

Agreed Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the Hellenic-Saudi Strategic Partnership Council in Al Ula Governorate, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 13/07/1446AH corresponding to 13/01/2025 AD

As a reflection of the progress of relations between the Government of the Hellenic Republic and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and in order to promote coordination and cooperation between our two countries across various fields to enhance the interests of both countries, contribute to the achievement of stability, and meet the aspirations and ambitions of the leaderships of the two countries.

Within the framework of the agreement to establish the Hellenic-Saudi Strategic Partnership Council that was signed in the city of Athens on 27/12/1443 AH, corresponding to 26/07/2022 AD, and the spirit of mutual understanding and trust, the first meeting of the Hellenic-Saudi Strategic Partnership Council was held in Al Ula Governorate on 13/7/1446 AH, corresponding to 13/1/2025 AD, co-chaired by His Excellency Mr. Kyriakos Mitsotakis, Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic and His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Crown Prince and Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, with participation from their Highnesses, Excellencies, Heads and Members of Committees of the Hellenic- Saudi Strategic Partnership Council (Hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”).

The Co-Chairmen of the Council reviewed the bilateral relations of the two countries and stressed the importance of activating the Council and its Committees as a basic platform that frames the work of the two countries to enhance their relations towards further progress and prosperity in light of the available capabilities of the two countries and the importance of promoting and investing them in the most proper method that will achieve mutual benefits. They also commended the efforts of the General Secretariat of the Council in facilitating the work of the Council and its Committees and emphasized the crucial role played by the Council’s Committees. In addition, they agreed to continue supporting and developing various areas of cooperation to ensure growth and prosperity for the two countries, through the following recommendations:

First: Political Committee:

Both Parties signed the minutes of Political Committee, and (4) initiatives were agreed upon within the framework of the Committee as follows:

1. Holding consultations among officials of the Foreign Ministries of the two countries.
2. Following up on the discussions regarding mutual exemption from visas for holders of diplomatic and special passports.
3. Raising the level of coordination of positions in international forums.
4. Preparing an Action Plan for cooperation between the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic and Prince Saud Al-Faisal Institute for Diplomatic Studies.

Second: Military and Security Committee:

Acknowledging the current and emerging challenges into the geopolitical environment and in order to promote peace and stability in our respective regions, both Parties have confirmed their mutual commitment to enhance cooperation in the fields of defense and security, by establishing a long-term military partnership.

Both Parties have emphasized the importance of further improving their bilateral relations on defense and security domain, by organizing numerous activities and initiatives, aiming to deepen synergy on military domains of common interest. In this context, both Parties agreed, in principle, on (19) initiatives within the Committee framework.

Third: Investment and Trade Committee:

Both Parties have confirmed their mutual commitment to enhancing trade and investment cooperation and building a long-term economic partnership. They emphasized the importance of increasing bilateral trade both in quantity and quality, encouraging and supporting investments, and addressing challenges that may arise through the exchange of visits, holding meetings, and organizing investment and

economic activities. These activities aim to exchange knowledge and expertise and attract high-quality investments in areas of common interest. Both Parties discussed a series of initiatives, which are connected to several sectors of common interest, and prioritized (15) initiatives within the Investment and Trade Committee. The most prominent initiatives that will be developed at this stage are the following: cooperation in marine cable project (EMC), providing support and addressing challenges that may face the project; exploring potential areas of collaboration between the Greek National Fund (Growth Fund) and Saudi Public Investment Fund, in line with the investment strategies and mechanisms of both funds; cooperation in the fields of maritime navigation (marine transport and shipbuilding); agriculture and food industries (including fish farming and sustainable practices); communications and information technology; hospitality and tourism, construction, engineering, design, and real estate services. Both Parties also expressed their desire to increase trade volume through enhancing non-oil exports between the two countries.

Fourth: Energy Committee:

Within the framework of bilateral relations and common interests between the Hellenic Republic and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the first session of the Energy Committee was held on January 8th, 2025 AD, corresponding to Rajab 8th, 1446 AH, virtually. Both Parties have emphasized the importance of energy as a catalyst for the deepening of our strategic cooperation. Both Parties reviewed the depth of relations in various fields within the scope of the Committee, and agreed on (7) initiatives in the fields of energy, communication and information technology which includes; Electrical Interconnection, Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy, Clean Hydrogen, Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage (CCUS), East-Med Corridor (EMC) Fiber Optic Cable, and SAUDI ARABIA – GREECE Fiber Optic Cable System.

Fifth: Tourism Committee:

Both Parties have agreed on the importance of strengthening the bilateral relations in the field of Tourism and raising awareness about Hellenic Republic and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and as tourism destinations, through activating the Joint Action Programme 2024-2026, aiming to bring closer the representatives of the private sector to increase tourism demand.

In this context, both Parties agreed on an initiative to work on the activation of the Joint Action Programme (2024-2026) in the field of tourism signed by the two countries.

Sixth: Cultural Committee:

Both Parties have highlighted the importance of fostering bilateral cooperation in culture sphere between the Hellenic Republic and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. They further emphasized the need to initiate cultural exchange programs as a means to deepen collaboration and advance mutual understanding in cultural domain. In this context, both Parties agreed, in principle, on an initiative in field of exchanging cultural participations and programs between the two countries.

Seventh: Sports Committee:

Within the framework of strengthening bilateral relations between the Hellenic Republic and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the field of sports, a virtual meeting of the Heads of the Working Groups of Sports Committee was held on 08/07/1446 AH corresponding to January 8th 2025 AD, during which the level of cooperation in the field of sports was commended and ways of future development of this cooperation were discussed, and (3) initiatives were adopted, namely collaboration in the field of Anti-Doping in Sports, Training in Sports Media, Sports Infrastructure and Stadium Design.

Outcomes of the 1st Meeting of the Hellenic-Saudi Strategic Partnership Council:

The Co-Chairmen of the Council agreed to the following:

1. Approval of the Council's governance, organizational structure and procedures accordingly to the attached form, and delegating both Ministers of Foreign Affairs to modify it - whenever required- through diplomatic channels.
2. Directing Heads of Committees emerging from the Council to work on completing implementation of approved initiative cards and existing projects

agreed upon by both Parties, in a way that ensures achieving tangible outcomes, and the General Secretariat of the Council to follow up on this regard and overcome any challenges, if any.

3. Delegating Heads of Committees emerging from the Hellenic - Saudi Strategic Partnership Council to approve new initiatives in coordination with the General Secretariat of the Council.
4. Delegating General Secretariat of the Council to work on a plan that includes a timeframe for the upcoming session of the Council and its Committees. Both Ministers of Foreign Affairs, acting as “Secretary of the Council,” will endorse the plan, and the General Secretariat will oversee its implementation in consultation with Heads of relevant Committees.
5. Including the work of the Hellenic-Saudi Joint Committee to be under the framework of the Hellenic-Saudi Strategic Partnership Council.

In conclusion, the Co-Chairmen of the Council emphasized the need to intensify consultation and cooperation between the entities of both Parties, by creating qualitative and strategic initiatives that meet the aspirations and achieve the desired objectives aiming to advance the relations between both Parties across various fields. In addition, Both Parties agreed to hold the next meeting of the Council in the city of Athens at a date and venue convenient for both Parties, which will be determined through diplomatic channels.

The Minutes was done and signed in Al Ula Governorate on 13/07/1446 AH, corresponding to 13/01/2025 AD, in three original copies in Greek, Arabic and English Languages. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

**His Excellency
Mr. Kyriakos Mitsotakis
Prime Minister of the Hellenic
Republic**

**His Royal Highness Prince
Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz
Al Saud
Crown Prince and Prime Minister of
the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

**Chairman of the Hellenic side in the
Saudi-Hellenic Strategic
Partnership Council**

**Chairman of the Saudi side in
the Saudi-Hellenic Strategic
Partnership Council**