## PHILIPPINE EMBASSY AND BAHRAIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CONDUCT INVESTMENT CLINIC FOR FILIPINOS IN BAHRAIN



(Seated L-R) BCCI CEO Dr. Khalid Al Rowaihi, Philippine Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain, H.E. Alfonso A. Ver, BCCI Treasurer Isa Al Rafaei, BATC Chairman Mohammed Sajid, BATC Vice Chairman Manoj Bhatia and Mr. Madhavan Kallath, together with the participants of the 2017 Investment Clinic organized by the Philippine Embassy and BCCI-BATC.

The Philippine Embassy in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain in partnership with the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) — Bahrain Asian Traders Committee (BATC) conducted an Investment Clinic for Filipinos in Bahrain on 19 July 2017 at the Hall of the BCCI Bait Al Tijjar Building. The Investment Clinic was organized to provide information to members of the Filipino Community on how they can invest in Bahrain, particularly since the Bahrain Government liberalized its regulations to allow 100% foreign ownership of companies engaged in certain activities.

Mr. Madhavan Kallath, Managing Partner of Kallath & Co. WLL, a consulting firm for company formation and other services, was the resource speaker for the forum. His presentation included the types of companies that can be started in Bahrain by expatriates, the activities that companies can engage in, which activities require at least 51% Bahraini holdings and which activities can be done by a company that is 100% owned by foreign nationals. The latter involve a total of 387 activities which include accounting and auditing firms, tax consultancies; operation of call centers, amusement parks or private sports clubs; agriculture related consultancies; architectural and engineering activities and related technical consultancy; food and beverage service activities such as restaurants for tourist services; and publicity and advertising, as well as events management.



Ambassador Alfonso A. Ver welcoming the participants to the Investment Clinic and encouraging Filipinos in Bahrain to become entrepreneurs.

The forum was jointly opened by BCCI-BATC Chairman Mohammed Sajid Al Haq and Philippine Ambassador to Bahrain H.E. Alfonso A. Ver. BCCI Chief Executive Officer Dr. Khalid Al Rowaihi and BCCI Treasurer Isa Mohamed Abdulrahim Al Rafaei also graced the event.



Participants during the Investment Clinic expressed their interest to do business in Bahrain and actively engaged the resource speaker by asking their questions.

Over forty (40) participants from the Filipino community attended the Investment Clinic, most of whom are considering venturing into starting their own companies in Bahrain, while a few are already doing business together with their local partners.**END**