أكد رئيس غرفة تجارة وصناعة الكويت، محمد الصقر، حرص الغرفة على تعميق العلاقات الاقتصادية بين الكويت وإيطاليا، وفتح آفاق جديدة للتعاون في سبيل تحقيق الأهداف المشتركة، من خلال تضافر جهود الجهات المعنية، سواء على صعيد القطاع العام أو الخاص.

جاء ذلك خلال لقاء جمعه مع السفير الإيطالي في الكويت، كارلو بالدوتشي، حيث أعرب الصقر عن الأهمية الاقتصادية التي تمثلها إيطاليا بالنسبة لإلى الكويت باعتبارها أحد أكبر الشركاء التجاريين، لافتا إلى "تطلع مجتمع الأعمال الكويتي إلى مزيد من التعاون لزيادة حجم التبادل التجاري، وإقامة المشاريع الاستثمارية بين البلدين".

من جانبه، أوضح بالدوتشي أن "العلاقات المشتركة بين البلدين الصديقين، شهدت تطورات ملحوظة في الأونة الأخيرة، خصوصاً بعد عقد اجتماع الحوار الاستراتيجي الكويتي والإيطالي الأول في شهر نوفمبر الماضي، والذي عزز من خلاله الجانبان عن ارتياحهما لنتائج هذا الاجتماع، الذي يهدف إلى تعزيز العلاقات المشتركة في كل القطاعات الحيوية.

وطرف بالدوتشي إلى مقترح إقامة منتدى اقتصادي بقيادة القطاع الخاص من البلدين، يتم من خلاله عرض فرص الاستثمار والتجارة، وبحث على عقد شراكات استراتيجية، وتعزيز التعاون التجاري والاقتصادي، والحماية المقدمة للاستثمارات الإبداعية المتبادلة.

المصدر (صحيفة الراي الكويتية، Edited)
The Remittances from Egyptians Working Abroad Rose by 20%

Remittances from Egyptians working abroad increased during the first quarter of the fiscal year 2020-2021 (July - September 2020) by about $1.3 billion, an annual increase rate of 19.6 percent, to reach about 8 billion compared to 6.7 billion during the same period of the previous year.

The preliminary data of the Central Bank of Egypt showed that remittances from Egyptians working abroad increased last September, at an annual rate of 16 percent, to record about $2.7 billion, compared to about $2.3 billion in September 2019.

It is noteworthy that remittances from Egyptians abroad increased from January to September 2020 at an annual rate of 22.1 percent, and was estimated that the average return of 3.395 percent, as foreign treasury bills denominated in dollars for a year at one billion dollars.

The Remittances from Egyptians Working Abroad increased during the period of last fiscal year (2020-2021) by about $1.3 billion, an annual increase rate of 19.6 percent, to reach about 8 billion compared to 6.7 billion during the same period of the previous year.

The data showed a decrease in oil revenues by 51.4 percent to 3.88 billion dinars (12.78 billion dollars), from 7.99 billion dinars (26.3 billion dollars), during the same period of the previous year. The rise in the deficit comes despite a 25 percent decrease in expenditures to 6.47 billion dinars, compared to 8.66 billion dinars during the same period last year.

A Kuwaiti government source said in a statement that the Ministry of Finance had submitted to the parliament a draft budget for the fiscal year 2021/2022 with a deficit of 3.88 billion dinars, to reach about 8 billion compared to 6.7 billion during the same period of the previous year.

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Qatar’s Economy is Expected to Grow by 2.5% in 2021

Doha Bank expected the Qatar economy to recover by 2.5 percent during the next 2021, indicating that the State of Qatar and the other economies of the region have witnessed many economic reforms to recover from both the effects of Covid-19 and the drop in oil prices this year. It also revealed that the Qatar Central Bank has taken a series of measures to limit the spread of the Coronavirus, including postponing the payment of loans and providing support to sectors affected by this pandemic, and also providing guarantees to local banks through the National Security Program, with the aim of supporting the private sector to face the effects of this pandemic. In May 2020, Qatar began implementing a law that would regulate the partnership between the public and private sectors, as the private sector is expected to benefit from this new law. While in October 2020, Doha allowed foreigners to own real estate.

The general index of the Qatar Stock Exchange has increased by nearly 2 percent since the beginning of this year and has exceeded the barrier of ten thousand points. The latest IMF forecasts indicate that the global economy will grow by 5.2% in 2021, as advanced economies will record growth of 3.9%, while emerging and developing economies will recover by 6% in 2021. Source (Al-Raya Newspaper-Qatar, Edited)

Lebanon Tends to Lift Subsidies on Basic Commodities

The president of the caretaker government in Lebanon, Hassan Diab, discussed, during a meeting that included ministers and the governor of the Banque Du Liban (Lebanese Central Bank) Riad Salamé, to lift subsidies on basic commodities. During the meeting, they discussed the ministries’ plans to regulate the cost of import and subsidies, while the governor of the Lebanese Central Bank presented the cost of importing goods for the years 2019 and 2020. While there is widespread discussion of the Lebanese state’s intention to lift subsidies on consumer goods, fuels and medicine. During the meeting, the Lebanese PM stressed that “the country is facing a crisis and we are trying to rationalize import financing and we are looking for a way that does not harm people and reduces the cost of this import at the same time.”

Last October, the President of the Lebanese Republic, Michel Aoun, chaired a meeting with the participation of the head of the caretaker government and the governor of the Bank of Lebanon, which was devoted to discussing the obligatory reserve balance with the Central Bank, to determine the remaining period of support. It should be noted that the compulsory reserve ratio for banks in Lebanon amounts to 15 percent of total deposits, and it is higher than in neighboring countries such as Jordan by 5 percent and Palestine by 9 percent. Lebanon has been facing an accelerating decline in foreign exchange reserves since October 2019, with the increasing need for foreign exchange and the decline in its availability locally, amid a sharp decline in the exchange rate of the lira. However, the central bank possesses quantities of gold reserves that amounted to 286.8 in early December, according to data from the World Gold Council.

Source (Anadolu Agency, Edited)