

## KUWAIT, AUSTRIA EYE CLOSER LEGAL COOPERATION

**VIENNA:** Visiting Kuwaiti Minister of Justice and Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Yaqoub Al-Sane and Austrian Minister of Justice Wolfgang Brandstetter met in Vienna yesterday on ways of promoting bilateral legal and judicial cooperation. Speaking to KUNA following the meeting held in presence of Kuwait's Ambassador to Austria and its Permanent Representative at International Organizations in Vienna Sadeq Maarefi, the Kuwaiti minister said: "Kuwait is interested in promoting its historical relations with Austria in various fields." He hailed the significant role played by Austria in the international arena, noting that it is home to several weighty international organizations, including anti-crime committees.

Sane appreciated growing international willingness to promote and reinforce cooperation in legal and judicial domains by means of hammering out bilateral and multilateral agreements in this regard. On his meeting with the Austrian minister, he said they had addressed a number of important legal issues

and topics, and possible bilateral agreements in the area of legal assistance, repatriation, terrorism and extremism.

Meanwhile, Kuwait's Ambassador to Austria and its Permanent Representative at International Organizations in Vienna Sadiq Marafi highly commended Austria's fair positions towards Islamic issues in general, recalling its honorable stance during the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Kuwait is to hold soon a celebration in Vienna marking the 50th anniversary of forging diplomatic relations with Austria, under chairmanship of First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and Austrian Foreign Minister Sebastian Kurz, the ambassador said.

He said he looked forward to clinching a number of agreements and memos of understanding during the celebration, quoting the Austrian minister as hailing the level of distinguished relations between both nations. — KUNA



**VIENNA:** Kuwaiti Minister of Justice and Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Yaqoub Al-Sane (right) is pictured with Austrian Minister of Justice Wolfgang Brandstetter (center) and Kuwait's Ambassador to Austria Sadeq Marafi. — KUNA

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His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah

## AMIR MEETS KYRGYZ PRESIDENT TODAY

**KUWAIT:** Kyrgyzstan President Almazbek Atambayev will meet His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah as part of his three-day official visit to Kuwait today.

In other news, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah is scheduled to patronize the ceremony for distributing the cup and award of the camel race for

the 2015-2016 season, organized by the Kuwait Camel Racing Club.

His Highness the Crown Prince has deputized Hawally Governor, retired Lieutenant Colonel Sheikh Ahmad Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to attend the ceremony on his behalf. The ceremony will be held on the track of the Martyr Sheikh Fahad Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah at the club headquarters at 3:30 pm today. — KUNA

## KUWAIT AFFIRMS KEENNESS ON COOPERATION WITH EUROPE

**ROME:** Kuwaiti Ambassador to Italy Sheikh Ali Khaled Al-Jaber Al-Sabah has affirmed the State keenness on bolstering dialogue and cooperation between the Arab states and Europe for confronting major challenges and hazards against the two regions. The ambassador, addressing a session of the Med-Euro Mediterranean Dialogue forum, currently hosted at the Italian capital, affirmed that the Middle East is currently witnessing critical conditions due to terrorism and disturbances as well as plight of refugees.

He shed light in his address on Kuwait's role in confronting such challenges and touched on its history in the realm of philanthropic aid. Kuwait in 1961 established the Fund for Economic Development, offering aid estimated at \$17 billion to 103 countries worldwide, since then.

The three-day forum, organized by the Italian Institute for International Political Studies, is designed to address crucial and pending issues concerning countries of the region. The forum, opened by Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi and Jordanian King Abdullah II late on Thursday, tackles issues such as prosperity and security sharing and the immigration.

### Different sectors

In his address within the framework of tackling the topic of 'prosperity sharing,' Ambassador Sheikh Ali Khaled shed light on the Kuwaiti assistance for projects in different sectors such as agriculture, rural development, infrastructure, transports, communications, energy, industry, water, sanitation, health, education, beside financial support for development banks that secure funds for young entrepreneurs. As to terrorism, he noted that Kuwait "has been a victim" of this peril, noting that the latest of such attacks was the bombing Imam Al-Sadeq Mosque, where scores of people died or suffered injuries.

On immigration, he noted Kuwait's hosting of three international conventions for raising donations for the Syrian refugees and those who have been relocated due to the ongoing bloody conflict in Syria. Kuwait had contributed with the largest sum, \$1.3 billion. Such Kuwaiti aid, both at the state and grass-root levels, has drawn worldwide applause and admiration, crowned with the UN designation of His Highness the Amir as the 'Humanitarian Leader,' as well as the State of Kuwait as the 'Humanitarian Center.'—KUNA



**ROME:** Kuwaiti Ambassador to Italy Sheikh Ali Khaled Al-Jaber Al-Sabah (left) attends the session of the Med-Euro Mediterranean Dialogue forum. — KUNA