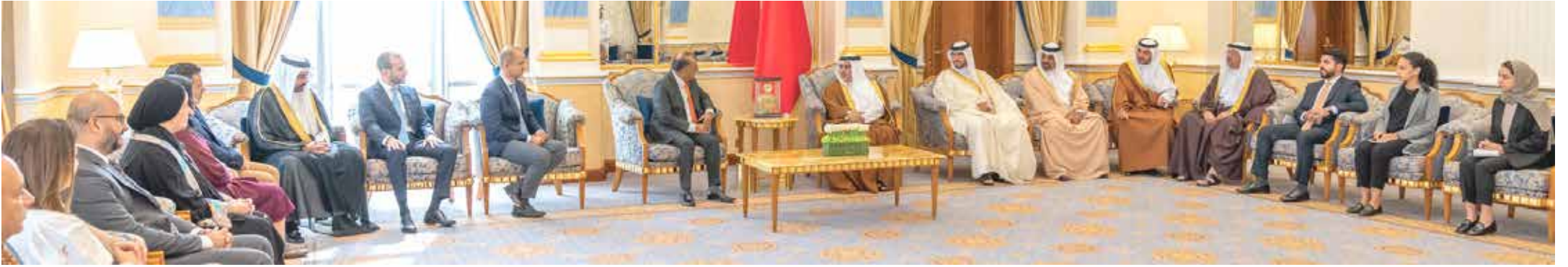


Royal boost for entrepreneurship

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday met with the President of the Entrepreneurs' Organization Bahrain, Bob Thaker, and members of its Board of Directors, at Gudaibiya Palace. The Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Isa bin Salman Education Charitable Trust, and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Labour Fund (Tamkeen), His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Minister of Finance and National Economy, HE Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, and the Minister of Cabinet Affairs, HE Hamad bin Faisal Al Malki, also attended the meeting. HRH Prince Salman highlighted the Kingdom of Bahrain's commitment to fostering an environment of creativity and innovation that supports economic growth and creates promising opportunities, in line with the goals of comprehensive development, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa. His Royal Highness emphasised that entrepreneurship in the Kingdom has developed into an inspiring model with numerous success stories of Bahraini youth effectively contributing to national efforts with innovative ideas. He said that the Kingdom will continue to invest in the national workforce whilst providing them with quality opportunities that will develop their skills and capabilities.

Empowering Bahrain workforce

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The programmes are focused on three main initiatives to support new market entrants and create quality opportunities for them, while enabling career development for Bahraini cadres to become the employees of choice in the labour market.

Tamkeen's Chief Executive of Maha Abdul Hameed Mofeez, further clarified that the first initiative is focused on providing programmes that support employment with higher caps and other enhanced support features.

The purpose of these improvements is to increase targeted segments that can benefit from these programmes and support Bahrainis in obtaining quality high paying jobs through enhanced versions of current programmes such as an updated National Employment Programme, and through new support tracks targeting specialised jobs.

Additionally, Tamkeen aims to support the employment of Bahrainis in executive and leadership positions and encouraging enterprises to train and employ Bahrainis through apprenticeships.



Officials with the Labour Minister at the press conference

Employment Support

Increasing the minimum wage for the National Employment Program by qualification as follows:

- Minimum for High School: BD350
- Minimum for Diploma: BD430
- Minimum for Bachelor's Degree: BD500

- Increasing the maximum wage supported to BD800
- Update on the criteria of employment duration for new labor market entrants in the Social Insurance Organization

Mofeez explained that the second initiative is focused on supporting the career development of Bahrainis in the labour market, by dedicating an unprecedented budget to support career growth through programmes

records from 12 months to 24 months to expand the number of beneficiaries

- Ability to request support to increase the wages of employees currently enrolled in the National Employment Program for 2 years
- Increasing the duration of support for the employment of Bahrainis in executive and leadership positions to 24 months instead of 12 months
- Increasing on-the-job training stipends to BD200

designed to cater to the labour market needs, taking into consideration the growth opportunities available in the market.

As for the third initiative, Mofeez indicated that it will include the introduction of new

enterprise support programmes with various tracks that cater to enterprises of all sizes and growth stages, thus enabling them to launch new ideas and innovations that can power their expansion both locally and internationally.

Incentives

The new programmes will include a number of incentives that are linked to achieving objectives related to employing Bahrainis, financial growth and more.

Tamkeen recently held a series of open consultation sessions with private sector representatives who shared their perspective about the opportunities and challenges facing each sector, and how to facilitate collaboration with the private sector to implement the initiatives focused on employment, career development and enter-

Career Development Support

- Increasing the wages of employees in the private sector with salaries below BHD 1,500 with a maximum of BD300

- Increasing the support duration to 24 months while supporting 100% of the increment upon the approval of the employer

- A new track to support 100% of the difference in wages for employees moving between enterprises within the private sector for 24 months

- Introducing new incentives for employees with salaries less than BHD 600 who are enrolled in specialised training programs

- Increasing the support for professional qualifications to cover 100% of the training cost

- Increasing the duration of support for the employment of Bahrainis in executive and leadership positions to 24 months instead of 12 months

Enterprise Support

Supporting the growth of private sector enterprises through diverse solutions including:

- Incentive grants
- Access to financing
- Advisory support

Introducing new tracks and

incentives for private sector enterprises that achieve set development objectives such as:

- Creating quality job opportunities
- Increasing productivity
- Financial growth

prise development to drive more positive impact.

Tamkeen will begin accepting applications for the enhanced programmes and tracks on 9th November 2023 through its online portal, while continuing to

expand on partnerships and initiatives that achieve key mandates, alongside providing Bahrainis with training and upskilling across various specialties in alignment with labour market requirements.

February 7, 2024: New date for Maroon 5 concert in Kingdom

Zahra Ayaz
TDT | Manama

The Maroon 5 concert, which was originally scheduled for Monday, November 13, has been rescheduled to February 7 next year. The announcement was made by Al Dana Amphitheatre, the venue hosting the event.

According to Al Dana Amphitheatre (ADA), the rescheduling of the concert was necessitated by unforeseen circumstances.

Fans who have purchased tickets for the original date need not worry, as their tickets will be honoured for the new date, the event host said.

However, for those who are unable to attend the rescheduled concert, ADA is offering a refund option, officials added.



Maroon 5

To request a refund, ADA has asked individuals to contact the customer support team via email at info@aldana.com.bh.

The deadline for refund requests is on 7 December 2023. ADA has assured fans that their requests will be processed promptly.

Despite the disappointment caused by the rescheduling,

many people have taken to social media to express their appreciation for the decision made by the government and the entertainment industry.

The swift action taken by ADA to reschedule the concert demonstrates their commitment to ensuring the safety and enjoyment of concert-goers, people commented.

Bahrain marks World Quality Day



Eman Albastaki

Ashen Tharaka
TDT | Manama



Mohamed Alshukri



Roxanne Perreault

SGS, the world's leading inspection, verification, testing, and certification company, collaborated with the Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MOIC) and some of the most influential quality professionals in Bahrain to celebrate World Quality Day.

The event was held at Swiss-Belhotel in Seef and was attended by industry leaders from a variety of sectors.

The event featured pres-

entations on the latest trends in quality, inspirational talks, and interactive activities that reinforced the importance of quality standards for business growth.

Roxanne Perreault, Manager at SGS Knowledge Solutions, recently spoke about the importance of quality at an event celebrating World Quality Day in Bahrain.

"In SGS, our mission is to support individuals and organisations to make the world a better place through the pursuit of excellence," Perreault said. "In

an ever-changing world, quality has become a benchmark for consumer trust, a foundation of sustainable businesses, and the key towards continual improvement."

Perreault highlighted the many ways in which quality can benefit businesses and individuals. For businesses, quality can lead to increased customer satisfaction, improved brand reputation, and greater market share. For individuals, quality can lead to better products and services, safer workplaces, and a more prosperous society.