



KUWAIT: Ooredoo Kuwait's General Manager and CEO, Sheikh Mohammad bin Abdullah Al Thani is seen with top state officials and participants at the Global Forum on Emergency Telecommunications.

OOREDOO CONCLUDES SPONSORSHIP OF GLOBAL FORUM ON EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS

KUWAIT: Ooredoo Kuwait, a member of the international Ooredoo Group, has announced the successful conclusion of its sponsorship of the Global Forum on Emergency Telecommunications, hosted by Kuwait's Ministry of Communications and the Communication and Information Technology Regulatory Authority. The Forum was held between 25 and 28 January, 2016, under the patronage of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

GET 2016, organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), is considered one of the most globally recognized events that discuss the role of the telecom industry in disaster management, especially with the current rapid changes in the telecommunications sector and the major developments in the information technology arena. More than 500 participants from around 90 countries attended the forum, including telecom ministers, director-generals of regulatory authorities, CEOs, and more.

Commenting on Ooredoo's participation, Mijbil Alayoub, Director of Corporate Communications at Ooredoo Kuwait said: "We are honored to be part of the GET Forum and very proud that Kuwait was the country of choice to host the 2nd round of this event. We strongly believe in the significant role the telecommunications sector plays in disaster management and we are committed to making the necessary contributions to ensure the safety of Kuwait and its people."



Mijbil Alayoub, Director of Corporate Communications at Ooredoo Kuwait (left) and other Ooredoo employees are seen in attendance.



Ooredoo Kuwait's General Manager and CEO, Sheikh Mohammad bin Abdullah Al Thani stands between Minister of Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Al-Abdullah Al-Sabah and Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Houlin Zhao.



Ooredoo Kuwait's General Manager and CEO, Sheikh Mohammad bin Abdullah Al Thani and other officials attend the event.

CONSTRUCTION LAW AMENDMENT ADDRESSES SHORTCOMINGS: MINISTER

KUWAIT: Minister of Communications and Minister of State for Municipal Affairs Essa Al-Kandari said a draft law approved by the government on Monday aimed at addressing legislative shortcomings related to construction, among others issues. The government approved a draft law that amended 14 out of 42 articles of Law No. 5/2005, pertinent to regulation of work of Kuwait Municipality and Municipal Council, and punishing violators of construction in fines and jail terms.



Minister Essa Al-Kandari

by them would be punished for up to two years if they erected a building without obtaining a permission from the Municipality. He said the municipality would force them to remove the violating parts at their own expense and fine them KD 1,000 (\$3,300), as well as cutting power supply from the construction site.

Other amendments aim at facilitating work flow within the municipality, explained Kandari, in addition to doubling the number of elected Municipal Council members to 20, in addition to 11, from current six, appointed by the government. He said the amendments took place in coordination with the Public Facilities Committee at the parliament, and would be addressing many negative aspects. — KUNA



AGRICULTURE AUTHORITY TO PLANT 35 MILLION SEEDLINGS

KUWAIT: The Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources (PAAAFR) yesterday announced the adoption of a plan aimed at planting 35 million seedlings for the rehabilitation of Kuwait's wild environment to produce seedlings from fungal plants inside a number of reserves on an area of 1,600 square kilometers. The (PAAAFR) is currently working on implementing a number of pergolas in Al-Abdali area

with an area extended over 40,000 square meters to acclimatize the fungal plants, said Ghanim Al-Sanad, PAAAFR Director of Agricultural Guidance department. The authority is also working to build a field in Al-Abdali in order to produce seeds and reserves seedling production as well as creating an area in Al-Ardiya for cooled reserves to produce fungal plant seedlings, in addition to a

farm in Wafra for fungal seed production threatened by extinction, he said. The authority is seeking through the fungal plants center to document the wildlife in Kuwait, where Kuwait environment is rich in many wild plants that grow naturally without human intervention and are adapted to the environment. These plants preserve the bio-diversity that preserves the ecological balance. — KUN

SCIENCE CLUB CAPTURES RARE PHOTO OF JUPITER

KUWAIT: The Astronomy and Space Sciences Department at Kuwait Science Club (KSC) captured a rare photo of the planet Jupiter, an official said in a statement yesterday. The rare photo of the huge planet showed Jupiter's most famous feature, a giant spinning storm called the Great Red Spot, said Bader Al-Amirah, Head of the Astronomy and Space Sciences Department at Kuwait Science Club. Jupiter is a giant gas planet and its atmosphere is made up of mostly hydrogen and helium, just like the sun, Amirah said. He added that Jupiter is the fifth planet from the sun, is about 1,400 times larger in volume than the Earth, and its interior is made of rocks and metallic hydrogen. — KUNA



BIDAA ROUNDABOUT TO GET UPGRADE

KUWAIT: The Ministry of Public Works (MPW) will spend KD 14 million to upgrade the Al-Bida'a Roundabout in a bid to ease traffic flow. It is unclear when construction will commence or the schedule for completion but the project includes widening of the Balajat and Taawon roads on the seaside and a grade level exchange. The three lane Balajat and Taawon streets will be converted at the roundabout into a two-lane ground-level road and a two-lane flyover for both the north and southbound lanes to ease congestion. Al-Bida'a roundabout will continue to be open during the construction. Mushrif Trading and Contracting (MTCC), a Kuwait Stock Exchange-listed company, has won the contract, the second it has won in the last few months. The contractor had previously outbid nine other bidders to win a KD 83 million deal for a 40km road serving Sabah Al-Ahmad, Mina Abdulla, and Al-Wafra areas. The tender is one of several projects in the MPW's pipeline to upgrade and improve Kuwait's overburdened road network.



KUWAIT: This archive photo shows an artists' rendition of the planned renovation of the Bidaa Roundabout. — KUNA