Moody’s fixed Saudi Arabia’s credit rating at A1, with a negative outlook
Moody’s fixed Saudi Arabia’s rating at A1, with a negative outlook, revealing that the budget has strong performance with low debt levels.

The agency announced that changing the future view of Saudi debt to negative reflects low oil prices with the impact of the Corona virus, which casts a shadow on all countries of the world.
Moody’s showed that the decline in oil prices caused the loss of oil revenues and exports due to the decline in demand for crude that hit the world markets during the past period against the backdrop of the pandemic.
The agency noted the strong performance of the Saudi budget, with strong fiscal buffers and low debt levels. Adding that stabilization of the credit rating of Saudi Arabia, despite the decline in oil prices, is due to the strength of the government budget thanks to the low levels of debt and liquidity stocks that allow the shock absorbers.
The agency expected Saudi oil revenues to drop by about 33% this year and about 25% in 2021, despite the high rate of decline in oil prices. It also revealed that the slowdown in GDP will put pressure on oil sector revenues, but the effect on the government budget will be limited, taking into account the limited budget dependence on non-oil revenues.
Source (Al-Arabiya.net website, Edited)
لبنان يلجأ رسميًا إلى صندوق النقد الدولي للمساعدة

وفق رئيس مجلس الوزراء اللبناني حسان دياب وزير المالية غازي ورزي، طلب مساعدته من صندوق النقد الدولي للبنان، وذلك بعد إقرار الحكومة برنامجاً ماليًا إقتصادياً مفصلًا في تاريخ لبنان، حيث بدأنا الخطوة الأولى نحو راحة لبنان من آزى الهوة المالية العميقة التي صبعت الخرج منها من دون مساعدة فائقة ومشددة.

وفي هذا الإطار، نفت ديبا: "إن هذه الحالة مخصصة في تاريخ لبنان، حيث بدأنا الخطوة الأولى نحو راحة لبنان من الهوة المالية العميقة التي صبعت الخرج منها من دون مساعدة فائقة ومشددة.

واتبع: "رأى الحكومة البرنامج الإقتصادي، ويوفر وقعت رسالة إلى صندوق النقد الدولي من أجل طلب مساعدته. إن الله يحكم على البرامج الإقتصادية والسياسة المالية، والاقتصاد، والمصرف.

والفت التحذير باسم وزارة الخارجية: "أنفس فنار دول، إلى أن فنار على أساس هذا، مستعدة لدعم جهود لبنان.

المصرد (صحيفة العربي الجديد، بصرف)

Lebanon Officially Resorts to the IMF for Assistance

Lebanese Prime Minister Hassan Diab and Minister of Finance Ghazi Wazni signed a request for assistance from the International Monetary Fund for Lebanon, after the government approved a financial and economic program that it considered as reform.

In this context, Diab pointed out, "this moment is crucial in the history of Lebanon, as we started the first steps towards a real workshop to save Lebanon from the deep financial gap that is difficult to get out without an effective assistance."

He continued: "the Lebanese Cabinet approved the reform program, and today I signed a letter to the International Monetary Fund to request its assistance. God willing, this will be the turning point in the downward path of the financial and economic reality of Lebanon."

He pointed out that the plan is based on the need to start immediately implementing the long-awaited reforms, which are at the level of state administration, financial policy, the financial sector, the central bank, the current account, and the balance of payments, and have set goals over five years, namely: Reducing the deficit of current account to 5.6%, obtaining external financial support in excess of $10 billion in addition to the Cedar Conference funds, returning to positive growth as of the year 2022, adopting direct and indirect support for unaffordable groups and implementing social programs in this field.

Meanwhile, France announced that it is necessary for Lebanon to implement necessary reforms in order to recover the country, after the government adopted an economic plan and decided to seek assistance from the International Monetary Fund.

"Based on that, France is ready to support Lebanon's efforts," said Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Anies von der Mole.

Source (New Arab newspaper, Edited)

الانكماش في الكويت سيكون الناقل بين دول الخليج العربي

Deflation in Kuwait Will be the Lowest Among the Arab Gulf States

The “MENA Advisors” Foundation expected the non-oil output of the Gulf countries to decrease by 23 percent during the next six months, with the average oil price reaching about $30 during 2020/2021, indicating that this means that the countries of the region will achieve a fiscal deficit of about $250 billion, equivalent to 20 to 21 percent of GDP in 2020 and 2021. While the report showed that Corona's effects on the Gulf economy will be severe, it expected Kuwait to achieve the lowest level of deflation at the level of non-oil GDP in the region, as it implements a fiscal stimulus that represents 1.5 percent of GDP, and it also has an economy dependent on consumption Less than anywhere else in the Gulf states.

According to the report, if the OPEC+ agreement continues to reduce production, with average oil prices increasing, and the price shock recedes, according to an optimistic scenario, the Gulf countries are expected to provide more incentives, and non-oil GDP growth will be stronger, and it will contract to 6 percent instead of 16 percent.

Source (Al-Rai Newspaper-Kuwait, Edited)