

**Turkey-Bahrain Interconnected Business Series 2021/1. Meeting****Food & Health Care****16 March 2021, 11.00****Chairman of BBMA Mr. Ahmed Bin Hindi,****Chairwoman of Turkey-Bahrain Business Council Mrs. Bilgün  
Gürkan,****Invest Office of Turkey - Investment Field in Turkey (Food &  
Health Care) Mr. Rahim Albayrak,****CEO of National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA) Dr. Mariam  
Al Jalahma,****Trade Attaché of Turkey to Manama Dr. Güzin Bayar,****Dear Participants,**

On behalf of the Foreign Economic Relations Board of Turkey -  
DEİK, I am delighted to welcome you all and wish a healthy day to all of us.

I would like to specially thank to Chairman of BBMA Mr. Ahmed bin  
Hindi for their valuable partnership and dedication.

2 days ago was March 14th Doctors' Day, on this wise I celebrate the  
heroes of the world for all their tireless hard work during the coronavirus  
pandemic.

We are together for the first meeting of the IBS event series aiming to strengthen the bilateral economic relations in targeted sectors. And today we will focus on food and healthcare sectors. Here we have Turkish companies which are willing to partner with their counterparts from Bahrain.

And thanks to our Turkey-Bahrain Business Council and Middle Eastern and Gulf Business Councils & Bahrain Businessmen's Association to organize the meeting today.

Also we are pleased to take a crucial step by signing a cooperation agreement between DEİK and BBMA last year. I look forward to the successful implementation of the agreement.

Turkish private sector has high capability in the food and health services sectors. So, we can increase the cooperation in this field.

We are also proud to see prominent Turkish companies investing to Bahrain and we hope to see more in near-future.

These meetings are of paramount importance to create awareness for Turkish and Bahraini business communities. We need to contact more and more to develop our dynamic, entrepreneurial and vibrant economies.

Now, let me continue with Covid-19. We all learn that, there is a paradigm change now. I will not talk about the health aspect and also social distance, working from home which became important factors in our lives.

The pandemic presented us challenges and opportunities.

We see an increasing demand for digital solutions and artificial intelligence.

Globalization most probably changing to Glocalization.

Economic Scale was an important parameter for competition but we noticed that it also create the problem of bounding one or limited supplier. So supply chain divertisation became more important than ever took more important position in our life.

So, the life is changing more rapidly than we all expected.

The ones who catch it, who manage it, who design it will be the winners.

The ones who guaranteed the supply chain and transferred enough trust to counterparts will be the winners.

I believe we'll improve our trade and investment relations targeting to be the winners.

Thank you.

**Nail OLPAK**

**President of DEİK**