احتضنت بيروت فعاليات مؤتمر الأعمال العراقي – اللبناني، بحضور وزير الصناعة اللبناني جورج بوشكيان، ومدير عام الشركة العامة للمعارض والخدمات التجارية في وزارة التجارة العراقية سرمد سعيد، ورئيس غرفة التجارة والصناعة والزراعة في جبل لبنان وبيروت محمد شقير، ونائب رئيس غرفة تجارة بغداد رعد بريج، إلى جانب حضور عدد كبير من الشركات العراقية واللبنانية من مختلف المجالات.

وكشف شقير أن “تنظيم مؤتمر الأعمال العراقي – اللبناني يكتسب أهمية خاصة في هذا التوقيت بالذات، خصوصاً بعد احتواء جائحة كورونا ولحاجة البلدين لتفعيل اقتصادهما وإعادة لمحات التحولات الكبرى التي تجري على مستوى المنطقة، مع العلم أن القطاع الخاص يلعب دوراً هاماً في اقتصاد الدولتين، ولهذا السبب تم اختيار بيروت لموقع هذا المؤتمر.”

لاحقاً، أكد نائب رئيس غرفة تجارة بغداد رعد كاظم بريج على أهمية تعاون البلدين في مجالات الأعمال التجارية والتجارية، حيث تأسست شركة تعاونية مشتركة بين الشركات العراقية واللبنانية، وهي شركة تتعاون في مجالات الصناعة والتجارة والزراعة.

المصدر (صحيفة العربي الجديد، بتصرّف)

Lebanese-Iraqi Partnership through the Private Sector and the Chambers' Federations

Beirut hosted activities of the Iraqi-Lebanese Business Conference, in the presence of George Bushkian, the Lebanese Minister of Industry, Sarmad Saeed, the Director General of the State Company for Iraqi Fairs and Commercial Services, Mohamed Choucair, the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Beirut and Mount-Lebanon, and Raad Breij, the Vice President of Baghdad Chamber of Commerce, in addition to the presence of a large number of Iraqi and Lebanese companies from various fields.

Choucair affirmed that “organizing the Iraqi-Lebanese Business Conference is of particular importance at this specific time, especially after containing the Corona pandemic and the two countries’ need to activate their economies and given the great transformations taking place at the level of the region,” considering that “the responsibility of the private sector is very great, so serious work is required to achieve progress on the path of our bilateral economic relations and increase figures, as well as to reserve an advanced position for us in the region.”

Choucair also called on the brothers to “the importance of the partnership between the Lebanese and Iraqi private sectors,” stating that “the Lebanese private sector is always ready to participate effectively in the process of rebuilding Iraq and in all areas that we have experiences that can contribute to benefiting Iraq and its brotherly people,” stressing that “trade exchange remains a mainstay in our economic relationship, so we must also work to increase its numbers, which have witnessed a noticeable decline.”

Raad Breij, the Vice-President of Baghdad Chamber of Commerce, confirmed that “a twinning took place and the signing of memoranda of understanding promoting commercial work between Baghdad Chamber of Commerce and Lebanon, in order to organize joint commercial work and raise the level of trade exchange between the two countries.”

Source (The New Arab Newspaper, Edited)
The monthly statistics issued by the Central Bank of Kuwait showed that total deposits in the banking sector increased by 492 million dinars (+1.12 percent) on a monthly basis last August to reach 44.392 billion, while it witnessed a decrease since the beginning of the year 2021 to 883 million (-1.95 percent), thus bringing its decline to 1.08 billion (-2.38 percent) compared to August 2020.

The private sector’s deposits witnessed an increase of about 130 million dinars (+0.35 percent), to reach a total of 37.107 billion, while it recorded a decline of about 222 million dinars (-0.6 percent) since the beginning of 2021 and a decrease of 887 million (-2.33 percent) compared to August 2020.

Source (Al-Rai Newspaper-Kuwait, Edited)
The International Air Transport Association (IATA) expected that the aviation sector will witness a sharp decrease in losses next year with the increase in recovery from the Coronavirus crisis, while it raised its expectations for the financial outcome of the sector’s losses due to the pandemic to $201 billion during the three years from 2020 to 2022.

IATA suggested that the net losses of airlines would shrink to 11.6 billion dollars in 2022 from 51.8 billion this year, which is an increase in the expectations of 2021 losses, as it was estimated at about 47.7 billion dollars in April, and the association also positively adjusted the sector losses for 2020 to $137.7 billion from $126.4 billion.

According to the association, the total number of passengers is expected to reach 2.3 billion in 2021, while it will rise to 3.4 billion in 2022, which is similar to 2014 levels and much less than 4.5 billion passengers in 2019.

In this context, Willie Walsh, IATA’s Director General affirmed during the annual meeting of the association that “we have passed the darkest phase of the crisis, and although there are serious problems that still exist, the path to recovery is beginning to emerge.”

Source (Al-Arabiya.net Website, Edited)