

Press Release

MUMTALAKAT AFFIRMS COMMITMENT TOWARDS GENDER EQUALITY ON BAHRAIN WOMEN'S DAY

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain – 1 December 2011: Bahrain Mumtalakat Holding Company, the investment arm of the Kingdom of Bahrain, reaffirmed its on-going commitment towards gender equality, and emphasised its support to the Supreme Council for Women for its continued efforts to empower women through different sectors in the Kingdom, under the leadership of Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ebrahim Al Khalifa, the president of the Supreme Council for Women, at an event on Thursday celebrating Bahrain Women's Day at its headquarters.

Bahrain Women's Day is an initiative by the Supreme Council for Women to highlight the achievements and participation of women in the economy. The theme this year is "Bahraini Women and the Economy: Partnership and Contribution".

As part of Mumtalakat's role in growing the wealth of Bahrain while demonstrating business best practice, gender equality has become a key focus for the company as it seeks to bolster economic competitiveness across its portfolio of assets. Within Mumtalakat itself, women currently represent 41% of the total workforce and 15% of the senior executives.

Mr. Talal Al Zain, Mumtalakat Chief Executive Officer, said: "We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Her Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ebrahim Al Khalifa for her continuous efforts to support and enhance the role of Bahraini women in the society. At Mumtalakat, we share the objectives advanced by Her Royal Highness. We are uniquely placed to set an example for gender equality in Bahrain and drive the country's progress forward. We are committed towards gender equality as we believe in the added value of female participation in the workforce in all levels."

The World Economic Forum's *Global Gender Gap Report* ranked Bahrain third in the Middle East for reducing the gender gap following its significant improvement in boosting the proportion of women in different sectors of the economy. Women totally represent 34% of the total workforce in Bahrain.

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About Mumtalakat

Mumtalakat is the investment company for the Kingdom of Bahrain, and was established in June 2006 by Royal Decree as an independent holding company for the government of Bahrain's strategic non-oil and gas related assets. Mumtalakat was created to align and implement the execution of the government's initiatives to pursue value-enhancing opportunities, improve transparency and help achieve operational excellence for its state-owned non-oil and gas related assets. Mumtalakat holds stakes in over 35 commercial enterprises spanning a variety of sectors, including aluminium production, financial services, telecommunications, real estate, tourism, transportation, and food production.