عقد رئيس غرفة تجارة وصناعة الكويت محمد الصقر، لقاء افتراضياً واسعاً ضم سفير الاتحاد الأوروبي كريستيان تودور وعدد من سفراء دول الاتحاد المعتمدين لدى الكويت: النمسا، بلجيكا، بلغاريا، كرواتيا، قبرص، جمهورية التشيك، فرنسا، ألمانيا، اليونان، المجر، مالطا، هولندا، بولندا، رومانيا، سلوفاكيا، الدنمارك، استونيا، السويد، فنلندا، إيطاليا، ليتوانيا، ليختنشتاين، النرويج، الدانمرك، النمسا، بولندا، الأردن، إطاراً وفدًا يجتمع في مرحلة حرجة في الوضع الراهن الناجم عن جائحة كورونا.

وأكد الصقر أن هذه الاتجاهات المتفق عليها في القمة الاقتصادية بين الكويت ودول الاتحاد الأوروبي في ظل الأوضاع الراهنة الناجمة عن جائحة كورونا، وقوتها في إطار التعاون الاقتصادي والسياسي، وساعدت الصقر في تعبير عن اهتمام الكويت بتعزيز علاقات التعاون الاقتصادي بينها وبين الاتحاد الأوروبي، موضحاً أن الصبر والسعي في سبيل تحقيق هذا التعاون الاقتصادياً ليس بالضرورة أن يكون على حساب الصبر السريري للتحقق من المصالح المشتركة بين البلدين.

المصدر (صحيفة الأنباء الكويتية، بتصرّف)
The Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kadhimi revealed that the reserves of the Central Bank of Iraq have risen to more than $60 billion, in an indication of the start of the recovery of the Iraqi economy, which witnessed a crisis during the second half of last year that prompted the government to borrow in order to pay the salaries of employees.

Al-Kadhimi stated in a speech during the opening of an oil project in Basra, that "the Central Bank's foreign exchange reserves rose to more than $60 billion, after it was 51.9 billion before the reform measures of the current government began."

He also pointed out that "this increase came as a result of the government's efforts, despite the obstacles that some are seeking to impose." He continued: "Our measures in fighting corruption are continuing despite the obstacles that some are trying to put in place, but we will continue without retreat, and at this level the government has completed a number of projects in the southern provinces that are deprived due to wars and mismanagement."

The Iraqi Prime Minister indicated that the reserves of the Central Bank of Iraq witnessed an increase of 4 billion dollars as a result of the reform measures taken by the government. Source (Al-Araby Al-Jadeed Newspaper, Edited)

Egypt's External Debt Rises by 15%

The data of the Central Bank of Egypt showed that Egypt's external debt continued to rise, increasing by nearly 15 percent during the year 2020. The Central Bank's figures showed that Egypt's external debt rose by $3.858 billion during the second quarter of the current fiscal year 2020-2021, that is, during the period from September until December 2020, at a value of $16.525 billion over the past 2020 year.

According to official figures issued by the Central Bank, the Egyptian external debt rose to 129.2 billion dollars (about two trillion pounds) until the end of last December, up by 14.7 percent on an annual basis, as it recorded in December 2019 about 112.67 billion dollars, compared to 125.34 last September.

The long-term external debt reached about $117.24 billion at the end of December 2020, compared to $101.37 billion in December 2019. While the short-term external debt reached about $11.96 billion by the end of December 2020, compared to $11.284 billion in December 2019. As for the size of the external debt due on the government, it rose during the first six months of the current fiscal year, by 4.08 billion dollars, to record 77.205 billion dollars at the end of last December, compared to 73.125 billion at the end of the fiscal year 2020. Source (Al-Araby Al-Jadeed Newspaper, Edited)
أظهرت بيانات صادرة عن البنك المركزي التونسي، زيادة بنسبة 11.2 في المئة في تحويلات التونسيين العاملين في الخارج، حتى نهاية مارس (آذار) الماضي، حيث بلغت 1427 مليون دينار (حوالي 509 مليون دولار)، مقابل 1298 مليون دينار خلال الفترة ذاتها العام الماضي.

وبحسب البنك المركزي، فقد زادت مداخيل العملة الصعبة بنسبة 11.2 في المئة، وتشمل في ذلك جزء من تحويلات التونسيين إلى الإنفاق الأسري، أكثر مما هي موجهة للاستثمار أو للادخار.

وتكشف زيادة تحويلات التونسيين في الخارج حجم التزام المغتربين تجاه أسرهم التي تناقلت وضعها بعد جائحة كورونا وخسارة أكثر من 270 ألف مصادر دخولهم.

وقد جاءت زيادة تحويلات التونسيين إلى الإنفاق الأسري خليلاً من الأزمات التي تواجه البلاد، وتشمل في ذلك جزء من تحويلات التونسيين إلى الإنفاق الأسري، أكثر مما هي موجهة للاستثمار أو للادخار.

المصدر (صحيفة العربي الجديد، بتصرّف)

Remittances of Tunisians Working Abroad Rose by 11.2 percent

The data issued by the Central Bank of Tunisia showed an increase of 11.2 percent in the remittances of Tunisians working abroad, until the end of last March, reaching 1427 million dinars (about 509 million dollars), compared to 1298 million dinars during the same period last year.

According to the Central Bank, hard currency receipts increased by 11.2 percent, which contributed to partial compensation for the decline in tourist incomes, which fell by 55.9 percent. The Central Bank revealed that its net assets of hard currency reached 21.8 billion dinars (about 7 billion and 800 million dollars), which is enough to secure 157 days of imports, compared to 20 billion dinars (about 7 billion and 150 million dollars) during the same period last year, i.e. what is equivalent to 115 days of supply.

The increase in the remittances of Tunisians abroad reveals the extent of the commitment of expatriates towards their families, whose situation worsened after the Corona pandemic and the loss of more than 270 thousand Tunisians their sources of income, as part of the transfers of Tunisians goes to family spending, more than they are directed to investment or savings.

Source (Al-Araby Al-Jadeed Newspaper, Edited)
The International Monetary Fund expects Bahrain’s economy to gradually recover from the "Covid-19" pandemic, so that growth this year will reach 3.3 percent after a contraction of 5.4 percent, with the largest growth rate among the economies of the Gulf countries. The UAE came as the second growing Gulf country in terms of the IMF forecasts, with a growth rate of 3.1 percent, followed by Saudi Arabia by 2.9 percent, Qatar 2.4 percent, the Sultanate of Oman with 1.8 percent, and finally Kuwait with a growth rate of 0.7 percent.

According to the IMF, Bahrain moved quickly to deal with the health and economic repercussions of the "Covid-19 pandemic," as it rushed to make vaccines available to those most in need and provided liquidity to companies severely affected by the restrictions of the comprehensive closure.

The expected growth this year at 3.3 percent is consistent with an expected recovery of 3.9 percent in the non-oil sector, supported by widespread vaccine distribution.

The IMF indicated that once the recovery intensifies, there will be a need for an ambitious and growth-friendly fiscal adjustment set within a reliable medium-term timeframe to address the large imbalances in Bahrain, put the government’s debt on a steady downward path, and restore the macroeconomic sustainability. The amendment will also help rebuild external reserves and strengthen the exchange rate peg, which continues to meet Bahrain’s needs as a pillar of monetary policy, and support access to sustainable external financing.

Source (Al-Ayyam Newspaper-Bahrain, Edited)