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## Media conference in Bahrain to focus on security challenges

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Manama: A conference on media issues related to security challenges and civil cooperation in the Arabian Gulf will be held in Bahrain next week, Bahrain's information ministry said yesterday.

The conference "Media in a Changing World: Perspectives from GCC and Nato" on June 5 and 6 will bring together media professionals, diplomats, academicians, civil society organisations and security personnel from the Gulf countries and Nato.

"The conference is an indication of the keen interest of Bahrain and the Gulf countries on coordinating and cooperating with NATO in order to give new opportunities to the Gulf media to spread awareness about the significance of consolidating security and stability in the region," information minister Mohammad Abdul Gaffar said in a press statement.

"Cooperation between the Gulf and Nato are moving steadily, governed by a common wish to preserve stability in the Arabian Gulf which is regarded as a vital and strategic component of the international community."

According to Abdul Gaffar, Bahrain's ambassador to Washington from 1994 to 2001, "the accelerated security, social, economic and environment changes in the region as well as international conflicts, tensions, violence ... demanded thorough analyses of the developments and clear explanations of the new approaches."