اتفقت غرفة تجارة الأردن واتحاد غرف التجارة السورية، خلال اللقاء الاقتصادي الذي عقد بمقر غرفة تجارة الأردن بمناسبة الزيارة التي يقوم بها الوفد السوري إلى الأردن، على ضرورة تكثيف الجهود لتذليل العقبات التي تواجه حركة التجارة بين البلدين والدفع بها إلى مستوياتها التاريخية المعهودة.

وأكد رئيس غرفة تجارة الأردن، نائل الكباريتي، أن "عودة قاطرة التجارة الاردنية-السورية إلى سابق عهدها يمثل مصلحة مشتركة لاقتصاد البلدين، خاصة وأن سوريا تمثل شريانا تجاريا مهما للمملكة، وتنساب تجارتها عبر أراضيها إلى أوروبا والعدد من الدول المحيطة سواء لجهة التصدير أو الاستيراد أو الترانزيت". وشدد إلى ضرورة توثيق العلاقات بين مؤسسات القطاع الاقتصادي، والعمل على إزالة المعوقات التي تواجه حركة التجارة بين البلدين، مشددا على ضرورة تذليل العقبات التي تواجه حركة التجارة بين البلدين والدفع بها إلى مستوياتها التاريخية المعهودة.

بدوره، أكد رئيس اتحاد غرف التجارة السورية، محمد أبو الهدى اللحام، وجود رغبة قوية من الطرفين لتنمية وتعزيز العمل التجاري والصناعي بين البلدين، ودعم تطور بشكل سريع يتعلق بإنشاء منطقة تجارية مشتركة، خاصة وأن سوريا تمثل شريانا تجاريا مهما للمملكة، وتشابه جوانبها عبر أراضيها إلى أوروبا والعدد من الدول المحيطة سواء لجهة التصدير أو الاستيراد أو الترانزيت، وشدد إلى ضرورة توثيق العلاقات بين مؤسسات القطاع الاقتصادي، والعمل على إزالة المعوقات التي تواجه تراخيص اليدوية بين البلدين، مؤكدا أن المهندس التجارية بين سوريا والأردن متوافقة جدا، ما يتطلب بناء المزيد من الجهود لرفع مستوى تبادل المبادرات التجارية والصناعية.

المصدر (صحيفة الدستور الأردنية، بتصرّف)
The Governor of the Saudi Central Bank, Fahad Almubarak, explained that "the recent decline in foreign exchange reserves is due to reasons including the time gap between import payments and export income." Almubarak stated that "the recovery of import activities, which recorded a low level in May, 2020, preceded a recovery in the value of exports. These changes are expected in light of the exceptional economic repercussions over the past 18 months, with the return of economic conditions to get closer to normal." He also emphasized that "the decline in reserves in the past two months is mainly due to financing the recovery in demand for imports that were affected by the pandemic, while the progress of oil prices contributed to some fluctuation in the level of central bank reserves."

The central bank’s net foreign assets fell by eight billion dollars from a month ago to 436 billion dollars in April, recording the lowest level in more than ten years, and then returned to decline in May, according to the latest central bank data, to about 433 billion dollars. The decline seemed surprising in light of the recovery in oil prices, and it is linked to transfers to the sovereign wealth fund, the Public Investment Fund, which last year received $40 billion in reserves to finance investments.

Source (CNBC Arabic Website, Edited)
Bahrain's Economy Contracted by 2.11 percent

Bahrain's economy shrank by 2.11 percent in the first quarter of this year, compared to a year ago, affected by the decline in the non-oil economy, due to the imposition of Covid-19 restrictions most of the quarter. While the non-oil economy contracted by 2.97 percent, the hotel and restaurant sector fell by 20.44 percent, and the oil sector grew by 2.04 percent. The GDP also contracted by 0.10 percent, compared to the previous quarter.

Bahrain's budget deficit rose to 18 percent of gross domestic product last year, according to the International Monetary Fund, which estimates that a 35 percent rise in Brent crude, since December, will lead to nearly $70 a barrel, which will help narrowing the gap to 9 percent this year, but that will still be one of the highest levels in the Middle East.

The data released by the government at the beginning of last April, showed that Bahrain's gross domestic product contracted by 5.81 percent during 2020 on an annual basis, under pressure from the repercussions of the Corona pandemic and the decline in oil prices. While the estimates of Fitch Ratings Agency showed, at the end of last April, that Bahrain needs a price of about $100 a barrel to achieve a balance in the 2021-2022 budget.

Source (The New Arab Newspaper, Edited)

The Assets of the Central Bank of Oman Rose by 8.1 percent

The assets of the Central Bank of Oman have increased since the beginning of 2021, as data issued by the National Center for Statistics and Information showed an increase in the total foreign assets of the Central Bank from January to the end of last April by 8.1 percent to reach about 6.9 billion riyals (17.9 billion dollars), with an annual comparison.

The foreign reserves at the Central Bank consist of three components, including deposits in foreign currency, the reserve account with the International Monetary Fund, amounting to nearly $400 million, and securities, amounting to $8.6 billion. This rise reflects the confidence of international investors in the Omani economy despite all circumstances, and it comes in contrast to what international institutions, including the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, indicate to the possibility of a decrease in the Sultanate's cash reserves in the event of a prolonged epidemic.

The central bank stated that the current and short-term foreign reserves increased by about 8.1 percent, compared to the same period last year. The Sultanate of Oman's foreign exchange and gold reserves were estimated at about $16.6 billion at the end of 2019.

Source (London-based Al-Arab Newspaper, Edited)