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# Resolving disputes peacefully pillar of Kuwaiti diplomacy: Foreign Minister

## Kuwait highlights importance of nuclear non-proliferation

KUWAIT: Kuwaiti Minister of Foreign Affairs and Acting Defense Minister Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah has stated that promoting peaceful resolution of disputes has become key pillar of Kuwait's diplomacy. This came during the celebration of the International Peace Day organized by the Kuwaiti Woman Institute for Development and Peace under the slogan 'Peace is our way', with the participation of the Arab League Secretary-General Ahmad Abul Gheit and the Deputy Chairman of the Isa Cultural Center in the Kingdom of Bahrain Dr Khaled Al-Khalifa. "Kuwait has been keen to spread and support cultures of peace, dialogue and moderation, so these principles have become main features of its foreign policy," said Sheikh Ahmad.

Sheikh Ahmad argued that Kuwait always backed the UN efforts to achieve international peace. Kuwait is open for all cultures and had joined the Alliance of Civilizations Initiative to promote dialogue and peaceful co-existence among people of different cultures, he noted. The Kuwaiti minister pointed out that governments, international organizations, civil society institutions, and individuals, are required to strive with sincere intentions to combat extremist ideas which incite hatred towards others. Sheikh Ahmad thanked the Arab League Secretary-General and Dr Khalifa for their participation and the Kuwaiti Woman Institute for Development and Peace for organizing this conference.

### Challenge to peace

Separately, Kuwait reiterated that the proliferation of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction is a challenge to international peace and security. In a keynote speech at IAEA General Conference online talks on Monday, Sheikh Ahmad also acknowledged the right to produce and use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes as per the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). On the

matter, he called on North Korea to abide by Security Council resolutions, in regards to its nuclear program, in order to ensure the stability of the Korean Peninsula. He also called on Iran to return to full compliance with the nuclear deal (JCPOA) it had signed with world powers in 2015 after an IAEA Director General report recently revealed that Tehran was not ensuring its full commitment to the deal. "We look forward to its approval and implementation of the additional protocol," said the minister.



KUWAIT: Minister of Foreign Affairs and Acting Defense Minister Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah. — KUNA



## Kuwait marks Int'l Peace Day

Kuwait has "followed with concern" Iran's incomplete compliance with NPT Safeguards Agreement, he added, welcoming the IAEA's efforts to encourage this and stressing the importance of fulfilling this objective. "Iran should settle all outstanding issues in order for the agency to be in a position to provide credible assurances regarding the absence of undeclared nuclear materials and activities in Iran and to ensure its continued status as a non-nuclear weapon state," he said. Kuwait welcomes the first session of the conference on the proposed Middle East nuclear weapon free zone agreement in November last year, he added, urging the need for Israel, in turn, to commit to the NPT.

### \$300,000 pledge

Meanwhile, Kuwait pledged \$300,000 to an

International Atomic Energy Agency initiative, which provides access to joint scientific research and expertise on means to monitor, prevent and respond to pathogens and diseases. The sum, pledged to the Zoonotic Disease Integrated Action initiative (ZODIAC) follows a \$10 million contribution for the establishment and operation of the IAEA LEU (low enriched uranium) Bank in late 2019. "Kuwait, as a member of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency, affirms its commitment to actively participate in the Council's efforts and to contribute to its activities in a manner of consensus and technical professionalism," the minister said.

Urging other nations to follow suit, he expressed Kuwait's keenness to cooperate with the IAEA on other matters, such as the Atoms for peace program. He also praised the agency's Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship Program (MSCFP) which provides women with scholarships for Master's programs in nuclear science, saying this mirrors Kuwait's 2035 Vision plans, "which emphasize women's empowerment." — KUNA

## ABK marks Int'l Day of Sign Languages

KUWAIT: Al-Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) is celebrating the International Day of Sign Languages today with the Bank highlighting that it currently provides sign language for customers with hearing disabilities at seven branch locations across Kuwait. The branches include Head Office, Shaab, Jabriya, Adan, South Sabahiya, Al-Firdous and Jahra 1. ABK has a total of 43 full trained sign language staff who can be identified by the badges they wear showing they are sign language proficient.

The International Day of Sign Languages is celebrated globally and aims to raise awareness of the importance of sign language and the importance of being able to communicate with people that have a hearing impediment. According to the World Federation of the Deaf, there are approximately 70 million deaf people worldwide.

In a move to improve communication with its customers with hearing impediments, ABK holds sign language training courses on a regular basis for branch staff. ABK is committed to playing an active role in the communities it operates in, and will continue to encourage a strong sense of belonging among all individuals in the community, while also ensuring the bank delivers the best level of customer service.

## Kuwait committed to Yemen security

KUWAIT: Kuwaiti Foreign Minister and Acting Minister of Defense Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah Monday on Monday received a phone call from Yemeni Minister of Foreign Affairs Mohammad Al-Hadhrani. During the call, the Yemeni minister expressed gratitude and praise of the outcomes of the ministerial meeting in Yemen held September 17, and Kuwait per-

manent standing with the Yemeni people and its support for its security.

Meanwhile, the Kuwait Foreign Minister stressed Kuwait is fully committed to the security and stability of Yemen amid the impoverished country's lingering civil war. Kuwait supports all international efforts, including measures the Yemeni government has taken to get the country's warring parties on the same page, aiming to reach a decisive solution to the conflict, the minister said. The humanitarian catastrophe in Yemen, exacerbated by a recent cluster of coronavirus, can only end through a solution that works within the frameworks of the Gulf initiative, Yemen's national dialogue and relevant

UN security resolutions, he added. The Yemeni Foreign Minister then thanked Kuwait for standing by Yemen through this crisis.

Separately, Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad received an audio-visual call from the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Kosovo, Meliza Haradinaj. During the call, the two sides discussed overall close bilateral relations between the two friendly countries, ways to develop them in various fields and enhancing cooperation to confront the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. They also discussed latest updates on regional and international arenas and issues of common concern between the two friendly countries. — KUNA

## US Ambassador visits Kuwait Society for the Handicapped

KUWAIT: Sabika Saad Al-Jasser, Vice Chair of the Kuwait Society for the Handicapped stated that Alina Romanowski, the United States Ambassador to the State of Kuwait, visited the society and participated in various activities with its students and employees. That visit came as a result of the society's commitment to build strong relationships with community partners and different local and foreign organizations in order to share experiences and serve children with disabilities in a best possible way. The Ambassador witnessed a training session in the area of professional development training organized in cooperation with the Burrow Recovery Centre's Team aiming to exchange experiences, learn new treatment techniques and be more productive.

"Our local brand is all about inspiring people of Kuwait to live a healthier and more fulfilling lifestyle," said Jassim Al-Mudhaf, the Chief Executive Officer of the Ring Side General Trading, and the Burrow Recovery Centre. "Part of our vision is to collaborate with community services on a regular basis, to educate and enhance the quality of life of people in

Kuwait. Our collaboration with KSH mirrors this vision, where our specialists in Physiotherapy lead and inspire individuals to improve their skills and knowledge of Rehabilitation."

Jasser added that the society has been running an art project specially designed for children with disabilities and led by an artist who works as an occupational therapist. The artist or therapist guides participants through art sessions providing adaptations to activities or environment according to the needs of children with different disabilities. The US Ambassador joined an art session to promote and encourage inclusion of all persons regardless of their skills and abilities.

Jasser also said that the society has been offering currently free consultations for physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech/language therapy to children with disabilities from all nationalities in addition to nursing tips for caregivers of persons with disabilities aiming to help them to improve their mobility, self-regulation, sensory processing, etc. The Ambassador visited treatment rooms where she watched some of the hands-on treatment and movement progression of children with disabilities.

Concluding her visit, Ambassador Romanowski expressed support to the society's mission of providing ongoing innovative and accessible care, education and support to children with disabilities thus changing their lives and helping their inclusion in the society.

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