

Saudi Arabia in Focus



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from the Saudi Embassy the in Kingdom of Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

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Embassy's news

Saudi Legal Reforms 'to speed access to justice'

From the Ambassador

It is my great pleasure to greet all the readers of our Embassy journal in its 33 edition, The current issue came out at a later date than it should, due to various reasons beyond our ability. After all, this is the first issue since my assumption my of duties as Ambassador of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to the Kingdom of Belgium and also nonresident envoy to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. It is my hope that this quarterly periodical will continue to emerge on a regular basis, and we shell endeavor to make it a mirror that reflects the on-going development in the Kingdom and also about the good relations that bind the two Kingdoms of Saudi Arabia and of Belgium.

**Ambassador
Dr. Khaled bin Ibrahim Al-Jindan**



The Kingdome of Saudi Arabia is to implement sweeping reforms to the legal system to eliminate inconsistency, speed up verdicts and make the Kingdom's judicial institutions more efficient. At the heart of the reforms are four new draft laws — a Personal Status Law, a Civil Transactions Law, a Penal Code for Discretionary Sanctions and a Law of Evidence. The new laws would eliminate discrepancies and ensure consistency in court rulings, improve the reliability of oversight mechanisms and clarify accountability, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman said.

The crown prince said discrepancies in court rulings had led to a lack of clarity, which had hurt many people, mostly women. "The absence of applicable legislation has led to discrepancies in decisions and a lack of clarity in the principles governing facts and practices," which resulted in prolonged litigation not based on legal texts. In addition, the absence of a clear legal framework for private and business sectors has led to ambiguity with respect to obligations. "This was painful for many individuals and families, especially women>>



It also permitted some people to evade their responsibilities. This will not take place again.”

A previous draft Code of Judicial Decisions was insufficient to meet society’s needs and expectations, the Crown Prince said. The new draft laws will be submitted to the Council of Ministers for review before being sent to the Shoura Council, and are expected to be finalized this year. the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

had taken major steps in recent years to develop its legislative environment. The aim was to preserve rights, entrench the principles of justice and transparency, protect human rights and achieve sustainable development. The new laws adopt international judicial practices and standards in a manner that does not contradict Sharia principles, the Crown Prince said.



A prime example of this is the Coral Bloom project

H.R.H. Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman launched 5 strategic projects, in less than two months, leading the kingdom worldwide

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is moving at a confident and Accelerating pace, towards growth and prosperity, under the leadership of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. In less than two months, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman launched 6 strategic projects that would make a qualitative leap for the Kingdom in various fields, leading it worldwide.

The Line

The launch of the "The Line" City in NEOM, on January 10, 2021 is the first in a series of projects, launched by the Crown Prince in the new year to be a model for what urban societies can be like in the future and a plan that ensures a balance to live with Nature. The City will include interconnected cognitive communities, enhanced by artificial intelligence over a span of 170 km, within a noiseless and pollution free environment, free of vehicles and congestion and a direct response to the challenges of urbanization that hinder the progress of humanity, such as dilapidated infrastructure, environmental pollution, urban and population sprawl.

Riyadh’s Strategy

On January 28, 2021, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman announced a strategy to develop the city of Riyadh, as part of the Kingdom's plans to diversify sources of income and economy growth, as it aims to make Riyadh one of the top 10 economic cities in the world (currently the 40th). The Crown Prince pointed out that the Kingdom plans to establish a green Riyadh program, to afforest millions of trees in the city of Riyadh, which will reduce the temperature and dust level. In addition, there are plans to establish huge reserves to improve the environmental situation of the city.

Saudi Cruise

The Public Investment Fund, headed by the Crown Prince, launched on January 28, 2021, the Saudi Cruise Company, which aims to establish the tourism cruise sector in the Kingdom and strengthen its efforts, to become a tourist destination on the international tourist cruise map and develop the tourism sector, in line with the Kingdom's vision 2030. the tourism sector in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia >>>



Coral Bloom

On February 10, 2021, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Red Sea Development Company, launched the "Coral Bloom" design Vision, for the main island of the Red Sea project, as a continuation of the enhancement of the tourist destination of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Coral Bloom's designs are inspired by the native flora and fauna of the Kingdom. The Shurayrah Island, is the main gateway to the Red Sea project, which is planned to include new resorts, hotels and beaches that keep pace with the aspirations of travelers.



The Line

Al Soudah for Development

On February 24, 2021, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman launched the Al Soudah for Development Company in the Asir region, with expected investments of more than 11 billion riyals. The company, which is wholly owned by the Public Investment Fund, aims to invest in the infrastructure and development of the tourism and entertainment sectors, by working on the development the project area, which includes Al-Soudah and parts of the Rijal Alma' Governorate, to become a luxury mountain tourist destination characterized by its authentic culture, unique heritage, charming nature and providing various residential and entertainment options.



Green Riyadh

Saudi Arabia leads G20 drive to bounce back from virus

Saudi Arabia led the major economies of the world's poorest nations in April, but G20 on Saturday in pledging to use "all available policy tools" to combat the coronavirus pandemic and boost the global economy.

After a virtual meeting hosted by Riyadh, the group's finance ministers and central bank chiefs said the global economy would recover as countries reopened after virus lockdowns, but further actions were needed to ensure growth.

"We are determined to continue to use all available policy tools to safeguard people's lives, jobs and incomes, support global economic recovery, and enhance the resilience of the financial system, while safeguarding against downside risks," they said in a statement.

They said they will consider widening debt relief for coronavirus-hit poor countries in the second half of 2020.

The world's 20 most industrialized nations announced a one-year debt standstill for the

world's poorest nations in April, but campaigners have criticized the measure as grossly inadequate to stave off the knock-on effects of the pandemic.

World Bank president David Malpass called for the debt suspension initiative to be extended through the end of 2021, while multiple charities including Oxfam said it needs to be stretched through 2022 to avert a "catastrophe for hundreds of millions of people".

G20 finance officials said 42 of the world's 73 poorest countries had asked for a freeze in debt repayments until the end of the year, amounting to about \$5.3 billion in deferred payments.

Any extension of the initiative will be based on how the pandemic develops and recommendations of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank that will be submitted to G20 members in advance of their meeting in October, it added.

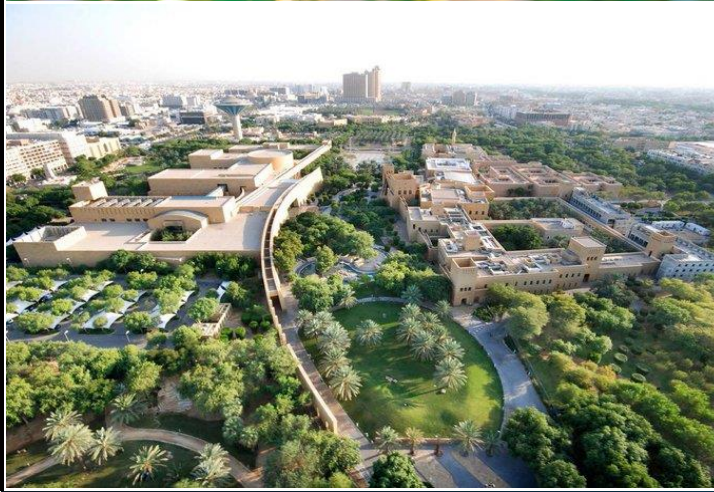


“The Saudi Green Initiative and The Middle East Green Initiative”

“This is only a start. The kingdom, the region and the world needs to go much further and faster in combatting climate change. Given our starting point, beginning this journey to a greener future has not been easy. But in line with our overall modernisation philosophy, we are not avoiding tough choices.

We reject the false choice between preserving the economy and protecting the environment. Climate action will enhance competitiveness, spark innovation, and create millions of high-quality jobs. Young people, both in the kingdom and the world, are demanding a cleaner, greener and more inclusive future, and we owe it to them to deliver on this.”

- The Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia
HRH Mohammed bin Salman
on the announcement of the Saudi and Middle East Green Initiatives, the Kingdom's climate ambitions to combat #ClimateChange



Saudi Green Initiative targets

10 billion trees to be planted

30% protected land areas

50% electricity from renewables

12x Increase in vegetation cover

94% recycling

Saudi Green Initiative will bring together leaders of

Government

Business

Civil societies

To set and surpass new goals for how to combat climate change



- January 21st H.E. Ambassador Dr. Khaled bin Ibrahim Al-Jindan attended the videoconference organized by Belgian Royal Institute for International Relations and German Marshall Fund on relations between the #US - #EU in 2021 and in the years to come and the expectations vis-à-vis the Biden administration.
- March 10th H.E. Ambassador met Dr. Via video call Mr. Luke Arnott, Vice President of the Port of Antwerp, and Director of International Affairs at the Port of Antwerp, Mr. Tom Montpalieu. During the meeting, they touched upon the commercial partnership and the depth of the historical relations between the two countries.
- March 19th H.E. the Ambassador today met HE Mr. Olivier Maes, Director of Political Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg
- March 10th The Deputy head of the mission Mr. Mohammed Monis met The Deputy Director of the Department of Political Affairs in charge of multilateral cooperation, Mr. Tom Risen, at the headquarters of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.



- His Excellency Ambassador Dr. Khalid bin Ibrahim Al-Jindan congratulated, on the occasion of the International Women's Day, the employees of the embassy as well as the wives of the employees, in an initiative in which he highlighted the efforts and achievements of Woman.
- Women in Science, on Monday, 3rd of March Prof. Damya Laoui and Dr. Yasmin Altwajri give an insightful and inspirational account of their journey as female scientists in the Embassy of Belgium in Riyadh.



His Excellency Ambassador Dr. Khaled bin Ibrahim Al-Jindan met this afternoon with the Deputy Head of the Office of His Majesty King Philip and his diplomatic Advisor, Mr. William de Bates. During the meeting, the two sides discussed ways to enhance bilateral relations between the two countries and some issues of common interest.

International Women's Day

One woman scientist... A generation of scientists



Dr. Yasmin Altwajri
Senior Scientist and Head of Epidemiology
King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre



Prof. Dr. Damya Laoui
Team-leader Tumor Immunology
Flanders Interuniversity Institute for Biotechnology

