

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
“NATO-BAHRAIN RELATIONS AND THE
ISTANBUL COOPERATION INITIATIVE”

CO-ORGANISED BY:
KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN AND NATO PUBLIC DIPLOMACY DIVISION

FINAL PROGRAMME

Al-Noor Ballroom – Ritz Carlton Hotel - Manama

23 APRIL 2008

Arrival of participants

20:30 Reception at the Ritz Carlton Hotel

24 APRIL 2008

10:00 Opening Address by H.E. Sheikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al-Khalifa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain

Keynote Address by H.E. Mr. Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, Secretary General of NATO

10:20 Signing of the “Agreement on the Security of Information”

10:30 Short break

10:45 Session I: “NATO-Gulf Relations in the Framework of the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative”

- Chair: H.E. Sheikh Abdulaziz Mubarak Al-Khalifa, Assistant Undersecretary for Coordination & Follow Up Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain

- H.E. Amb. Claudio Bisogniero, Deputy Secretary General of NATO

- Maj. Gen. Abdul Latif Alzayani, Chief of Public Security, Ministry of Interior of the Kingdom of Bahrain

- Dr. Abdul Aziz Sager, Chairman, Gulf Research Center, United Arab Emirates

11:30 Discussion period

13:00 Lunch

14:00 Session II: “Bahrain and Gulf Perspectives on the Changing Security Landscape of the Gulf region”

- Chair: H.E. Mr. Jean-François Bureau, NATO Assistant Secretary General for Public Diplomacy

- H.E. Sheikh Dr. Khaled Al-Khalifa, Member of the Shura Council, Kingdom of Bahrain

- Dr. Abdullah Al-Shayji, Professor of Political Science and Chairman of the American Studies Unit, Kuwait University

- Dr. Abdullah Baabood, Centre of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, Cambridge University

- 14:45 Discussion Period
- 16:30 Conference ends
- 17:00 Joint Press Conference by His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain and His Excellency the Secretary General of NATO
- 17:30 Secretary General of NATO debriefing to NATO Permanent Representatives
- 18:15 Secretary General of NATO interviews with Bahraini media
- 20:00 Official Dinner at Bahrain Museum hosted by His Excellency Sheikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al-Khalifa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain