

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS



ABDUL RAHMAN ABDULLA MOHAMED
General Manager

BANKING GROUP

NBB believes the GCC region's economic growth will gradually recover in 2010 with higher growth rates compared to other regions of the world prompted by more government expenditure, stimulating private sector investments and restoration of general consumer and business confidence.

BUSINESS BANKING

2009 was a challenging year for banking in general and corporate and commercial banking in particular, given that the global recession resulting from the economic crisis persisted for almost the entire year. At the local level, several key sectors such as real estate, construction, manufacturing and tourism have been adversely affected. Against this background, NBB's Corporate and Commercial Banking units have withstood the turmoil in the financial markets by not only consolidating, but also enhancing its performance during this difficult period. This has been achieved by selective targeting and through application of prudent lending policies. As a result of these efforts, the asset book expanded and interest margins also improved.

GOVERNMENT & TRANSACTIONAL BANKING

Given the specialized nature of the business, a new division called "Government and Transactional Banking" was created in 2009. The primary objective of this division is to focus on the overall relationship with the Government of Bahrain and all its agencies, large structured deals, syndications and institutional transactions (including Financial Institutions & Trade Finance) in Domestic & Regional markets.

During 2009, the division further reinforced its close relationship with Government agencies to cater to their various requirements, particularly in the import of machinery and equipment.

The division played an advisory role to support some of the Government departments in evaluating several options with respect to their financing requirements and to recommend optimal solutions. The division worked with Ministry of Works on structuring a term loan of BD 85.5 million to partly finance a number of Grade A contractors in Bahrain for executing ongoing infrastructural projects. The division also worked with a consortium of local and international contractors

to structure a medium term Progress Certificate Discounting Facility to finance one of the Government's major projects. NBB is presently working with a consortium of local, regional and international banks on the contract financing requirements of the Qatar Bahrain Causeway Project.

The Financial Institutions & Trade Finance unit entered into a Facility Agreement in 2009 with Arab Trade Finance Programme (ATFP) based in Abu Dhabi to establish a line of credit for NBB to refinance the exports of Bahraini companies to Arab and international markets. The line of credit has been actively utilized during 2009.

The Unit has successfully managed its exposure to local, regional and international financial institutions during the current financial crisis which ensured that the asset quality of the portfolio was maintained.

The Unit also succeeded in timely exiting from some relationships with regional entities that faced financial difficulties and restructuring of several existing syndicated facilities in co-ordination with other lenders to strengthen the syndicate's position and improve pricing and other terms of the facilities. This has reflected positively on the profitability from these transactions. The Unit solicited good volume of letters of guarantee business from international banks on behalf of international contractors that are undertaking large infrastructure projects in Bahrain. The Unit has played an active role in soliciting bank deposits (in the form of placements) from regional and international banks.

REGIONAL BANKING

Regional Banking continued to attract new assets in 2009 and despite some sizeable prepayments, Regional asset book exceeded US\$ 300 Million. It consists of diversified, high quality assets mostly in Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait and includes medium-

Our Abu Dhabi branch continued to grow its business, while Riyadh branch is part of our long term expansion strategy.



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to-long term exposures to prestigious and prominent names that have been entrusted with major roles in the economic and industrial developments in their home countries. Meanwhile, we continued to attract higher levels of deposits from the region, in particular from areas where we have regional branches. Increased focus was also placed on correspondent banking relationships to serve a larger number of Financial Institutions in Riyadh, Abu Dhabi as well as in Bahrain.

NBB believes the GCC region's economic growth will gradually recover in 2010 with higher growth rates compared to other regions of the world prompted by more government expenditure, stimulating private sector investments and restoration of general consumer and business confidence. In order to better position the Bank to capitalize on the increased business opportunities, Regional Banking Division was reorganised in 2009 to facilitate increase referrals to our Riyadh and Abu Dhabi branches, enhance services to select niche of regional corporate clients and attract increased bilateral business from the GCC.

Abu Dhabi Branch

Abu Dhabi Branch while observing the global and regional crisis closely had been developing its business growth cautiously. Asset quality and customer selection criteria continued to be maintained at the highest levels while attracting desired business. While remaining competitive in the market, the branch revised fees, charges and commissions to enhance return on risk. Cautious approach was observed in attracting new corporate deals considering prevailing general economic conditions and optimum application of available funding. The branch maintains relationship with leading corporate and government agencies through active participation in syndicated or club transactions at a senior level. In Retail Banking there was revision to the credit criteria with primary focus on UAE nationals for further growth and increased focus on quality borrowers.

During 2009 the branch introduced several measures to re-engineer itself, such as optimum system capability usage, improved automation resulting in enhancement of delivery channels and quality service to customers. Abu Dhabi is expected to be one of the regional economies that will make a reasonable comeback from the impact of the global meltdown and is best positioned to benefit from the pick-up in global economic activity.

Riyadh Branch

Riyadh Branch is part of NBB's long term expansion strategy in the GCC region, given the immense business opportunities available in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the fact that its economy is the largest and most diversified in the region with impressive GDP growth rate prospects. The Bank embarked on a strategy of building contacts in the identified target segments, assessing the prospective customers' needs in terms of products and services and the best way to attract them to start a bilateral relationship with NBB. In Retail Banking, the launch of the Personal Loan Program proved rewarding with encouraging results. The Bank also joined hands with major banks in financing a number of infrastructure and development projects in Saudi Arabia. The banking sector will continue to benefit from the Saudi government's commitment to support the economy with an expansionary budget as numerous infrastructure and capital projects were approved in 2009. These in turn would ensure that banks have more opportunities to finance such large scale infrastructure and development projects in the country. NBB remained supportive of financing these projects and reaffirm our commitment to grow in the Saudi market both in Retail and Corporate sectors. The focus would be on selective targeting which meets the Bank's asset acceptance criteria while adding value to the customers and achieving the desired objectives.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS



HUSSAIN SAYED ALI AL HUSSAINI
Deputy General Manager

TREASURY & INVESTMENT GROUP

The unprecedented stimulus programs by governments around the globe, coupled with aggressive interest rate cuts by the central banks worldwide brought confidence back to the global financial markets.

TREASURY & INVESTMENT GROUP

Earlier in the year, investors were positioning themselves for a global financial meltdown which led to a panic sell-off in all asset classes in March. However, fears of a Great Depression faded by the middle of 2009 and financial markets recovered dramatically, mainly due to the response from policymakers – interest rate cuts, quantitative easing and fiscal boosts. The unprecedented stimulus programs by governments around the globe, coupled with aggressive interest rate cuts by the central banks worldwide brought confidence back to the

global financial markets. Equity and bond markets recovered while the US Dollar went into a decline again, after enjoying a safe haven status at the height of the crisis. Economic activity globally has stabilized and in many countries has started moving up. By October, the IMF (International Monetary Fund) raised its forecast for global growth in 2010 to 3.1% as more than \$2 trillion in stimulus packages and demand in Asia pulled the world economy out of its worst recession since World War II.

Marketable Securities Unit: In the fixed income portfolio consisting of senior investment grade floating rate and fixed rate securities, the Bank continued its strategy of holding liquid government bonds and high-grade GCC securities. The unit took full advantage of the low interest rate environment through aggressive roll down carry trades in short term G-7 bond markets. Market timing strategies were also utilized to take full advantage of the volatility producing capital gains throughout the year. Extremely conservative credit and investment guidelines were implemented to preserve capital during an uncertain investment environment. These strategies coupled with a high level of diversification enabled the unit to achieve above average returns.

Foreign Exchange & Money Markets Unit: With a stream of bank failures and global market bailout programs introduced by central banks around the world, credit risk concerns played a major factor in the overall strategies implemented by the Money Market Unit during 2009. With liquidity remaining a top priority for the Bank the unit adopted a cautious approach in efficiently utilizing excess funds without exposing the Bank to unnecessary associated duration risk. Nonetheless, despite the severe market conditions and depressed interest rates, the Money Market Unit successfully managed to exceed expectations with a number of carefully executed inter-bank gapping and F/X swap transactions initiated during the year in both international and GCC markets. Moreover, in its unrelenting effort to play a vital role in the local economy, NBB continued to aggressively participate in all Treasury Bills

and Islamic Sukuk government issues during the year.

Treasury Marketing & Sales Unit: Treasury Marketing & Sales Unit had a highly competitive and challenging year, with countless banks facing liquidity problems, resulting from the wide spread financial crisis. Consequently, in managing the overall liquidity requirements, and benefiting from the Bank's solid financial standing, the unit effectively adopted an aggressive direct marketing strategy of offering the Bank's valued clients attractive deposits interest rates and competitive foreign exchange services. As a result, the unit achieved an exceptional level of income and turnover during the year.

Funds & Investment Unit: On the investment advisory side of the business, the Bank avoided creating products based on equities or hedge funds due to clients' risk aversion. Instead, more attention was given to income-generating products and to helping clients exit from some products and lock in the gains by investing in fixed-rate instruments. The Bank has also taken steps to increase its product offerings so as to be ready with products suited to the risk appetite of its clients when the client demand improves.

On the proprietary book front, the Bank substantially reduced its exposure to some of the asset classes in the earlier part of 2009. A part of the sale proceeds was invested in capital protected notes, which also contain options on equity markets, because of their attractive yields as well as potential upside when underlying equity markets pick up. The two actions reduced the portfolio risk, thus helping to avoid the effects of the dramatic sell-off in March 2009. The Bank adopted a cautious approach when markets recovered subsequently. The focus is on reducing volatility and on re-balancing the portfolio in the light of the changes in investment landscape. The Bank is looking afresh at asset allocation to different asset classes and continues to look for regional opportunities.

The prestigious NBB Platinum card was launched for high net worth customers who enjoy the finest luxuries in life



ABDUL AZIZ ABDULLA AL AHMED
Executive Assistant General Manager

MARKETING & SALES

Operating within these tough market conditions, new products and campaigns were launched while enhancing existing products to provide attractive features to each market segment.

PERSONAL BANKING

In 2009, the operating environment was very challenging with the financial crisis deepening in the first half of the year. There was pricing pressure on liabilities due to liquidity constraints faced by some banks. Asset pricing was rationalised to match the reduction in market interest rates which affected operating margins on consumer assets. Operating within these tough market conditions, new products and campaigns were launched while enhancing existing products to provide attractive features to each market segment. A highly visible campaign was launched to promote personal loan products, in addition to tactical promotions and campaigns on credit and debit cards and Al Watani savings.

The prestigious NBB Visa Platinum card was launched for high networth customers and key relationships. The NBB Platinum card is aimed at customers who are accustomed to the best luxuries in life. The card offers special benefits that are commensurate with their lifestyle. Select Visa Gold card customers were upgraded to Platinum, as a token of the Bank's appreciation of their relationship. In an effort to continuously add value to our customers, cardholders were presented with attractive special offers from a wide cross section of leading merchant partners. A significant achievement during the year was the launch of NBB on-line banking to retail customers. A multimedia campaign was unveiled to publicise the launch of this service. This has been well received by the market and we have seen a steady increase in the number of customers' utilizing this service.

Special incentive schemes were introduced on personal loans that allowed borrowers to take advantage of repayment holidays and price breaks. The Bank, in order to cater to a wider segment of the market, expanded the list of employers whose staff is eligible for credit facilities.

The division continued to effectively deploy its professional Direct sales distribution channel during the year. By offering customers service at their door-step, the direct sales team was able to canvass business from a growing number of customers. The team has been especially effective in garnering new business from segments like mortgage loans, which require extensive customer contact to close a deal. Sales teams at branches were also strengthened in order to enhance both business and customer service.

In an effort to make the branches more customer friendly and ease transaction flow, branches were redesigned under the branch restructuring project. Seef Mall, Isa Town and North Muharraq branches were refurbished with a new look and design to enhance the banking experience for our valued customers. Technology was leveraged to augment service levels and make transactions easier and more secure. The division

rolled out GPRS based Point-of-Sale (POS) terminals to select merchants, which will allow merchants to have wireless processing of card transactions. An SMS alert system was introduced, which gives customers immediate intimation of any transaction on their NBB credit cards, through an SMS message. Chip enabled EMV compliant debit and credit cards, which offer higher security of transactions, have been issued to customers.

CORPORATE & COMMERCIAL BANKING

The Division's focus during the year was to support the active sectors of the domestic economy and help customers weather the financial crisis. In line with this objective, the Bank supported traditional areas of business, such as trade, contracting, manufacturing and trade finance in their expansion and addressed their banking needs with a complete suite of products and services. As a result, we increased our market penetration through focused relationship management and booked new assets underlying NBB's commitment to the local economy with a firm belief that the Kingdom is well poised to withstand the prevailing economic conditions.

On the liabilities side, the units were successful in attracting new deposits, as customers preferred to keep their funds with the Bank for its impeccable reputation of being both the most secure and stable institution in the Kingdom.

Improvement in delivery channels has resulted in providing more efficient service to business customers. Corporate banking continues to be a "One Stop" solution provider for business customers' total banking requirements, which encompass not only all their business products and services but also retail and treasury related requirements.

Commercial banking continues to be well placed in the local market to meet and support the needs of its corporate and commercial customers. The projects in the pipeline bode well for the coming year and the division continues to be confident of overcoming these difficult times.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS



ABDULLA ABDUL RAHMAN HUSSAIN
Executive Assistant General Manager

CUSTOMERS' SERVICE

NBB launched its Internet Banking services during the year 2009 with BENEFIT Company hosting the service as an outsourced ASP (application service provider) Model. This type of outsourced ASP service is the first of its kind in the Kingdom.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The year 2009 began with many significant projects in the Information Technology area to primarily enhance our customers' banking experience, upgrade IT Infrastructure to achieve a concerted migration towards technological advancement and ensuring compliance for regulatory authorities and internal control.

As part of the Bank's corporate and strategic vision to provide superior customer services, NBB launched its Internet Banking services during the year 2009 with BENEFIT Company hosting the service as an outsourced ASP (application service provider) Model. This type of outsourced ASP service is the first of its kind in the Kingdom and to a great extent provides a secured and cost-effective model, and yet achieves all the business objectives of the Bank. Indicative services offered in the Internet include but are not limited to, online access to customer accounts and credit cards, facility to download statements, transfer of funds across nominated accounts, local and International remittance facilities, bill payment and phone top up services, credit card payments etc.

In line with the Bank's commitment to improve customer service, a new Contact centre system has been installed replacing the earlier one. The prime objective of this new system is to achieve a uniform banking experience for our customers and with the sincere desire to fulfill all customers' banking needs. The new system offers easy and friendly transaction navigation with added features to comprehensively address tasks frequently performed by customers. The technological upgrade enables integration with other channels, which is implemented to ensure a more enjoyable banking experience for NBB customers.

In order to provide more secured card transactions and as per directives from the CBB, the Bank converted all its relevant systems like ATM Switch, Credit Card system and other peripheral systems to comply with EMV (Euro MasterCard and Visa) standards and issued

chip based Credit and Debit cards. The EMV chip card enhances the security of transactions by our customers with further use of PIN for customer safety.

In addition, NBB introduced mobile SMS alert system for credit card transactions by customers. The alert specifies key transaction details such as the date, time of the transaction, the shop at which the transaction was conducted and the amount of the transaction. This service enhances the customers' comfort on conducting transactions safely using their credit cards. Another important project in 2009 was the implementation of Anti-Money laundering solution from 3i-Infotech's Amllock. The functionality of the product covers all the delivery channels including credit cards & ATM besides telephone banking and over the counter business transactions for retail and corporate customers.

As part of business requirement, the new generation Point of sales (POS) machines (based on GPRS) communication technology was introduced. This was a critical and urgent requirement from the business which was completed in record time despite the complexity and the high-level technical expertise and coordination needed with diversified vendors. This initiative would go a long way in helping our merchants serve their customers more efficiently and enhance their business.

A new Human Resources system (HR System) has been installed based on the most modern technology platform that co-exists with the rest of the systems in the Bank. This will enable the Bank to benefit from better resource management and timely execution of all daily activities pertaining to Human Resources & administration.

To enable our customer service officers in conducting their business more efficiently, we have enhanced our e-Mail services to provide an 'on-the-move' mail through Blackberry mobile services. The officers now have access to their email and calendar on the move and are fully equipped to provide prompt service to our customers.

Adding to our many accolades, we were awarded the JPMorgan Quality Recognition Award in 2009 for excellence in US Dollar Processing



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Other notable projects include Treasury back office replacement project covering Foreign Exchange, Money Market & Investments areas. The new system has a comprehensive coverage of all current and envisaged future treasury requirements and is implemented on Oracle technology with better control and security framework from an operational view point. The new system is currently undergoing extensive testing and is targeted to go live during the first quarter of 2010.

CENTRAL OPERATIONS

The effective and efficient management of Anti-Money Laundering risk is paramount to achieving success in the global financial industry. Keeping that in mind it has been the Bank's philosophy to enhance operational risk management in addition to Anti-Money Laundering activities. This remained, as always, a key priority for the Bank throughout 2009. In a significant step forward, the Bank entered into a contract with one of the well known software companies to install the latest anti-money laundering system. The project was successfully implemented in June 2009. The Anti-Money Laundering System focuses on three major areas of concern: Know Your Customer (KYC), SWIFT Payments Monitoring and Transactions Monitoring. The installation of this state-of-the-art system reflects NBB's firm commitment to meet the compliance requirements with highest accuracy and efficiency.

Comprehensive measures were taken to ensure that the Bank is in full compliance with AML/CFT Regulations set by the Central Bank of Bahrain, and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) 2003 Recommendations taking into consideration the best international practices in combating Money Laundering & Terrorist Financing.

In recognition of its consistent, high-quality performance and standards in the funds transfer operations, the Bank was awarded the JPMorgan Quality Recognition Award in 2009 for excellence in US Dollar

processing. J.P. Morgan presents this award to selected U.S. Dollar clearing clients who achieve outstanding straight-through results by properly formatting their SWIFT payments. Less than one percent of J.P. Morgan's total funds transfer clients are able to meet the criteria needed for the award. This is the 9th consecutive year that NBB has earned this recognition which not only illustrates NBB's leading presence in the global financial services market but also aptly demonstrates the Bank's long-term commitment to quality.

CALL CENTRE

Superior and personalized customer service has always been at the forefront of NBB's objectives. In line with this philosophy the Bank re-launched its Call Centre services with a 24/7 mandate. This was a strategic initiative since it now provides the Bank's customers with not only the ongoing account related banking services, but also with added features such as Fraud Guard Management & Internet Banking.

The Bank also revamped its current IVR with the aim of converting the Call Center from an inbound Call Center to an out bound Call Center. This transformation not only gave the customers the opportunity to get information promptly but also enabled the Bank to prioritize its services to high end customers and increase its sales via tele-marketing. The new IVR features include reporting Lost or Stolen Cards, Credit Card Payments, loan inquiry details, funds transfer between cross currencies, Batelco/Zain Bill inquiry, real time payments, choosing your preferred account and a host of other features.

The new Call Centre system is very robust and offers a wide variety of functions such as instant routing of important customers to the best agents, reduced hold times, more efficient scheduling of employees and detailed reporting. The smart dialer solution for call center avails predictive dialer for tele-marketing and proactive communications for campaigns.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS



KHALID ALI JUMA
Executive Assistant General Manager

CORPORATE SERVICES GROUP

Aligning HR with business priorities remained a key success story for the HR department at NBB.

HUMAN RESOURCES

NBB understands that the organization's success depends predominantly on knowledge, skills, creativity and motivation of our employees and hence we are committed to their continuous development. Attracting home grown talent to the Bank, ensuring that they become part of growing human capital, nurturing them to develop their careers and retaining talented professionals have been key priorities for Human Resources Department. To this effect, the Bank recently implemented a comprehensive HR strategy which focuses on critical HR initiatives and processes.

Continuing its legacy, NBB stayed focused on hiring and developing young and talented Bahrainis. With nationalization being a key cornerstone of business strategy, NBB successfully maintained a level of 92% Bahrainization. Beyond staff development, the Bank also continued its endeavor to train and develop the youth of the country. Around 40 Bahraini students from various universities successfully completed their summer training program across different departments of the Bank. For the development of senior Bahraini executives and hone their leadership skills a new Leadership Development Program has been launched in association with reputed global business schools. This program will allow the executives to enhance their proficiency by exposing them to world class business management practices.

Aligning HR with business priorities remained a key success story for the HR department at NBB. A new performance management system has been launched in the organization, the core objective of which is to foster

a performance oriented culture in NBB. The system is aimed at improving the performance and productivity of employees and assists them in their development and career growth path within the organization.

In order to improve process efficiencies, a new Human Resources Information System (HRIS) has been implemented in the Bank. This has helped in digitizing most of the transactional processes in Human Resources and provide an efficient platform for accessing HR services.

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

National Bank of Bahrain has always been at the forefront of community development in the Kingdom of Bahrain. The Bank has continually strived to develop an organization which plays a significant role in ensuring an ethos which encompass community growth as part of its responsibility to the society.

It has been the Bank's priority to develop its business in a socially and environmentally responsible way while simultaneously addressing the business interests of our stakeholders. The Bank has also taken an active role and responsibility in assisting local communities to achieve their aspirations. This is done through a combined effort of philanthropy and volunteer work.

The Bank eventually owes its success to its customers and the community in which it conducts its business. There has been an increasing demand from society to ensure that businesses work in a sustainable manner. NBB not only shares this opinion, it actively ensures that this principle is actively followed. The Bank has

The launch of our on-line banking service has been well received and customer usage is on the steady increase



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continually taken steps to promote the inclusion of the community and assist in bringing the less privileged groups into the vibrant social and economic interaction, the rest take for granted.

We are determined that the community we serve also benefits from our success and translate that determination to practice by setting aside a percentage of the Bank's annual net profit for allocation among various programmes and foundations/ projects aimed at social welfare, health care and the underprivileged sections of our society. This dates back to 1980 when the Bank's Donation and Contribution Programme was conceived.

In 2009 we contributed BD 1.4 million, through our donations and contributions programme, primarily directed towards health care, social welfare, supporting educational institutions including government schools, research studies and in ensuring that the less privileged among us are put on the path to a more secure future. The Bank spent BD 23.75 million since the inception of the Donation and Contributions programme in 1980.

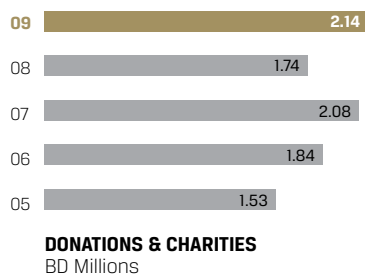
Our employees also make significant contributions as volunteers sharing their skills, financial and business knowledge and the benefit of their experience with the student community. This includes participating in a broad range of training seminars and work shops, for the benefit of students from educational establishments, particularly those enrolled in H.H. The Crown Prince's Scholarship programme that is aimed at the

development of vision and leadership capabilities among Bahrain's future government and business leaders.

Since 1957, the community has warmly welcomed us to be a part of their lives and has placed their trust in NBB. We have endeavoured to ensure that we support the nation in its march forward. We always remember, that while we have been fortunate with our success we also need to provide for those among us who are less privileged and those with special needs to ensure a better society and a more prosperous Bahrain.

We consider it an honour, our duty and our privilege, to be able to serve the community in more ways than just providing banking services.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS



MAJOR 2009 PROJECTS

Crown Prince's International Scholarship Programme

In 2006 NBB joined the Crown Prince International Scholarship Programme (CPISP) as a Gold sponsor and made a commitment to contribute BD 500,000 to the programme over a five-year period. Subsequently the Bank upgraded its sponsorship level to Platinum in 2009 whereby the Bank committed to contribute BD 1,000,000 to the programme over a five-year period. NBB has already made an initial contribution of BD 500,000 towards the programme. The sponsorship reflects the Bank's continuing support to human resources development in the country and in particular, programmes that support Bahraini students to develop and improve their academic qualifications, including doctorate and master's degrees.

Support for Palestine

Earlier in the year, NBB pledged BD 100,000 to the Bahrain Committee for supporting the Palestinian Nation in Gaza. In a country-wide televised donation campaign, NBB pledged the amount to assist the Palestinians in their struggle to achieve their independence and create a new nation.

Support to the BDF

NBB contributed BD 290,000 for a complete upgradation of the IT system at the BDF hospital. This contribution would not only help BDF in providing better and quicker medical services to the community but would also ensure that the Hospital is at par with the IT standards at leading medical institutions both regionally and locally.

Bahrain Stock Exchange

In 2009 NBB was one of the first organizations to commit BD 100,000 for the new Bahrain Stock Exchange office at BFH. The Bank has always played a key role in the development of the financial market of

the Kingdom and this commitment to the Bahrain Stock Exchange reaffirms the Bank's efforts to be an effective contributor to the Kingdom's long term vision of being a financial hub.

Charity Funds Support

2009 was the fourteenth consecutive year that the Bank has provided assistance to all the local charity funds registered with the Ministry of Social Development. During the past thirteen years about BD 1,200,000 has been contributed by the Bank to the local charity funds that provide basic sustenance to poor families and under privileged people across the Kingdom. This year, during the Holy Month of Ramadan, the Bank distributed 7,700 coupons to purchase foodstuffs totaling BD 150,000. The amount was allocated to local charitable societies and organization, who in turn distributed these coupons to those families who are in dire need for help and support.

Support to Government School Students

In 2009, 20,000 needy government school students benefited from the annual winter clothing donation programme. NBB allocated BD 150,000 this year for the programme, which covered all government schools in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

On the occasion of Eid Al Adha and Eid Al Fitr, the Bank organised the purchase and distribution of gift items for occupants and staff of the NBB Home for the Aged, NBB Home for Disabled Children, Bahrain Mobility International as well as for the children in the Hope Institute for the Blind and the Bahraini Institute for the Blind.

Sponsorship

NBB has demonstrated a leading role in supporting a unique number of important activities and events. Major activities in which the Bank participated as a key sponsor during 2009 were:

In 2009, NBB was one of the first organizations to commit BD 100,000 to the new Bahrain stock exchange



SOCIAL

- Bahrain Security Forum and Exhibition organized by the Ministry of Interior.
- Electricity Conservation Campaign organized by the Electricity and Water Authority.

HEALTH

- Sponsor the 10th International Congress of the Middle East Africa Council of Ophthalmology (MEAC) organized by the Ophthalmologists Society.

OTHERS

- 9th GCC Banking Conference organized by the Central Bank of Bahrain.

Included among the major beneficiaries of the Donations and Contributions programme this year were:

- NBB Home For The Aged
- Rehabilitation Centre for Handicapped Children
- Al Eslah Society
- Bahrain Cancer society
- Bahrain International Airport Group
- Bahrain Philanthropic Society
- Bahrain Red Crescent Society
- Muharraq Social Welfare Centre
- Royal Charity Organization
- Bahrain Diabetes Society
- Al Noor Charity Welfare
- Al Rahma Centre
- Al Sanable Orphans Care
- Aysha Yateem Center
- Economic Development Board
- Bahrain Down Syndrome Society
- Al Manar Parents Care Centre
- Bahraini Disabled Sport Union
- Bahrain National Hereditary Anaemia

- Bahrain Society for Child Development
- Bahrain Society for Children with Behavioral & Communication Difficulties
- Child Care Home
- Children & Mother Welfare Society
- Friendship Society For The Blind
- Hope Institute for Handicapped
- Mother & Children Information Centre
- Public Commission For The Protection Of Marine Environment & Wild Life
- Sultan Bin A. Aziz Centre for Hearing & Speech
- Bahrain Society for Child Development
- The Saudi Bahraini Institute For The Blind

In addition, the Bank has made several smaller donations to deserving causes and voluntary organisations.

MAJOR PROJECTS

Major Projects financed, and contributions made, since the beginning of the Donations and Contributions Programme

HEALTH SERVICES:

- Building and equipping NBB Dair Health Centre.
- Financing and furnishing the NBB Arad Health Centre and Physiotherapy wing.
- Providing Salmaneya Medical Centre with two advanced general purpose X-rays, an ambulance, dialysis machines and a urology endoscopy system.
- New Eco Cardiogram machine for Shaikh Mohamed Bin Khalifa Cardiac Centre.
- Annual financial support to Shaikh Mohamed Bin Khalifa Cardiac Centre at the Bahrain Defence Force hospital.

SOCIAL WELFARE SCHEMES

- Building and furnishing the NBB Home for the Aged.
- Building and furnishing the Friendship Kindergarten for the Blind.
- Building and furnishing the NBB Home for Disabled Children and providing a bus with special equipment.
- Supplying 3 specially manufactured buses for Bahrain Mobility International and Muharraq Social Welfare Centre.
- Annual financial support to all the facilities built by the Bank.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

- Construction of Administration and Registration buildings for the University of Bahrain
- Building and furnishing the NBB Public Library in Muharraq.
- Providing the University of Bahrain with "Horizon", a fully automated library system and 2 PC laboratories, the E-learning centre in addition to annual financial support for many years.
- Contribution to the new Shaikh Isa Library
- Installation of air conditioning in all Government primary schools.
- Annual financial support to the University Student Fund.
- Computerised library system for Women and Children Information Centre.