

ZAIN RENEWS COMMITMENT TO UN'S GLOBAL GOALS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

COMPANY SUPPORTS PROTECTING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN ARAB WORLD

KUWAIT/CAIRO: Zain Group, a leading mobile telecom innovator in eight markets across the Middle East and Africa, announces its support of the agenda put forward by the Second Policy Dialogue and Sixth Regional Consultation for Middle East and North Africa Conference on Child Helplines in the Arab World; which recently convened at the Arab League headquarters in Cairo 15 to 17 February. Zain Group was the only mobile operator who was invited and participated in the conference to share its collaboration, experience, and leadership in this area of supporting the plight of children across its regional footprint. Held in collaboration with Child Helpline International (CHI), and falling under the United Nations' Global Goals for Sustainable Development, the Conference aimed to consider the plight of children from a regional perspective. The UN's Global Goals for Sustainable Development are directly in line with Zain's own outlook on the topic, with the series of 17 ambitious goals having been adopted by 193 world leaders at the United Nations last September. They are aimed at ending poverty, fighting inequality and injustice, and tackling climate change for all by 2030.

Child helplines

The Conference discussed mechanisms to develop and activate child helplines in light of the conflicts and regional instability that currently exists and considered how to develop emergency response mechanisms for the delivery of services to children and displaced people in refugee camps. Additionally the Conference explored how ICT infrastructure could be leveraged to facilitate and support child helplines, while also encouraging member countries that do not have such facilities in place to introduce them. Ways in which to deliver a quality child helpline network across the Arab World were also raised.

Commenting on the plight of children in the region, Zain Group's Head of Corporate Sustainability and Social Responsibility, Jennifer Suleiman said, "A society is judged by the manner in which it treats its most needy and vulnerable citizens. It is incumbent upon each one of us to protect the innocence of children for as long as possible, and it is an area that Zain takes very seriously, and feels strongly about continuing to contribute towards."

Recent research results from CHI reveal that providing basic services to children can significantly accelerate the progress towards achieving the UN Global Goals for Sustainable Development, and the Consultative Conference saw the participation of representatives from child support organizations and CHI from across member states. Representatives from regional and international children rights' organizations were also present as were a number of academicians and representatives of think tanks and private sector entities.

Protection initiatives

During the conference, Zain presented details of a number of child protection initiatives it had introduced aimed at supporting separated families across the Arab world. The company highlighted the role ICT can play in helping displaced children and offered examples of where it has been involved in such activities.

Under the overarching theme of child protection, Zain detailed how last year it undertook a multi-faceted media campaign to raise awareness about the ills of child abuse and shed light on this often taboo, yet tragic topic. Zain highlighted this global phenomenon and its support of children from the region, especially in those areas ravaged by conflict. Zain Group is already actively involved in anti-child abuse-related initiatives in partnership with the GSMA; dating back to February 2011 when Zain joined the

GSMA Mobile Alliance against Child Sexual Abuse Content campaign. Further, in November 2014, Zain partnered with the GSMA's agreement with Child Helpline International (CHI) to protect young people and safeguard their right to be heard. The GSMA and CHI jointly signed a Memorandum of Understanding that established a roadmap for promoting child helplines across the globe. The roadmap included measures to strengthen relationships between national mobile operators and their in-country helplines and foster collaboration on issues such as a safer Internet for children.



of children on the Internet, which aims to identify the risks to children and to create awareness of this risk and the exchange of knowledge, experiences and facilitate cooperation among stakeholders, stressing the importance that the majority of children having protection from the dangers of the internet by 2020.

It is noteworthy that as a result of social, economic and political challenges facing the Middle East and North Africa, have led to the displacement of more than 10 million people, it is estimated that the current conflicts in the MENA region deprive more than 13 million children to have access to formal education.

Zain as an institution is committed to promoting sustainable development, is keen to align its business activities and strategy within the UN's Global Goals for Sustainable Development at the forefront of its considerations and decision-making.

Free access

Zain has gone on to provide free access to child helplines in both Jordan and Saudi Arabia, with plans to launch the service in Sudan and Kuwait later this year. Another area of concern highlighted at the conference

News

In brief

Kuwait's Credit Bank loan portfolio at KD 5.3 billion

KUWAIT: The value of loan portfolio issued by the Credit Bank of Kuwait (KCB) amounted to KD 5.3 billion, and the bank does not have any bad debts, said Director General of Kuwait Credit Bank Salah Al-Mudhaf yesterday. Mudhaf said in an interview with Arabic-language Kuwaiti daily newspaper 'Al-Anbaa' that the bank is keen on the continuity and sustainability of providing mortgage loans to Kuwaiti citizen, especially with the increasing number of residential units distributed by the Public Authority for Housing Welfare. He added that providing residential units for Kuwaiti families that commensurate with the current value of the loan need a profound study, especially with the increasing prices of the housing units. — KUNA

Martyr's Bureau releases new issue of 'Al-Hawiya' magazine

KUWAIT: The Martyr's Bureau of the Amiri Diwan released yesterday a new issue of 'Al-Hawiya' (Identity) magazine, coinciding with national day celebrations and the 25th anniversary of the office's inception. Undersecretary of the Amiri Diwan and Chief Editor of 'Al-Hawiya' magazine Fatma Al-Amir, in a column she had penned entitled, "Serving our Martyrs for 25 Years," said that stability and security are constituents of a brighter tomorrow. "Prosperity and Development are amiss without stability and security," she wrote. Moreover, head of the magazine's editorial department Fayza Al-Mane echoed similar sentiments in a column of her own, saying that stability and security are necessary to stifle violence plaguing the region. The issue also covered some landmark events including the inauguration of Jaber stadium, and features a host of articles commemorating the country's national and liberation day celebrations. — KUNA

Kuwait bans ruminant imports from Georgia

KUWAIT: The Public Authority of Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources has banned imports of all ruminant species from Georgia over an outbreak of bluetongue disease in the country. In a statement issued yesterday, the authority stressed the necessity that all shipments should be subjected to measures of the authority, the World Organization for Animal Health, and quarantine in Kuwait and all GCC member states. The statement added that shipments of ruminants diagnosed with epidemic and infectious diseases will be sent back to Georgia on its expense. The move was prompted by a recent report by World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) on outbreak of the disease in the country, it added. — KUNA

SHOOT & WIN KUWAIT IN OUR EYES 2016

FROM 5TH JAN. TILL 17TH MAR.

First prize

- Canon Camera Eos 70D + Canon EF-S 18-200mm f/3.5-5.6 IS.
- Free Camera Bag.
- One Economy class ticket Kuwait - Dubai-Kuwait.

Second prize

- Canon Camera Eos 70D + Canon EF 20mm f/2.8 USM.
- Free Camera Bag.
- One Economy class ticket Kuwait - Dubai-Kuwait.

Third prize

- Canon Camera Eos 70D + Canon EF-S 18-135 mm.
- Free Camera Bag.
- One Economy class ticket Kuwait - Dubai - Kuwait

Fourth prize

- Canon Camera EOS 760D + Canon EF 85 mm f/1.8 USM.
- Free Camera Bag.
- One Economy class ticket Kuwait- Bahrain- Kuwait

Fifth prize

- Canon Camera EOS 760D + Canon EF 70-300mm f/4.5-5.6 DO IS USM.
- Free Camera Bag.
- One Economy class ticket Kuwait - Bahrain - Kuwait

Sixth prize

- Canon Camera PowerShot G15.
- Free Camera Bag.
- One Economy class ticket Kuwait - Bahrain - Kuwait

All photos should be submitted at the Kuwait Times newspaper before 17th of March 2016.

Rules & Conditions:

- The competition is open to individuals of all ages.
- The submitted photos should be taken by the participant.
- Every participant is allowed to submit maximum five entries.
- The photos can be black and white or colour size 40X30 cm.
- All entries should be provided a hard copy and Soft Copy on a CD (in high resolution) with photo of the participant needs to be included in the CD.
- The original coupon should be attached to the back of each photo and should include a complete information about the participant.

The coupons are advertised at Kuwait Times and Al Anba newspapers during the period of competition.

- All submitted photos will become property of Kuwait Times newspaper and can be used for different purposes.
- The winners will be chosen by a panel of judges.
- All photos must be original and should not be doctored with any design program, such as Photoshop.

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2016

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Civil ID: _____

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For a Limited Time Only All Participants Can Get A Special Discount Of 50% For A High Definition Prints, Including Delivery To Their Door Step . Act Now And Use Discount Code (SHOOTWIN) During Checkout. Download Our Free App For Mac and Pc at www.albumii.com. For More Information Contact Albumii At (69302526)



KUWAIT: Minister of Commerce and Industry Yousef Al-Ali inaugurates the first international Kuwait Trading Fair. —Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

KUWAIT'S FIRST COMMERCIAL FAIR PROMOTES TIES IN ALL FIELDS: MINISTER

KUWAIT: Minister of Commerce and Industry Yousef Al-Ali said yesterday that the first international Kuwait Trading Fair 'Kuwait Heart of the Commercial World' contributes to enhancing relations in all fields. The minister made the remark during a speech while inaugurating the event in which about 25 Arab and foreign countries are taking part.

The conference, which is held concurrently with celebrations of the national days, is part national keenness on materializing the desire of His Highness the Amir to turn Kuwait into an international commercial and financial hub, he added.

He noted that the government cooperated with the parliament in terms of enacting several financial and economic legislations and laws aiming to attract more foreign investors. The event is an opportunity to deal with major companies and institutions across the globe so as to open new horizons and markets of trade and economic cooperation. — KUNA



Minister of Commerce and Industry Yousef Al-Ali speaks at the event.



Minister of Commerce and Industry Yousef Al-Ali and officials in a group photo.