The Secretary-General of the Union of Arab Chambers, Dr. Khaled Hanafi, met on the sidelines of his participation in the work of the Arab-British Summit, which is being held in London, the President of the Arab British Chamber of Commerce and Member of the House of Lords Minister Baroness Elizabeth Simmons. In the presence of the Secretary General of the Arab-British Chamber Bandar Ali Reda, and the Director of Arab and Joint Chambers Affairs, Huda Kashtan.

During the meeting, they discussed ways to enhance Arab-British relations in light of the convening of the second Arab-British Economic Summit, especially in light of the enormous natural and human capabilities that the two sides enjoy.

Hanafi drew attention to the depth of Arab-British relations, and the importance of strengthening this relationship to the level of strategic partnership, in light of the changes taking place on the global scene, especially since the start of the Corona pandemic, whose repercussions are still continuing on other economies of the world. Then the ongoing war in Ukraine came to darken the global scene, which necessitates moving forward in pushing relations between countries, especially Arab-British relations, to the hoped-for level.

He stressed the importance of the role played by the Arab-British Chamber, headed by Baroness Simmons, in cooperation with the Chamber's General Secretariat, in terms of strengthening relations between the Arab and British sides. Considering that, "We need more efforts at all levels; whether at the level of business owners or governments, to double the volume of trade exchange and strengthen economic partnership, and building joint projects in various productive and service sectors, by holding summits, forums and conferences that contribute to achieving achievements and advancing economic partnerships."

For her part, Baroness Elizabeth Simons considered that "the energy, education and health sectors provide wide opportunities for cooperation between Britain and the Arab countries," explaining that "one of the most prominent sectors that characterizes Britain and seeks to enhance cooperation with the region is the field of renewable energies, especially ways to generate them."

The education sector is another prominent area of cooperation, through the exchange of knowledge to provide young people with the right competencies for new jobs, which rely heavily on information technology.”

Source (Union of Arab Chambers)
التقى أمين عام اتحاد الغرف العربية، الدكتور خالد حنفي، سفير جمهورية مصر العربية لدى المملكة المتحدة شريف كامل، بحضور الوزير مفوض رئيس المكتب التجاري في سفارة مصر تامر مصطفى، وأمين عام الغرف العربية – البريطانية بدر علي رضا، وتمحور الحديث خلال اللقاء حول انعقاد أعمال القمة الاقتصادية العربية – البريطانية الثانية، التي تقام في عمان العربية – البريطانية والتي تهدف إلى تعزيز التعاون بين المملكة المتحدة والعالم العربي، في ظل وجود الفرص الواعدة الكبيرة بين الجانبين.

وتحدث أمين عام الاتحاد خلال اللقاء، فشدد على أهمية تعزيز الشراكة الاستراتيجية بين المملكة المتحدة والدول العربية، مع التركيز على كيفية إعادة تشكيل العلاقات التجارية بين الجانبين في ظل التغيّر التكنولوجي والتغير المناخي لأولويات الأعمال.

ونوّه إلى الدور الذي تلعبه الغرف العربية – البريطانية، على صعيد تعزيز العلاقات الاقتصادية العربية – البريطانية، وكذلك إلى الدور الذي تلعبه سفارات الدول العربية المعتمدة لدى المملكة المتحدة على هذا الصعيد. مثنياً على أداء سفير جمهورية مصر العربية وسفير المملكة العربية السعودية في المملكة المتحدة، وكانت سفارة مصر من السفارات الناشطة جداً في إطار سفره الاستراتيجية.

وقال: نحتاج إلى مزيد من الجهود على جميع المستويات، سواء على مستوى أصحاب الأعمال أو الحكومات، لمضاعفة حجم التجارة في مجالي التجارة والاقتصادية، وتعزيز الشراكة الاقتصادية، وبناء المشاريع الاقتصادية.

وأضاف: "لقد كان لديهم مساعدة مصريين في تشكيل فريق العمل، وبناء المشاريع الاقتصادية، والتعاون الاستراتيجي في المجالات الأكثر أهمية، من خلال استخدام الفرص والتحديات التي تشهدها العالم.

وأثنى على دور سفارة مصر في بريطانيا، دعياً إلى تشكيك في قريط عم مكون من الأمانة العامة للغرفة العربية – البريطانية، وسماحة جمهورية مصر العربية، ومازاله تحت فروع الغرف العربية، من أجل وضع الخطط والتصورات التي تصب في إطار تعزيز العلاقات الاقتصادية العربية – البريطانية والعلاقات العربية – البريطانية في ظل الظروف الحالية.

وأكّد حنفي على أن "مصر تحت دولة محورية، ومن خلال الشراكة الاستراتيجية مع كل من المملكة العربية السعودية وبريطانيا، يمكنها أن تكون الوادي الأدنى نحو إفريقيا، ومن هذا المنطلق ينبغي وضع الأسس الجدية والمنظمة، التي من شأنها المساهمة في الارتقاء بمستوى العلاقات بين الأطراف الثلاثة، إلى الشراكة الاستراتيجية".

المصدر (اتحاد الغرف العربية)
The Secretary-General of the Union of Arab Chambers, Dr. Khaled Hanafi, met with the Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Kingdom, Sherif Kamel, in the presence of the Minister Plenipotentiary, Head of the Commercial Office at the Egyptian Embassy, Tamer Mustafa, and the Secretary General of the Arab-British Chamber, Bandar Ali Reda.

Talks during the meeting focused on the holding of the second Arab-British Economic Summit, organized by the Arab-British Chambers, as part of the Chamber's ongoing activities to enhance cooperation between the United Kingdom and the Arab world, in light of the great promising opportunities between the two sides.

The Secretary-General of the Union spoke during the meeting, stressing the importance of strengthening the strategic partnership between the United Kingdom and the Arab countries, with a focus on how to reshape trade relations between the two sides in light of technological change and climate change for business priorities.

He noted the role played by the Arab-British Chamber in promoting Arab-British economic relations, as well as the role played by the embassies of Arab countries accredited to the United Kingdom in this regard. He praised the performance of the Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Commercial Attaché in the context of maximizing Egyptian-British relations, as the Egyptian Embassy is one of the very active embassies in the context of raising the level of economic, trade, and investment relations between Egypt and Britain.

During the meeting, the Secretary-General of the Union suggested establishing a strategic partnership between Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Britain, through the establishment of huge investment projects in several important and promising sectors, both in the low-carbon economy, especially in the post-pandemic stage and after Britain’s exit from the European Union. As well as in healthcare, education, financial services, hospitality, real estate, transportation, logistics and other key sectors, especially in industries based on new emerging technology.

Hanafi stressed, “Egypt is a pivotal country, and through a strategic partnership with both the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Britain, it can be the main gateway to Africa, from this standpoint, serious and solid foundations should be laid, which would contribute to raising the level of relations between the three parties, to a strategic partnership.”

Hanafi noted the renaissance that Egypt has witnessed in recent years, led by President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, which is manifested in the implementation of mega and strategic projects, in addition to strengthening the investment environment through the adoption of laws and legislation that attract investment. Pointing out “there is a real Egyptian desire to achieve more reforms aimed at motivating and encouraging Arab and foreign investors to invest in Egypt in various sectors, and this was confirmed by President Sisi at the last "Egypt Economic Conference 2022", where he outlined the roadmap's economic parameters, in which the state can proceed in the coming period.”

For his part, the Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Sherif Kamel, praised the outstanding ideas presented by the Secretary-General of the Union, Dr. Khaled Hanafi, during the meeting, which would draw new features for the shape of relations between countries. Especially in light of the fundamental changes that the world is witnessing, since the start of the Corona pandemic, and then the outbreak of war in Ukraine.

He said: We need more efforts at all levels, whether at the level of business owners or governments, to double the volume of trade exchange, strengthen economic partnership, and build joint projects in various productive and service sectors.

As for the Secretary-General of the Arab-British Chamber, Bandar Ali Reda, he explained that "the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Egypt are strategic allies, and the Kingdom is one of the countries that have huge investments in Egypt, through their location and strategic relationship, they can play a pivotal role in developing economic relations with each other and with the rest of the world, especially the United Kingdom.”

He commended the role of the Egyptian Embassy in Britain, calling for the formation of a working group consisting of the General Secretariat of the Arab-British Chamber and the Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and from the General Secretariat of the Union of Arab Chambers, to set plans and perceptions that are in the framework of strengthening Arab-Arab economic relations and Arab relations with the rest of the world, including Britain.

Source (Union of Arab Chambers)