

Thirteenth Tunisian-Omani joint committee opens



Meetings of the 13th session of the Tunisian-Omani joint committee started, on Thursday, June 10, 2010, in Gammarth, under the chairmanship of Education Minister Hatem Ben Salem and Omani Education Minister Yahia Ibn Saoud Ibn Mansour Assillimi.

Mr. Hatem Ben Salem stressed the numerous gains made as part of bilateral co-operation which is marked by diversification and comprehensiveness. These gains, he continued, reflect the strong ties between the two brotherly peoples and materialise the fraternal relations binding President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali and Sultan Qabus Ibn Said.

He also underlined that this meeting provides the opportunity to exchange views on issues of mutual interest and review and follow up what has been carried out at the level of bilateral co-operation.

It also allows to explore ideal ways to expand this co-operation and diversify its fields to hoist the bilateral relations to the level of the Tunisian and Omani peoples' ambitions.

The minister also said the results of the Tunisian-Omani co-operation are source of satisfaction, with 1045 Tunisian guest workers operating in the Sultanate of Oman.

He also emphasised keenness to redouble efforts to step up the exchange of expertise and develop the co-operation relations in all sectors, such as education, higher education, health, trade, tourism, vocational training, investment and communication technologies.

Mr. Hatem Ben Salem also stressed the need to boost trade co-operation in holding commercial and economic missions and striving to increase the volume of trade exchanges. He called, to this effect, to energise the joint committee of co-operation for trade and investment tasked with studying obstacles impeding the flow of commodities and investment between the two countries.

On his part, the Omani minister praised the considerable efforts made by the Tunisian-Omani joint committee to further diversify the areas of economic co-operation.

He reviewed, in this regard, the promising indicators recorded by bilateral relations the most significant results of which is the signing of a set of conventions and memoranda in different economic, social and cultural sectors.

Mr. Assillimi pointed out that the concomitance of this session with the Tunisian and Omani businessmen council's meetings and the start of activities of the friendship association between the two countries, reflects common keenness to deepen bilateral relations, enrich opportunities of co-operation and consolidate joint projects to materialise the political will driving the two sisterly countries' leaders.