

GON 15-2-96

## Bahrain



■ UNIVERSITY BOARD ... From left, Mr Kirdar, Dr Al Sada, Mr Al Sho'ala, Mr Al Mutawa, Mr Al Fadhel, Mr Juma, Dr Al Ghatam and Dr Al Arrayed

For Report

PTO.

# University in funds drive

## ● Panel will help finance projects

By AMIRA AL HUSSAINI

ister Abdulaziz Al Fadhel and attended by Cabinet Affairs and Information Minister Mohammed Al Mutawa, Electricity and Water Minister Abdulla Juma, Mr Al Sho'ala, university president Dr Mohammed Al Ghatam, Banoco general manager Dr Fayez Hashim Al Sada,

Investcorp president and chief executive Nemir Kirdar and consultant ophthalmologist Hassan Al Arrayed.

The fund-raising committee will include the university's external auditor Jamal Fakhro, partner in KPMG Fakhro, university vice-president for administrative and financial affairs Dr Shaikh Khalid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa and Dr George

Najjar, who has been appointed as systems development advisor to the university president.

The board also approved an estimated budget for 1996, said the spokesman. No figures were revealed.

During the meeting, the board approved the appointment of three advisors to the president. They are: Dr Samir Fakhro (computer affairs), Dr Hanna Makhlof (technical affairs) and Dr Najjar.

"The committee also approved the university's plan to embark on external evaluation of all colleges and linking them up with major international accreditation bodies, while continuing with the current process of internal self-evaluation," said the spokesman.

The university has also been given the green light to conduct a comprehensive priority-based cost management study and restructure its cost centres, in the interest of greater efficiency and effectiveness.

In addition, the board endorsed the university's plan to establish a number of inter-discipline research centres devoted to energy, environment and fine arts.

### Scholarship

All the centres are to become self-financing centres under the umbrella of the dean of research, said the spokesman.

The board also seconded a decision regarding the university's staff scholarship plan.

The scheme is aimed at achieving the university's commitment to bring Bahrainisation up to 75 per cent within the coming five years.

Closer links between the university and the Arabian Gulf University were also approved.

"The board approved and appreciated the university's commitment to working closely with the AGU in a manner that enhances both institutions and safeguards their legal and financial interests," said the spokesman.

In addition, the board approved plans to separate the university campus in Isa Town from the Education Ministry premises and arrange for a graduation ceremony during the first half of this year. A date has not yet been disclosed.

A FUND-RAISING committee is expected to be launched soon to help finance various projects at Bahrain University.

The committee will be chaired by Labour and Social Affairs Minister Abdulnabi Al Sho'ala.

Its aim will be to raise financial resources for the university to pursue its ambitious plans, said a university spokesman.

The decision was made at the second Board of Trustees meeting for the academic year 1995/96, held at the Sakhir Campus.

The meeting was chaired by Education Min-