



OMANI OFFICIAL DELEGATION CONVEYS HM'S CONDOLENCES TO IRAN

At the behest of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, an official delegation comprising ministers and top officials conveyed in Tehran on Wednesday the condolences and sympathies of His Majesty the Sultan to Dr. Mohammad Mokhber, Acting President of the Islamic Republic, on the death of late President Dr. Ebrahim Raisi and his accompanying delegation. **>A6**

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TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN

Oman ministers offer condolences

1 A number of Omani ministers yesterday offered their condolences at the Iranian Embassy in Muscat on the death of Dr. Ebrahim Raisi, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and his accompanying delegation, following a helicopter crash in Iran's East Azerbaijan Province, in the northwest of Iran. **>A5**

OMAN

MoU signed to fund paediatric surgeries



2 The Ministry of Health signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Al Jisr Charitable Foundation to fund paediatric surgeries, with an amount of OMR300,000, yesterday. The MoU was signed by Sulaiman Nasser Al Haji, Undersecretary of the Health Ministry. **>A3**

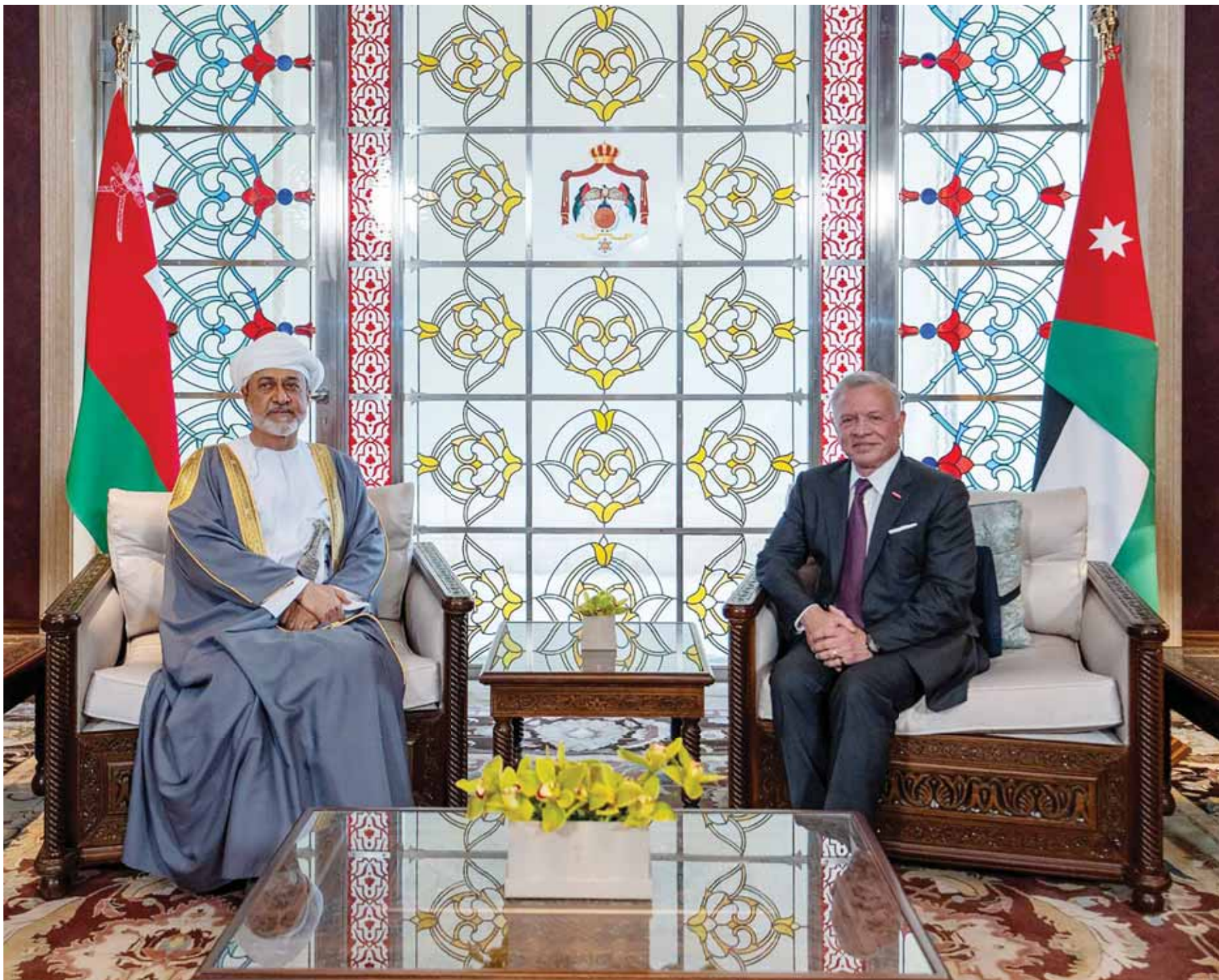
MARKET

Oman hosts UN tourism meeting

3 The Sultanate of Oman, represented by the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, hosted on Wednesday the 50th meeting of the United Nations Tourism Regional Commission for the Middle East. The meeting deals with a number of topics related to developing the tourism sector in the region. **>B1**

GAZA DEATH TOLL
as of May 22, 2024

Deaths
35,709
Injured
79,990



The session reviewed bilateral cooperation and means of promoting them in various spheres to serve the joint interests

AMMAN: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein of Jordan held an expanded session of talks at Basman Palace in the capital city, Amman on Wednesday. At the outset of the session, the King of Jordan reiterated his welcome to His Majesty the Sultan, being an eminent guest

of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, wishing His Majesty and his accompanying delegation a pleasant stay. In his turn, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his utmost thanks and appreciation to the King for the warm welcome and hospitality. The session reviewed aspects of bilateral cooperation and

means of promoting them in various spheres to serve the joint interests, within the context of the fraternal ties and historical relations binding the two countries. The two monarchs also exchanged views on all issues of common concern on the Arab and international arenas, notably the current situation in the Gaza Strip and all of the occupied Palestinian territories. They stressed the need to reach an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza, protect civilians and intensify efforts to deliver sufficient humanitarian aid to all parts of the Gaza Strip. Prior to the session, His Majesty the Sultan and the King of Jordan held a closed-door meeting.

The session of talks was attended from the Omani side by HH Sayyid Shihab bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs, HH Sayyid Bilal bin Haitham Al Said, Sayyid Khalid bin Hilal Al Busaidi, Minister of the Diwan of Royal Court, Gen. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Nuamani, Minister of the Royal Office, Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, Dr. Hamad bin Said Al Aufi, Head of the Private Office, Abdussalam bin Mohammed Al Murshidi, Chairman of Oman Investment Authority and Sheikh Fahd bin Abdulrahman Al Ojaili, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Meanwhile, it was attended from the Jordanian side by Prince Faissal bin Al Hussein (Head of the Mission of Honour that accompanies His Majesty the Sultan), Dr. Bisher Khasawneh, Prime Minister of Jordan, Yousef Issawi, Chief of the Royal Court, Ayman Safadi, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, Maj.Gen Ahmad Husni, Chief of the General Intelligence Department, Jaafar Hassan, Director of the King's Office, Kholoud Saqqaf, Minister of Investment, Amjad Quhaiwi, Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the Sultanate of Oman and some senior Jordanian officials. **See also >A2 & A4**

SAYYID FAHD MEETS UN TOURISM SECRETARY-GENERAL

HH Sayyid Fahd bin Mahmoud Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for the Council of Ministers received yesterday Zurab Pololikashvili, Secretary-General of the UN Tourism and heads of the delegations taking part in the meeting of the UN Tourism Regional Commission for the Middle East and the Conference on "Investing in Tourism: Opportunities and Challenges in Sustainable Financing", hosted by the Sultanate of Oman. **>A5**



STRATEGIC VISIONS

Sayyid Theyazin presides over 'Governorates Economics Forum'

MUSCAT: HH Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth, yesterday presided over the opening of "Governorates Economics Forum 2024" at Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre in Muscat. Organised by the Ministry of Economy, the forum featured strategic visions on enhancing decentralisation and domestic development and explored means of utilising the competitive advantages of Oman. During the forum, Sayyid Theyazin launched the Governorates' Competitiveness Index, a strategic measure for directing investments and determining development priorities. The index aims at promoting opportunities for the realisation of the goals of Oman Vision 2040, designed to consolidate the national



economy and maximise the economic and social impact of development projects. Sayyid Theyazin toured an exhibition held on the sidelines of the forum. Titled "Development Ex-

periences in the Governorates and Successful Models of Projects," the exhibition showcased the approaches espoused by the Governorate Development Programme. **>A2**

PRAYER
TIMINGS

Dhuhr.....	12:09pm
Asr.....	3:30pm
Maghrib.....	6:50pm
Isha.....	8:10pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....	3:57am

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His Majesty the Sultan, King of Jordan exchange medals

His Majesty the Sultan decorated King Abdullah II with the “Order of Al Said (Wisam Al-Said)”, which is the loftiest Omani medal

AMMAN: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan today exchanged honorary orders (medals) on the occasion of His Majesty the Sultan’s current “State Visit” to the Kingdom.

His Majesty the Sultan decorated King Abdullah II with the “Order of Al Said (Wisam Al-Said)”, which is the loftiest Omani medal. The conferment of this Order reflects His Majesty the Sultan’s

pride over the depth of bilateral relations between Oman and Jordan and the strong ties of fraternity binding the peoples of the two countries.

Meanwhile, King Abdullah II presented His Majesty the Sultan with the “Order of al-Hussein bin Ali,” the loftiest Jordanian medal. The award portrays pride over the deep-rooted historical relations binding the two countries and high level of affinity between Omani and Jordanian peoples. -ONA



IN HONOUR OF HIS MAJESTY, JORDAN KING HOSTS DINNER

In honour of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan hosted an official dinner at Al Husseinia Palace in Amman, marking His Majesty’s visit to Jordan. The dinner was attended by the official delegation accompanying His Majesty the Sultan and a number of senior Jordanian officials.

-ONA

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STRATEGIC PROJECTS

Governorates’ Tourism Initiative

<FROM A1 It focused on means of utilising competitive and comparative advantages among the governorates, as well as major strategic projects, the rates of progress in “projects under implementation” and key future projects planned in the governorates.

Two sections at the exhibition were dedicated to highlight the objectives of the “Governorates Competitiveness Index” and “Governorates Tourism Initiatives”.

Economy Minister Dr. Said Mohammed Al Sagri said that the “Governorates Competitiveness Index” offers a comprehensive vision of the progress of the development march in each governorate.

“The index also defines opportunities and challenges and supports decision-makers in devising development policies and plans based on accurate and reliable data,” the minister added, noting that “it provides a set of standards and sub-indices covering various economic and social aspects, infrastructure, education, health and other vital sectors”.

The minister also announced the launch of the Governorates’ Tourism Initiative being undertaken in cooperation with the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism. “The initiative, aimed at enhancing the tourism sector in the governorates, allocates OMR15

million to fund the best projects that support this sector in Omani governorates,” he explained.

The minister pointed out that the initiative focuses on empowering the tourism sector to develop the economy of Omani governorates, notably by supporting projects that use the comparative advantages of each governorate.

The initiative, he said, lays emphasis on realising “tangible feasibility” from the programme on developing local communities and small and medium enterprises (SMEs), besides generating new employment opportunities for the local population.

The forum included three dialogue sessions that addressed “the reality and prospects of local development in the Sultanate of Oman and the enablers that consolidate the strategic approach to decentralization”.

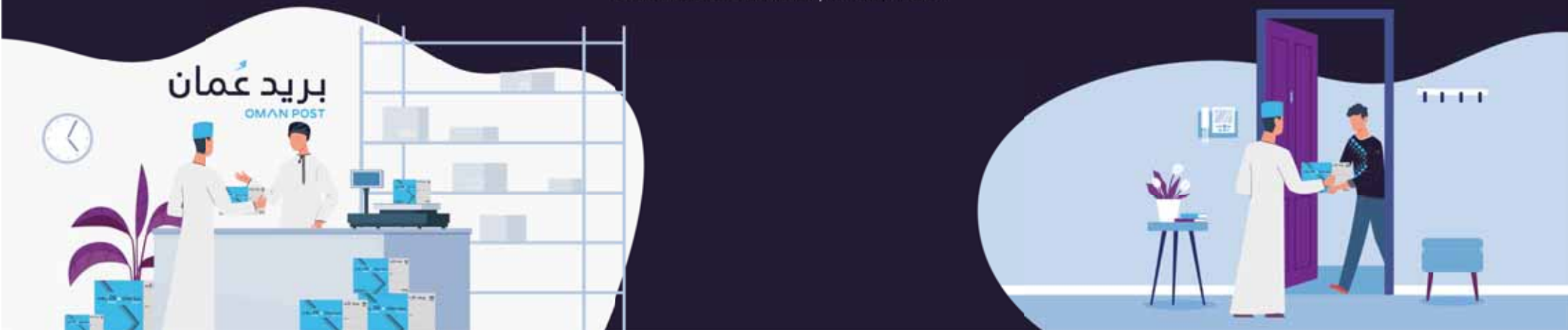
Panel discussions elaborated on the current status of “governorates development”, in addition to action plans and strategic visions on expanding the spheres of local development—economically and socially—and overcoming challenges.

The forum brought together all strategic partners from the government and private sectors, as well as experts and civil society institutions. -ONA

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OMR300,000

Health ministry signs MoU to fund paediatric surgeries

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Health represented by the Directorate General of Khoula Hospital signed on Wednesday a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Al Jisr Charitable Foundation to fund paediatric surgeries, with an amount of OMR300,000.

The MoU was signed by Sulaiman Nasser Al Haji, Undersecretary of the Health Ministry for Administrative and Financial Affairs, and Dina Fawzi Al Khalili, General Manager of the Foundation.

Dr. Rashid Al Alawi, Director General of Khoula Hospital confirmed that the MoU would bring in modern technologies and advanced medical equipment necessary for children's surgeries, allowing for conducting more high-quality surgeries for children; thus, reducing the waiting lists.

The General Manager of the Al Jisr Foundation said that the signing of the MOU is a continuation of previous cooperation between the two institutions, noting that the Al Jisr Foundation has funded more than 70 cases by the end of last year. -ONA



MEETING

Oman, Somalia to boost ties

MUSCAT: Dr. Saud Hamoud Al Habsi, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Water Resources yesterday held a meeting with Ahmed Hassan Adam, Minister of Fisheries and Blue Economy of the Federal Republic of Somalia, currently visiting the sultanate of Oman.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed means of enhancing cooperation between Oman and Somalia in the fields of fisheries, commercial fishing and fish farming.



They also explored ways to promote cooperation in the trade and investment in fish and fishery products, considering all requirements and circumstances between the two countries. They also touched on the potential of unifying stances on various relevant issues in international forums and meetings. -ONA

RECOGNITION

Oman lauds Norway, Spain, Ireland decisions on Palestine



MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman has welcomed the decision issued on Wednesday by the governments of Norway, Ireland and Spain to recognise the State of Palestine.

In a statement issued by the Foreign Ministry on Wednesday, Oman also expressed the hope that the rest of world countries that have not yet recognized the Palestinian state will follow suit, notably in support of the Palestinian people's right to gain independence and freedom in accordance with international law.

Ireland has announced it will also recognise an independent Palestinian state on May 28, along with fellow European countries Spain and Norway. -ONA

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WARM WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY

His Majesty arrives in Jordan



AMMAN: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik arrived in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on Wednesday on a two-day state visit.

King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan led the welcoming party for His Majesty the Sultan. The Jordanian Monarch received His Majesty at the foot of the ramp in Marka Airport in Amman, wishing him a pleasant stay in Jordan.

His Majesty the Sultan was accorded an official reception upon his arrival in Jordan. When the Royal Airplane (Nizwa) entered the Jordanian airspace, it was escorted by a squadron from the Royal Jordanian Air Force, until its arrival at Marka Airport, in a manifestation of warm welcome.

21-gun salute

As soon as His Majesty the Sultan descended from the Royal Airplane, a choir performed military martials, while the artillery fired a 21-gun salute to His Majesty the Sultan.

After the King of Jordan received His Majesty the Sultan, the two leaders headed to the airport square, passing between two rows of honorary guards from Jordan Royal Guard.

Then, His Majesty the Sultan shook hands with senior members of the welcoming party, who were: Prince Faisal bin Al Hussein (Head of the Mission of Honour that accompanies His Majesty the Sultan), Prince Hashim bin Al Hussein, Prince Mired bin Raad, Dr. Bisher Al Khasawneh, Prime Minister of Jordan, Faisal Al Fayiz, President of the Jordanian Senate, Ahmed Al Safadi, Speaker of the Jordanian House of Representatives, Mohammad Ghazo, Chief of the Supreme Judicial Council, Mohamed Al Mahadin, President of the Constitutional Court, Yousef Issawi, Chief of the Royal Court, Maj.Gen Yousef Al Hunaiti, Army Chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Maj.Gen Ahmad Husni, Chief of the General Intelligence Department, Dr. Khalid Touqan, Special Advisor to the King, Jaafar Hassan, Director of the King's Office, Kanaan Balaawi, Advisor of the King for Tribal Affairs and Mohammad Karaki, Secretary General of the Royal Hashemite Court.

In his turn, the Jordanian Monarch shook hands with members of the official delegation accompanying His Majesty the Sultan, wishing them a pleasant stay.

After that, King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein accompanied His Majesty the Sultan to the Dais of Honour, where the Royal Anthem of Oman was played, followed by the Jordanian Royal Anthem. Then, His Majesty the Sultan, accompanied by the King, inspected the Guard of Honour, which saluted His Majesty the Sultan.

Then, His Majesty the Sultan and the Jordanian monarch headed to the Dais of Honour. There, columns of protocol guards asked permission to dismiss. They passed before the Dais of Honour, giving the military salute to the two monarchs, as military aircraft performed a ceremonial flypast.



Then, His Majesty the Sultan shook hands with members of the Jordanian government, senior Jordanian civil and military officials and members of the Omani embassy in Jordan. He reciprocated their greetings and sentiments.

After that, His Majesty the Sultan, accompanied by the King of Jordan, boarded the motorcade that took them over to Basman Palace in the capital city, Amman.

As the motorcade exited the airport gate, a group of children that had lined on the two sides of the road leading to the palace, waved

the Omani and Jordanian flags in a manner that embodied the special bonds between the Sultanate of Oman and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

As soon as the motorcade entered Basman Palace, a convoy of red vehicles surrounded the main car boarded by the two monarchs, in re-enactment of a Jordanian Royal tradition that reflects warm welcome for the special guest of Jordan. After that, a group of Royal Guard cavaliers surrounded the motorcade in manifestation of warm welcome and celebration of

His Majesty the Sultan's arrival in Jordan.

The streets of the capital, Amman, were adorned with the flags of the Sultanate of Oman and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, board signs were erected and a number of Jordanian students and citizens lined up on the sides of the road, chanting welcoming phrases, expressing their delight at this historic visit of His Majesty the Sultan and the high-ranking official delegation that accompanying him.

Earlier, His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik left for Jordan



fairs and Special Representative of His Majesty the Sultan, HH Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth, Khalid bin Hilal Al Ma'awali, Chairman of the Shura Council, Sayyid Hamoud bin Faisal Al Busaidi, Minister of Interior, Sayyid Mohammed bin Sultan Al Busaidi, Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Judicial Council, Nasr bin Hamoud Al Kindi, Secretary General of the Royal Court Affairs, Dr. Madeeha bint Ahmed Al Shibani, Minister of Education, Sheikh Al Fadl bin Mohammed Al Harthy, Secretary General of the Council of Ministers, Lt.Gen Hassan bin Mohsin Al Shuraiqi, Inspector General of Police and Customs, Lt. Gen Said bin Ali Al Hilali, Head of the Internal Security Service, Dr. Hilal bin Ali Al Sabti, Minister of Health, Vice Admiral Abdullah bin Khamis Al Raisi, Chief of Staff of the Sultan's Armed Forces, Maj. Gen Mattar bin Salim Al Balushi, Commander of the Royal Air Force of Oman, Rear Admiral Saif bin Nassir Al Rahbi, Commander of the Royal Navy of Oman and Maj. Gen Musallam bin Mohammed Jaaboub, Commander of the Sultan's Special Force.

During the visit, His Majesty the Sultan is accompanied by a high-ranking official delegation comprising HH Sayyid Shihab bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs, HH Sayyid Bilarab bin Haitham Al Said, Sayyid Khalid bin Hilal Al Busaidi, Minister of the Diwan of Royal Court, Gen. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Nuamani, Minister of the Royal Office, Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, Dr. Hamad bin Said Al Aufi, Head of the Private Office, Abdusalam bin Mohammed Al Murshidi, Chairman of Oman Investment Authority and Sheikh Fahd bin Abdulrahman Al Ojaili, Ambassador of Oman to Jordan.

May the Almighty Allah protect His Majesty the Sultan and grant him success for the good of his people!" -**OMA**

on a two-day state visit to Jordan.

Invitation by Jordan King

The visit, made in response to an invitation by the Jordanian Monarch, comes to promote the fraternal ties between the two countries and their people.

His Majesty the Sultan was seen off at the Royal Airport by HH Sayyid Fahd bin Mahmoud Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for the Council of Ministers, HH Sayyid Asa'ad bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for International Relations and Cooperation Af-

UN TOURISM REGIONAL MEETING



Sayyid Fahd reviews importance of tourism to support global growth

MUSCAT: HH Sayyid Fahd bin Mahmoud Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for the Council of Ministers received on Wednesday Zurab Pololikashvili, Secretary-General of the UN Tourism and heads of the delegations taking part in the 50th meeting of the UN Tourism Regional Commission for the Middle East and the Conference on “Investing in Tourism: Opportunities and Challenges in Sustainable Financing”, hosted by the Sultanate of Oman.

At the outset of the meeting, HH Sayyid Fahd reviewed the importance of tourism as a primary support for the growth of the global economy. He also touched on its role in achieving positive returns on the social and economic aspects of countries.

He pointed out that the Sultanate of Oman attaches great importance to tourism, as it has devised plans and programs that ensure attracting more investments in tourism projects. These, affirmed HH Sayyid Fahd, come in support of this sector's contribution to economic diversification and generating more job opportunities.

He also expressed his appreciation for the role of the World Tourism Organisation (WTO) in developing the tourism sector, which made the Middle East region in particular occupy an advanced position as the most developed region in attracting tourists in the world.

During the meeting, the conversation dealt with reviewing means to maximise the benefits of tourism to support international cooperation in the field of human resources qualification, exchange of experiences, and promoting tourism as a tool to support peace and stability in all parts of the world.



Heads of the delegations extended their thanks to the Sultanate of Oman for the good preparation for these meetings, lauding the achievements and remarkable progress achieved in Oman at all levels.

The meeting was attended by Salim Mohammed Al Mahrouqi, Minister of Heritage and Tourism, Omar Said Al Kithiri, Ambassador of Oman to Spain and its Permanent Delegate to the UN Tourism and Basmah Abdulaziz Al-Mayman, Regional Director for the Middle East at the UN Tourism. — ONA

HELICOPTER CRASH

Ministers offer their condolences on death of Dr. Ebrahim Raisi at Iran Embassy in Muscat

MUSCAT: A number of Omani ministers on Wednesday offered their condolences at the Iranian Embassy in Muscat on the death of Dr. Ebrahim Raisi, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and his accompanying delegation, following a helicopter crash in Iran's East Azerbaijan Province, in the northwest of Iran.

The ministers were received at the embassy by Mousa Farhang, Ambassador of Iran to the Sultanate of Oman, and members of the diplomatic mission.

The ministers expressed their sincere condolences and sympathy to the government and friendly people of Iran.



They also commended the role of the late President of the Republic and his Foreign Minister in strengthening bonds of fraternity with Oman.

The Iranian Ambassador expressed his deep thanks and appreciation for the officials' kind gesture, wishing the Sultanate of Oman continued progress and hoping that bilateral relations will see further growth.

Signed Condolence Register

At the conclusion of the visit, the ministers signed the Condolence Register, stating deep sympathy and commiseration with Iran.

They prayed to Allah the Almighty to bestow mercy and forgiveness on the late President and his accompanying delegation. They wished Iran security and prosperity.

-ONA



Ministry of Health

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Ministry of Health invites specialized companies to participate in the following Tenders:

Tender Ref	Description	Last date for Collection of tenders Document	Closing Time/ Day/ Date	Eligibility	Tender Fee (Non-Refundable)
2024/2107	Supplying computers and accessories to health institutions Affiliated with the General directorate of Health Services in North Al Sharqiyah Governorate	Before 8 am on Wednesday 05/ JUNE /2024	Before 9 am on SUNDAY 30/ JUNE /2024	Specialized companies registered with the Tender Board	R.O 25 Per set

- All Specialized and interested Companies registered with Tender Board on the above mentioned Grade may obtain tender documents from the E. Tendering website: <https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om> against non-refundable payment as mentioned above for each set of document.
- Ministry is not bound to accept the lowest tender and reserves the right to accepts or reject any tender. (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>)

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Tender Number	Tender Description	Last date to collect the tender	Tender return date
PRE/24/096	Beautification Works at MBD Area	11/06/2024	02/07/2024
PRE/24/110	Maintenance of Landscaping and Cleaning Works at Airport Interchange	11/06/2024	02/07/2024
PRE/24/111	Maintenance of Landscaping and Cleaning Works at Bousher (A)	11/06/2024	02/07/2024
PRE/24/112	Maintenance of Landscaping and Cleaning Works at Bousher (B)	11/06/2024	02/07/2024
PRE/24/113	Maintenance of Landscaping and Cleaning Works at Al Amirat	11/06/2024	02/07/2024
PRE/24/114	Maintenance of Landscaping and Cleaning Works at Qurriyat	11/06/2024	02/07/2024

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FIRST MEETING

OCCI launches Social Investment Centre

MUSCAT: The Board of Directors of the Social Investment Centre of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) on Wednesday held its first meeting under the chair of Her Highness Sayyida Dr. Mona Fahd Al Said, Head of the Centre.

The meeting discussed the centre's action plan and several other topics aimed at achieving integra-

tion with partners and stakeholders from the public and private sectors, charities and civil society organisations.

OCCI's vision
HH Sayyida Mona pointed out that the centre was launched within the framework of OCCI's vision and the recent launch of its new identity. — **ONA**





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Omani official delegation conveys HM's condolences to Acting President of Iran

The delegation expressed His Majesty the Sultan's deep sympathies to the Iranian leadership and the friendly Iranian people in this tragic occurrence

TEHRAN: At the behest of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, an official delegation comprising ministers and top officials conveyed in Tehran on Wednesday the condolences and sympathies of His Majesty the Sultan to Dr. Mohammad Mokhber, Acting President of the Islamic Republic,

on the death of late President Dr. Ebrahim Raisi and his accompanying delegation.

The Omani delegation comprised Dr. Abdullah Nasser Al Harrasi, Minister of Information, Dr. Mohammad Said Al Maamari, Minister of Endowments and Religious Affairs, Sheikh Khalifa Ali Al Harthy, Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry for Political Affairs, and Ibrahim Ahmed Al Mu'aini, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to Iran.

The delegation expressed His Majesty the Sultan's sincere condolences and deep sympathies to the Iranian leadership and the friendly Iranian people in this tragic occurrence, praying to Allah the Almighty to bestow mercy and forgiveness on the deceased and support their families with patience and solace.

For his part, Dr. Mohammad Mokhber expressed his deep thanks to His Majesty the Sultan for his sincere condolences and noble feelings. He prayed to the Almighty to spare His Majesty and the Omani people all forms of evil and harm. — **ONA**



INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY

Exhibition of archaeological finds opens in Al Dakhiliyah

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The permanent exhibition of archaeological finds has been inaugurated in Al Dakhiliyah Governorate.

The permanent exhibition of archaeological finds was opened in Al Dakhiliyah Governorate, which allows visitors to learn about a large group of archaeological finds and rarities of ancient collectibles. It coincides with the celebration of International Museum Day, with the aim of raising awareness of the importance of museums and their

role in preserving and preserving material history.

Ali bin Saeed Al Adawi, Director of the Heritage and Tourism Department in the governorate, said: "This year's celebration of International Museum Day, which came under the slogan "Museums for Education and Scientific Research," highlights the importance of museums as an important means of cultural exchange."

Saeed bin Salem Al Jadidi, Head of the Antiquities and Museums Department at the Department of Heritage and Tourism in the

Al Dakhiliyah Governorate, explained that the permanent exhibition of finds includes a group of rare artifacts, including pottery and iron pieces that were discovered in various governorates of the Sultanate of Oman.

In addition to the participation of a number of private museum owners, namely: the Nizwa Museum, the Gateway to the Past Museum in the Wilayat of Nizwa, the Currency Museum in the Wilayat of Al Hamra, and Sharaf House Museum in the Wilayat of Jabal Al Akhdar.



TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

Nama Dhofar Services invites the specialized companies to participate and submit their offers for the below said tenders: -

EOI Number	EOI Name	Last Date for Collection of Documents	Time & Last Date for Proposal Submission	Tender Fee (OMR) Including VAT (5%)
DISC/2024/062	CONSTRUCTION OF WATER TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION NETWORK AT SHALIM, AGAREET AND ZAKHAR	29/05/2024	12/06/2024	525.000
DISC/2024/063	CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR TSE MASTER PLAN	05/06/2024	03/07/2024	525.000

- To purchase the tender document website via the link or the Barcode below:
https://supplier.nama.om:4443/OA_HTML/OA.jsp?OAFunc=XXTEN_TENDER_FLOAT_DISC_F
- Every company wishing to participate in this tender must attach with its bid a bid bond in the form of a bank guarantee from one of the banks operating in the Sultanate of Oman. Any bid that does not contain the bid bond will be disqualified.
- The original bid bond must be submitted in an envelope sealed with red wax and addressed to the chairperson of the minor tender committee and written on outside the Tender name and the Tender number and it should be placed in the tender box in Nama Dhofar Services in Salalah before 10:00 am of the last day for submitting Bids.
- Bids shall be submitted online through using "supplier portal". No hard copies are accepted.
- The Tender fees are not refundable. However, Tenderers who are holding "Riyada" card issued from public authority for SME development will be exempted from providing the tender fee and the Bid bond.
- The company is not obliged to accept the lowest or any other bid.
- In the event of receipt of the tender document on behalf of another company, the interested purchasers in the above tender document should provide details of the person's name and the company details.



Dhofar Integrated Services Company s.a.o.c.
CR Number 2185229, PO Box 2609
PC 211, Salalah - Sultanate of Oman
Phone Number 23232523, Fax 23201183
www.dhofarservices.nama.om



US EMBASSY HOLDS RECEPTION ON THE OCCASION OF THE 248TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

The Embassy of the United States of America held a reception on Wednesday evening on the occasion of the 248th Independence Day. The ceremony, which was held at the Sheraton Oman Hotel, was attended by a number of senior officials in the Sultanate of Oman, heads of diplomatic missions accredited to the Sultanate, and a number of officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — **ONA**



TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT LABORATORY

Ministry launches electronic qualification programme

Times News Service

Muscat: The Ministry of Education launched yesterday the "Electronic Programme for Qualifying Employees", developed by the Smart Applications Development Department in cooperation with the Qualification and Training Department.

The launch was held under the patronage of Saif Al Kharousi, Director-General of the Directorate-General of Administrative Affairs.

Maintaining databases
The ceremony took place at the Technical Development Laboratory at the Ministry's General Diwan.

The electronic programme was designed and implemented by specialists in the Ministry with the aim of maintaining databases of Ministry employees who have obtained approval to study an academic degree and benefiting from



this data in making strategic decisions. The programme also aims at following up on employees' requirements during the study period and sending notifications to them from the beginning of the study until completion, unifying the databases and tasks of the qualification departments and the learner follow-up department, and simplifying procedures.

During the launch ceremony, Abdullah Al-Maawali, a training specialist in the Learner Follow-up Department, gave a presentation on the goals of establishing the electronic qualification program and its path, and the future aspirations of the program's path for the Qualification Programmes Department and the Learner Follow-up Department. Badr Al Balushi from the Smart Applications Development Department of Information Systems also gave a presentation in which he explained the mechanism of the programme's work.

NBO GLOBAL EQUITY FUND

OPEN-ENDED INVESTMENT FUND



OFFER NOTICE

This advertisement is a summary of the prospectus of NBO Global Equity Fund ("Prospectus") approved by the Financial Services Authority of Oman ("FSA") vide its Administrative Decision No. KH/31/2024 dated 8 May 2024. NBO Global Equity Fund (the "Fund") is an open-ended investment fund established by National Bank of Oman SAOG ("NBO") registered in the Sultanate of Oman as a specialized bank and licensed as an Investment Fund Manager in accordance with the regulations of the FSA. Terms used but not defined in this advertisement shall have the meaning given to them in the Prospectus.

This advertisement summary should not be relied on for making an investment decision and is not intended to be a substitute for reading the whole Prospectus. Each investor should read the Prospectus and Articles of Association of the Fund in full before making their investment decision. This advertisement summary has been extracted from the unofficial translation of the Prospectus prepared in Arabic and approved by the FSA.

Fund Name	NBO Global Equity Fund
Fund Sponsor	The Fund is sponsored by NBO. NBO will subscribe for 5% of the capital of the Fund which it will, in accordance with the CMA Regulations, neither sell nor redeem for at least three years from the date of closure of the Initial Subscription Period.
Fund Address	NBO Global Equity Fund National Bank of Oman SAOG Investment Banking Division P. O. Box 751, Postal Code 112 Ruwi, Sultanate of Oman
Fund Objectives	The primary objective of the Fund is to generate returns from an actively managed portfolio comprised of equity securities listed and about to be listed on global stock exchanges including ADRs and GDRs and equity-oriented securities such as open-ended UCIT funds and ETFs investing in such listed securities.
Term	Open-ended
Fund Structure	Open-ended fund investing in (i) listed and about to be listed global equity securities including ADRs and GDRs and (ii) funds such as UCIT funds and exchange traded funds (ETFs) that invest in such listed equity securities.
Subscription Start Date	29th May 2024
Subscription Closing Date	13th June 2024
Fund's Financial Year	From 1st January until 31st December of each year, first year will commence from the end of the Initial Subscription Period until 31st of December of the same year.
Fund Currency	Rial Omani
Fund Capital	Minimum: 2,000,000 Rials Omani (two million Rials Omani)
Administrator	Standard Chartered Bank, Oman
Issue Manager & Distributor	National Bank of Oman SAOG
Investment Manager	National Bank of Oman SAOG
Investment Advisor	Principal Global Investors LLC
Legal Advisors	Trowers & Hamlins
Collecting Bank	- National Bank of Oman SAOG - Ubhar Capital SAOC - Horizons Capital Markets SAOC
Custodian	Standard Chartered Bank, Oman
Initial Subscription Price	1.020 Rial Omani (including 20 Baisa as issue expenses)
Initial Subscription Period	29th May 2024 to 13th June 2024
Minimum Subscription for Initial Issue	The minimum Initial Subscription shall be 2,000 Units per Subscriber and thereafter in multiples of 100 Units.
Maximum Subscription	Open.
Subscription Fees	Subscription fees (or issue expenses during the Initial Subscription Period): 2% on total invested amount plus any applicable VAT and taxes (the Management Body or the Investment Manager may waive these fees partially or totally).
Redemption of Units	Unitholders that have subscribed for Units during the Initial Subscription Period shall have a three (3) month lock-in period from the date on which the Fund is registered on the register of investment funds maintained by the FSA. After this three-month period, or the date the Fund has published its first NAV, whichever is later, each Unitholder shall have the right to redeem or transfer its Units (subject to the terms and conditions specified in the Prospectus and the Articles of Association).
Redemption Fees	2.00% if redeemed within 6 months of the date of subscription. 1.50% if redeemed within 12 months of the date of subscription. 1.00% if redeemed within 18 months of the date of subscription. 0.50% if redeemed within 24 months of the date of subscription. There shall be no redemption fees after this period. Redemption fees will be retained by the Fund. Any applicable VAT and taxes will be chargeable in addition to such fees.
Net Asset Value (NAV)	The calculation of NAV is the responsibility of the Administrator and is to be effected at the close of each Valuation Day. The valuation of the Units will be carried out on each Valuation Day.
Risk Factors	Investments in the Fund shall be exposed to risks. The Fund does not guarantee any returns. Please refer to Chapter 10 of the Prospectus for further discussions on key risk factors applicable to this Fund.
Auditor	Moore Stephens LLC
Taxation	As per the Income Tax Law No. 28 of 2009 (as amended), income accruing to investment funds set up in Oman under the Securities Law shall be exempted from tax in Oman. However, the income earned by the Fund may be subject to foreign taxation to the extent income is derived from other jurisdictions. Please refer to Chapter 9 of the Prospectus.
Eligible Investors	The Fund is open for investment to retail and non-retail investors within and outside Oman who are not US Persons. All investors, including investors located outside of Oman, are responsible for ensuring they inform themselves of, and are permitted to subscribe for Units under, all applicable laws and regulations, including the laws and regulations of Oman and of their jurisdiction (if different). Please also carefully read the information set out in the Important Notice, in the Prospectus.
Management Fees	The Investment Manager is entitled to management fees of 1.05% per annum of the Net Asset Value of the Fund plus any applicable VAT and other taxes. The management fee will be calculated based on the daily NAV of the Fund and paid monthly in arrears.
Advisor Fees	The Investment Advisor is entitled to advisor fees of 0.40% per annum of the Net Asset Value of the Fund plus any applicable VAT and other taxes and withholdings (such as withholding taxes). The Investment Advisor fee will be calculated based on the daily NAV of the Fund and paid monthly in arrears.
Performance Fees	The Investment Manager is entitled to a performance fee of 10% of any annual return exceeding 10% (net of other fees and expenses) plus any applicable VAT and other taxes. The Investment Manager will not impose any performance fees if the Fund's performance in any financial year is 10% or below and calculated against a floor of the NAV per Unit at the start of the relevant reference period for the relevant financial year (i.e. 1 January in the relevant financial year save for the first financial year where the relevant reference period will commence on the Subscription Closing Date) and taking into account all distributions made to the Unitholders in the relevant year. Performance fees are calculated and payable at the end of each financial year.
Other Fund Expenses	The Fund will also deduct other operating expenses as discussed in detail in Chapter 8 of the Prospectus.
Dividends	The Fund's dividend policy is set within the framework of the CMA Regulations, wherein the Investment Manager will make a recommendation to the Management Body on whether to distribute or reinvest the dividends, any proceeds and returns from investments or other balances available to the Fund. The Management Body of the Fund may decide to distribute by way of dividends or other distributions to Unitholders of the Fund or reinvest in the Fund any dividends, proceeds and returns from investments or other balances available to the Fund as deemed appropriate by the Management Body after considering the recommendations of the Investment Manager.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FUND

Investment Objective

The primary objective of the Fund is to generate returns over the long term from an actively managed portfolio comprised of equity, equity-oriented securities listed and about to be listed on global stock exchanges and funds investing in the same.

The Fund will not materially change its investment objectives set out in the Prospectus without obtaining approval of the Management Body and, if required by applicable law, the required approval of the Unitholders.

Investment Strategy

To pursue the Fund's investment objective, the Investment Manager (NBO) shall follow a disciplined investment process, in consultation with the Investment Advisor (Principal Global Investors LLC). The Investment Advisor will, pursuant to the Investment Advisory Agreement, support the Investment Manager in achieving the set objectives by recommending a combination of listed equity securities in Developed Markets and/or Emerging Markets. The Fund shall follow an active management strategy.

Asset Allocation Strategy

Asset Class	Listed equities	Equity-oriented securities	Cash and cash-equivalent
Weights	Up to 100%	Up to 100%	Up to 25%
Underlying Securities	Companies listed and about to be listed on global stock exchanges including ADRs and GDRs	UCIT funds and/or ETFs	Cash and money-market instruments with less than 1 year of maturity

Fund's Management Body

The Articles of Association of the Fund and the Prospectus form the foundations of the constitution of the Fund and unless any of their provisions are in conflict with the Securities Law and the Rules and Executive Regulations prescribed by the CMA for Investment Funds or Directives issued by the CMA (that are currently in force during the date of this notice), the provisions mentioned therein shall be complied with.

The Fund shall be managed and supervised by the Management Body elected by the General Meeting in accordance with the provisions of the Articles of Association.

The members of the Management Body shall be not less than three and not more than seven, including the chairman and vice chairman. The chairman or anyone authorized by the chairman shall represent the Fund before third parties and the courts.

The Articles of Association shall determine the term of office of the Management Body provided it shall not be more than five years from the date of formation. The first Management Body shall be appointed by the sponsor of the Fund in coordination with other sponsors (if any), provided its term shall not be more than one year from the date of the Fund's registration in the FSA's funds register.

Where any member's position falls vacant prior to the end of the term, the other members, representing at least the majority of the remaining members of the Management Body, may elect a replacement member until the end of the term.

The following members have been nominated by the Sponsor for the first Management Body, which shall comprise of 3 individuals:

1. Ali Mustafa Al Lawati
2. Aiman Hassan Al Balushi
3. Kunal Sahay

SUBSCRIPTION CONDITIONS AND PROSPECTUS

Subscription Eligibility and remedies of the Fund in the case of breach of subscription requirements

Investment in the Units offered is open to Omani and non-Omani institutions/individuals and other juristic persons other than US Persons provided that they meet the eligibility requirements specified in the subscription application.

The Fund is not open to investment from Sanctioned Persons or persons (including persons owned or controlled by such persons) located or headquartered in jurisdictions that are subject to Embargoes.

The Fund, the Investment Manager and the Investment Advisor and their affiliates seek to comply with all applicable anti-money laundering, economic sanctions, anti-bribery and anti-boycott laws and regulations applicable to them and in the jurisdictions in which they conduct business, other applicable laws and regulations relating to the prevention of money laundering and other similar applicable laws and regulations (collectively, the "Anti-Corruption and Anti-Terrorism Laws") as may be amended from time to time.

As such, by submitting a subscription application each Subscriber represents and warrants to the Fund that they and all of their beneficial owners are not: (i) in breach of the Anti-Corruption and Anti-Terrorism Laws, (ii) US Persons, (iii) Sanctioned Persons or otherwise listed on any economic sanctions list or (iv) persons (including persons owned or controlled by such persons) located or headquartered in jurisdictions subject to Embargoes. The Fund has the right at any time to procure information from the Subscriber to verify the accuracy of these representations and warranties and the Subscriber is required to provide any such requested information promptly upon receipt of any such request.

Should the representations and warranties of the Subscriber given under the relevant paragraphs in the Prospectus be false or misleading, the Fund shall have the right to freeze the account of the Subscriber and a right to compulsorily redeem, at its sole and absolute discretion and at any time, the relevant Subscriber's Units at the prevailing NAV less the costs and liabilities caused to the Fund as a result of the Subscriber's breach of such representations and warranties.

The Fund shall comply with all requirements of Oman law relating to the prevention of money laundering, anti-bribery, anti-terrorism, trade embargoes and economic sanctions, now or hereafter in effect.

Initial Subscription Application

Minimum Size for Fund's Establishment

The Fund will be established with a minimum initial size of R.O. 2,000,000 for the Units. In the event that subscriptions received during the Initial Subscription Period are less than R.O. 2,000,000, then all application money received during the Initial Subscription Period shall be refunded to the respective applicants.

Initial Subscription Forms

Potential investors may obtain Initial Subscription Forms and a copy of the Prospectus from the main office(s) of the Collecting Bank or from the office of the Issue Manager.

Initial Subscription Price

During the Initial Subscription Period, Units will be allotted at a price of R.O. 1.020 per Unit comprising of R.O. 1.000/- value of the Unit and R.O. 0.020 charges towards issue expenses.

Minimum Subscription for Initial Issue

The minimum Initial Subscription shall be 2,000 Units per Subscriber and thereafter in multiples of 100 Units.

Maximum Subscription for Initial Issue

There is no maximum limit on subscription.

Initial Subscription Period

The Initial Subscription Period shall be from 29th May 2024 to 13th June 2024 during Business Hours.

Mode of subscription during the Initial Subscription Period

- Subscribers shall submit their application at a branch of the Collecting Bank ("Application"). Subscribers will need to ensure they hold an investor number issued by MCD in order to make an application.
- To submit the Application, Subscribers shall be required to fill in a complete Initial Subscription Form and furnish all their particulars as required in the Initial Subscription Form, including the "Civil Status Number" and "date of birth", copy of the "Birth Certificate" in case of minor children, and "Commercial Registration Number" in case of companies, etc.
- Before filling in the Initial Subscription Form, the Subscriber is required to examine the Prospectus and read the conditions and procedures governing subscription for Units with due attention. Each Subscriber shall have the responsibility of submitting all particulars and ensuring correctness and validity of information provided for in the Initial Subscription Form when submitting the Application.
- Subscribers shall complete and submit the Initial Subscription Form at a branch of the Collecting Bank, along with payment in the form accepted by the Collecting Bank towards the Units as specified in the Prospectus and ensuring that the documents in support of the information furnished referred to above are provided.
- In case of payment of the value for the subscription made through cheque/demand draft, the same shall be submitted in favour of "NBO Global Equity Fund (under formation)" or as otherwise advised by the Collecting Bank.
- Once completed, the Collecting Bank will validate the Subscriber's Application and provide the Subscriber with a copy of the acknowledgement of their Application. Each Subscriber should ensure that they receive a copy of the acknowledgement from the Collecting Bank.

Subscription during the Initial Subscription Period on Behalf of minor children

- Any person of age less than 18 years as of the first day of the Initial Subscription Period will be considered a minor.
 - A father may subscribe on behalf of his minor children.
 - If an Initial Subscription Form is submitted on behalf of a minor by any person other than the minor's father, the person submitting the Initial Subscription Form will be required to attach a legally valid power of attorney authorizing him or her to deal in the funds of the minor through sale, purchase and investment.
- Bank Account and Documentation Details**
- Along with the duly completed Initial Subscription Form, the Subscriber is required to submit a document confirming the correctness of the bank account number as provided for in the Initial Subscription Form except for any subscription through a bank other than the one with whom the Subscriber has his account.
 - In case the Subscriber is applying for subscription through the Collecting Bank in which he does not hold an account, he can subscribe by submitting any document from his bank evidencing his account number and name such as the upper portion of the bank account statement issued by the bank containing these particulars only or a letter or any document issued by the said bank containing the said information. The Subscriber shall ensure that the evidence submitted is clearly readable and contains the account number and full name of the account holder.
 - An application for subscription, which contains the bank account number of a person other than the Subscriber shall be rejected, with the exception of the applications made on behalf of minor children that contain bank account particulars of their father.
 - A copy of a valid power of attorney duly endorsed by the competent legal authorities must be submitted in the event the subscription is on behalf of another person (with the exception of the subscription made on behalf of minor children by their father).
 - In case of applications by juristic persons (non-individuals), which are signed by a person in his/her capacity as an authorized signatory, a copy of adequate and valid supporting documentation should be attached.
 - The following is the check list for documentation requirement for Unitholders, together with any other documents that may be deemed necessary by the Collecting Bank or the Administrator or may be requested by the authorities concerned.

Applicant	Documents Required
Omani Male & Female – 18 years and above	1. Copy of identity card/passport 2. Proof of Bank Account 3. Proof of residential address
Non-Omani Nationals	1. Passport copy 2. Resident Card copy 3. Proof of Bank Account 4. Proof of residential address
Minor below 18 years, Both Omani and Non-Omani Nationals	1. Copy of birth certificate of the minor/passport 2. Father's Identity Card or Passport Copy (where he is applying on behalf of the minor). 3. Proof of Bank Account 4. For non-Omani nationals: resident card copy 5. Proof of residential address
Companies and Enterprises	1. Commercial registration copy or its equivalent for overseas registered companies 2. List of authorized signatories as registered with the Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Investment Promotion, if available. 3. ID copies of the signatories to the application 4. Proof of Bank Account 5. Ultimate Beneficial Owner details and other detail as may be required
Authorities and Pension Funds	1. Copy of constitutive decree or decision 2. List of authorized signatories 3. ID copy of the signatory to the application 4. Proof of Bank Account

Investor Identification and Anti-Money Laundering

The Investment Manager, the Issue Manager, the Collecting Bank, and the Administrator reserve the absolute right to require further verification of the identity of each potential Unitholder or that of the person or entity on whose behalf the potential Unitholder is applying for Units. Each potential Unitholder will provide evidence in a form and substance satisfactory to the Investment Manager, the Issue Manager, the Collecting Bank and the Administrator of its identity and, if so required, the source of its funds within a reasonable time period as determined by the Investment Manager, the Issue Manager, the Collecting Bank and the Administrator. Pending the provision of such evidence, an application for Units will be postponed. If a potential Unitholder fails to provide satisfactory evidence within the time specified, or if a potential Unitholder provides evidence but the Investment Manager, the Issue Manager, the Collecting Bank or the Administrator are not satisfied therewith, the subscription application may be rejected immediately, in which event any money received by way of application will be returned to the applicant by bank transfer to the account from which the monies originated, without any addition thereto and at the risk and expense of the applicant.

The Investment Manager, the Issue Manager, the Collecting Bank and the Administrator reserve the right to request such information as is necessary to verify the identity of a prospective Unitholder. In the event of delay or failure by the applicant to produce any information required for verification purposes, the Investment Manager, the Issue Manager, the Collecting Bank and the Administrator will refuse to accept the application from such potential Unitholder and the subscription monies relating thereto.

If any person who is a resident of Oman has a suspicion that a payment made in relation to the Fund (by way of offer or otherwise) contains the proceeds of criminal conduct, that person is required to report such suspicion pursuant to the Anti Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism Law promulgated by Royal Decree 30/2016, as amended.

Unitholders will also be expected to comply with the anti-money laundering regulations of their respective jurisdictions to the extent that they are applicable to their investment in the Units.

Collecting Banks

Subscribers shall submit duly filled in Initial Subscription Forms for initial subscription to the following Collecting Bank during their official working hours in the Initial Subscription Period:

1. National Bank of Oman SAOG
2. Ubhar Capital SAOC
3. Horizons Capital Markets SAOC

The Collecting Bank shall have the right not to accept an Initial Subscription Form that reaches the Collecting Bank after Business Hours on the Subscription Closing Date.

The Collecting Bank receiving Initial Subscription Forms shall be required to accept the Subscription Forms after confirmation of compliance with the procedure and subject matter, in line with the requirements as provided for in the Prospectus. Hence, the Collecting Bank shall instruct Subscribers to comply with and fulfill any requirement that may appear in the Initial Subscription Form.

Acceptance of the applications for subscription

The Collecting Bank receiving the initial subscription shall not accept Initial Subscription Forms under the following circumstances:

- if the Initial Subscription Form does not bear the signature of the Subscriber;
- in case of failure of payment of the full value of the Units subscribed;
- if the value of the Units subscribed for is paid through cheque and if the same is dishonoured for whatever be the reason;
- if the Initial Subscription Form is submitted under joint names;
- if the Subscriber has subscribed through more than one Initial Subscription Form in the same name;
- if the supporting documents referred to in the Prospectus are not enclosed with the Initial Subscription Form;
- if the Initial Subscription Form does not contain all the particulars of the bank account of the Subscriber;
- if any particulars of the bank account held by the Subscriber as provided for in the Initial Subscription Form are noted to be incorrect;
- if the particulars of the bank account provided for in the application are found to be not relevant to the Subscriber, with the exception of the applications submitted in the name of minor children, who are allowed to make use of the particulars of the bank accounts held by their father;
- in case of failure to have the power of attorney attached with the application as provided for in the Prospectus in respect of the person who subscribes and signs on behalf of another person (with the exception of a father who subscribes on behalf of his minor children);
- if the application has not complied with the legal and organizational requirements as provided for in the Prospectus or applicable laws; or
- for any other reason as deemed appropriate in the best interests of the Fund.

In the event that following acceptance of an Initial Subscription Form and before delivery of the same to the Issue Manager, a Collecting Bank observes that the Initial Subscription Form does not comply with legal requirements as provided for in the Prospectus, the Collecting Bank will endeavour to contact the Subscriber so as to rectify the position. In case of failure to rectify the position within the period referred to, the Collecting Bank shall return the Initial Subscription Form to the Subscriber, together with the subscription money before expiry of the period specified for handing over of the applications to the Issue Manager.

The Collecting Bank shall submit a comprehensive report to the Issue Manager furnishing the details of the Initial Subscription Forms that are required to be rejected and reasons behind such rejection.

Allotment of Units and refund of money following the Initial Subscription Period

Following the completion of the Initial Subscription Period, the Issue Manager will arrange to allot Units within 15 (fifteen) days from the Subscription Closing Date and shall refund the subscription money to applicants whose application has been rejected. The Issue Manager will send allotment notices to the Subscribers who have been allotted Units, at the addresses as specified in their Subscription Forms.

The refund of subscription amounts in respect of which Units have not been allotted during the Initial Subscription Period (whether on account of rejection of the application or otherwise) may be undertaken by electronically transferring such amounts to the bank account numbers provided in the Subscription Forms.

Responsibilities & Obligations

The Issue Manager and the Collecting Bank receiving Initial Subscription Forms shall abide by the responsibilities and functions specified pursuant to the instructions and regulations laid down by the CMA. They shall also abide by any other responsibilities that are provided for in the agreements entered into between them and the Fund.

The parties concerned shall be required to take remedial measures with regard to the damages arising from any negligence committed in the performance of the functions and responsibilities assigned to them. The Issue Manager shall coordinate with the regulatory authorities in order to take all necessary actions and procedures in this regard.

Enquiry & Complaints:

Subscribers who intend to seek clarifications or file complaints with regard to the issues related to the allotment or rejected applications may contact the branch of the Collecting Bank where the subscription was made. In case of absence of any response from the branch, the Subscriber may contact the person concerned as hereunder:

Bank	Key person (S)	Postal Address	Phone No.	Fax No.	Email
National Bank of Oman SAOG	Jaffar Fuad Murtadha	PO Box 751, Ruwi, Postal Code 112 Muscat, Oman	2477 8563	2477 8993	jaffarfua@nbo.om

In case of initial subscriptions, if the Collecting Bank receiving the Initial Subscription Form fails to arrive at a solution or settlement with the person who has subscribed, it shall refer the subject matter to the Issue Manager, and keep the Subscriber posted of the progress and development in respect of the subject matter of the dispute. The Subscriber shall also keep in touch with the Collecting Bank that received the Initial Subscription Form only so as to know the decisions arrived at.

Expected time schedule for completion of allotment of Units following the Initial Subscription Period

#	Statement	Date
1	Date of FSA approval of the Prospectus	8th May 2024
2	First day of the Initial Subscription Period (Subscription Start Date)	29th May 2024
3	Last day of the Initial Subscription Period (Subscription Closing Date)	13th June 2024
4	Due date for Issue Manager to receive Initial Subscription Forms from the Collecting Bank	25th June 2024
5	Notifying FSA of the result of the approved subscription application	27th June 2024
6	Approval of FSA with regard to the proposal for the allotment of Units	1st July 2024
7	Commencement of refund of rejected subscription applications and dispatch of the notices regarding allotment of Units	2nd July 2024
8	Commencement of subsequent subscriptions to the Fund	Three months after registration of the Fund on the register of investment funds maintained by the FSA or the date the Fund has published its first NAV, whichever is later

Subscription for Units after the Initial Subscription Period

Following the closure of the Initial Subscription Period, eligible investors may subscribe for Units in the Continuous Offer Period, which shall commence three months after registration of the Fund on the register of investment funds maintained by the FSA or the date the Fund has published its first NAV, whichever is later.

Subscribers during the Continuous Offer Period must submit a duly completed Subscription Form to the Administrator, during Business Hours along with payment for the Units, on any Business Day along with documents in support of the subscription applications (referred to in the table on pages 50 and 51 of the Prospectus).

Office Address of the Issue Manager:

Investment Banking Division
National Bank of Oman SAOG
PO Box 751, PC 112, Ruwi
Tel: 24778563
JaffarFuad@nbo.om

Office Address of the Administrator:

Standard Chartered Bank
Super Plaza Building, 6th Floor,
Al Azaiba, Sultanate of Oman
Tel:+968 2477 3559 / 3557
OM.securities-services@sc.com

Allotment of Units after the Initial Subscription Period

For subscriptions for Units after the Initial Subscription Period, each prospective investor must complete and execute the Subscription Form and submit it to the Administrator along with the applicable documentation in original or certified form (prospective investors should refer to the appendix of the Subscription Form for a list of the relevant due diligence documentation) and procure that subscription amounts in cleared funds are received by the Administrator no later than 10.00am (Oman local time) one (1) Business Day prior to the relevant Valuation Day. The Administrator shall issue the units on the same Valuation Day at the end of the day by applying the preceding day's NAV per Unit and will send a written record of the subscription to the relevant Subscriber. Subscription Forms together with subscription funds not received by the specified time on the preceding Valuation Day will be passed over for processing on the next occurring Valuation Day.

Rejection of Applications

The Administrator may reject any Subscription Form, which does not comply with the requirements set out on page 53 of the Prospectus (Acceptance of the applications for subscription) which apply mutatis mutandis to applications for subscription of Units during the Continuous Offer Period once the Fund has reopened for continuous subscription and redemption of Units.

Refund of subscription applications received after the Initial Subscription Period

The Administrator shall effect all refunds for subscription applications received after the Initial Subscription Period within three (3) Business Days from the relevant Valuation Day.

Clarifications and complaints

Subscribers that apply for allotment of Units during the Continuous Offer Period may contact the office of the Administrator (address as provided in the Prospectus) for clarifications or registration of complaints.

Subsequent Subscription Fee

Subscription for Units during the Continuous Offer Period shall carry a subscription fee of up to 2% of the NAV plus any applicable VAT and taxes. This subscription fee shall be charged to the Subscriber at the discretion of the Investment Manager or the Management Body in full or in part.

Minimum and Maximum Subscription after initial Issue

The minimum subscription (exclusive of Subscription fees and any applicable VAT and taxes) for all subsequent subscriptions during the Continuous Offer Period shall be R.O. 500 per Subscriber for existing Unitholders and R.O. 2,000 for new Subscribers after the Initial Subscription Period and in multiples of R.O. 100. There shall be no maximum limit on Subscription.

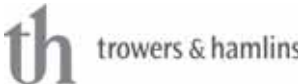
Investment Manager & Issue Manager



Investment Advisor



Legal Adviser



Collecting Banks



SPORTS

TOURNAMENT OPENER



Saikat and Illingworth to stand in ICC Men's T20 World Cup opener

MUSCAT: Shahid Saikat will become the first Bangladeshi umpire to officiate at an ICC Men's T20 World Cup when he stands in the tournament opener between USA and Canada.

Saikat, 47, took charge of five matches at last year's ICC Men's Cricket World Cup and has also been on the panel at two ICC Women's Cricket World Cups and the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2018.

The trailblazing official will be joined in the middle on the opening night by Richard Illingworth, who won the David Shepherd Trophy for ICC Umpire of the Year for the third time in 2023 and took charge of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup Final between India and Australia last year.

Richie Richardson will be the match referee in Dallas, with Sam Nogajski as TV umpire and Langton Rusere in place as fourth umpire.

Nogajski is one of five umpires making their senior men's tournament debut in June, with Rashid Riaz to make his first appearance in the second match of the tournament, between Papua New Guinea and West Indies in Guyana. That match will also mark a milestone for match referee Andy Pycroft, who will bring up his 150th T20I.

Jayaraman Madanagopal's debut will be later that day when Namibia and Oman go head-to-head in Barbados.

The first of Allahudien Paleker's four on-field group games will be between USA and Pakistan, while



fellow debutant Asif Yaqoob will line up alongside Nitin Menon for England's clash with Scotland.

Illingworth and Rodney Tucker will be the on-field umpires for the eagerly-awaited Group A clash between India and Pakistan on June 9.

Kumar Dharmasena, Chris Gaffaney, Richard Kettleborough and Joel Wilson are among the other experienced officials returning for more World Cup action, with the knockout stage appointments to be announced at a later date.

Match Officials for ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024:

Umpires: Chris Brown, Kumar Dharmasena, Chris Gaffaney, Michael Gough, Adrian Holdstock, Richard Illingworth, Allahudien Paleker, Richard Kettleborough, Jayaraman Madanagopal, Nitin Menon, Sam Nogajski, Ahsan Raza, Rashid Riaz, Paul Reiffel, Langton Rusere, Shahid Saikat, Rodney Tucker, Alex Wharf, Joel Wilson and Asif Yaqoob.

Match referees: David Boon, Jeff Crowe, Ranjan Madugalle, Andrew Pycroft, Richie Richardson and Javagal Srinath.

Oman ready to make waves at the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024

Duleep Mendis-coached team, currently in Barbados, will begin their World Cup campaign against Namibia on June 3



MUSCAT: As the Oman cricket team prepares for their third appearance at the 2024 ICC Men's T20 World Cup in the West Indies and the USA, an air of confidence surrounds them. This wave of optimism is driven by Oman Cricket (OC) President Pankaj Khimji, who is confident that his team can make a substantial impact and potentially cause some major upsets when the tournament kicks off on June 2.

Aiming for upsets

Pooled in Group B alongside defending champions England, former winners Australia, Scotland, and Namibia, the Duleep Mendis-coached Men in Red will start their campaign against Namibia on June 3 at the Kensington Oval in Barbados.

Khimji believes Oman have the potential to surprise stronger teams.

"I am extremely proud of the way our boys qualified for the third T20 World Cup. Their journey to the 2024 edition has been nothing short of exemplary, and I have great faith in the ability of

our players to create a few upsets against stronger teams in the West Indies," said Khimji.

Optimal preparations

Ensuring the team has optimal preparations, Oman were the first team to arrive in the West Indies on May 14, holding a camp in Barbados and are scheduled to play three warm-up games against Barbados Cricket Association teams.

Khimji said, "The boys know what to do and they have nothing to lose. They will go out and play a fearless brand of cricket. Under coach Duleep Mendis and new captain Aqib Ilyas, the team is bound to fly the flag of Oman high."

The vice-president of the

Asian Cricket Council (ACC), Khimji added, "The preparations of the boys in Barbados are going great. The players are in excellent shape and in a good frame of mind. We have tried to provide the best possible preparations, and under young and talented Aqib, I have a lot of faith in the team giving a good fight and creating chaos."

Support and acclimatisation

Khimji thanked H H Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports, and Youth, for the strong support that has significantly contributed to the team's recent successes.

Coach Mendis thanked OC for planning an early arrival in the West Indies, which is helping the

team to acclimatise and play on local wickets.

"The boys have been acclimatising to the weather conditions, which are quite different from Oman. It's very important that they get used to these conditions," said Mendis.

He also acknowledged the support of Roland Butcher, former England international, for arranging the pre-World Cup tour to Barbados.

In the first warm-up match against Barbados XI on May 20, skipper Aqib Ilyas and opening batter Muhammad Naseem Khushi hit half-centuries, as Oman successfully chased down 176 in 19 overs for the loss of four wickets to earn a morale-boosting win.

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OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by July 2024 reaching \$83.07, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by \$1.15 from the price of Tuesday, which was \$84.22. -ONA

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 4,807.20 points, up by 0.59 per cent from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.25 per cent at 450.23 points. Oman Arab Bank, up 7.46 per cent, was the top gainer while Al Jazeera Services, down 2.49 per cent, was the top loser.

UN Regional Commission meeting explores developing tourism sector

The regional commission's meeting highlighted the action programme of the organisation during 2023-2024, as well as the priorities of the commission, which include medical tourism, tourism investment and means of funding joint regional tourism products

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman, represented by the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, hosted yesterday the 50th meeting of the UN Tourism Regional Commission for the Middle East.

The meeting deals with a number of topics related to developing the tourism sector in the region.

Moreover, the regional commission's meeting highlighted the action programme of the organisation during 2023-2024, as well as the priorities of the commission, which include medical tourism, tourism investment and means of funding joint regional tourism products.

Salim Mohammed Al Mahrouqi, Minister of Heritage and Tourism pointed out that the meeting touched on challenges facing the tourism sector. These challenges require joint efforts and regional cooperation to find sustainable so-



lutions and develop strategies that serve achieving joint aspirations.

Al Mahrouqi added that the Arab region is witnessing noticeable growth in the tourism field. This, in turn, the Minister explained, increases the need for utilising this growth to contribute to economic development in general and to provide job opportunities and sustainability in particular.

On his turn, Ahmed Aqil Al Kha-

teeb, Minister of Tourism of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) pointed out that the tourism sector undertakes a main role in augmenting the growth of the international economy and providing job opportunities. The sector, he added, supports global efforts that aim at achieving the sustainable development goals (SDGs).

Al Khateeb noted that the number of incoming tourists to

the Middle East exceeded 122%, compared to the levels of 2019 (pre-pandemic).

Moreover, Zurab Pololikashvili, Secretary-General of the UN Tourism said that the Middle East witnessed increasing tourism activities and that the tourism sector underwent many changes. These changes are due to technology developments, as well as changes in education and other fields. -ONA



INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT FORUM

AUTO PRODUCERS

Green transport in focus at global summit

Ashtok Purohit

LEIPZIG: Surrounded by green trees and a beautiful lake, Leipziger Messe GmbH (CCL), the venue of the International Transport Forum (ITF) Annual Summit 2024, provides a perfect setting for global leaders to discuss greening transport. Ministers from the 66 member countries of the ITF and scores of journalists from across the world have gathered for the Annual Summit in Leipzig, Germany, which got underway on Wednesday under the Presidency of Lithuania.

With hundreds of expert speakers invited to discuss challenging subjects like environmental sustainability and promoting greener transport, the three-day summit's main theme is "Greening Transport: Keeping Focus in Times of Crisis."

Experts and government stakeholders are expected to discuss transport's role in environmental sustainability and assess the impacts of climate, health, and geopolitical crises on the sector.

Transport ministers and top officials from member nations will hold closed-door talks and open sessions on how to maintain a long-term policy focus amid these crises, leveraging opportunities to promote a greener and more resilient transport sector.

More than 70 sessions and side events will explore various aspects of the theme of greening transport, from inclusion and accessibility to cleaner and automated vehicles and digital innovation. Ministerial-level delegations from over 40 countries, together with representatives from international organisations, corporations, and non-governmental organisations, have also arrived to attend the



event, with ITF officials suggesting that around 1,200 participants will be at the summit.

Oman among three nations all set to be granted ITF membership

In a world facing fragmentation, the ITF's highest decision-making body, the Council of Ministers of Transport, will consider new membership requests from three countries during its session on Thursday, according to Young Tae Kim, Secretary-General of the International Transport Forum.

In his exclusive remarks to *Times of Oman* on Wednesday on the sidelines of the opening press briefing, South Korea's Kim said: "In all likelihood, Oman along with Saudi Arabia and Dominican Republic, will be officially granted membership to the International Transport Forum."

"The three nations have applied for membership, and the council will approve the membership

requests tomorrow. A formal announcement will only be made after the opening council session is over. With the inclusion of three more countries, the ITF family will grow to 69 member countries."

On Wednesday, the summit's opening press conference was addressed by Marius Skuodis, Lithuania's Minister of Transport and Communication, who highlighted the challenges the world is facing and ITF's active role in addressing these issues. The summit will also hold talks on significant issues: climate change, inclusive transport, and strengthening supply chains.

Among the other topics that are going to be discussed in detail over the three days is uncovering the global trade in used vehicles following a recent ITF report that compiled data on global flows of used-vehicle exports.

At the summit, the ITF is expected to launch a Used Vehicle Dashboard, which allows one to

explore statistics and compare data on the international import and export of used passenger cars.

The growing presence of e-scooters and their safety is another topic ITF experts spoke on the opening day.

Philippe Crist, Advisor-Innovation and Foresight at ITF said: "Micromobility is becoming safer, but governments should enforce better policies on reduced speeds for e-scooters and provide safe infrastructure for the users. Managing speed, providing training to road users and enforcing rules are primary steps to ensure that e-scooters and other micromobility devices are a safer mode of transportation," he added.

Road safety: Safe system tool

Another key element at the summit will be the demonstration of the Safe System tool. The Safe System approach to road safety aims to save lives and prevent seri-

ous injuries by tackling all aspects of road use and design. The ITF's web-based Safe System tool is meant for countries, cities, companies, or projects working to improve road safety.

Carbon emission reduction

With transport responsible for 30% of global CO2 emissions and climate change leading to extreme weather events, the urgency for carbon emission reduction is pivotal. The Covid-19 pandemic and geopolitical conflicts have disrupted the transport sector and supply chains, contributing to an energy crisis and environmental challenges.

At the ongoing summit, decision-makers are discussing ways to maintain a long-term policy focus amid these crises, leveraging opportunities like cleaner and automated vehicles and digital innovation to promote a greener and more resilient transport sector. Simultaneously, evaluating the environmental risks associated with increased digitalisation is another increasingly crucial issue that will be discussed.

International Transport Forum

The International Transport Forum at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an international organisation that works to build better policies for better lives.

OECD is an intergovernmental organisation with 66 member countries. It acts as a think tank for transport policy and organises the Annual Summit of transport ministers. ITF is the only global body that covers all transport modes. The ITF is administratively integrated with the OECD, yet politically autonomous.

European car registrations surge 13.7% in April

BRUSSELS/FRANKFURT/ PARIS: New car sales in the European Union rebounded sharply in April, thanks to strong demand among four major markets, especially Spain and Germany, according to monthly data from the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA).

German news agency (DPA) reported on Wednesday that new car registrations rose 13.7 percent year-over-year to 913,995 units in April, reversing a 5.2 percent fall in March. This growth can be partly explained by the fact that there were two extra sales days compared to the same month last year, when Easter holidays fell in April, the ACEA said.

Among the four major markets, the Spanish market showed the strongest sales growth of 23.1 percent, followed by Germany with a 19.8 percent rise. Car sales in France also logged double-digit growth of 10.9 percent over the year, and sales demand in the Italian car market was 7.7 percent higher.

In April, battery electric car sales showed an increase of 14.8 percent annually, with the market share remaining broadly stable at 12 percent. Strong growth was also seen in hybrid-electric vehicles, with registrations rising 33.1 percent in April. The EU's petrol car sales expanded by 7.3 percent, but its market share dropped to 36 percent in April from 38.1 percent a month ago. Meanwhile, the market for diesel cars stayed stable at about 118,000 units, or roughly 13 percent of the total. -WAM

MARKET

MSX index ends higher

Oman Arab Bank, up 7.46 per cent, was the top gainer while Al Jazeera Services, down 2.49 per cent, was the top loser



MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,807.20 points, up by 0.59 per cent from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.25 per cent at 450.23 points. Oman Arab Bank, up 7.46 per cent, was the top gainer while Al Jazeera Services, down 2.49 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of Sohar International Bank were the most active in terms of number of shares traded as well as in terms of turnover.

A total number of 843 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of OMR2.78 million, with more than 1778 million shares changing hands.

Out of 51 traded securities, 15 advanced, 15 declined, and 21 remained unchanged.

At the session close, domestic investors were net buyers for OMR490,000 while GCC & Arab investors were net sellers for OMR376,000, followed by foreign investors for OMR114,000 worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 7,851.29 points, up 1.3 per cent. Prices of Oman Arab Bank, Bank Nizwa, Taageer Finance, Al Madina Investments, Sohar International Bank were up by 7.46

per cent, 3.85 per cent, 2.91 per cent, 2.74 per cent, 1.46 per cent respectively. Prices of Oman & Emirates Investment, Al Anwar Investment, Global Financial Investments, Al Sharqia Investment were down by 2.44 per cent, 2.25 per cent, 1.41 per cent, 1.33 per cent respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 5,893.86 points, up 0.54 per cent. Prices of Oman Cement, Muscat Thread Mill, Jazeera Steel Products, Oman Cables Industry were up by 4.05 per cent, 2.17 per cent, 2.14 per cent, 0.39 per cent respectively. Prices of Raysut Cement, Galfar Engineering, Al Maha Ceramics, Al Anwar Ceramics were down by 0.78%, 0.60 per cent, 0.60 per cent, 0.56 per cent respectively.

Services Index was down by 0.1 per cent before closing at 1,807.52 points. Prices of SMN Power Holding, Oman Telecom were up by 3.99 per cent, 0.57 per cent respectively. Prices of Al Jazeera Services, Barka Desalination, OQ Gas Networks, Shell Oman Marketing, Renaissance Services were down by 2.49 per cent, 1.54 per cent, 1.39 per cent, 1.19 per cent, 0.79 per cent respectively. — United Securities

MUSCAT INTERNATIONAL FORUM

BankDhofar participates in forum for Risk Management in Banks and Financial Institutions

Times News Service

MUSCAT: BankDhofar participated in the Muscat International Forum for Risk Management in Banks and Financial Institutions in its 2nd edition organised by the Union of Arab Banks in collaboration with Central Bank of Oman.

The forum discussed several topics, including Basel III end-game, how to ensure bank's viability & sustainability, credit risk/ ensuring asset quality in uncertain economic environment, digitalization of finance and Islamic finance. The forum aimed to facilitate the exchange of experiences and knowledge amongst the participants to enhance the culture of modern risk management between Arab bankers, and to understand the latest regulatory requirements in this important and sensitive field amidst the geopolitical developments affecting the region and the underlying risks.

The forum witnessed the participation of around 250 participants, gathering a wide range of government entities and all major regulatory authorities including Central Bank of Oman and regional risk management heads.

Ezideen Juma Al Mazroui, AGM and Deputy Chief Risk Officer at BankDhofar, said: "Our risk prevention strategies are aligned with the guidelines laid out by the Central Bank of Oman.



This forum is an opportunity for all of us to exchange ideas and share risk management best practices to reduce the better identify risks and mitigate its likelihood and impact as well as enhance our capabilities to deal with them."

BankDhofar is one of the fastest growing banks in the region, catering to customers' needs and requirements, and setting the standard for the best customer experience within the banking industry in the Sultanate of Oman through innovative products and creative solutions. Following best international banking practices, the provision of outstanding customer experience, in addition to its commitment to community development and contribution to the growth of the national economy, has placed BankDhofar at the top of the list of best banks in the region.

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff%
MSX 30 INDEX	4,813.03	4,774.17	4,807.20	4,778.88	28.32	0.59
FINANCIAL INDEX	7,855.50	7,744.25	7,851.29	7,750.61	100.68	1.30
Industry Index	5,930.31	5,862.48	5,893.86	5,862.48	31.38	0.54
Services Index	1,810.72	1,800.73	1,807.52	1,809.39	1.87	-0.10
MSX Shariah Index	451.11	448.01	450.23	449.09	1.14	0.25
MSX TR INDEX	6,678.27	6,624.36	6,670.18	6,630.89	39.30	0.59
FINANCIAL TR IDX	8,904.91	8,778.79	8,900.13	8,786.00	114.13	1.30
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	6,842.17	6,763.90	6,800.11	6,763.90	36.21	0.54
SERVICES TR IDX	2,092.25	2,080.70	2,088.55	2,090.71	-2.17	-0.10
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,069.10	1,069.10	1,069.10	1,069.10	0.00	0.00

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap.	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
17,785,102	2,783,945	843	24,450,948,569	15	15	21	51

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 22

SN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF	DIFF %	LAST PR.	LAST BID	LAST OFFER	PREV. VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	1,300	501	3	0.385	0.385	0.385	0.385	0.370	0.015	4.054	0.385	0.360	0.385	0.100	127,385,993
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	78,149	22,582	14	0.290	0.291	0.285	0.286	0.280	0.006	2.143	0.286	0.285	0.286	0.100	35,720,817
OM0000003388	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	3,928,402	542,492	52	0.138	0.139	0.137	0.139	0.137	0.002	1.460	0.139	0.138	0.139	0.100	775,237,232
OM0000004788	MADINA TAKAFUL	40,945	3,191	10	0.080	0.080	0.079	0.079	0.078	0.001	1.282	0.079	0.078	0.082	0.100	13,825,000
OM0000005133	OMINVEST	4,283	2,325	4	0.370	0.378	0.370	0.378	0.375	0.003	0.800	0.378	0.371	0.378	0.100	252,642,131
OM0000005326	OMAN TELECOM	157,050	196,269	65	1.050	1.065	1.045	1.052	1.046	0.006	0.574	1.052	1.059	1.065	0.100	789,000,000
OM0000001152	OMAN NATIONAL ENGINEERING & INVESTMENT	118,749	13,537	14	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.000	0.000	0.114	0.112	0.114	0.100	17,100,000
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	23,000	6,371	3	0.277	0.277	0.277	0.277	0.277	0.000	0.000	0.277	0.277	0.279	0.100	450,387,140
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	2,000	116	2	0.058	0.058	0.058	0.058	0.058	0.000	0.000	0.058	0.058	0.060	0.100	20,655,383
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	1,500,030	390,752	38	0.260	0.260	0.259	0.260	0.260	0.000	0.000	0.260	0.258	0.260	0.100	1,951,663,236
OM0000004735	SEMBOCORP SALALAH	73,075	7,419	8	0.102	0.102	0.101	0.102	0.102	0.000	0.000	0.102	0.101	0.102	0.100	97,368,339
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	112,300	8,535	17	0.077	0.077	0.076	0.077	0.077	0.000	0.000	0.077	0.076	0.081	0.100	51,966,332
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	156,770	12,371	16	0.080	0.080	0.078	0.079	0.079	0.000	0.000	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.100	56,438,101
OM0000005988	QUREDOO	1,650	497	2	0.301	0.301	0.301	0.301	0.302	-0.001	-0.331	0.301	0.298	0.301	0.100	195,924,213
OM0000002168	ALANWAR CERAMIC	5,000	895	2	0.179	0.179	0.179	0.179	0.180	-0.001	-0.556	0.179	0.178	0.180	0.100	39,380,000
OM0000008934	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	336,708	99,912	52	0.299	0.299	0.296	0.296	0.298	-0.002	-0.671	0.296	0.286	0.298	0.100	227,979,200
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	258	98	1	0.379	0.379	0.379	0.379	0.382	-0.003	-0.785	0.379	0.375	0.382	0.100	89,599,390
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MARKETING	478	397	2	0.830	0.830	0.830	0.830	0.840	-0.010	-1.190	0.830	0.800	0.830	0.100	78,850,000
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIA INVESTMENT HO.	39,200	2,908	4	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.075	-0.001	-1.333	0.074	0.073	0.078	0.100	6,660,000
OM0000009072	OQ GAS NETWORKS	2,662,867	378,759	173	0.142	0.143	0.142	0.142	0.144	-0.002	-1.389	0.142	0.142	0.144	0.100	614,945,597
OM0000003125	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO.	879,697	62,013	42	0.070	0.071	0.070	0.070	0.071	-0.001	-1.408	0.070	0.068	0.070	0.100	14,000,000
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	240,667	19,244	18	0.082	0.083	0.079	0.080	0.082	-0.002	-2.439	0.080	0.080	0.084	0.100	9,750,000
Total	22	10,397,058	1,771,177	542												
Parallel Market																
OM0000005260	OMAN ARAB BANK	616,469	85,378	34	0.135	0.144	0.135	0.144	0.134	0.010	7.463	0.144	0.142	0.144	0.100	240,395,040
OM0000004348	SMN POWER HOLDING	277,000	90,754	14	0.324	0.339	0.324	0.339	0.326	0.013	3.988	0.339	0.326	0.337	0.100	67,676,468
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	3,853,027	412,203	50	0.105	0.109	0.105	0.108	0.104	0.004	3.846	0.108	0.108	0.110	0.100	241,590,927
OM0000003281	TAAGEER FINANCE	17,276	1,763	2	0.102	0.106	0.102	0.106	0.103	0.003	2.913	0.106	0.102	0.106	0.100	28,738,593
OM0000001982	AL MADINA INVESTMENT HOLDING	94,749	7,033	17	0.073	0.073	0.073	0.073	0.073	0.002	2.740	0.073	0.075	0.075	0.100	6,375,000
OM0000002036	MUSCAT THREAD MILLS	2,000	188	2	0.094	0.094	0.094	0.094	0.092	0.002	2.174	0.094	0.092	0.094	0.100	1,541,046
OM0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDUSTRY	36,325	92,767	17	2.540	2.600	2.540	2.550	2.540	0.010	0.394	2.550	2.550	2.550	0.100	228,733,000
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	38,790	3,043	3	0.079	0.079	0.078	0.078	0.078	0.000	0.000	0.078	0.078	0.079	0.100	6,630,000
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	222,700	10,690	6	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.000	0.000	0.048	0.047	0.048	0.100	14,743,024
OM0000002077	AL MANTYA FINANCIAL SERVICES	25,690	4,301	4	0.165	0.170	0.165	0.170	0.170	0.000	0.000	0.170	0.000	0.170	0.100	33,620,891
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAR	169,990	26,008	9	0.153	0.153	0.153	0.153	0.153	0.000	0.000	0.153	0.152	0.164	0.100	458,441,700
OM0000002572	OMAN OIL MARKETING	1,357	1,086	2	0.800	0.800	0.800	0.800	0.800	0.000	0.000	0.800	0.760	0.800	0.100	49,020,000
OM0000004669	SHARQIYAH DESALINATION	6,480	842	1	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.000	0.000	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.100	12,714,281
OM0000004778	TAKAFUL OMAN	3,325	171	3	0.047	0.050	0.047	0.050	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.050	0.047	0.050	0.100	12,500,000
OM0000005969	PHOENIX POWER	229,408	13,750	9	0.059	0.060	0.059	0.060	0.060	0.000	0.000	0.060	0.059	0.060	0.100	87,756,088
OM0000007407	DHOFAR GENERATING	182,518	14,054	15	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.000	0.000	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.100	17,112,480
OM0000008868	THE PEARL REEF	17,750	2,077	5	0.117	0.117	0.117	0.117	0.117	0.000	0.000	0.117	0.116	0.120	0.100	59,448,115
OM0000005006	ALMAHA CERAMICS	11,370	1,904	5	0.167	0.168	0.167	0.167	0.168	-0.001	-0.595	0.167	0.168	0.167	0.100	9,185,000
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEERING & CONTRACTING	1,113,356	184,841	54	0.168	0.168	0.164	0.165	0.166	-0.001	-0.602	0.165	0.165	0.165	0.100	33,492,794
OM0000008710	BARKA DESALINATION	200	26	1	0.128	0.128	0.128	0.128	0.130	-0.002	-1.538	0.128	0.121	0.127	0.100	9,666,816
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	195,050	17,120	8	0.089	0.089	0.087	0.087	0.089	-0.002	-2.247	0.087	0.086	0.088	0.100	17,922,000
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	950	223	1	0.235	0.235	0.235	0.235	0.241	-0.006	-2.490	0.235	0.230	0.235	0.100	14,383,004
Total	22	7,115,978	970,221	262												

CHARGING SOLUTIONS

OTE Renewables showcases sustainable solutions at Oman Sustainability Week

MUSCAT: OTE Renewables, a leading provider of sustainable energy solutions in Oman, proudly concludes its successful participation in the Oman Sustainability Week 2024 exhibition.

At the event, OTE Renewables presented its extensive range of solar energy and electric vehicle (EV) charging solutions, catering to both residential and commercial customers. The company demonstrated its proficiency in designing and deploying bespoke solar energy systems tailored to meet specific requirements.

Visitors had the opportunity to discover how OTE Renewables' solutions not only reduce electricity bills and environmental impact but also provide superior products, steadfast support, and seamless



system maintenance.

OTE Renewables stands at the forefront of EV charging infrastructure in Oman. Attendees explored the EV chargers lineup for

home & offices since they have a very wide range, starts from 7.4 kW to 400 kW. Through a strategic partnership with Siemens, a global leader in EV charging technology,

OTE Renewables introduced cutting-edge chargers to Oman. These chargers are designed to be future proof, ensuring compatibility with all current and upcoming electric vehicle models.

OTE team displayed a unique model where a solar car park & EV charger is positioned together. Most visitors were intrigued by this solution and wanted to get similar solution for their home and office.

The commitment of OTE Renewables to facilitating the transition of individuals and businesses to clean energy sources remains unwavering. The company's participation in Oman Sustainability Week 2024 underscores its dedication to promoting sustainability and fostering a greener future for Oman.

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SPORTS

Harmeet, Anderson guide USA to 5-wicket win over Bangladesh

After managing to keep Bangladesh to 153/6 in the first innings, the USA gave themselves a platform to bolster their chances of pulling off an upset.

HOUSTON : Riding high on Corey Anderson and Harmeet Singh's valiant effort, cricketing upstarts US pulled off a major upset, defeating Bangladesh by 5 wickets in the first T20I of the three-match series here at the Prairie View Cricket Complex.

At a time the giants and recognised cricketing nations are gearing up for the highly-anticipated T20 World Cup, which is less than ten days away, the co-hosts of the marquee event pulled off an un-



precedented victory over a decidedly stronger and much-fancied Bangladesh side.

After managing to keep Bangladesh to 153/6 in the first innings, the USA gave themselves a platform to bolster their chances of

pulling off an upset.

The opening pair of Steven Taylor and captain Monank Patel raced to 27 runs in the first three overs.

But Monank (12) got run out at the non-striker's end. Andries

Gous (23) arrived at the crease and scored runs at a brisk pace before losing his wicket to Rishad Hossain.

Taylor (28) looked well set for an extended stay on the crease but Mustafizur Rahman got better of

the batter.

Chase goes astray

As the promising-looking chase started to go astray in the middle overs, Anderson and Harmeet raised hopes of a win.

Harmeet changed the complexion of the game with back-to-back sixes off Mustafizur in the 17th over.

In the 18th over, Shoriful Islam fell at the receiving end as Harmeet put on a boundary fest. A towering six on the second ball was followed by a boundary on the final delivery.

With 14 runs in the over, the equation came down to 24 runs in the final two. Anderson took the mantle of finishing off the game with two sixes and a boundary in the next nine balls.

His finishing touches sealed a 5-wicket win for the USA over Bangladesh.

Earlier in the innings, after winning the toss and putting Bangladesh to bat, it was a moderate performance from the visitors.

A conservative approach in the powerplay, saw Bangladesh put 37/2 on board. Shakib Al Hasan struggled before getting run out.

Towhid Hridoy (58) starred with the bat on the back of his performance in the recently concluded Zimbabwe series.

Mahmudullah led the attack in the death overs. But USA bowlers kept their line and length tight to restrict Bangladesh to 153/6. **-ANI**

39-YEAR-OLD

Portugal head coach explains rationale for selecting Ronaldo in Euro 2024 squad



NEW DELHI : Portugal head coach Roberto Martinez explained the rationale behind selecting Cristiano Ronaldo in their squad for the upcoming Euro 2024.

Portugal named their squad for the highly anticipated tournament which will kick off on June 15 in Germany.

The 39-year-old will feature in his 11th major international tournament. The former Real Madrid sensation has 206 appearances for Portugal and netted 128 goals. He will be eyeing to extend his record-breaking tally in the upcoming marquee event.

While talking about Ronaldo's selection, Martinez stated that statistics are enough to justify the veteran striker's selection.

He believes that Ronaldo deserves to be in the team on the back of his high-scoring form for Al Nassr in the Saudi Pro League.

"As for Cristiano Ronaldo, I think it's better to talk about statistics. A player who scores 42 goals in 41 games for his club shows continuity, a physical ability to always be fit and quality in

front of goal that we really like and need," Martinez told reporters as quoted from Goal.com.

"We don't make choices based on where the players play. We want to create the best team and call the 26 players who make up the best team. We monitor the players' individual performance and the role that they have in the locker room. There are players who have secondary roles in important locker rooms and others who have important roles in less strong locker rooms. Since March 2023 until now, we have a lot of information," he added.

Along with Ronaldo, Portugal will enjoy the services of six forwards in the squad. Martinez has also brought in Bernardo Silva, Diogo Jota, Francisco Conceicao, Goncalo Ramos, Joao Felix, Pedro Neto and Rafael Leao.

Ahead of the tournament, Portugal will gear up for the tournament during friendlies against Finland, Croatia and Ireland in June.

Martinez's side will then go on to face Czechia, Turkey and Georgia in the group stages of Euro 2024. **-ANI**

SUMMIT CLASH

IPL Qualifier 1: Belligerent KKR make SRH bite dust

AHMEDABAD : Riding on a combination of Mitchell Starc's red-hot scorching spell, Venkatesh Iyer and Shreyas Iyer's belligerent fifties, Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) secured their place in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 summit clash after beating Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) by 8-wicket in a lopsided Qualifier 1 contest at the Narendra Modi Stadium on Tuesday.

Ahmedabad's Twilight witnessed an absolute humdinger match as the big hitters bashed away some of the best bowling line-ups throughout the season but fell flat on Ahmedabad surface, Hyderabad failed to gain ascendancy and settled for a paltry score against Kolkata.

KKR set to play their fourth final in the history of IPL after making their place in 2012, 2014, 2021 and 2024.

Unbeaten half-centuries from the two Iyers (Shreyas and Venkatesh) finished off the run chase with 38 balls remaining thanks to an excellent partnership for the third wicket. KKR secured a place in the IPL 2024 final while SRH will get another chance in Qualifier 2.

Chasing a target of 160, opener Sunil Narine led another fearsome KKR batting display as he along with Rahmanullah Gurbaz hammered SRH bowlers early in the innings.

T Natarajan gave his team a big breakthrough as he removed Rahmanullah Gurbaz in the 4th over. After dictating the SRH seasoned bowlers, Gurbaz went back to the pavilion after scoring 23 off 14.

SRH captain Pat Cummins' plan to keep three fielders in the deep on the leg side was fruitful as he sent well-set batter Narine packing for 21.

After the departure of the openers, Venkatesh Iyer and Shreyas Iyer made the SRH bowling at-



tack look helpless and clueless.

Venkatesh then went on to slam a half-century in 28 balls. Iyer single-handedly scorched Travis Head for 64.66 taking his team to the IPL 2024 final.

Earlier, Mitchell Starc's sheer pace and Varun Chakaravathy's craftsmanship with spin helped KKR bundle out SRH on 159.

Starc made the Sunrisers regret their decision to bat after winning the toss. SRH are known for their fearless high-scoring approach in the first six overs. But Starc's pace left the Hyderabad batters rattled in the powerplay.

On the second delivery of the first over, with a bit of late outward movement, Starc castled Travis Head for a two-ball duck and drew the first blood.

In the next over, both openers were sitting back in the dugout. Vaibhav Arora took Abhishek Sharma by surprise as the ball didn't come as quickly as the youngster would have expected.

Abhishek (3) miscued his shot and the ball fell into the safe hands of Andre Russell.

Starc rode high on his sheer pace and trapped Rahul Tripathi in front of the stumps with a sear-

ing yorker.

Despite the appeal, the umpire didn't raise his finger. KKR decided to not review the decision and the replay after the incident confirmed that the ball was nipping the stumps.

Even after facing a setback, there was no stopping Starc from picking wickets. In his third over in the powerplay, he struck back-to-back wickets to completely put KKR in the driver's seat.

In the fifth over, Nitish Reddy (9) tried to create room for himself. But he ended up pulling off a thick outside edge which went straight to the keeper behind the stumps.

On the next delivery, Starc dislodged Shahbaz Ahmed's middle stump to leave SRH hanging in the dry. SRH ended the powerplay with a score of 45/4 which marked their third-lowest powerplay score for SRH this season.

From that point, Tripathi and Heinrich Klaasen forged a 62-run stand in a mere 37 deliveries to impose control. Tripathi raised his bat for his 12th IPL fifty following a reverse sweep to find the fence for a four. **-ANI**

BAR ZAMAN



Indian schools basketball championship begins

MUSCAT: The Barzman Basketball Championship for Indian schools, organised by the Ministry of Education, represented by the Omani School Sports Association, in cooperation with Bar Zaman, kicked off on Tuesday.

Six teams from Indian schools in Muscat Governorate are taking part in the competition.

The contest will continue until 21 May with the participation of 60 students under the age of 17 at the Sultan Qaboos Complex in Baushar.

The tournament started with six matches. In the first match, Indian School Muscat won over Indian School Al Ghubrah by 16-10. In the second match, Indian School Darsait won over Indian School Al-Wadi Al-Kabir by 26-17 and in the third match, Indian School Al-Ghubrah beat Indian School Maabilah by 26-17.

In the fourth match, Indian School Darsait beat Indian School Bawshar by 38-11 and in the fifth match, Indian School Muscat defeated Indian School Maabila by 27-15, and in the sixth match, Indian School Al-Wadi Al-Kabir defeated Indian School Bawshar by 24-13. Three matches will be held on Thursday. In the first match, Indian School Muscat will clash with Indian School Al Wadi Al Kabir, in the second match, Indian School Al Ghubra will meet Indian School Darsait and the two losing teams will play against each other for the third and the fourth place.

SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS CIRCUIT

Al-Zubair, Grenier resume International GT Open programme at Spa

MUSCAT: Oman's Al-Faisal Al-Zubair and Canadian team-mate Mikael Grenier resume their part-time programme in the 2024 International GT Open by tackling the third round of the series at the demanding Spa-Francorchamps circuit in Belgium this weekend.

The Al-Manar Racing by Getspeed Mercedes-AMG GT3 duo finished first and fourth in the two races that were staged during the opening round at the Autodromo Internacional Algarve in Portimão in April but did not take part in round two in Germany last month.

But the Spa encounter offers a completely new challenge for entrants and runs to a different

format to the other rounds of the championship. Known as the 'GT Open 500', the weekend will be fought out over one longer race on the 7,004km circuit instead of two shorter ones. Once again, teams will be divided into Pro, Pro-Am and Am classes.

The 'GT Open 500' will last for 2hrs 40mins and one additional lap. There will be the two usual qualifying sessions with both Al-Zubair and Grenier tackling one stint apiece. Dring the race there will be three mandatory pit stops and each driver will need to perform two race stints with no double stints permitted in the regulations. Double points will be



awarded at the finish.

Al-Zubair said: "Looking forward to the GT Open weekend. This time it will be quite different because it is

an endurance race in the GT Open. Instead of being two races, it will be one long race and qualifying will be based on an average of both drivers.

This system will be a bit different but I think it will be good for us in terms of preparation for our big Spa 24 next month.

"We showed in Portimão that we have a strong partnership with me and Mick Grenier. We also have a strong package with the Mercedes and the Getspeed car. We are looking forward to it and 'inshallah' we come up with another win and get good points."

Competition for the Al-Manar Racing by Getspeed crew comes from the likes of Team Motopark, Eastalent Racing's Audi, Getspeed colleagues Anthony Bartone and Fabian Schiller and the Team Oregon Lamborghinis.

The International GT Open will share the circuit this weekend with Euroformula Open, GT Cup Europe and the Formula Regional European Championship by Alpine entrants.

GT Open action gets underway with the first 70-minute free practice session from 11.55hrs on Friday (May 24th). Free practice two is scheduled for 16.10hrs.

The first of the 30-minute qualifying sessions fires into life at 11.05hrs on Saturday (May 25th) with the second session starting at 13.40hrs.

The International GT Open 500 will take a rolling start from noon on Sunday (May 26th).

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ROUND-UP

Embark on memorable journey of lifetime with Ford Everest

The Ford Everest 4x4 SUV is engineered for experiences whether it is dune bashing in Wahiba Sands, climbing the steep rocky terrain of Jabal Shams or cruising down Sur's white pristine sandy beaches

MUSCAT: If you were to ask yourself what's the one thing that you cherish the most after returning from a family trip, it would undoubtedly be the innumerable memories, harmless struggles, and overhaul drives. Make the right decision about choosing a family car that checks all of the boxes — a Ford Everest — is exactly what you need to begin your journey with. Let's start talking - The Ford Everest 4x4 SUV is engineered for experiences whether it is dune bashing

in Wahiba Sands, climbing the steep rocky terrain of Jabal Shams or cruising down Sur's white pristine sandy beaches. The Next-Gen Everest provides a bespoke experience matched for every kind of journey. If you're looking for a family-friendly car then this is the one for you. Rev the 2.3L EcoBoost Turbo petrol engine to take control of your journey with an efficient 10-speed SelectShift automatic which delivers Best-in-Class 296HP power and 420Nm of torque.



The Everest is a spacious 7-seater built with capability as its core value and designed to handle tasks impressively. Take seamless control of the car with driver-assist technologies while tackling tricky terrains. It has centrally equipped airbags for the driver's and passenger's front & side including curtain airbags for all three rows and cruise control integrated safety features for the travellers' peace of mind. The SUV's safety measures help mitigate accidents and minimize the risk of fatal injuries.

Moreover, the longer wheelbase design of the Everest projects a more progressive and muscular appearance, which in itself supports the daunting tasks it has been made for. The length and height of the car make it sturdy enough to form a stronger grip on the road. To make things clearer, the front view camera located directly beneath the Ford emblem includes a wiper option. When the road becomes muddy, squirt some

water to clear the camera view. The interiors crafted at premium levels of craftsmanship radiate comfort for both the young and the old. Take a seat inside the vehicle to experience the spacious instrument panel. The centre console features a fresh leather-trimmed e-shifter and an electric parking brake. Place your coffee and water flask with dual cup holders plus a dash-mounted pop-out cup holder for the front-seat occupant. Regardless of the environment outside or the drive's duration, the interiors fitted with plush materials, premium finishes and ambient lighting lighten the inside mood.

Access to the third row is much easier thanks to second-row seats that slide further forward. Everybody gets plenty of room to get in and out. Each row features an integrated wireless charging panel for enjoying seamless connectivity. Connect your devices and play your favourite playlist directly with Ford's latest connectivity and technology features into the Next-

Gen Ford Everest. Additionally, each row occupants now have dedicated space to store their things and charge their devices with power outlets. This feature is guaranteed to keep the young ones entertained throughout the journey. Next-Gen Ford Everest is loaded with Ford's latest SYNC4®, a system which comes customer-ready with its voice-activated communications, entertainment, and information systems. The portrait-orientated 12-inch screen is linked to a 360-degree camera with a split-view display to make parking a breeze in tight urban spaces or to assist when negotiating particularly tricky terrain while out exploring. The Ford Everest is unbeatable with its cavernous boot and cabin-in storage. With the third row folded, it provides ample space to load your camping gear, fishing rods, suitcases or children's accessories. In Oman, Ford vehicles are brought to you by Arabian Car Marketing Co.

FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Bank Nizwa wins Best Islamic Bank in Oman title

MUSCAT: Committed to providing top-tier Sharia-compliant financial services, Bank Nizwa, the leading Islamic bank in the Sultanate of Oman, recently won the prestigious 'Best Islamic Bank in Oman 2024' title at the IFN Awards held in Dubai. This award marks the fifth consecutive year that Bank Nizwa has claimed this esteemed accolade, further underscoring its keen focus on upholding the highest levels of excellence in the Islamic banking sector.

Receiving the award on behalf of the bank was Khaled Al Kayed, Chief Executive Officer at Bank Nizwa. Reflecting on the achievement, he said, "The IFN Award, highly revered within the global Islamic capital markets, reaffirms our unparalleled leadership position in the industry. As a progressive and forward-looking institution, Bank Nizwa embraces a holistic growth strategy, driving innovation across all facets of our operations." He added saying, "This recognition not only serves as testament to our ability to spearhead transformative change and set benchmarks in the Islamic banking sector, but also exemplifies our dedication to delivering bespoke Sharia-compliant financial solutions. We remain resolute in our



commitment to cultivating lasting relationships and empowering our customers to realize their financial aspirations." This recognition is regarded as a testament to the outstanding performance demonstrated by Bank Nizwa in 2023. With a keen focus on operational excellence and prudent balance sheet management, Bank Nizwa bolstered its funding and liquidity positions, ensuring stability amidst market fluctuations. This approach, coupled with disciplined credit practices, led to a record-high net profit of Omani Rials 17.02 million in 2023, marking a substantial 13% increase compared to the previous year. In addition, the bank's total assets grew by 8% to reach Omani Rials 1.6 billion, while the total

portfolio of financing increased by 12% to OMR1.38 billion. The total customer deposits also rose by 6% to OMR1.26 billion, and total shareholders' equity grew by 3% to OMR253.5 million. In 2023, Bank Nizwa marked a year of remarkable accomplishments, aligning closely with the Sultanate's drive towards fulfilling the sustainable development goals and the ambitious endeavours outlined in Oman Vision 2040. Most notably, the bank pioneered the introduction of the first Sharia-compliant sustainable finance product in the Sultanate, setting a precedent in the Islamic banking landscape of the region. This initiative aims to support and incentivize the transformation of the business sector into environmen-

tally responsible and economically sustainable models. Moreover, the bank is making relentless efforts to enhance financial inclusion to improve the lives of customers and the community, and to raise public awareness of Islamic financing principles through its Islamic Finance Knowledge Series (IFKS). Recently, it launched the Sairafah program, in partnership with the Accounting and Auditing Organization for Islamic Financial Institutions (AAOIFI). The bank continues to lead the sector through its strategy of excellence and innovation. Committed to its strategy, Bank Nizwa leverages its financial expertise by integrating innovative banking solutions that meet the needs of all segments of society, leading the digital transformation to streamline operations and enhance efficiency. This reinforces the efforts of the Sultanate in achieving sustainable development goals and bolstering the national economy, aiming for a brighter future for the country. It is noteworthy that Bank Nizwa's dedication to innovation and excellence has garnered widespread recognition and multiple awards, firmly establishing it as the premier financial ally in the Sultanate of Oman.

INDUSTRY MEET



15th Schlummer Atlas TOP50 Hoteliers recognises excellence in hospitality

MUSCAT: The 15th Industry Meeting of the Schlummer Atlas TOP50 Hoteliers was held at the Dorint Hotel Frankfurt Oberursel, celebrating the achievements of the hospitality sector's leading figures. The event featured the prestigious Schlummer Atlas Awards, presented in various categories including private hotel industry, brand hotel industry, boutique hotel industry, and international. These awards recognise excellence based on role model character, team and innovation ability, sense of responsibility, and regional impact. This year, Carsten Wiegandt,

General Manager, was honoured as one of the top General Managers working abroad, reflecting his outstanding contributions to the global hospitality industry. Additionally, the event included the Top Employer Awards, which highlight exceptional employers in the hospitality sector. These awards are based on extensive research, including the 2024 Busche study, which surveyed over 8,000 hospitality employees. The evening concluded with the glamorous Diamonds Night, offering networking opportunities, a sponsor vernissage, gourmet food, and DJ performances.

AT COMEX

Bank Muscat and Meethaq to showcase their digital banking services

MUSCAT: Bank Muscat and Meethaq Islamic Banking have announced their participation in the 33rd edition of Comex, which will be held from May 27 - 30 at the Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre. This year's edition will be attended by more than 100 local and international organisations, government entities and corporates. Bank Muscat and Meethaq will showcase the wide selection of services and digital banking solutions developed to enhance customer experience. The 4-day long exhibition is an opportunity to introduce customers to the role the Bank takes to enhance digital services, and demonstrate its state-of-the-arts products, financial facilities and digital services offered through Internet Banking and Mobile Banking. Customers will be able to visit the

team present at the exhibition and get to know more details about the digital banking services offered and the recent solutions added to provide a seamless banking experience and a more facilitated payment process. Bank Muscat has been witnessing a remarkable rise in e-channels usage over the past couple of years. Today, customers are using various features like real-time bill payments for utilities in Oman, fund transfers within the bank and in Oman, fund transfers across the world via the SWIFT network; speed transfers to a number of countries including Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Pakistan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka; Zakat calculator and charity payments. Bill payment facility is available for a variety of utility services such as electricity, water, telecom, mobile

top ups, instant credit card bill payments, school payments etc. Internet banking and the mBanking app also allow customers to disable or enable their debit card for international usage adding an extra layer of security for the benefit of customers. Customers can also update their KYC details online and benefit from the different services provided by the new Self-service Kiosks. Similarly, Meethaq has significantly enhanced its customers' digital experience by elevating its Mobile App and Internet banking platforms through digital transformation. With state-of-the-art features such as utility payments, fund transfers between accounts, PASI payments, Credit Card outstanding payments and the ability to open savings and fixed deposit accounts, customers will enjoy

unprecedented convenience and flexibility in managing their finances. Moreover, Meethaq has implemented enhanced security features to safeguard customers' sensitive information, ensuring peace of mind while banking online. Additionally, customers can now conveniently request Debit Cards, seamlessly link Debit Cards to multiple accounts, reserve safe deposit lockers and purchase gift vouchers for popular platforms such as Apple iTunes, Google Play, PlayStation, Xbox and Steam. Bank Muscat and Meethaq's many achievements have been well recognised over the past four decades and the bank will continue to provide all support to both companies and institutions by providing the best technology-based services that in line with its customer-centric vision.





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