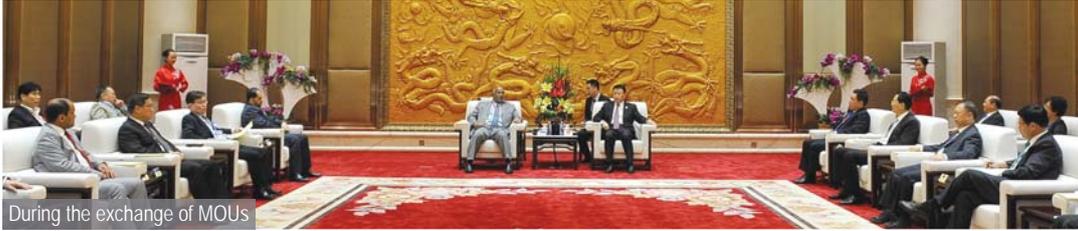




Duqm Attracts Chinese Investors



During the exchange of MOUs

Agreement Initial for the allocation of lands to 16 investment projects

Yinchuan- 10 Sep. 2015

Several Chinese companies expressed their willingness to invest in the Special Economic Zone Duqm (SEZAD). H.E. Yahya bin Said bin Abdullah Al-Jabri, Chairperson of Board of Directors of Special Economic Zone Authority Duqm (SEZAD) to the autonomous Ningxia Region in the People's Republic of China, he agreed initial on the allocation of land for 16 projects Chinese companies would execute in the Zone. The visit was from 10 to 13 September 2015.

Al-Jabri signed an MOU in principle with the Vice-Governor of Ningxia Region. It provides for the initial agreement on the allocation of land for projects that the Chinese parties expressed their desire to set up in Duqm. During the meeting attended

by the Omani delegation of officials from SEZAD, the Public Authority for Promotion Investment and Export Development, Oman Investment Fund, Duqm Port Company, Oman Drydock Company and Takamul Company, Al-Jabri confirmed that there are many incentives and facilities enjoyed by investors in the Zone. He also stressed the unique location of the Zone on the Arabian Sea. For his part, the Vice-Governor of Ningxia Region asserted that the Chinese side has a package of projects to execute in the Zone have allocated funds for the implementation of these projects especially in light of delegating a local government official to follow up their implementation in coordination with SEZAD competent officials.

The meeting was a part of SEZAD participation in Chi-

na-Arab States Expo held in the city of Yinchuan, capital of Ningxia Region from 10 to Sep 13 September 2015 under the theme "Spread Silk Road Spirit, Deepen China-Arab Cooperation". King Abdullah II, King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, inaugurated the Expo, as Jordan was the guest of honor for the second session of the Expo.

During the visit, SEZAD visual presentations to the Chinese businesspeople at the headquarters of the local government. They expressed their interest in investing in the Zone. In cooperation with the Public Authority for Investment Promotion and Export Development "Ithraa", SEZAD participated by a special pavilion in the Expo to educate visitors about the investment climate and opportunities in the Sultanate.

Invitation to the Local Private Sector to Invest in Duqm

Salalah, Sep. 2, 2015

Duqm Special Economic Zone Authority renewed its invitation to the local private sector to invest in the zone, asserting the availability of plenty of investment opportunities and a package of incentives, facilities and benefits to favorably encourage investors.

Duqm Special Economic Zone Authority held a seminar at the headquarters of the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry branch at Dhofar that was a part of a series of local seminars and events organized and inaugurated by Duqm Special Economic Zone Authority since the beginning of this year for the purpose of informing the local private sector about the investment opportunities available at the free zone.

More on p. 5

SEZAD Floats Tender on route Corridor Project that Connects Duqm Refinery and Duqm Port

Muscat - September 1, 2015

As part of a quest of SEZAD to provide basic services for investment projects and accelerate the pace of work associated with the vital projects, it floated its specialized tender for engineering consultancy for the implementation of supervision services and reviewing designs for building services path that connects Duqm Refinery site and liquid and bulk materials at Duqm Port. The length of this services corridor shall be about 6 kilometers. This separate tender aims to appoint a specialized contractor to carry out the detailed design for the construction of this service corridor through which all works and services to

and from Duqm Refinery project shall flow.

The services corridor shall connect Duqm Refinery to Duqm Port. It shall include several services allocated to extend pipes of refinery products, namely electrical cables, control cables, raw materials pipelines, lines of refining solids. This shall also serve Duqm Refinery vehicles and delivery services, such as engineering works, supply, construction and a number of other facilities, such as subsidiary pipelines and other facilities of interest to the refinery project. The design specifications of the services corridor are in line with the topography of the area to include several bridges and canals to drain surface, wadi and sewage waters. The width of the services corridor is about 200 meters.



SEZAD Organizes a Promotional Campaign in Tehran

Tehran – 28 Sep. 2015

During the period from 27 September to 1 October 2015, the Special Economic Zone Authority Duqm (SEZAD) organized a promotional campaign under the theme (Duqm Invites You) in the Iranian capital Tehran with the participation of a number of government agencies and companies operating and investing in the special economic zone Duqm (Zone).

H.E. Yahya bin Said bin Abdullah Al-Jabri, SEZAD Chairman, commended the good relations between the Sultanate and Iran. In a speech delivered at a seminar held in Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Al-Jabri stated:

“The relationship between our countries as strategic partners has received a good attention from the public and private sectors in recent years. This interest would enhance our existing relationships as we look forward that our two peoples would take advantage of the geographical proximity and historical commonalities through the implementation of projects that would realize these objectives, help increase trade volumes and contribute to the prosperity of trade and investment.”

Al-Jabri noted the efforts of the Sultanate and Iran to promote trade exchange and promote trade and investment



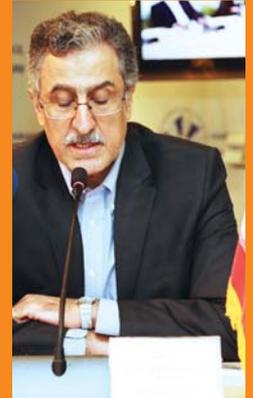
Al-Jabri:

We welcome Iranian investments in Duqm



Khansari:

The Sultanate and Iran possess the elements of cooperation



movement. He stressed at the same time that the Zone welcomes Iranian investments and provides support and assistance they may need.

Strengthening Economic Ties

For his part, H.E. Masoud Khansari, President of Tehran Chamber of Commerce stressed the importance for the two countries to strengthen their trade relations. In his statement during

the seminar, he stated that “The trade exchange between the two countries does not rise to the level of their political relations. This makes it imperative for all of us to work to strengthen economic relations and upgrade them to the level of our political relations. The two countries possess many of the elements of the cooperation in various economic fields in addition to the geographical proximity.”

He pointed out that the re-

cent period witnessed further trade cooperation between the two countries and that there is a direct flight linking Tehran and Muscat. He asserted that these factors help businesspeople in both countries to promote their trade and economic relations, noting that the mutual visits of economic delegations provide a good platform for businesspeople to meet and review possible areas of cooperation and partnerships among themselves.

Sultanate’s Ambassador to Tehran: We invite businesspeople to learn about the investment climate in Duqm



Tehran - 28 Sep. 2015

In the same vein, H.E. Ambassador Saud bin Ahmed Al-Barwani, Sultanate’s ambassador to Tehran, invited Iranian businesspeople to familiarize themselves with the investment climate in the Sultanate and the investment opportunities available in

the Special Economic Zone Duqm. Al-Barwani pointed out that the Zone system includes many encouraging privileges, such as allowing foreign ownership of 100%, tax exemptions for up to renewable 30 calendar years, and other incentives, in addition to the strategic location of the Sultanate and the geographical proximity between

the two countries.

The promotional campaign included a number of presentation by the Public Authority for Investment Promotion and Export Development (Ithraa), the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Oman Drydock Company, Duqm Port Company, Oman Oil Company, Takamul Investment Company, and



Central Utilities Company. There were also many bilateral meetings between representatives of the participating entities involved and Iranian businesspeople.



اللقاء مع مستشار الرئيس الإيراني للمناطق الحرة

Iranian President Advisor for Free Zones Receives Yahya Al Jabri



Review of areas of cooperation with the Iranian free zones and shipping lines

Tehran – 30 Sep. 2015

H.E. Akbar Torkan, Iranian president's advisor for free zones, received in his office in Tehran H.E. Yahya bin Said bin Abdullah Al-Jabri, Chairperson of the Special Economic Zone Authority Duqm (SEZAD) and his accompanying delegation as part of the promotional campaign (Duqm Invites You). SEZAD organized this campaign with the participation of a number of government agencies and companies operating and investing in the Zone.

During the meeting, they discussed

means of cooperation between the Sultanate and Iran in many areas related to the free zones.

Al-Jabri provided Torkan with an overview of the Special Economic Zone Duqm (Zone) with its geographical location and the incentives and facilities it offers for investors. SEZAD Chairperson touched upon the projects in the pipeline in the Zone and the focus sectors.

For his part, H.E. the Iranian president's advisor for free zones, indicated the characteristics of four free zones in Iran, namely Chabahar, Qeshm, and

Bushehr and Arvand. He pointed out that these zones offer many privileges and incentives for investors and feature a variety of heavy and petrochemical industries.

The meeting included putting forward many ideas for cooperation between the Special Economic Zone in Duqm and Iranian free zones, including cooperation in marketing. H.E. Yahya bin Said Al-Jabri invited to H.E. Akbar Torkan to visit the Special Economic Zone in Duqm to get a firsthand experience of the characteristics of the Zone and projects implemented in it.

IRISL Expresses Willingness to Cooperate with Duqm Port and Dry Dock

Tehran - 30 Sep. 2015

H.E. Yahya bin Said bin Abdullah Al-Jabri and his accompanying delegation met with H.E. Mohammad Saeedi,

Managing Director of the Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines (IRISL). During the meeting, they discussed cooperation between the two sides. H.E. Al-Jabri asserted that the Special Economic Zone in Duqm has a high ability

to provide the services IRISL needs, especially in the area of ship repair services.

H.E. Mohammad Saeedi expressed the desire of IRISL to cooperate with Duqm Port and the dry dock.



With investments worth US\$ 200 million

IKCO intends to establish a factory in Duqm

SEZAD Chairperson visits IKCO factory in Tehran and briefed on manufacturing techniques



Tehran- 30 Sep. 2015

H.E. Yahya bin Said bin Abdullah Al-Jabri, Chairperson of the Board of Directors of Special Economic Zone Authority Duqm and his accompanying delegation paid a visit to Iran Khodro Industrial Group (IKCO) factory, the largest car production factory in the Middle East. This was a part of the promotional campaign (Duqm Invites You) organized by SEZAD from 27 September to 1 October 2015.

H.E. was briefed on the company's capabilities, types of cars produced, production lines, manufacturing stages, motor production methods and other stages and operations related to the car production.

During the meeting, IKCO officials touched upon the steps completed within its efforts to establish a car assembly plant in the Special Economic Zone Duqm (Zone) in partnership with the Oman Investment Fund. They pointed out that they had already agreed on several steps for the establishment of the plant noting that SEZAD



has allocated land for the factory there is remains the signing of the partnership agreement between the company and the Oman Investment Fund. The expected investment for the said plant in Duqm shall be about US\$ 200 million.

H.E. Al-Jabri confirmed that SEZAD would provide all the facilities IKCO may need for the establishment of the plant in the Zone, stressing that this plant would have many economic benefits for the Omani and Iranian sides.

Iranian officials said they want to establish a number of other projects in the Sultanate in partnership with local investors,

pointing out that the car assembly plant targets access to the markets of Asia and Africa as the Zone is close to them.

IKCO owns seven plants for car production around the world. In its plant in Tehran, it uses modern techniques and robots as well as thousands of workers. Its annual output is one million cars a year and looks forward to increase its production to reach three million cars a year over the next ten years.

H.E. Al-Jabri expressed his admiration of the developments of the automotive industry in Iran, pointing out that the relationship between the Sultanate and Iran is strong, and that both sides seek to strengthen economic relations to the level of political relations. He welcomed the establishment of the car assembly plant in the Zone and the various Iranian investments, stressing that the Zone is an ideal place to establish this factory due to its proximity to Asia and Africa markets, the presence of Duqm Port and many facilities and incentives provided by SEZAD to investors.



The Special Economic Zone Re-extends its Invitation to the Local Private Sector to Invest in Duqm

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Duqm Special Economic Zone Authority's Vice Chief Executive Officer; Ismail Bin Ahmed Al Balushi stated that ongoing projects underway in the free zone such as the Duqm port, the dry dock, the refinery, the airport, heavy petrochem-



Ismail Al Balushi:

Projects are all aiming at supporting the economic diversification plan

icals industrial projects, warehouses, logistical services and tourism projects are all aiming at supporting the economic diversification plan, and these project will provide promising investment opportunities to the local private sector, small and mid-sized enterprises "SME", as well as, promising employment opportunities to young Omanis.

Al Balushi added during his address to the seminar that the Duqm Special Economic Zone Authority seeks to attract



investments in the Sultanate of Oman, pointing out that the authority endeavored that the incentives and benefits package offered to investors are up to if not far beyond the investors' expectations. He added Royal Decree No. 79/2013 promulgating Duqm Special Economic Zone Law stipulates a package of facilities and benefits that meets investors' expectations and ambitions and boosts the zone's competitiveness threshold.

The seminar featured two presentations, the first was delivered by Director of the Labor License and Investors Visas Department; Sultan Al Shraiqi which covered the investment opportunities availed and offered by the free zone.

The second presentation was delivered by Engineer Hussain Al Zadjali in his capacity as the Buildings Projects Officer and which covered the projects underway at the free zone.

SEZAD Participates in "Invest in Oman" Week in Italy

Muscat - September 16, 2015

SEZAD provided a visual presentation to the Italian investors and companies as a part of its participation in "Invest in Oman" week organized by the Public Authority for Investment Promotion and Export Development (Ithraa) from 16 to 19 September 2015 in three Italian cities: Como, Milan, and Monza.

Jalal Al-Lawatia, SEZAD director of promotion, indicated that SEZAD participation of the Authority in "Invest in Oman" week aimed at clarifying the investment opportunities available in SEZAD to the Italian companies.

He pointed out his visual presentation focused on the advantages of the geographical location of SEZAD and the investment opportunities available there especially in the industrial, commercial, tourist, warehouses and logistics sectors, the latter of which is one of the sectors of focus by SEZAD to make Duqm a hub of international trade.

At its participation at «Dossier» Construction Conference Anwar Al-Battashi gives presentation on urban planning in Duqm



Muscat - September 9, 2015

SEZAD provided a visual presentation at «Dossier Construction 2015» conference held under the patronage of H.E. Yahya bin Said Al-Jabri, Chairperson of SEZAD.

The conference discussed the current and future projects in the Sultanate, including those implemented in the Special Economic Zone in Duqm (SEZD).

Anwar bin Kahlan Al-Battashi, SEZAD urban planning director, indicated that the planning of SEZD followed precise and organized criteria that consider population, environmental and

topographical aspects of the place as well as the prospects for the expansion of the city in the future and smooth access thereto via sea, land and air while securing a rail path as well.

He pointed out the division of SEZAD into several areas distributed in line with the urbanization and population and industrial expansion of it in the future, taking into account the environmental and geographical aspects. He also touched upon the comparative and competitive advantages of SEZD and the facilities and incentives the one-stop window provides for investors and businesspeople.