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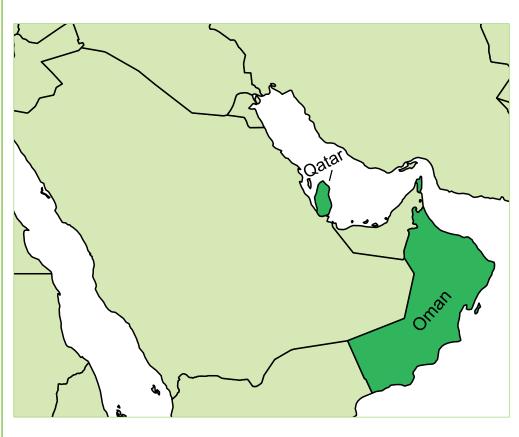
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## German economic delegation to Oman and Qatar

by Helene Rang



A German delegation of government and business representatives travelled to Muscat and Doha for two joint economic commissions in December 2016 to improve economic relations between Germany and the GCC member countries. As the aim of the commission was to connect representatives from Germany and the attending governments, the delegation was led by H.E. Matthias Machnig, Deputy Minister at the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, who also gave opening speeches at both events.

As the sequel to the Joint Economic Commission of 2014 in Berlin, the 14<sup>th</sup> commission between Oman and Germany was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Muscat. After

the commission was officially opened by H.E. Machnig and H.E. Sayyid Badr bin Hamad bin Hamoud al Busaidi, Secretary General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the attendants discussed various topics, including trade and investment options, renewable energy technology, the development of tourism in Oman as well as the development of cultural and economic ties between the two countries.

On 6<sup>th</sup> December, a sideline meeting for German business representatives, German public and private organisations and Omani small and medium-sized enterprises was hosted by the Public Authority for SME Development (Riyada). Riyada, the Omani Public Authority for Investment Promotion and