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**From:** Coleman, Norm B.  
**Sent:** Monday, March 01, 2021 1:06 PM  
**To:** 'nic\_adams@cornyn.senate.gov'  
**Subject:** Houston World Affairs Council Event with HRH Ambassador Reema of Saudi Arabia  
**Attachments:** Event Summary - 2.9.21 Houston WAC with HRH Ambassador Reema.pdf

Dear Nic,

On behalf of the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, I am reaching out today to let you know the World Affairs Council of Greater Houston (WACGH) recently hosted Her Royal Highness Ambassador Reema Bandar Al-Saud, Ambassador for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United States, for a virtual event on Tuesday, February 9, 2021.

The WACGH has hosted numerous distinguished speakers over the years in pursuit of cultivating global understanding and promoting meaningful discussions on current international affairs. HRH Ambassador Reema was pleased to participate and share her thoughts on a diverse array of topics, including the vital geopolitical, economic, and security benefits of the U.S.-Saudi partnership, Saudi Arabia and Texas's long history of working together in the energy sector, the transformative changes occurring for women in the Kingdom as a result of Vision 2030, and her longtime advocacy for women's athletics. She was introduced by Soma Somasundaram, the chairperson of the WACGH Board and the webinar was moderated by Sandija Bayot, the chief development officer at the WACGH.

The webinar was well attended, with numerous Houston community and business leaders joining to hear from HRH Ambassador Reema. Attendees additionally had the opportunity to ask HRH Ambassador Reema questions on topics of their choosing. The webinar's organizers and attendees commented on HRH Ambassador Reema's passion for Saudi Arabia and its people, her informative remarks and answers to questions, and her efforts in bringing America and Saudi Arabia even closer together through outreach like the event.

Attached is an overview of the event. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

All my best,

Norm

**Senator Norm Coleman**  
Senior Counsel

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*This material is distributed by Hogan Lovells US LLP on behalf of the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Washington, D.C. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, DC.*

## Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia Event Summary

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***World Affairs Council of Greater Houston with  
Her Royal Highness Ambassador Reema Bandar Al-Saud***

Hosted by the World Affairs Council of Greater Houston

February 9, 2021  
Zoom Event

Her Royal Highness Ambassador Reema Bandar Al-Saud, Ambassador for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United States, virtually addressed over 150 Houston community leaders and members of the World Affairs Council of Greater Houston on February 9, 2021. After being introduced by Soma Somasudaram, president and CEO of ChampionX, HRH Ambassador Reema spoke on numerous areas of the 76-year U.S.-Saudi partnership. These included the longstanding diplomatic and economic ties between the United States and Saudi Arabia, the historic transformation occurring in Saudi Arabia under Vision 2030, and Saudi Arabia's important role internationally and specifically in the Middle East. Following her remarks HRH Ambassador Reema participated in a question-and-answer session, moderated by Sandija Bayot, Chief Development Officer for the World Affairs Council of Greater Houston.

During the question-and-answer session HRH Ambassador Reema spoke at length on many issues and topics impacting Saudi Arabia, the United States, and the international community. For example, she discussed Vision 2030, the recent reforms in the Saudi legal system, and even Saudi Arabia's role in space exploration. Throughout the discussion, HRH Ambassador Reema emphasized the important role the U.S.-Saudi relationship will play in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and the vital, decades long relationship between Saudi Arabia and Texas in particular.

Additional topics covered by HRH Ambassador Reema included:

- The substantial economic relationship between Texas and Saudi Arabia
- Her professional background and her career in the private sector before becoming ambassador
- The role Saudi Arabia's private sector has in the U.S.-Saudi partnership and in achieving Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030
- The importance of the tens-of-thousands of Saudi students who study in the United States in the future of the U.S.-Saudi partnership
- Saudi Arabia's efforts at diversifying its economy under Vision 2030
- How COVID-19 has impacted Saudi Arabia and the initial vaccine rollout in the Kingdom
- The growing number of female leaders in Saudi Arabia's public and private sectors
- Saudi Arabia's work stabilizing the Middle East, combatting terrorism, and containing Iran's aggressive actions
- The Kingdom's efforts seeking a political solution to the conflict in Yemen

The event concluded with HRH Ambassador Reema thanking the attendees and encouraging all those who joined the webinar to visit the Kingdom once COVID-19 allows travel.