire the World with our Vision



An exceptional success for the G20 Riyadh Summit, Saudi Arabia, despite the current circumstances that the world is going through, which confirms the Kingdom's role, its international status, and bearing its responsibilities towards supporting global stability.

Launched from the Kingdom's leadership

of the summit, which represented a new impetus to promote international cooperation approach to build a prosperous future.

Enhanced the Kingdom's status, and its effective and decisive leadership internationally, to confirm global values led by "human is first", and preserving the planet with forming new horizons.

Global Reports

The National Competitiveness Center follows more than 32 global reports and indicators related to the targeted strategic factors, which aims to develop the competitive environment and to improve the business environment to enhance the Kingdom's global competitiveness. This is by analyzing the current situation of the Kingdom, proposing economic reforms that will contribute to improve the Kingdom's

ranking in these reports and indicators, and benefit from international experiences and practices. The most important are, "Doing Business" by the World Bank Group, "Global Competitiveness" by World Economic Forum, and "World Competitiveness Yearbook" by International Institute for Management Development IMD.

Reports supervised by NCC



Women, Business and the Law 2020



Reports assigned to government entities



World Competitiveness Yearbook Report



Global Competitiveness Report



Doing Business Report

Reports Assigned to Government Entities



Industrial Development Report



Global Terrorism Index



Global Cybersecurity Index



World Health Statistics



Logistics performance index



World Investment Report



Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report



Climate Change Performance Index



Global Entrepreneurship Index



World Digital Competitiveness Report



Global Talent Report



Global Wage Report



World Trade Statistical Review



Global Gender Gap Report



World Happiness Report



Ecommerce Index



Human Development Report



Global Peace Index



Global Entrepreneurship Monitor Report



Global Innovation Index



Energy Transition Index



Review of Maritime Transport Index



Global Talent Competitiveness Index



Index of Economic Freedom



Gender inequality index



Corruption Perceptions Index

The Kingdom's Performance in 2020

Improvement in Global Reports, Despite Exceptional Circumstances

Early in 2020, Saudi Arabia achieved an unprecedented quantum leap in “Women, Business and the Law 2020” report, by World Bank, scoring 70.6 points out of 100 according to the report figures, and ranked the most advanced and reforming among 190 countries, to be the first in GCC and the second in the Arab World.

The reforms included developing multiple and various laws and regulations related to women. As the report indicates that the Saudi Vision 2030 supported the implementation of these reforms, by emphasizing the importance of women's role in the ambitious trends of the Kingdom, implementing initiatives and goals support enhancing the women's role in the economic development, such as raising the women's participation in the labor market from 22% up to 30%.

In the second quarter, and despite the exceptional circumstances and coronavirus pandemic that the whole world went through in 2020, the Kingdom continues its upwards ascent in all fields and that is proved by the numbers, figures and data of global and international indicators and reports issued throughout this year.

In the World Competitiveness Yearbook 2020 published by the International Institute for Management Development (IMD), Saudi Arabia is ranked as the 24th most competitive economy among the 63 countries covered by the report,

up two positions from a year earlier, despite the economic conditions resulting from the effects of the coronavirus pandemic.

According to the report, the Kingdom is the only improving country in GCC and the Middle East region. It is also the 8th most competitive G20 economy, ahead of peers, such as Russia, France, Japan, Italy, India, Argentina, Indonesia, Mexico, Brazil and Turkey.

Concerning the Global Competitiveness Report 2020, issued by the World Economic Forum (WEF), the WEF suspended the ranking of countries for this year due to the current conditions resulting from the coronavirus pandemic and its impact on the global economy. Instead WEF published a “special report” based on a public consultation results of a number of international organizations and chief executives.

In the Global Innovation Index 2020 published by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Cornell University and INSEAD University, the Kingdom ranked 66th among 131 countries, up two positions from a year earlier.

This positive performance was accomplished through the integrative work in which all the government entities participated in cooperation with the private sector to improve and develop the business environment and achieve sustainable competitiveness for a prosperous economy.



► Studying 40 Law Projects to Support Economic Activities

The Laws and Regulations Support Unit and similar is studying more than 40 law and legislative projects in cooperation with the Bureau of Experts at the Council of Ministers, and with many government and relevant entities, with the aim to facilitate the practice of economic activities in Saudi Arabia.

The Laws and Regulations Support Unit also studying the proposal for the Kingdom's ratification of "the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG)", which regulates contracts for the international sale of goods between private sector companies. Moreover, aims to develop a modern, unified and fair system for international sale of goods contracts.

In addition, contribute to reduce costs of transactions, and studying the legislative environment in the Kingdom and its impact on facilitating business practice and the Kingdom's competitiveness.

The Laws and Regulations Support Unit also presented its views on more than 30 new law projects, which were put forward recently. The unit's governance document, the work mechanism, the organizational impact evaluation, the measurement model and the effective guidelines book for submitting views and feedback all are approved, as well as holding workshops with all representatives of government entities to introduce the unit's objectives and spread the culture of public consultation.

Translating more than **400** Legal

Documents in Cooperation with the Official Translation Department at the Bureau of Experts at the Council of Ministers

▶ **60**

Government
Entities

▶ **1000**

documents related to the economic and
development affairs are being translated



The National Competitiveness Center in cooperation with the Official Translation Department at the Bureau of Experts at the Council of Ministers and the National Center for Archives and Records is translating a number of important economic laws to enable investors and those interested to reach all of these documents in Arabic and English.

This is an implementation of Royal Decree No. 54351, on May 21, 2020, instructing government entities to translate the business sector laws, regulations and requirements into English, and then to be published on their websites and on the website of the National Center for Archives and Records, within timeframe to be set by NCC and the related entity.

NCC is cooperating with more than 60 government entities to translate and publish these business sector laws, regulations and requirements, as more than 400 legal documents related to the competencies of more than 20 government agencies have been translated, and then published on websites. These include Ministry of Energy, Ministry of

Investment, Ministry of Sports, Ministry of Tourism and Ministry of Communications and Information Technology. In addition to Board of Grievances, Saudi Central Bank, General Authority for Military Industries, Saudi Customs, National Cybersecurity Authority and General Authority of Zakat and Tax. It also includes Communications and Information Technology Commission, General Entertainment Authority, Saudi Standards, Royal Commission for Jubail and Yanbu, General Authority for Awqaf, Council of Cooperative Health Insurance and Saudi Grains Organization.

These efforts aim to achieve the aspirations of the Kingdom's Vision 2030, and the goals of the National Competitiveness Center to enhance the Kingdom's competitiveness and improve its ranking in the relevant global indicators and reports.

The National Competitiveness Center, with all relevant government entities, is currently translating in to English more than 1000 legal documents related to economic and development affairs and development in the Kingdom.

Workshops



The Competitiveness of Logistics System

The National Competitiveness Center held a workshop on “The Competitiveness of the Logistics System” attended by a group of private sector companies. The workshop aims to identify the obstacles and challenges that investors face in the logistics sector, provide views and suggest initiatives to develop and improve the competitive environment.

Highlights of the Meeting

- ✓ The opportunities to develop the legislative environment and the licenses.
- ✓ The challenges in the logistics infrastructure and the service centers.
- ✓ The automation readiness in the public and private sectors.
- ✓ The logistics services obstacles in e-commerce.

Virtual Competitiveness حديث التنافسية Talk



Government Polices for The Post-Coronavirus Economy Recovery & Sustainable Transformation

The National Competitiveness Center held the third edition of the virtual webinar on Competitiveness Talk about “Governmental Policies for the Post-Coronavirus Economy, Recovery and Sustainable Transformation”, which was presented by Professor Matthew Andrews from Harvard Kennedy School, and attended by a group of government entities and private sector.

► Highlights of the Meeting

- “Transformation can succeed, even against the odds and through crisis, but you must be able to pivot.”
- “If we look at vision 2030 progress, we can tell that it made an outstanding progress”
- “We can, and we will change and reach the vision”
- “What is happening in the labor force is fantastic and incredibly transformational”

Workshops

29.11.2020

Discussing “the State Properties and Real Estate Law”

▶ The National Competitiveness Center, represented by the Laws and Regulations Support Unit and similar, in cooperation with the State Properties General Authority, held a workshop on the law project of the state properties, attended by government entities. The workshop aims to discuss and review the most prominent provisions and trends of the state real estate law. It also aims to regulate the provisions for disposing of procedures, and optimal use of them, in order to achieve the principles of transparency, efficiency



and equality among competitors, authenticate public ownership of the state real estate, regulating the process of its transition to private ownership, and promoting economic development.

14.12.2020

Financial Sector - Bridging the Private Sector Financing Gaps



▶ The National Competitiveness Center organized a workshop to discuss the best solutions and proposals to bridge the private sector financing gaps in partnership between



funds, development banks and Saudi banks, and in cooperation with the Saudi Central Bank in addition to the National Development Fund.

20.12.2020

The Maritime Sector - Enhancing the Competitiveness of Maritime Transport

▶ The National Competitiveness Center held a workshop entitled Opportunities to Enhance the Competitiveness of the Maritime Transport and Bunkering Sector. The workshop aims to identify the obstacles and challenges that investors face, provide views and propose initiatives to develop the competitiveness of the maritime transport sector.



Competitiveness Environment

29.11.2020

Saudi Shura Economic and Energy Committee Discusses the Annual Report of the National Competitiveness Center

▶ The Saudi Shura Economic and Energy Committee, held a virtual meeting headed by a member of the Council, Chairman of the Committee, Dr. Faisal Al Fadel, with the participation of Her Excellency Assistant Minister of Commerce, CEO of the National Competitiveness Center Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi,

and a number of NCC officials.

The meeting discussed the National Competitiveness Center annual report for the Fiscal year 1440 / 1441 AH, including NCC performance, and the referred matters by the council to this committee to study and provide views.

29.12.2020

Region's Competitiveness

The National Competitiveness Center discussed the challenges and obstacles facing investors and businessmen in the region in the presence of the CEO of NCC, Her Excellency Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, in a meeting organized by Abha Chamber, aiming at improve the business environment in Saudi Arabia.

Dr. Al-Mutairi , at the beginning of the meeting, presented an overview of NCC, as well as unifying the efforts of government entities, and a unified

vision for competitiveness in the Kingdom, in addition to empowering investors and business leaders through flexible laws, policies and procedures that lead to raise the Kingdom's global competitiveness. Moreover, Dr. Al- Mutairi explained the role of NCC in analyzing the challenges and obstacles of the private sector in Asir Region, and finding solutions to improve the business environment.

29.12.2020

An Overview on NCC's Work and Role to Improve the Competitiveness Environment

▶ Prince Turki bin Talal bin Abdulaziz, Governor of Asir Region recieved Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, the CEO of the National Competitiveness Center.

At the beginning of the meeting, Dr. Al-Mutairi presented an overview on NCC's work, as well as unifying the efforts of government entities, and a unified vision for competitiveness in the Kingdom, in addition to empowering investors and business leaders through flexible laws, policies and procedures that lead to raise the Kingdom's global competitiveness. Moreover, Dr. Al- Mutairi explained the role of NCC in analyzing the challenges and obstacles of the private sector in Asir Region, and finding solutions to improve



the business environment.

Prince Turki bin Talal reviewed with the team of the National Competitiveness Center the strategic trends of Asir Region, and the effective role to improve the investment environment in addition to creating new opportunities through integration between all relevant entites.

Business Environment

2020 ... Qualitative Reforms to Support the Business Environment

Starting a Business

- ▶ Issuing a decision stating that private sector establishments are not required to have the establishments' official stamp and only to be certified by the Chamber of Commerce.

Municipal Sector

- ▶ Issuing and approving the compulsory buildings insurance policy, which aims to determine the legal liability for hidden defects.
- ▶ Amending some requirements and procedures for a number of activities, including for example: (warehouses - hair and beauty ladies salons, etc.).
- ▶ Provide water and electricity services without requiring a building completion certificate.

Government Tenders

- ▶ Issuing the new government tenders and procurement law to achieve maximum economic efficiency to obtain government procurement and implement its projects at fair competitive prices.

Public Services

- ▶ Issuing the Royal Decree to announce and notify any changes in the electric tariff before 30 days of been implemented.
- ▶ The electronic link between "Baladi" platform and the Saudi Electricity Company to begin the delivery of electricity as soon as the "finishing completion" notice is received electronically.

The great efforts of NCC and the government entities resulted in many reforms that have contributed to improve the competitive environment in the Kingdom, including:

Developing many laws, regulations and procedures aimed at improving the Kingdom's competitiveness, such as (Movable Assets Security Law and its implementing regulations, the Commercial Courts Law and its implementing regulations, the Executive Regulations of the Government Tenders and Procurement Law, in addition to a number of articles in the regulations of travel documents, civil status, work, and social insurance).

▶ **Protecting Minority Investors**

- ▶ Amending the commercial court system and its executive regulations to improve procedures, include the private agreement between the parties, and define the procedures for electronic litigation and remote litigation.

▶ **Credit**

- ▶ Updating the secured transactions law and its implementing regulations according to the best international practices.
- ▶ Developing activating the services of the "Unified Register for Rights over Moveable Assets" platform for the financial institutions benefit.

▶ **Contracts Enforcement**

- ▶ Issuing the Commercial Courts Law and its implementing regulations.

▶ **Correcting Mistakes in Property Registration Committee**

- ▶ It is an independent committee works to correct mistakes and address complaints of beneficiaries of the notary services, secretariats and municipalities, which aims to achieve the evidentiary power of real estate ownership.

▶ **Death Registration**

- ▶ Record death cases online as soon as they occur in health facilities in the Kingdom, to ensure the exchange and sharing of information through the National Information Center between the relevant government entities.





Journal Club

in pictures

A weekly educational program held in the National Competitiveness Center, aims to develop knowledge capabilities, job skills, and create a creative work environment for the NCC's team by hosting prominent speakers in various fields, in addition to the NCC's employees, to talk about the most prominent global economy and competitiveness topics that are circulated in the international press.



we are pleased to welcome you in the Saudi Business Center in

Riyadh
Center



Jeddah
Center



Dammam
Center



From Saturday
To Thursday



From 09:00 AM
To 08:00 PM



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Private Sector Feedback Platform



Your
suggestions

on Private Sector Feedback Platform
make us move forward towards
an integrated improvement for the business
environment in Saudi Arabia

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رؤية VISION
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