أشار أمين عام اتحاد الغرف العربية، الدكتور خالد حنفي، إلى أنّ "جائحة كورونا أدت إلى انخفاض معدلات النمو بشكل كبير في كافة دول العالم، ولا سيّما في الدول العربية التي ستواجه انكماشا اقتصاديا بنسبة 4.2 في المئة على أقل تقدير، ومن الممكن أن يكون الركود أعمق إذا استمر تفشي الوباء".

وأوضح حنفي أنّ "التقديرات الأولية تشير إلى أن المنطقة العربية قد تخسر مليار دولار من الناتج المحلي الإجمالي، كما قد يرتفع معدل البطالة في المنطقة بما لا يقل عن 1.7 مليون وظيفة في عام 2020".

وأكّد حنفي أنّ "الشركات في جميع أنحاء المنطقة سجلت اين هذا العام خسائر مليار دولار أمريكي، حيث تعادل خسارة 420 مليار دولار من رأس المال السوقي بلغت 8 في المئة من إجمالي ثروة المنطقة"، لافتا إلى أنّ "القطاعات الأكثر تأثراً بهذا الواقع هي السفر والسياحة والشركات الصغيرة والمتوسطة".

ووشدد على أنّ "الشركات تحتاج إلى العمل في بيئة عمل تكنولوجية جديدة، حيث الابتكار والتكيف عنصران أساسيان"، لافتا إلى "ضرورة الانتقال إلى الاقتصاد الدائري، لأنه قد يكون الأكثر استدامة، الأمر الذي يتطلب من معظم الشركات سواء في المنطقة العربية أو حول العالم، إلى تغيير نمذج أعمالهم وأساليب التعاون".

المصدر (اتحاد الغرف العربية)

Khaled Hanafy: To Switch to the Circular Economy for Its Sustainability

The Secretary-General of the Union of Arab Chambers, Dr. Khaled Hanafy, indicated that "the Corona pandemic has led to a significant decrease in growth rates in countries all over the world, especially in Arab countries that will face an economic contraction of 4.2 percent at the very least, and it is possible that the recession goes deeper if the epidemic continues."

Hanafy said that "the preliminary estimates indicate that the Arab region may lose $42 billion of GDP, and the unemployment rate in the region may increase by at least 1.7 million jobs in 2020."

Hanafy’s words came during his participation in the panel discussion held during the joint extraordinary virtual business conference entitled: "Reviving the global economy by opening markets and strengthening cooperation," which took place on 9/28-2020 under a joint organization between the International Chamber of Commerce and the Chinese Council for the Promotion of International Trade, with wide official and economic participation from all over the world.

Hanafy confirmed that "companies across the region have already recorded this year huge losses in its market capital amounting to 420 billion US dollars, with the resulting loss of wealth equivalent to 8 percent of the region’s total wealth, noting that "the most affected sectors by this reality are travel, tourism and small and medium-sized companies."

He said, "The Union of Arab Chambers and its members from Arab chambers are well aware that the main key to revitalization is the partnership between the public and private sectors. Indeed, many Arab chambers have modified their activities to respond to the challenges of the epidemic, and many federations of Arab chambers have digitized their services, but there is no doubt that there are differences. They are broad among Arab countries in terms of digital capacity, innovation and infrastructure, as their ranking for the 2019 Innovation Index varies greatly between the 36th (United Arab Emirates) and 129 (Yemen) out of 130 countries in the world."

Hanafy stressed that "companies need to work in a new technological work environment, where innovation and adaptation are essential elements," noting "the need to move to a circular economy, because it may be the most sustainable, which requires most companies, whether in the Arab region or around the world, to change its business models and methods of cooperation."

Source (Union of Arab Chambers)
The assets of the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (the Central Bank) increased by the end of last August to 1.836 trillion riyals (489.6 billion dollars), compared to 1.811 trillion riyals at the end of July, and thus the assets of the Saudi Monetary Agency increased by 25 billion riyals within one month.

The importance of stability and an increase in this value of assets, which form part of the Saudi reserves, are important, given that they come in light of the emerging Corona pandemic, and its global repercussions.

In addition, the total assets of the banking system increased at the end of last August to 3.998 trillion riyals, compared to 3.956 trillion riyals at the end of July, as the data revealed a decrease in the value of banks' liabilities from the government to 429 billion riyals, compared to 433 billion riyals in July.

In addition, the bank liabilities from the private sector increased during last August to 1.699 trillion riyals, compared to 1.487 trillion riyals in August of last year, and compared to 1.684 trillion riyals in the previous month.

Source (Al-Arabiya.net, Edited)
Jordan has begun preparing the draft state budget for the next year 2021 in exceptional and unprecedented circumstances since the financial crisis that the country faced more than 30 years ago, as the economy witnessed a slowdown, despite the fact that before the pandemic, expectations were directed towards the start of the recovery from 2020.

According to the data prepared by the government before the Corona crisis, it is estimated that the size of Jordan’s budget for the next year is $14.22 billion, with an expected deficit of about $1.8 billion after grants and foreign aid, and $2.8 billion before it is calculated. Whereas, the government estimated the size of Jordan’s budget for the current year at about $13.8 billion, with a deficit of $1.6 billion after grants and about $2.9 billion before grants were calculated, accounting for 2.3% of GDP. As a direct result of the Corona crisis, the Jordan Banking Association expected an increase in the budget deficit for 2020 to $2.9 billion.

In this context, Finance Minister Mohamad Al-Ississ stressed, "the necessity of adhering to the specific financial ceilings that take into account the policy of controlling and rationalizing public spending and taking into account the limited financial resources in light of the repercussions of the Corona crisis on the economy and public finance."

Source (Al-Araby Al-Jadeed Newspaper, Edited)