

Amir's envoy: Kuwait keen to boost partnership with UN

UNHCR: Kuwait left imprint on global humanitarian efforts

NEW YORK/KUWAIT: Kuwait seeks to strengthen strategic partnership with the United Nation and its diverse agencies, said His Highness the Amir's Representative, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah Saturday. In statements upon arriving in New York to head Kuwait's delegation to the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly, His Highness Sheikh Sabah stated that Kuwait will continue its humanitarian and political roles to promote peaceful settlement of all regional and international conflicts, fight terrorism, implement sustainable development goals and create a more peaceful, secure and prosperous world. He stressed that Kuwait will continue with its balanced political approach in dealing with various regional and international issues. He hailed the UN's effective role in overcoming challenges facing the world, particularly in the coronavirus era.

His Highness the Prime Minister underlined the importance of cooperation among all world countries to tackle the repercussions of the pandemic. He lauded UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres' efforts to promote global stability and greater cooperation among the member states. His Highness the Amir's representative and his accompanied delegation were received at JFK's airport by Kuwait's Ambassador to the United States Sheikh Salem Abdullah Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Mansour Al-Otaibi, Consul General in New York Hamad Al-

Hazeem, and a number of Kuwaiti officials.

Strong imprint

In other news, a UN official said yesterday that Kuwait has left a strong imprint on global humanitarian efforts, helping millions of refugees worldwide. In a statement to the press after meeting with Secretary General of Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) Maha Al-Barjas, the representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees



Promoting peaceful settlement of conflicts

(UNHCR) to Kuwait Nasreen Al-Rubaian affirmed that the GCC country was not reserved in terms of assisting the UNHCR and its missions.

While visiting the KRCS headquarter, Rubaian indicated that her meeting with the society's officials was part of the UNHCR's efforts in bolstering cooperation with regional and international humanitarian entities. The meeting with Barjas focused on



NEW YORK: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah arrives in New York to head Kuwait's delegation to the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly. — KUNA

venues to boost coordination in service of those in need worldwide, she indicated.

Meanwhile, Barjas affirmed that the KRCS was committed to its mission in helping refugees globally, expressing eagerness to further enhance cooperation with the UNHCR in this regard. The increase

of suffering and disasters in the world required increasing efforts by humanitarian organizations to meet challenges and address crises, indicated Barjas who stressed the important role played by Kuwaiti government and non-government bodies in boosting international humanitarian efforts. — KUNA

Kuwait to merge ministries as part of restructure plan: Report

KUWAIT: The government is preparing a roadmap for restructuring the public sector with a focus on economy through redesigning organizational structures and state public policies, a local daily reported yesterday.

Al-Qabas Arabic newspaper published the most notable items of the roadmap, which includes abolishing some ministries and merging others, and using independent authorities to run ministries that will be abolished. The period of implementing the transformation should take one to four years - from 2022 until the end of 2025.

The report quotes 'official sources' who said not appointing or not renewing some leadership posts in state ministries in the past period was due to the restructuring of the public sector. New leaders who worked sincerely during the past period will be selected to go along with the new restructuring revolution. The most important features of the government roadmap to restructure the public sector include:

- Establishing a ministry of economy and commerce to handle the economic development portfolio from 2022, while authorities similar to it be transferred to it within two and a half years, along with the transfer of economic and investment authorities to it.
- Reviewing investment laws, foreign owner-



KUWAIT: This archive photo shows an aerial view of Kuwait City. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

ship, bankruptcy laws and public and private sector partnership.

- Expanding the range of the national fund for developing small and medium projects to include innovation.
- Dismantling the services ministry and creating a communications ministry.
- Dismantling the information ministry and abolishing it, and creating an authority to implement media rules from 2023.
- Creating a ministry for youth, culture and tourism.
- Creating six new local municipalities that cover all Kuwait governorates.

- Creating a state-owned public establishment and preparing an operational strategy for several services.
- Creating a government establishment for electricity.
- Creating a new department for education policies and designing its strategy.
- Merging the Public Authority for Youth and Public Authority for Sport under one entity.
- Abolishing the state ministry for housing.
- Merging the education ministry with the higher education ministry.
- Merging the environment authority with the health ministry.

News in brief

Diwan thanks mourners

KUWAIT: On behalf of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Amiri Diwan yesterday expressed appreciation and gratitude to the mourners for condolences over the demise of Sheikh Ahmad Yousef Al-Salman Al-Sabah's wife, late Hessa Abdullah Mohammad Al-Rabe'a. The Diwan prayed to Allah the Almighty to grant them goodness, protect them against any harm and bestow mercy upon the soul of the deceased.

Trucks ban still on

KUWAIT: The interior ministry yesterday confirmed that the ban on heavy trucks on roads during weekdays is still in force. The ban hours are from 6:00 am to 9:30 am and from 12:00 pm to 3:30 pm. Yesterday, traffic congestions returned after nursery, elementary and intermediate teachers of public and private Arabic schools resumed work. Traffic jams are likely to increase when the rest of the teachers and students return to schools.

100,000 barrels a day

KUWAIT: The Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) witnessed on Saturday the launch of gathering center 31, north of the country, which will produce a daily 100,000 oil barrels, 62.5 million cubic feet of associated gas and 240,000 barrels of treated water. KPC described the newly completed project, which is connected to transport lines for oil, gas and water, as an "important strategic accomplishment", according to a statement. Attending the event was KPC CEO Hashem Hashem alongside representatives of Royal Dutch Shell.



KUWAIT: Kindergarten, elementary and intermediate school teachers started work in campus yesterday in preparation for the beginning of the academic year, which starts Oct 3 under health protocols. —Photos by Fouad Al-Shaikh