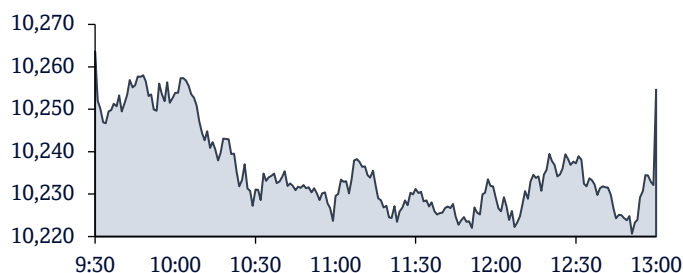


QSE Intra-Day Movement



Qatar Commentary

The QE Index declined 0.1% to close at 10,254.6. Losses were led by the Real Estate and Telecoms indices, falling 0.8% and 0.5%, respectively. Top losers were Qatari German Co for Med. Devices and Qatar Industrial Manufacturing Co, falling 2.1% each. Among the top gainers, Dlala Brokerage & Inv. Holding Co. gained 1.9%, while Medicare Group was up 1.8%.

GCC Commentary

Saudi Arabia: The TASI Index gained 0.4% to close at 10,852.4. Gains were led by the Utilities and Commercial & Professional Svc indices, rising 2.3% and 2.2%, respectively. Saudi Steel Pipe Co. rose 7.8%, while Arabian Pipes Co. was up 7.0%.

Dubai: The DFM Index gained 0.1% to close at 6,094.0. Gains were led by the Consumer Staples and Communication Services indices, rising 2.4% and 2.2% respectively. Islamic Arab Insurance Company PJSC rose 4.0% and Dubai Islamic Insurance and Reinsurance Co. PJSC was up 3.7%.

Abu Dhabi: The ADX General Index gained 0.2% to close at 9,941.1. The Health Care index rose 1.5%, while the Energy index gained 0.6%. Sudatel Telecommunications Group Company Limited rose 4.4%, while Aram Group was up 4.0%.

Kuwait: The Kuwait All Share Index fell 0.1% to close at 8,733.7. The Health Care index declined 3.0%, while the Technology index fell 2.9%. Kuwait Investment Company declined 3.1%, while Kuwait Telecommunications Company stc was down 3.0%.

Oman: The MSM 30 Index fell 0.2% to close at 7,568.9. Losses were led by the Services and Financial indices, falling 0.6% and 0.4%, respectively. Oman Fisheries Company declined 4.2%, while Phoenix Power Company was down 3.2%.

Bahrain: The BHB Index gained 0.1% to close at 2,026.2. The Real Estate index rose 0.5%, while the Communications Services index gained 0.2%. Bahrain Islamic Bank rose 1.4%, while Seef Properties was up 0.8%.

QSE Top Gainers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Dlala Brokerage & Inv. Holding Co.	1.402	1.9	3,289.8	43.2
Medicare Group	5.997	1.8	4,221.3	(9.6)
National Leasing	0.739	1.1	1,523.7	7.6
QNB Group	17.69	1.1	2,420.3	(5.2)
Al Khaleej Takaful Insurance Co.	3.080	1.0	1,757.7	35.3

QSE Top Volume Trades	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
AlRayan Bank	2.030	(0.4)	9,424.2	(7.5)
Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding	1.161	(0.5)	8,291.3	6.2
Baladna	1.332	(0.1)	6,767.0	4.1
Qatari German Co for Med. Devices	1.350	(2.1)	6,628.2	(7.8)
Mazaya Qatar Real Estate Dev.	0.570	(0.7)	4,668.2	(0.5)

Regional Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	MTD%	YTD%	Exch. Val. Traded (\$ mn)	Exchange Mkt. Cap. (\$ mn)	P/E**	P/B**	Dividend Yield
Qatar*	10,254.60	(0.1)	0.4	0.1	(4.7)	89.2	169,777.9	11.7	1.3	4.9
Dubai	6,093.98	0.1	1.7	2.3	0.8	132.8	271,058.9	9.6	1.8	5.2
Abu Dhabi	9,941.08	0.2	1.3	1.4	(0.5)	246.5	762,855.4	19.6	2.3	2.5
Saudi Arabia	10,852.41	0.4	0.2	0.5	3.4	1,147.7	2,554,782.0	16.9	2.1	3.5
Kuwait	8,733.72	(0.1)	0.4	0.3	(2.0)	234.0	168,724.0	17.9	1.8	3.8
Oman	7,568.85	(0.2)	(0.1)	0.8	29.0	78.2	52,798.8	14.5	1.6	4.0
Bahrain	2,026.24	0.1	(0.5)	(0.8)	(2.0)	3.2	20,813.3	16.8	1.4	4.4

Source: Bloomberg, Qatar Stock Exchange, Tadawul, Muscat Securities Market and Dubai Financial Market (** TTM; * Value traded (\$ mn) do not include special trades if any)

Market Indicators	07 July 26	06 July 26	%Chg.
Value Traded (QR mn)	325.1	293.0	10.9
Exch. Market Cap. (QR mn)	619,627.2	619,431.6	0.0
Volume (mn)	100.3	110.6	(9.4)
Number of Transactions	20,724	16,713	24.0
Companies Traded	53	53	0.0
Market Breadth	17:33	23:24	-

Market Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	YTD%	TTM P/E
Total Return	25,340.43	(0.1)	0.4	(1.5)	11.7
All Share Index	4,027.20	0.0	0.5	(0.8)	11.6
Banks	5,129.75	0.2	0.7	(2.2)	10.1
Industrials	4,149.38	(0.3)	0.1	0.3	15.1
Transportation	5,366.97	0.5	1.0	(1.8)	12.8
Real Estate	1,474.76	(0.8)	0.0	(3.6)	24.0
Insurance	2,700.26	0.0	0.5	8.0	10.3
Telecoms	2,400.34	(0.5)	(0.5)	7.7	11.4
Consumer Goods and Services	8,164.89	(0.5)	0.1	(2.0)	17.4
Al Rayan Islamic Index	5,152.81	(0.4)	0.3	0.7	14.1

GCC Top Gainers##	Exchange	Close#	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Rabigh Refining & Petro.	Saudi Arabia	13.70	4.7	6,630.5	100.3
Acwa Power Co.	Saudi Arabia	198.90	3.1	673.3	9.4
Saudi Aramco Base Oil Co	Saudi Arabia	125.00	2.6	294.5	30.0
Oman Telecommunications Co.	Oman	1.40	2.3	5,480.9	34.8
Emirates Integrated Telecom.	Dubai	12.76	2.2	3,838.8	30.2

GCC Top Losers##	Exchange	Close#	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
flynas Co SJSC	Saudi Arabia	56.30	(2.1)	310.0	(13.5)
Fertiglobe PLC	Abu Dhabi	2.60	(1.9)	9,897.3	4.4
Aldar Properties	Abu Dhabi	8.16	(1.6)	11,423.0	(6.2)
National Shipping Co.	Saudi Arabia	31.90	(1.5)	1,159.0	10.1
Bank Muscat	Oman	0.40	(1.5)	9,060.6	19.8

Source: Bloomberg (# in Local Currency) (## GCC Top gainers/ losers derived from the S&P GCC Composite Large Mid Cap Index)

QSE Top Losers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Qatari German Co for Med. Devices	1.350	(2.1)	6,628.2	(7.8)
Qatar Industrial Manufacturing Co	2.286	(2.1)	934.1	(2.9)
Barwa Real Estate Company	2.357	(1.5)	3,958.8	(9.9)
Al Meera Consumer Goods Co.	13.23	(1.4)	28.0	(9.2)
Inma Holding	2.898	(1.4)	304.5	(9.2)

QSE Top Value Trades	Close*	1D%	Val. '000	YTD%
QNB Group	17.69	1.1	42,601.4	(5.2)
Industries Qatar	11.08	(0.4)	29,358.0	(7.1)
Medicare Group	5.997	1.8	25,235.2	(9.6)
Ooredoo	13.12	(0.6)	20,240.2	0.7
AlRayan Bank	2.030	(0.4)	19,140.5	(7.5)

Qatar Market Commentary

- The QE Index declined 0.1% to close at 10,254.6. The Real Estate and Telecoms indices led the losses. The index fell on the back of selling pressure from GCC shareholders despite buying support from Qatari, Arab and Foreign shareholders.
- Qatari German Co for Med. Devices and Qatar Industrial Manufacturing Co were the top losers, falling 2.1% each. Among the top gainers, Dlala Brokerage & Inv. Holding Co. gained 1.9%, while Medicare Group was up 1.8%.
- Volume of shares traded on Tuesday fell by 9.4% to 100.3mn from 110.6mn on Monday. Further, as compared to the 30-day moving average of 143.6mn, volume for the day was 30.2% lower. AlRayan Bank and Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding were the most active stocks, contributing 9.4% and 8.3% to the total volume, respectively.

Overall Activity	Buy%*	Sell%*	Net (QR)
Qatari Individuals	31.76%	31.29%	1,531,026.56
Qatari Institutions	25.26%	25.24%	62,966.45
Qatari	57.03%	56.54%	1,593,993.01
GCC Individuals	0.52%	0.36%	516,278.20
GCC Institutions	0.35%	6.39%	(19,632,089.79)
GCC	0.87%	6.75%	(19,115,811.59)
Arab Individuals	9.17%	7.77%	4,527,404.64
Arab Institutions	0.00%	0.00%	0.00
Arab	9.17%	7.77%	4,527,404.64
Foreigners Individuals	1.88%	1.90%	(77,697.79)
Foreigners Institutions	31.06%	27.04%	13,072,111.72
Foreigners	32.94%	28.94%	12,994,413.93

Source: Qatar Stock Exchange (*as a% of traded value)

Global Economic Data and Earnings Calendar

Global Economic Data

Date	Market	Source	Indicator	Period	Actual	Consensus	Previous
07-07	US	U.S. Census Bureau	Trade Balance	May	-\$77.6b	-\$78.4b	-\$54.6b
07-07	Germany	Deutsche Bundesbank	Industrial Production SA MoM	May	0.90%	0.10%	0.20%
07-07	Germany	Bundesministerium fur Wirtscha	Industrial Production WDA YoY	May	0.00%	-0.60%	-0.90%
07-07	France	Ministry of the Economy, France	Trade Balance	May	-6928m	--	-5416m
07-07	Japan	Ministry of Health, Labour and	Labor Cash Earnings YoY	May	3.20%	3.40%	--
07-07	Japan	Economic and Social Research I	Leading Index CI	May P	116.8	116.9	--
07-07	Japan	Economic and Social Research I	Coincident Index	May P	118.5	118.5	--
07-07	China	National Bureau of Statistics	Foreign Reserves	Jun	\$3416.26b	\$3435.50b	--

Earnings Calendar

Tickers	Company Name	Date of reporting 2Q2026 results	No. of days remaining	Status
QNBK	QNB Group	08-July-26	0	Due
DUBK	Dukhan Bank	08-July-26	0	Due
QIBK	Qatar Islamic Bank	14-July-26	6	Due
QFLS	Qatar Fuel Co	15-July-26	7	Due
DHBK	Doha Bank	15-July-26	7	Due
MCGS	Medicare Group Co	15-July-26	7	Due
ABQK	Ahli Bank	16-July-26	8	Due
QISI	Qatar Islamic Insurance	19-July-26	11	Due
QOIS	Qatar Oman Investment Company	19-July-26	11	Due
QIIK	Qatar International Islamic Bank	20-July-26	12	Due
IHGS	Inma Holding	21-July-26	13	Due
UDCD	United Development Co	21-July-26	13	Due
AHCS	Aamal	26-July-26	18	Due
QIMD	Qatar Industrial Manufacturing Co	30-July-26	22	Due
QEWS	Nebras Energy	02-Aug-26	25	Due
MHAR	Al Mahhar Holding	05-Aug-26	28	Due
DOHI	Doha Insurance Group	05-Aug-26	28	Due

Qatar

- Tanker attack: Qatar summons Iran envoy** - Qatar has strongly condemned the targeting of the Qatari tanker Al Rekayyat while it was transiting near the Strait of Hormuz, describing the attack as a grave violation of the safety of international navigation, a direct threat to global energy supply security, and a flagrant breach of international law. The condemnation came in a protest note handed by Director of the Protocol Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ibrahim bin Yousef Fakhro to Iran's Deputy Ambassador to Qatar, Mohsen Mohammad Ghanei, who was summoned to the ministry's headquarters Tuesday. The note set out Qatar's unequivocal rejection of the assault and the threat it poses to the security of international navigation and the stability of the region. It demanded that Iran immediately cease any practices that compromise regional security and refrain from endangering international shipping and global energy supplies. The note affirmed that Qatar reserved all its rights under international law to take any measures it deemed appropriate to protect its interests and assets. It further called on Iran to provide an urgent explanation for the attack, take immediate steps to prevent any recurrence, and fully comply with the relevant rules of international law. Earlier, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson and Advisor to the Prime Minister Dr Majed al-Ansari, in a X post, termed the attack "unacceptable". "The targeting of the Qatari vessel "Al-Rekayyat" while transiting near the Strait of Hormuz constitutes an unacceptable attack on the security & safety of international maritime navigation, the security of global energy supplies, & a grave & explicit violation of international law, particularly the rules guaranteeing freedom of navigation & safe passage through international waterways," he noted. He further tweeted: "We demand that the Islamic Republic of Iran immediately cease all practices that undermine regional security or threaten the safety of international maritime navigation, & refrain from endangering global energy supplies & the resources of the countries of the region in pursuit of narrow interests,". Al-Ansari also said Qatar held Iran "fully legally responsible for this attack & for any resulting damages & consequences." Reuters adds: Three tankers were hit in the Strait of Hormuz Tuesday, including an LNG carrier at risk of explosion. Qatar blamed Iran for the attack on a huge Qatari liquefied natural gas tanker, the Al Rekayyat, which reported being struck overnight by a drone that caused a fire in its engine room. The crew were safe and being evacuated, but maritime security sources told Reuters the fire could put the ship at risk of explosion. A Saudi-flagged crude oil tanker, believed to be the supertanker Wedyan, was also damaged off Oman, maritime security sources said. The cause was not immediately clear. "Mayday mayday mayday. This is vessel Al Rekayyat, LNG vessel Al Rekayyat. We are being hit by drone on port side, top of engine room," the Qatari tanker's captain said in a recorded radio call reviewed by Reuters. "Status: engine room fire and full of smoke. Unable to assess further damage." While Qatar's foreign ministry summoned Iran's deputy ambassador and handed him a protest note, there was no immediate comment from Tehran, or any claim of responsibility. Iran's Press TV cited an official as saying traffic through Hormuz was conducted in line with Iran's arrangements, adding that any "provocative action" by the US would be met with an immediate and decisive response. The unidentified official did not mention Tuesday's attacks. A US official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said initial indications were that Iran had fired at three commercial vessels. It was unclear whether the three attacks cited by the official included an incident reported later Tuesday by British navy-affiliated agency UKMTO in which a tanker was struck by a drone while transiting the strait. The vessel sustained minor damage but was able to sail to its next port of call, the agency said. The incidents were the first reported attacks in the strait since mourning for Khamenei began last week, underscoring persistent risks to Gulf shipping despite last month's interim peace deal. (Gulf Times)
- Al Rayan Qatar ETF: To disclose its Semi-Annual financial results on 23/07/2026** - Al Rayan Qatar ETF discloses its financial statement for the period ending 30th June 2026 on 23/07/2026. (QSE)
- Qatar Industrial Manufacturing Co.: To disclose its Semi-Annual financial results on 30/07/2026** - Qatar Industrial Manufacturing Co. discloses its financial statement for the period ending 30th June 2026 on 30/07/2026. (QSE)
- Nebras Energy: To disclose its Semi-Annual financial results on 02/08/2026** - Nebras Energy discloses its financial statement for the period ending 30th June 2026 on 02/08/2026. (QSE)
- Aamal: To disclose its Semi-Annual financial results on 26/07/2026** - Aamal discloses its financial statement for the period ending 30th June 2026 on 26/07/2026. (QSE)
- Aamal will hold its investors relation conference call on 28/07/2026 to discuss the financial results** - Aamal announces that the conference call with the Investors to discuss the financial results for the Semi-Annual 2026 will be held on 28/07/2026 at 02:00 PM, Doha Time. (QSE)
- IMO council approves Qatar's hosting of World Maritime Day 2028** - During its 137th regular meeting, the Council of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) approved the State of Qatar's hosting of the World Maritime Day 2028 event. Marking the occasion, Ambassador of the State of Qatar to the United Kingdom and Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the IMO HE Sheikh Abdullah bin Mohammed bin Saud Al Thani thanked the member states for their confidence and support for the State of Qatar's request. He emphasized the State of Qatar's keenness to organize a distinguished event that contributes to supporting the goals of the IMO and enhancing international cooperation and the exchange of experiences in the maritime sector, welcoming the participation of member states and relevant parties in this international event. World Maritime Day is an international platform held annually by the IMO in cooperation with the host country. It brings together government officials, maritime sector leaders, and representatives of international organizations, academic institutions, and the private sector to discuss issues, challenges, and future opportunities facing the global maritime sector. World Maritime Day events include dialogue sessions and specialized presentations highlighting the priorities of the IMO and emerging issues, contributing to strengthening international cooperation, exchanging experiences and supporting efforts aimed at developing the maritime transport sector and achieving maritime sustainability. Qatar's hosting of this event stems from its commitment to supporting the activities of the IMO and promoting international cooperation in the maritime field, in line with the country's efforts to support the development of the maritime sector and promote sustainability and innovation in the field of maritime transport. (Qatar Tribune)
- Foreign firms flock to Qatar in first quarter** - Qatar has drawn one of its strongest waves of foreign business in recent years, with 3,295 non-Qatari companies registered in the first quarter of 2026 — a vote of international confidence that underscores the country's growing pull as a regional investment hub. The surge came despite the economic uncertainties and geopolitical challenges buffeting global markets during the quarter, and points to a business environment that continues to reassure investors even in turbulent times. According to a report by Qatar TV, the first-quarter figure marked one of the strongest bursts of foreign business establishment in years. The momentum reflects Qatar's ability to attract international investors through a blend of economic stability, advanced infrastructure, investor-friendly legislation, and expanding opportunities across multiple sectors. The increase comes as Qatar presses ahead with policies designed to sharpen its competitiveness as a regional and global business hub. Key drivers include the steady development of economic and investment regulations, efficient and easily accessible procedures for setting up businesses, and broader scope for foreign ownership across various sectors. Over recent years, the country has introduced a series of reforms aimed at making the investment process faster and more accessible. These measures have improved the ease of doing business, encouraging multinationals and entrepreneurs to establish operations in Qatar. Among the most significant steps has been the expansion of foreign ownership rules, allowing international investors to hold up to
- Medicare Group Co.: To disclose its Semi-Annual financial results on 15/07/2026** - Medicare Group Co. discloses its financial statement for the period ending 30th June 2026 on 15/07/2026. (QSE)
- Qatar International Islamic Bank: To disclose its Semi-Annual financial results on 20/07/2026** - Qatar International Islamic Bank discloses its financial statement for the period ending 30th June 2026 on 20/07/2026. (QSE)

100% of companies in many sectors — a move that has notably lifted market confidence. The strong showing was also evident on specialized economic platforms, particularly the Qatar Financial Centre, which added more than 800 new companies during the first quarter — a growth of around 57% on the same period a year earlier. The jump signals rising interest from global firms seeking to use Qatar as a base for regional operations. Foreign investment inflows are also undergoing a structural shift. While energy, particularly liquefied natural gas (LNG), remains the cornerstone of the economy, international capital is increasingly flowing into emerging fields such as financial services, technology, artificial intelligence, digital transformation, and other knowledge-based industries. This diversification aligns with the goals of Qatar National Vision 2030, which seeks to build a sustainable, diversified economy capable of competing globally while reducing reliance on traditional sectors. The strategy places strong emphasis on innovation, human capital development, entrepreneurship, and the growth of a knowledge-driven economy. Qatar's ability to attract international companies has been further underpinned by major investment in infrastructure and logistics. World-class transport networks — including the expansion of Hamad International Airport and the continued growth of Hamad Port — have strengthened the country's role as a gateway linking Asia, Europe, and Africa. Financial indicators tell the same story. The stock of foreign direct investment reached around QR165.4bn by the end of 2025, reflecting sustained confidence among international investors and the continued inflow of foreign capital into the national economy. The growth in foreign companies mirrors Qatar's current economic performance and points to bright prospects ahead. International businesses increasingly view the country as a strategic location offering political stability, competitive regulations, advanced infrastructure, and access to fast-growing regional markets. Investment promotion bodies, meanwhile, continue to step up efforts to position Qatar as a global center for business and innovation. Through initiatives supporting entrepreneurship, digital transformation, and sector diversification, the country is aiming to attract higher-value investment that contributes to long-term growth. As global competition for capital intensifies, Qatar's ongoing economic reforms, financial strength, and commitment to sustainable development are reinforcing its reputation as an attractive destination for international business. (Gulf Times)

- Driverless robotaxis move a step closer to Doha's roads** - Qatar has moved a step closer to putting driverless taxis on its roads after Mowasalat (Karwa) completed a successful trial of electric robotaxis under the supervision of the Ministry of Transport (MOT). Announcing the milestone Tuesday, the MOT said the robotaxis had made a round trip between the ministry's headquarters and the Old Doha Port — a run it described as the latest in a string of successes for the project, and a signal that Qatar's autonomous vehicles are edging towards a fully driverless future. "This pioneering project aligns with the plans of the Autonomous Vehicles Strategy developed by the MOT, which aims to leverage advanced technology applications, incorporating the latest smart, eco-friendly systems, within the public transportation industry," said MOT Assistant Undersecretary for Land Transport Affairs Abdullah Saif al-Sulaiti. He added that the ministry's departments continue to keep pace with the best global practices in adopting smart and sustainable mobility solutions. The trials, he said, followed the highest known safety standards, with the MOT set to launch the next operational phases in collaboration with Karwa. The most striking prospect lies just ahead. According to MOT Road Affairs Department In-Charge Nayla Khaled al-Noaimi, the successful pilot shows the operating and technical systems are now ready for broader adoption of autonomous services — making the switch to a second phase highly likely. That phase, she said, aims to advance to the full running of autonomous vehicles, with no driver at the wheel, in co-ordination with the relevant authorities in Qatar. MOT Land Transport Licensing Department Director Hamad Ali al-Marri stressed that the ministry places great emphasis on providing reliable and secure services for the public, and on continuing to raise the quality of land transport services to the highest standards of innovation and sustainability. For his part, Mowasalat (Karwa) CEO Ahmed Hassan al-Obaidly said the company was working side by side with, and under the supervision of, the MOT on the vital project. "At Mowasalat, we dedicated all necessary resources, including skilled personnel, workforce, vehicles,

technology, and advanced software to ensure the success of this initiative across all its stages," he said. "Our goal is to deliver the service to the public with the highest standards of safety and comfort, while keeping pace with developments in the public transport sector and aligning with Qatar National Vision 2030." The groundwork has been building for nearly a year. Phase one of the project, launched in August 2025 and followed by the roll-out of a pilot commercial service through the Karwa app last December, clocked up 2,500 trips — each run autonomously under the watch of a trained safety officer (SO) seated behind the wheel. The results, the ministry said, exceeded expectations: a successful commercial operation, high passenger satisfaction, and safety rates that beat initial targets, with 94% of pilot trips completed with no human intervention. The second phase raises the stakes. It will see two autonomous robotaxis operated remotely (RO), with no safety officer on board, along three routes already tested and approved: Old Doha Port–The Gate Mall, Souq Waqif–Sheraton Doha Hotel, and MIA–West Bay. That phase will be rolled out gradually, one route at a time, with progress from one stage to the next conditional on meeting all necessary safety requirements — and only after a fully safe deployment and operation has been verified and guaranteed. (Gulf Times)

- MCIT brings together SMEs, digital solution providers to advance digital transformation** - As part of Qatar's ongoing efforts to accelerate digital transformation and strengthen the competitiveness of the business sector, the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT), in collaboration with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) and Qatar Development Bank (QDB), and supported by ecosystem enablers Ooredoo and Qatar Post, hosted SMEs Go Digital "Connect" on Tuesday. The event aimed to support the readiness of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to adopt digital solutions and strengthen their contribution to the national digital economy, in line with the Digital Agenda 2030 and Qatar National Vision 2030. The event brought together more than 195 SMEs alongside over 20 digital solution providers through a unified platform that facilitated direct engagement between businesses and accredited technology providers, supporting wider adoption of digital technologies and enhancing SMEs' readiness for digital transformation. SME Go Digital "Connect" focuses on priority sectors including retail and wholesale, transport and storage, tourism, education, and healthcare. The showcased digital solutions covers areas such as online presence, e-commerce, and cloud services, supporting the adoption of digital technologies across the targeted sectors. The event also featured direct matchmaking sessions between businesses and digital solution providers, as well as dedicated networking and knowledge-sharing opportunities, helping strengthen collaboration among participating entities and expand the adoption of digital solutions across priority sectors. Faraj Jassim Abdulla, Director of Digital Economy Department at MCIT, said: "MCIT continues its efforts to empower SMEs to leverage digital technologies as a key driver for competitiveness and sustainable economic growth. Initiatives such as this provide a national platform that supports businesses' readiness for digital transformation, enhances productivity, and strengthens the ability of the business sector to keep pace with the evolving digital economy. "By connecting enterprises with an integrated ecosystem of solution providers and national expertise, the Ministry continues to support the transition towards innovation and a knowledge-based economy in line with the objectives of Qatar's Digital Agenda 2030." The MoCI affirmed that supporting SMEs represents one of the key pillars for enhancing the competitiveness of the national economy, providing a business environment that stimulates growth and innovation, developing government services, and facilitating the regulatory procedures for conducting commercial activities. The Ministry explained that its participation in the forum stems from its keenness to raise awareness among owners of SMEs and entrepreneurs about the services it provides, particularly those related to protecting intellectual property rights including copyright, trademarks, and patents, in addition to commercial registration and licensing services, informing them about the laws and regulations governing commercial activities, as well as the electronic services provided by the Ministry to facilitate the completion of transactions and improve the efficiency of the services offered. The Ministry noted that these efforts help enable companies to conduct their business in line with approved regulatory frameworks, and to instill a culture of innovation and intellectual property protection, thereby

supporting the sustainability of the business environment and enhancing its competitiveness in the State of Qatar. Dr Hamad Salem Mejegheer, executive director of SME Development at Qatar Development Bank, said: "This event highlights the role coordinated national efforts can play in accelerating digital transformation across Qatar's business ecosystem. More broadly, it points to the value of creating opportunities for SMEs to engage directly with digital solution providers. "QDB places strong emphasis on empowering SMEs to adopt digital transformation in ways that enhance their efficiency and competitiveness. This is delivered through an integrated support framework that begins with digital readiness assessments and extends to strengthening businesses' ability to acquire and effectively deploy technology solutions suited to their needs, through specialized pathways that include grants, financing, and advisory services." The event also brought together several local and international solution providers, contributing to a comprehensive national ecosystem that supports digital transformation and empowers SMEs in Qatar. The SME Go Digital Program is a national initiative led by MCIT to support SMEs in strengthening their digital capabilities through specialized assessments, connections with digital solution providers, and access to training programs and awareness sessions focused on emerging technologies, in addition to potential financing opportunities in collaboration with Qatar Development Bank. These efforts reflect MCIT's commitment to strengthening the readiness of the business sector to keep pace with global digital developments and enabling SMEs to adopt advanced technologies that support their growth, while contributing to Qatar's transition towards a more diversified, competitive, and innovation-driven digital economy. (Gulf Times)

- QCB governor meets co-CEO of KKR & Co, CEO of JP Morgan Asset and Wealth Management** - His Excellency the Governor of the Qatar Central Bank and Chairman of the Qatar Investment Authority, Sheikh Bandar bin Mohammed bin Saoud al-Thani, held separate meetings with Founder and CEO of WHOOP, Will Ahmed; CEO of HPS Investment Partners, Scott Kapnick; Co-Founder and Co-Chairman of the Carlyle Group, David Rubenstein; and President and Chief Operating Officer of the Blackstone Group, Jonathan Gray, during his visit to New York, reports QNA. The meetings discussed key global financial and investment developments. (Gulf Times)
- HSBC Qatar partners with Noqoody to simplify payment acceptance** - HSBC Qatar announced the launch of a new merchant acquiring proposition for its corporate clients through a partnership with Noqoody, Qatar's leading fintech and licensed payment service provider yesterday. An official signing ceremony took place on 1 July 2026 at HSBC's headquarters in the presence of Abdul Hakeem Mostafawi, Chief Executive Officer, Qatar, HSBC Bank Middle East Limited, Nayef Rashwan, Chief Executive Officer, Noqoody and senior officials from Noqoody. HSBC and the collaboration enable HSBC clients to accept card payments through Noqoody acquiring infrastructure while benefiting from a more streamlined collection experience, enhanced visibility over receivables across collection channels, consolidated reporting and simplified settlement processes. This partnership expands the payment collection options available to HSBC clients and supports businesses across Qatar in their digital transformation journeys by reducing reliance on cash and cheque based collections. The solution has been designed to integrate seamlessly with clients' existing business channels and information systems, eliminating the need for significant investments in new software, infrastructure, or operational processes. Commenting on the partnership. Abdul Hakeem Mostafawi, Chief Executive Officer, Qatar. HSBC Bank Middle East Limited said: "Qatar's digital economy continues to present significant opportunities for businesses to modernize the way they operate. By combining HSBC's global expertise with Noqoody's local fintech capabilities, we are helping businesses unlock greater efficiency through streamlined collections. enhanced reporting, and improved receivables management." Nayef Rashwan, Chief Executive Officer, Noqoody, said "We are delighted to partner with the Qatar team of such a prominent global organization in HSBC. We are excited by the synergies this partnership brings and by the opportunity to support HSBC's clients with our market-leading capabilities." Nick Young, Country Head of Global Payments Solutions Qatar, said: "This partnership reflects our commitment to helping businesses embrace digital

transformation through innovative solutions that simplify financial operations and enhance efficiency. Together with Noqoody, we are providing organizations with greater visibility, control, and optionality in managing their collections and receivables." The partnership underscores HSBC's commitment to supporting businesses across Qatar with innovative digital solutions that enable growth, improve operational efficiency, and support the country's broader digital transformation agenda. (Peninsula Qatar)

International

- Global foreign investment rises 6% in 2025: UN** - Worldwide foreign direct investment rose in 2025 after two years of decline, the United Nations said Tuesday, warning though that the recovery was "narrow, fragile and uneven". Foreign direct investment (FDI) swelled by 6.0% last year to \$1.6tn, according to the UN Trade and Development agency UNCTAD. But its World Investment Report 2026 stressed that the hike was lopsided, with 20 countries attracting more than 80% of global FDI last year. And investment growth was concentrated in a few sectors, while in most sectors, new project activity was "subdued", with heightened investor uncertainty, geopolitical tensions and trade policy volatility, as well as the rising cost of capital and growing technological competition. The FDI growth seen in 2025 "masks underlying fragility and disparities across countries, regions and sectors", UN chief Antonio Guterres warned in the preface to the report. Describing "seismic shifts in the global investment landscape", he pointed out that the investment expansion was "driven largely by a small number of megaprojects, particularly infrastructure related to artificial intelligence". UNCTAD's report found that growth in project values was driven mainly by data centers, followed by oil and gas and semiconductors. "Most other sectors registered declines, including renewable energy, infrastructure and manufacturing, showing how narrow the recovery remains," the agency said. The report also determined that wealthy countries accounted for most of the FDI increase seen last year. While developed countries saw their inflows rise 11% in 2025, developing economies only registered a two-% hike, pocketing \$901bn of the total, it found. And although developing nations still accounted for more than half of global FDI, UNCTAD highlighted the uneven distribution across regions. Developing Asian countries remained the largest recipient region, attracting \$644bn, the report showed. Latin America and the Caribbean rose 14% to \$188bn while Africa received around \$70bn. The world's poorest and least developed countries meanwhile saw inflows rise 21% to \$43bn last year, the report said. Despite the significant increase, it highlighted that the amount only accounted for 2.7% of global FDI, and that nearly all of it was concentrated in a small number of mostly resource-rich economies. Monitoring by UNCTAD also revealed that governments were becoming increasingly active in trying to shape investment flows, with a record 229 investment policy measures implemented last year. "While most remained favorable to investors, many were designed to attract investment into strategic industries, strengthen domestic economic priorities or respond to economic security concerns," the agency said. Tuesday's report said that the new investment landscape could bring opportunities for developing countries, but also significant risks. "Many countries risk being left behind as investment becomes more capital-intensive, technology-intensive and shaped by policy support that many developing economies cannot easily match," UNCTAD said. (Qatar Tribune)
- US May trade deficit widens as capital goods imports hit record high** - The U.S. trade deficit widened sharply in May as imports of capital goods surged to a record high, suggesting that trade remained a drag on gross domestic product in the second quarter. Efforts by businesses to avoid shortages and higher prices related to the conflict in the Middle East as well as potential new tariffs also contributed to the large trade shortfall, with the report from the Commerce Department on Tuesday showing overall imports rising to a 14-month high. The U.S.-Israeli war with Iran also boosted oil exports, with shipments of petroleum hitting a record high. Though imports will likely subtract from economic growth, their persistent strength is also a sign of resilient domestic demand. Imports are partly being driven by an artificial intelligence investment boom. The deficit swelled to a 14-month high despite President Donald Trump's

tariffs on imports. "Imports convey solid U.S. domestic demand, though inventory frontloading likely lent a hand," said Oren Klachkin, financial market economist at Nationwide. "AI investment appears to remain on a very solid track." The trade gap jumped 42.2% to \$77.6bn, the highest level since March 2025, the Commerce Department's Bureau of Economic Analysis and Census Bureau said. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast the deficit would be \$78.5bn. Part of the surge in the deficit reflected higher prices. Imports increased 3.3% to \$395.3bn, the highest level since March 2025, also likely because of a strong dollar. Goods imports surged 4.0% to \$317.0bn, the highest level since April 2025, when they soared amid front-running ahead of the imposition of Trump's tariffs. Although the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the tariffs earlier this year, the White House responded with a global duty. New "Section 301" duties have been proposed. Trump has defended the tariffs as necessary to address the trade deficit and revive industries. Capital goods imports soared \$1.1bn to a record high \$128.0bn, lifted by large increases in imports of computer accessories and semiconductors. Imports of computers, however, dropped \$3.4bn. Businesses are spending heavily on AI, whose buildup is heavily reliant on imports. There were also increases in imports of civilian aircraft and parts as well as generators, accessories and industrial engines. Higher capital goods imports typically imply strong business investment, but economists said rising prices made it difficult to estimate the impact. When adjusted for inflation, capital goods imports fell to \$108.7bn from \$110.5bn in April. "And while AI investment is likely to remain strong, imports of computers and related equipment have slowed in second-quarter data so far, suggesting potentially less of a boost to GDP growth from AI-related components compared to recent quarters," said Veronica Clark, an economist at Citigroup. Imports of industrial supplies and materials, which include petroleum, increased \$3.1bn, with crude oil imports rising \$1.5bn. Consumer goods imports rose \$3.5bn amid increases in pharmaceutical preparations, cellphones and other household goods, portending an acceleration in spending after it nearly braked in the first quarter. Imports of motor vehicles, parts and engines increased \$2.2bn, mostly reflecting passenger cars. Imports of other goods rose \$1.4bn to a record \$15.3bn, also supporting expectations for stronger consumer spending. (Reuters)

- Beijing is looking at curbing overseas access to China's top AI models, sources say** - Chinese authorities have held meetings with top tech firms over the past month about potentially restricting overseas access to China's most advanced AI models, including those yet to be released, three people familiar with the discussions said. The talks follow a number of steps by Beijing to keep homegrown AI within the country and underscore how China, like the US, is now treating cutting-edge artificial intelligence as a critical national asset that needs controls. Companies present at the talks included tech giants Alibaba and ByteDance as well as startup Z.ai, said the people, who were not authorized to speak to media and declined to be identified. Since the emergence of DeepSeek's R1 model last year, Chinese AI models have made big inroads globally thanks to their low costs and increasing capabilities. Any decision by Beijing to limit access to those products could ripple across AI markets as costs for many businesses would likely increase. At the meetings, led by China's Ministry of Commerce, participants discussed putting limits on the most advanced AI models - both closed-source and more open versions, according to two of the sources. Officials talked about making any leak or theft of proprietary AI technology an offence under China's stringent national security law, one of the sources said. The officials also raised the possibility of implementing new measures to restrict who can fund domestic AI startups, the source added. The scope of the potential restrictions is still being discussed, two sources said, adding that they may only apply to future models. It was not immediately clear when or even if they would come into force. China's commerce ministry, which oversees export regulations, and the National Development and Reform Commission - the country's state planning agency whose officials also attended the meetings - did not respond to Reuters requests for comment. Alibaba, ByteDance and Z.ai also did not respond to Reuters queries. All three companies have a range of AI models, some closed-source while others are open-weight, meaning users can download, run and customize the underlying systems. Alibaba's Qwen and ByteDance's Doubao are two of the most widely used AI models in China. Z.ai has recently set Silicon Valley abuzz as the capabilities of its GLM-5.2 model come close to leading

US offerings but at a fraction of the cost. US President Donald Trump's administration has also been deeply concerned about national security implications of AI - in particular the potential for American AI products to be misused by military intelligence in China, Russia and other countries of concern. In June, it ordered that foreign nationals not have access to Anthropic's most advanced Fable and Mythos models, which prompted the company to disable the models for all users globally as nationality could not be verified in real time. Export controls for Fable, which is designed for the general public, have since been lifted after new safeguards were put in place. But Mythos, designed for cybersecurity professionals, is still only available to some "trusted" US organizations. Some US AI experts have also said the US needs to regulate the use of Chinese AI models. According to two of the sources, Chinese authorities are deeply worried about the potential for Mythos to exploit software vulnerabilities and that Washington might deploy the model against Chinese interests; that echo concerns publicly voiced by state media and Zhou Hongyi, founder of cybersecurity firm 360, a major vendor to government and enterprise clients, who has said China needs to develop its own Mythos. China this year has implemented numerous measures to protect homegrown AI. In April, the country's state planner ordered Meta to unwind its \$2bn acquisition of Chinese-founded AI startup Manus. In early June, authorities issued sweeping new rules, tightening control of overseas deals that involve Chinese investors, technology, data and national security. China had also launched investigations this year into Manus and other local AI startups that had moved abroad, seeking to establish whether they have broken export control laws, according to two of the sources and a third person. Manus has not responded to requests for comment. Reuters was not able to learn how any potential new restrictions on overseas access to Chinese AI models might work. But some hints might be gleaned from a May roundtable of Chinese legal experts on regulations governing open-source AI. According to a summary of the discussions published in an official Supreme People's Court journal, participants proposed a tiered system: basic open-source tools subject to a simple filing, more advanced technologies facing security reviews, and the most sensitive frontier models barred from public release or restricted to domestic use. (Gulf Times)

Regional

- 'Family enterprises drive growth across Arab economies'** - Qatar Chamber on January 14 inaugurated the fourth edition of the Private Sector Social Responsibility and Its Role in Sustainable Development Conference, bringing together senior government officials, business leaders, policy experts and representatives of regional and international organizations to discuss the growing role of the private sector—particularly family businesses—in advancing sustainability across the Arab world. The two-day conference, held at Qatar Chamber's headquarters, is organized in collaboration with the Union of Arab Chambers, the League of Arab States, the Regional Network Consultancy and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). This year's theme, Mechanisms for Integrating Sustainability and Social Responsibility Principles in Arab Family Businesses, reflects the increasing focus on governance, transparency and long-term value creation in family-owned enterprises. The opening ceremony was attended by HE Dr Hamad bin Abdulaziz Al Kuwari, Minister of State, Chairman of Qatar National Library and International Ambassador for Social Responsibility; Sheikh Khalifa bin Jassim Al Thani, Chairman of Qatar Chamber; Dr Abdullah Al-Maatouq, Adviser to the UN Secretary-General; Dr Khaled Hanafy, Secretary-General of the Union of Arab Chambers; and Saleh bin Hamad Al Sharqi, Secretary-General of the Federation of GCC Chambers, among other senior officials and business leaders from across the region. Also present were Rashid bin Hamad Al Athba, Second Vice-Chairman of Qatar Chamber, members of the Chamber's board, and prominent businessmen and executives representing family-owned enterprises and private sector institutions. In his opening remarks, Sheikh Khalifa bin Jassim Al Thani emphasized that social responsibility has evolved from being an optional or seasonal activity into a strategic pillar of good governance and sustainable business practice. He said private sector social responsibility now plays a central role in enhancing competitiveness, strengthening trust with society and supporting national development goals. "The private sector is a key partner in achieving sustainable development,"

Sheikh Khalifa said, noting that the conference theme highlights the pivotal role of family businesses in Arab economies. He stressed that family enterprises must strike a balance between economic growth, social responsibility and long-term sustainability to ensure continuity across generations. Sheikh Khalifa added that adopting sound governance frameworks, strategic planning, transparency and innovation—along with investing in young leadership—are essential for family businesses seeking to remain resilient in a rapidly changing economic environment. Dr Hamad bin Abdulaziz Al Kuwari echoed these views, saying that integrating sustainability and social responsibility into family-owned businesses is critical for achieving comprehensive social development and building more cohesive economies. He praised Qatar Chamber's role in supporting the national economy and promoting the Qatari private sector on the international stage by strengthening ties between business sectors and encouraging responsible business practices. Dr Al Kuwari said social responsibility has become a core component of corporate governance, rather than a peripheral activity. He noted that the long-term sustainability of family businesses depends on strong governance structures, transparency, alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals, investment in human capital and support for innovation. Dr Khaled Hanafy, Secretary-General of the Union of Arab Chambers, thanked Qatar Chamber for hosting the conference and described it as a model of institutional commitment to social responsibility. He noted that family businesses make up a significant share of the private sector and account for nearly 75% of the Arab economy, underscoring their influence on employment, investment and economic stability across the region. Tarek El Nabulsi, Minister Plenipotentiary and Director of the Development and Social Policies Department at the Technical Secretariat of the Council of Arab Ministers of Social Affairs, expressed appreciation on behalf of the League of Arab States for Qatar Chamber's initiative. He stressed the importance of the private sector as a development partner and said the League supports the conference's recommendations, which will be submitted to the Council of Arab Ministers of Social Affairs. Dr Hashim Sulaiman Hussein, Head of UNIDO's Investment and Technology Promotion Office in Bahrain, highlighted the role of family businesses as a cornerstone of Arab economies. He said such enterprises contribute significantly to GDP growth, job creation and industrial development, making their adoption of sustainability principles vital for long-term economic resilience. Prof Yousef Abdul Ghaffar, Chairman of the Regional Network for Corporate Social Responsibility, said the Arab private sector—especially family businesses—plays a fundamental role in supporting economic stability and social cohesion. He added that embedding sustainability and social responsibility into core business strategies is no longer optional but an economic, developmental and ethical necessity. "Integrating sustainability into corporate strategy ensures continuity and enhances competitiveness both regionally and globally," Prof Abdul Ghaffar said. During the opening ceremony, Sheikh Khalifa bin Jassim Al Thani and Dr Khaled Hanafy honored the conference's partners and distinguished guests in recognition of their contributions to advancing social responsibility in the region. Following the ceremony, Ali Bu Sharbak Al Mansori, Acting General Manager of Qatar Chamber, said the Chamber's decision to host the event reflects its strong belief in the importance of social responsibility and the central role played by Arab family businesses in supporting national economies, community institutions and sustainable development. The conference's first day featured three panel discussions focusing on governance, best practices and institutional frameworks for social responsibility in family-owned enterprises. The opening session, titled Governance of Social Responsibility in Arab Family Businesses, was moderated by Advisor Ghanem bin Saad Al Khayareen, Honorary Member of the Regional Network for Social Responsibility. The panel brought together experts from across the Arab world, including Sheikh Dr Thani bin Ali bin Saud Al Thani, Vice-Chairman of the Qatar International Centre for Conciliation and Arbitration; Dr Yousef bin Othman Al Hazim, Secretary-General of the Al-Anoud Charitable Foundation in Saudi Arabia; Dr Mohammed bin Saif Al Kuwari, an environmental expert with Qatar's Ministry of Environment and Climate Change; and Dr Hoda Galal Yassa, President of the Arab Women Investors Union. Additional speakers included Dr Mazen Abboud of the Lebanese American University, Dr Abdul Wahab Al Zahrani of Al Rajhi Partners, Counselor Warf Qamiha of Global Professional Services, and Mona Fattah Wahdi, Regional Adviser for

Social Development Affairs at the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). (Qatar Tribune)

- Saudi Arabia said to consider expansion of oil pipeline to Red Sea** - Saudi Arabia is considering expanding the capacity of its crude oil pipeline to the western Red Sea coast, five sources close to the matter said, enabling the kingdom and possibly neighbors to transport more oil without crossing the Strait of Hormuz. The East-West pipeline was built in the early 1980s and has become crucial since the start of the Iran war in February and the resulting halt to shipping through the Strait of Hormuz. It can transport up to 7mn barrels per day (bpd) of crude to the Red Sea port of Yanbu. About 2mn bpd feed refineries on the west coast and roughly 5mn bpd are for export, the CEO of state-backed oil company Aramco said in May. The kingdom is in preliminary talks with some of its neighbors about the potential expansion of the pipeline's capacity by up to 2mn bpd, the sources said. It was unclear if Aramco's planned capacity increase would involve upgrades to existing infrastructure or construction of a new pipeline. One of the sources said the increase would include a smaller second pipe for oil products. Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar all lack routes that can bypass Hormuz while Iraq's pipeline to Turkey, dogged by disputes and repeated shutdowns, runs well below capacity. "We are in discussions with our brothers in Saudi Arabia and in the emirates to look at how to expand the pipeline system that they have to accommodate Kuwaiti barrels," Kuwait Petroleum Corp CEO Sheikh Nawaf al-Sabah told the Atlantic Council Global Energy Forum last month. The expansion could be for 1mn to 2mn bpd, two of the sources said, with refined products also under consideration. It would take years, cost billions of dollars and require changes to Saudi crude's pricing mechanism, another source said. Iran's blockade of the strait forced Gulf producers to shut in as much as 12mn bpd, sending prices surging. Flows have resumed partially after a preliminary US-Iran deal last month, but they remain below pre-war levels. Iraqi output collapsed from 4.3mn bpd to less than 1.5mn bpd in May, Kuwait declared force majeure in March and Bahrain's Sitra refinery was struck by Iranian missiles several times. "The recent talks about new pipeline corridors involving Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Qatar reflect a broader strategic reality. The conflict has focused minds regionally on the perils of relying solely on Hormuz," said Zaid Belbagi, managing partner at London-based Hardcastle Advisory. Aramco declined to comment while the Saudi and Bahraini government communications offices, the Iraqi oil ministry and QatarEnergy did not respond immediately to requests for comment. The UAE, the only other Gulf state with meaningful Hormuz-bypass capacity, has completed half of a new West-East pipeline that will double crude capacity to Fujairah when it becomes operational next year. Its existing Abu Dhabi pipeline carries up to 1.8mn bpd. An expansion by Saudi Arabia "suggests that after the war, the next phase of the Saudi-UAE rivalry could be a race to the top on oil production, and therefore a race to the bottom on prices," one industry source said. (Gulf Times)
- Saudi-Flagged crude oil tanker damaged near Hormuz after LNG tanker hit, sources say** - A Saudi-flagged crude oil tanker was damaged near the Strait of Hormuz close to the coast of Oman after a Qatari liquefied natural gas tanker was struck in the same area, maritime security sources said on Tuesday. The cause of the blast was not known and the crude tanker hit was believed to be the Wedyan supertanker, the sources said. The Wedyan's last position was inside the Gulf on July 3, according to ship tracking data on the MarineTraffic platform. Saudi officials could not be immediately reached for comment. (Reuters)
- Saudi government performance improves in first quarter of 2026: Economic council** - Saudi Arabia's Council of Economic and Development Affairs said government entities improved their performance in achieving Vision 2030 targets during the first quarter of 2026 compared with the final quarter of 2025. The council held a meeting via videoconference on Tuesday, during which it reviewed the Ministry of Economy and Planning's monthly report on global economic developments, regional trends and their implications for the Saudi economy. The report highlighted the resilience of the Kingdom's economy and the adaptability of its logistics sector amid global developments. It also pointed to the positive impact of government policies on economic growth, including inflation remaining among the lowest globally and a trade surplus driven by export growth, supporting the objectives of Vision 2030. The council also reviewed the quarterly report presented by the National Center for qnbfs.com

Performance Measurement (Aadaa), which assessed the performance of government entities during the first quarter of 2026 and their progress in implementing Vision 2030 initiatives and performance indicators. The report showed an increase in the proportion of government initiatives that are either on track or completed in meeting their targets compared with the fourth quarter of 2025. It also highlighted continued efforts to support government entities, address challenges and monitor corrective action plans to further improve public sector performance. The council discussed the annual report of the Ministerial Committee for Traffic Safety, which reviewed the Kingdom's traffic safety performance as a key pillar of the Health Sector Transformation Program and Vision 2030. The report examined long-term traffic accident trends, strategic performance indicators for 2025 and targets through 2027, regional traffic safety assessments, and the committee's key decisions and achievements. It noted that Saudi Arabia has achieved significant progress in road safety through coordinated efforts across government agencies, resulting in a historic decline of more than 60% in road traffic fatalities in 2025 compared with 2016 levels. The report emphasized that efforts will continue to further enhance road safety, improve quality of life, and protect the health and safety of citizens and residents. The council also reviewed a number of administrative matters, including draft organizational arrangements for the Industrial Council, updates on the health situation during the Umrah season, a report on Saudi Arabia's participation in the 2026 World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos, progress on the Kingdom's initiative to host the headquarters of regional and international organizations, the quarterly report on government entities' performance in the United Nations E-Government Development Index, the periodic report of the National Framework Committee for Governance, Risk, Compliance and Internal Audit, and the monthly executive summary on foreign trade. The council issued the necessary decisions and recommendations on the matters discussed during the meeting. (Zawya)

- Saudi Arabia sees June project awards top \$7.9bn, says report** - June recorded the highest number of projects awarded in 2026, with 25 projects valued at more than SAR29.5bn (\$7.9bn), reported SPA, citing official data. In terms of total value, June ranked second only to May, when awarded projects exceeded SAR30bn, stated The Saudi Contractors Authority (SCA) while releasing its Contracting Sector Outlook – June 2026 report through its SCAVO platform, highlighting key indicators of projects awarded across the Kingdom during June. The report aims to support contractors and investors by providing insights into market opportunities and data-driven decision-making. The construction sector accounted for the largest share, with 14 projects worth more than SAR20.6bn, representing 56% of the total value of awarded projects. The infrastructure, water, and energy sectors each accounted for 20%, while the oil and gas sector represented 4%, it stated. Regionally, Eastern Region led in both the number and value of awarded projects during June, recording 10 projects, or 40% of the total, with a combined value exceeding SAR11.4bn. Riyadh Region ranked second, with projects valued at more than SAR10.8bn, said the SPA report. The Saudi Contractors Authority said these projects were distributed across 14 sub-sectors. Commercial projects accounted for the largest number, with four projects, while the mixed-use residential apartment sector recorded the highest total value, exceeding SAR6bn. The National Housing Company (NHC) ranked first among project owners by value, with more than SAR5bn across six projects, followed by Saudi Aramco with projects exceeding SAR4.9bn. Looking ahead, the SCA report forecasts the award of 23 projects during July 2026, with more than 60% expected to be in the construction sector. Approximately half of the anticipated projects are located in Eastern, Riyadh, and Makkah regions, it stated. Major project owners are expected to include the Public Investment Fund (PIF), Saudi Aramco, SABIC, and several other investment companies, the SPA reported. The report forms part of the Saudi Contractors Authority's efforts to provide regular indicators and analytical insights into the Kingdom's contracting sector, enhancing transparency, supporting strategic planning, and enabling contractors to capitalize on investment opportunities across the kingdom, it added. (Zawya)
- Abu Dhabi royal-linked firm to invest \$1.13bn in LNG company MidOcean Energy** - The Private Department of Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalid Al

Nahyan, an investment firm owned by members of Abu Dhabi's ruling family, has committed to invest \$1.13bn in liquefied natural gas company MidOcean Energy, the two firms said on Tuesday. The deal marks the Private Department's first investment into the global LNG sector, the firms said. In parallel, the two companies have also established a strategic partnership focused on capital aggregation, investment origination. Partnership to also explore investment opportunities in energy and related infrastructure sectors across the UAE and broader region. The investment further strengthens MidOcean's "high-quality institutional shareholder base". MidOcean is private equity firm EIG's LNG investment vehicle. It is also backed by oil giant Saudi Aramco (2222.SE), and Mitsubishi (8058.T). The LNG firm has established a platform with a balance sheet of over \$5 bn and stakes in LNG projects across the Americas and Australia. The investment supports the Private Department's strategy to "create opportunities for regional investors to participate alongside leading institutional partners," said executive managing director Matar Hamdan Al Ameri. (Reuters)

- ACWA receives approval to export Saudi green hydrogen globally** - Acwa has received government approval granting the company exclusive rights to export green hydrogen and its derivatives produced in Saudi Arabia to international markets, including green ammonia, green methanol and green fuels. Under the mandate, Acwa will also develop projects to produce, transmit and export renewable-generated electricity to European and Arab markets, supporting regional energy security and expanding access to competitively priced clean power. The company said the approval strengthens its position as a strategic partner in advancing Saudi Arabia's energy transition and industrial development. With a portfolio of 111 assets across 16 countries and assets under management valued at SAR 468.9bn (\$125bn), Acwa said the new export mandate enhances its long-term growth strategy across renewable energy, hydrogen, electricity transmission and energy infrastructure. The company added that the approval reinforces Saudi Arabia's position as a reliable supplier of sustainable energy solutions to global markets amid growing demand for low-carbon fuels. Dr Samir Serhan, Chief Executive Officer of Acwa, said: "This government approval reflects the Kingdom's confidence in Acwa's ability to deliver strategic infrastructure at scale and reinforces our responsibility to help position Saudi Arabia as a leading global exporter of clean energy. Green hydrogen and renewable electricity exports represent the next chapter in the Kingdom's energy leadership, creating new opportunities for economic growth while contributing to global energy security and the energy transition. We are honored to support this national ambition and remain committed to delivering the infrastructure that creates long-term value for the Kingdom and its partners around the world." Dr Serhan added: "This mandate expands Acwa's role in contributing to the Kingdom's future clean energy economy and defines the next architecture of Saudi Arabia's energy export strategy. Our experience in developing, financing, constructing, and operating large-scale renewable energy and green hydrogen projects provides the execution foundation that this assignment demands. We look forward to working closely with government entities, strategic partners, and international stakeholders to develop the integrated export infrastructure that connects Saudi Arabia's abundant renewable resources with growing global demand for clean molecules and clean electricity." (Zawya)
- UAE's Global South Utilities signs energy deal with Guyana** - UAE-based Global South Utilities (GSU) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Guyana Power and Light to explore opportunities for developing energy infrastructure projects in Guyana. The MoU establishes a framework for cooperation on potential projects across Guyana's energy sector, including power generation, grid modernization and renewable energy integration. The partnership aims to strengthen the reliability, resilience and sustainability of the country's electricity system. The agreement was signed during a UAE economic delegation's visit to Guyana as part of the UAE Trade Days initiative and was witnessed by Dr Thani Al Zeyoudi, Minister of Foreign Trade. It was signed by Deodat Indar, Member of Parliament and Guyana's Minister of Public Works and Aviation, on behalf of Guyana Power and Light, and Ali Al Shammari, Managing Director and CEO of GSU. The collaboration comes as Guyana experiences rapid economic growth and increasing

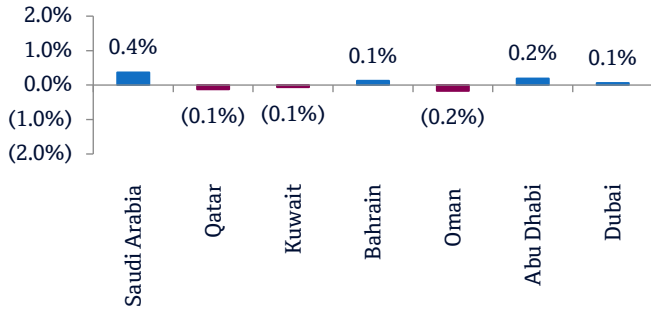
demand for modern energy infrastructure. It also marks GSU's first entry into South America, supporting the company's strategy to expand into emerging markets through partnerships with governments and national energy operators. The initiative further strengthens growing UAE-Guyana economic ties and highlights opportunities for cooperation in strategic sectors, including sustainable energy development. Al Shammari said Guyana is undergoing a pivotal phase of economic and infrastructure development, creating significant opportunities to build more resilient energy systems capable of supporting sustainable growth. He said the partnership with Guyana Power and Light would help explore projects that advance electricity infrastructure and accelerate the country's energy transition. Al Shammari added that the agreement marks an important milestone in the company's international expansion strategy and reflects GSU's commitment to developing reliable, sustainable and future-ready energy infrastructure across emerging and high-growth markets. He also highlighted the importance of international partnerships in supporting sustainable development and fostering long-term economic cooperation. (Zawya)

- Fujairah signs deal to purchase Etihad Refinery gasoline production** - The Government of Fujairah, UAE has signed an agreement with Etihad Refinery, a subsidiary of Etihad Energy Holding, to purchase the refinery's gasoline production, supporting the development of the Emirate's downstream energy sector. The agreement establishes a long-term commercial framework aimed at strengthening the sustainability of the Etihad Refinery project, enhancing petroleum supply chains and supporting the UAE's strategy to expand value-added refining industries. The partnership reflects Fujairah's efforts to advance strategic energy projects and reinforce its position as a regional hub for petroleum industries and logistics services. The first phase of the Etihad Refinery project is expected to have a design capacity of around 15,000 barrels per day. The facility will primarily process naphtha to produce Euro 5-compliant gasoline, along with other refined petroleum products for local and regional markets. Mohammed Al Dhanhani, Director of the Emiri Diwan in Fujairah, said: "This agreement reflects the Government of Fujairah's vision to strengthen energy security, reinforce the Emirate's position as a global energy hub, support sustainable economic development, and enhance partnerships with various sectors to further develop the energy infrastructure." (Zawya)
- Dubai strengthens position as global wealth hub: Julius Baer report** - The Julius Baer Global Wealth and Lifestyle Report 2026 affirmed that Dubai continues to strengthen its position as a leading regional and global hub for attracting wealth, successfully combining luxury lifestyles, entrepreneurship and future-focused innovation. The report highlighted Dubai's luxury real estate sector as one of its strongest attractions, offering highly competitive value compared with the record-high property prices in major Asian and European cities, helping to sustain the inflow of wealthy individuals. The lifestyle data presented in the report also showed that Dubai is an exceptionally competitive market for spending on high-value goods and services, offering clear advantages to buyers compared with other cities included in the index. This competitiveness is supported by the emirate's economy being tied to the US dollar, providing a more attractive cost of living for internationally mobile high-net-worth individuals and globally mobile families, in contrast to cities tied to appreciating currencies, such as the euro and the Swiss franc, which recorded significant increases in the prices of luxury goods. Globally, the report showed that the cost of luxury lifestyles increased by an average of 10.2% in US dollar terms over the past year. It also highlighted how ongoing macroeconomic developments continue to reshape the cost of living for wealthy individuals worldwide, despite the strong resilience demonstrated by financial markets. These rapid and interconnected shifts in the global economic landscape are being driven by geopolitical tensions, changing global trade patterns and volatility in foreign exchange markets. (Zawya)
- Kuwait reports deficit of \$23.09bn in FY 2025-2026, finance ministry says** - Kuwait's deficit widened 13.2% to 7.1bn Kuwaiti dinars (\$23.09bn) in the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the country's finance ministry said in a statement on Tuesday. The GCC country reported total revenues of 16.457bn dinars, down 9.7% from the preliminary forecasts at 18.231bn dinars. The oil revenues recorded 13.584bn dinars, less than expected at 15.3bn dinars by

11.2%. The total expenditure fell 3.8% to 23.598bn dinars, compared to the earlier projected 24.538 bn dinars. (Zawya)

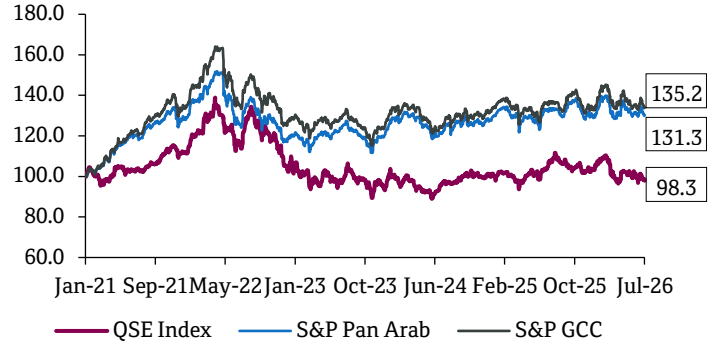
- Oman: United Solar closes \$1.6bn funding** - United Solar Polysilicon has completed a \$1.6bn capital raising for its polysilicon manufacturing project in Sohar after securing the financial close of a \$50mn equity investment from the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the private sector arm of the World Bank Group. The investment marks the final tranche of funding for the Middle East's largest polysilicon manufacturing facility and reinforces Oman's ambitions to become a global hub for clean energy manufacturing under Oman Vision 2040. The company said IFC has now arranged and mobilized more than 30% of the total project financing, underscoring international confidence in United Solar's governance, environmental and social standards, traceability and long-term commercial viability. United Solar's 100,000-tonne-per-year polysilicon plant, located in Sohar Free Zone, began operations in January 2026 and is expected to reach full production capacity by the end of the year. The facility produces high-purity polysilicon, the key raw material used in the manufacture of solar photovoltaic (PV) cells and modules. The company said the investment also strengthens its position as a Foreign Entity of Concern (FEOC)-compliant supplier, providing fully traceable polysilicon to leading global solar manufacturers. The designation is particularly significant for customers in the United States and other advanced markets, where sourcing requirements for clean energy supply chains have become increasingly stringent. United Solar said its production base in Oman, combined with the Oman Investment Authority's (OIA) position as its largest shareholder through Future Fund Oman, offers manufacturers access to a diversified and transparent supply chain that supports eligibility for clean energy incentives. "The closing of IFC's investment completes our approximately \$1.6bn capital raise and is a powerful endorsement of United Solar's standards, governance and long-term commercial strength," said Binyam Giorgis, Group Chief Financial Officer of United Solar Holding. "With the backing of the World Bank Group, and on the foundation laid by the Oman Investment Authority, we are delivering world-class, fully traceable polysilicon that tier-one manufacturers need — and doing so as an FEOC-compliant producer they can rely on as they build resilient, diversified supply chains," he added. The IFC said its investment reflects confidence in the project's contribution to sustainable industrial development and economic diversification in Oman. "This equity investment completes our landmark support for the Middle East's largest and only operational polysilicon manufacturing facility," said Ulyana Dovbush, IFC Regional Industry Manager for Manufacturing, Agribusiness and Services in the Middle East, Pakistan and Afghanistan. "Aligned with Oman's vision, this investment will help create thousands of jobs, attract foreign direct investment, accelerate economic diversification, and strengthen the role of the private sector in driving sustainable growth beyond oil," she said. At full capacity, the Sohar facility is expected to produce enough polysilicon annually to support the manufacture of around 40 gigawatts of solar modules, sufficient to generate electricity for up to 12mn homes worldwide. The project is also expected to avoid an estimated 8.8mn tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions each year. United Solar Holding said the project will create nearly 3,000 direct and indirect jobs while strengthening Oman's position in the global renewable energy supply chain and supporting the country's long-term industrial diversification strategy. (Zawya)

Daily Index Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Rebased Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Asset/Currency Performance	Close (\$)	1D%	WTD%	YTD%
Gold/Ounce	4,106.24	(1.4)	(1.7)	(4.9)
Silver/Ounce	59.98	(3.3)	(3.9)	(16.3)
Crude Oil (Brent)/Barrel (FM Future)	74.16	3.0	2.8	21.9
Crude Oil (WTI)/Barrel (FM Future)	70.44	2.8	2.5	22.7
Natural Gas (Henry Hub)/MMBtu	3.13	(2.8)	(7.2)	(13.9)
LPG Propane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	71.00	1.9	2.0	11.5
LPG Butane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	86.80	1.0	1.4	12.6
Euro	1.14	(0.3)	(0.2)	(2.8)
Yen	162.10	0.0	0.5	3.4
GBP	1.34	(0.2)	0.1	(0.9)
CHF	1.24	(0.4)	(0.6)	(1.9)
AUD	0.69	(0.4)	(0.2)	3.8
USD Index	101.02	0.2	0.2	2.7
RUB	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
BRL	0.19	(0.7)	0.2	6.5

Source: Bloomberg

Global Indices Performance	Close	1D%*	WTD%*	YTD%*
MSCI World Index	4,843.38	(0.4)	0.0	9.3
DJ Industrial	52,925.15	(0.2)	0.0	10.1
S&P 500	7,503.85	(0.4)	0.3	9.6
NASDAQ 100	25,818.69	(1.2)	(0.1)	11.1
STOXX 600	646.29	(0.7)	(1.1)	6.2
DAX	25,465.25	(1.4)	(1.3)	1.0
FTSE 100	10,665.88	0.1	(0.0)	6.7
CAC 40	8,436.24	(0.6)	(1.0)	0.8
Nikkei	68,256.96	(1.9)	(2.5)	30.9
MSCI EM	1,687.35	(2.0)	(2.0)	20.1
SHANGHAI SE Composite	3,990.24	(1.3)	(1.5)	3.4
HANG SENG	23,496.89	(0.5)	0.6	(9.0)
BSE SENSEX	78,180.72	0.4	0.8	(13.1)
Bovespa	172,020.69	(0.3)	(0.8)	13.7
RTS	4,788.22	0.0	0.0	8.1

Source: Bloomberg (*\$ adjusted returns if any)

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