



KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Chairperson and CEO of Kuwait Airways Rasha Al-Roumi, Captain Abdulmohsen Al-Faq'aan, and Engineer Talal Al-Tamimi. — Amiri Diwan and KUNA photos



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with former MP Rashid Saif Al-Hojailan and Dr Ahmad Rashid Al-Hojailan.



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Dr Nayif Al-Harbi.

AMIR MEETS KUWAIT AIRWAYS OFFICIALS

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received at Bayan Palace yesterday Chairperson and CEO of Kuwait Airways Rasha Al-Roumi, Captain Abdulmohsen Al-Faq'aan, and Engineer Talal Al-Tamimi. The officials briefed His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah on the company's future plans and strategies. Roumi later met with His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah as well.

Meanwhile, His Highness the Amir received Montaha Mohammad Al-Ajil who won the Global Leadership Awards 2016 for fashion category held in Bali. His Highness also separately received Dr Abdullah Abdulqader Al-Kamali and Dr Nayif Al-Harbi, who presented to His Highness their PhD in basic education.

His Highness received former MP Rashid Saif Al-Hojailan and Dr Ahmad Rashid Al-Hojailan who presented His Highness with a PhD in administrative law. Meanwhile, His Highness received Dr Abdulaziz Al-Sunafi, who presented to His Highness his PhD thesis in mathematics. Moreover, His Highness received Dr Haifa Al-Ajmi who presented her PhD thesis in petroleum engineering and Dr Istiqlal Al-Azmi

who presented her PhD in political science. Separately, His Highness the Crown Prince received Minister of Commerce and Industry Dr Yousef Al-Ali, as well as former minister Ahmad Al-Abdullah Baqer.

Condolences

In other news, His Highness the Amir sent a cable to Yemeni President Abd Rabbu Mansur Hadi expressing his condolences over the victims of the terrorist attack against a military base in Aden on Monday. His Highness the Amir condemned this terrorist act, which left tens of people killed and injured, praying to Almighty God to bestow mercy upon souls of the victims and wished the injured quick recovery.

His Highness the Amir, in the cable, affirmed the State of Kuwait's strong condemnation of this brazen terrorist act that targeted innocent people. He also reiterated the unwavering rejection of all forms of terrorism, Kuwait's solidarity with the international community in the fight against this scourge, as well as the efforts aimed at drying up its resources. His Highness the Crown Prince and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables to President Hadi. —KUNA



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Montaha Mohammad Al-Ajil.



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Dr Istiqlal Al-Azmi.



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Dr Abdulaziz Al-Sunafi.



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer of Kuwait Airways Rasha Al-Roumi.



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Minister of Commerce and Industry Dr Yousef Al-Ali.



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with former minister Ahmad Al-Abdullah Baqer.

KUWAIT'S CONTRIBUTIONS HELP ALLEVIATE SUFFERING OF SYRIAN PEOPLE: UNICEF

KUWAIT: UN Children Fund (UNICEF) has highlighted the State of Kuwait's contributions to help Syrian people suffering from conflict that shattered their country, thus depriving millions from decent living conditions, health and nutrition, and education for children.

Syria has been facing the largest humanitarian crisis in the world, with an estimated 13.5 million people in need of urgent life-saving assistance inside Syria, including six million children. Families have been forced from their homes and livelihoods have been destroyed. More than four million people have fled the country and 6.5 million were internally displaced (IDPs).

The Kuwaiti government and people rushed to help their Syrian brethren soon after the conflict broke out in March 2011, and have contributed \$24 million to help millions of people who have become either IDPs or refugees in neighboring countries - Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt.

UNICEF, in a report released last July highlighting Kuwait's contribution since June 2015, said the Arab Gulf country contributed \$45 million to the Fund to support the "Syria Crisis Response." This contribution, a tiny part of Kuwait's assistance, was divided into \$24 million to support Syrian refugees in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, while \$21 million allocated to help the Whole of Syria.

The Syrian people's needs have been growing with no resolution to the conflict, now in its fifth year, looked imminent. The conflict killed more than 250,000 people and wounded many more others. Children were particularly vulnerable to grave rights violations such as recruitment into armed groups including exploitation and abuse. Access to basic services such as education, health care, water sanitation and social services remained inadequate.

Some 26 of hospitals in Syria were not functioning, resulting in 42 percent of population lacking access to basic health care. One-third of children under five years old have not been reached with routine immunization, said the UNICEF report.

It noted that one in every four schools was destroyed or damaged, and more than two million children were out of school. This situation was further aggravated by water shortages, where around 70 percent of population live without regular access to water, both due to deliberate cuts by parties to the conflict and extensive damage to water infrastructure.

Generous contribution

Kuwait, answering the UN calls, made generous contribution to UNICEF to support the Syrian people. The purpose of this \$45 million contribution was to address large scale humanitarian needs by targeting the most vulnerable through prioritized, life-saving interventions that alleviated suffering, while maintaining and protecting human dignity.

The contribution enabled UNICEF to address needs of children and their families inside Syria and in neighboring countries, thus enabled the UN agency to support safe water supply and other services to prevent outbreak of diarrhea, typhoid, polio, and other water-borne and contagious diseases.

UNICEF and its partners reached 4.8 million people inside Syria and 954,124 refugees with water sanitation and hygiene interventions, which included clean drinking water. These supplies, said the report, were critical to ensure a healthy environment.

The Kuwait funding has also enabled UNICEF to expand its human resources, financial preparedness and response capacity, not only for immediate life-saving interventions but

also for building resilience through strengthening of national systems and capacities to address medium and long-term needs of refugees and host communities.

Kuwait's role was not restricted to direct involvement in UNICEF's activities, but through collaborating with other organizations to provide funding to support education, protecting children in Syria from losing hope in their future by giving them access to skills, knowledge and opportunities in safe places.

This collaboration, part of the 'No Lost Generation' initiative, benefited 320,000 Syrian children inside Syria and in neighboring countries. "Children who are not in school are more vulnerable to protection risks such as labor, begging or fending for themselves on the streets and child marriages and forced recruitment to armed groups inside Syria," said the report.

But the Kuwaiti funding provided tangible support to education and access to psychosocial support through recreational activities, counseling and sport, said the report. The funding, added the report, continued to help 293,443 Syrian children regain a sense of normalcy in "their often turbulent lives."

Horrible picture

Much has been achieved but a lot remains to be done, said UNICEF, depicting a horrible picture of the conditions of the Syrian people. It said about 5.1 million people inside Syria were living in areas with explosive remnants of war, while one in four children were at risk of developing a mental disorder. More than 6,000 schools - or some one-third of total schools - could no longer be used because they were destroyed, damaged, sheltering displaced families or being used for military purposes. More than 52,000 teachers have left the country.

The funding of Kuwait has reached hundreds of thousands of needy Syrians to help provide a variety of services like water, sanitation and hygiene, health and nutrition, education, in addition to clothes for winter.

UNICEF expressed utmost gratitude to the State of Kuwait for its "significant and flexible" contribution which has enabled the UN agency to maximize its response to needs of Syrian children and their families, both inside Syria and in the neighboring countries.

"Kuwait funding has been critical to the Syria crisis emergency response and has enabled UNICEF to scale up operations through expanded capacities not only to save lives, but also to build resilience to address medium and long-term needs of Syria's children, adolescents and their families," said the UNICEF report. — KUNA

ALABAMA SENATE COMMENDS AMIR'S HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS

KUWAIT: The US Alabama State Senate has adopted a resolution commending the humanitarian efforts of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. In the resolution, put forward by Senator William Beasley on August 19, the Senate conveys "highest commendation — to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah for being the humanitarian leader of Kuwait affirming the country's positive and leading role for humanitarian assistance." His Highness the Amir was honored by the UN in 2014, as a 'Humanitarian Leader' and Kuwait as a 'Humanitarian Center'.

Since His Highness the Amir assumed power in 2006, "Kuwait's humanitarian aid has experienced a worldwide reach as the efforts have raised the volume of aid and relief supplies provided to countries hit by catastrophes and crises," the resolution read. It reviewed the Kuwaiti aid to the Syrian people since the outbreak of their crisis in 2011, as "several humanitarian

campaigns have been launched to aid refugees in Syria's neighboring countries."

The Senate pointed to His Highness the Amir's support to the Palestinian cause and people, with donations channeled through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

At the behest of His Highness the Amir, Kuwait has rendered assistance to other countries struck by catastrophes, including Bangladesh, following a cyclone in 2007, Turkey and Japan in the aftermath of destructive earthquakes in 2011, Somalia in 2011, and the Philippines in 2014, the resolution said.

In addition, Kuwait "made a generous donation to the World Health Organization (WHO) to aid in the combat of the spread of Ebola virus." The resolution highly appreciated His Highness the Amir's efforts as "an active member in the international community with a long history of commitment to international and humanitarian aid." — KUNA