

Local

News in brief

Kuwait reiterates rejection of all forms of terrorism

NEW YORK: Kuwait has reiterated its firm stand by rejecting all forms of terrorism and extremism regardless of their causes, motives and sources, stressing that promotion of the culture of tolerance and coexistence among peoples and nations is one of the priorities of its domestic and foreign policy. This came in Kuwait's speech during the 6th legal committee meeting of the 72nd round of the United Nations General Assembly on the elimination of international terrorism.

Kuwait keen on supporting global anti-torture efforts

GENEVA: Kuwait is keen on supporting global efforts against torture, said Kuwait's delegate to the UN and international organizations headquarters in Geneva Ambassador Jamal Al-Ghunaim yesterday. Speaking to KUNA ahead of the 16th regular meeting for the United Nations Convention against Torture, Ghunaim affirmed that Kuwait was interacting positively with various accords and international agreements connected with human rights, affirming that his country stood firm against all acts of torture.

Kuwait stresses importance of implementing disarmament deals

NEW YORK: Kuwait has reiterated its firm position on the implementation of all relevant agreements related to disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. This statement was delivered by Advisor of the Permanent Delegation of Kuwait to the United Nations Talal Al-Fassam, at the UN General Assembly's First Committee on Disarmament and International Security on Wednesday.

Ghanem delivers message from Amir to Bush senior

KUWAIT: National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem has delivered a written message from HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to US ex-President George H W Bush at his residence in Portland, Maine. Ghanem handed over the message to the former American president during a short visit to the United States, paid in response to an invitation from the ex-president.

Emerging from the meeting with Bush, Ghanem stated, "in a manifestation of gratitude that reflects genuine origin of the Kuwaiti people toward personalities whom we will not forget, I have been honored along with my colleague, member of the parliamentary caucus Yusuf Al-Fadhalah, with handing over a written message from His Highness the Amir expressing his whole-hearted wishes (to Bush) so he may recover quickly and our appreciation as Kuwaitis for his heroic role in the liberation of Kuwait."

The speaker indicated that in contacts with the former president, during a health setback and after recuperation months ago, "addressed an (visit) invitation to us which we could not respond to at the time however we have managed to respond to it now." The former president was deeply touched during the meeting, along with the attending



PORTLAND, Maine: National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem delivers a written message from HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to former US President George H W Bush at his residence. — KUNA

first lady and the ex-secretary of state James Baker, who was in office during Kuwait's liberation, with "the fact that this (Kuwaiti) people have remained faithful after quarter a century".

Ghanem described the meeting as very cordial, noting that the ex-president appeared in good shape despite his old age. The speaker indicated that he heard, for the first time, from the American side, some occurrences during the flagrant Iraqi occupation of Kuwait and liberation operation. The former American president expressed

deep gratitude for the cordial sentiments, expressed by HH the Amir and the Kuwaiti people as well as their representatives in the parliament.

Ghanem has said the American people will positively eye this visit, which "affirms that we as people do not forget the personalities that have stood on our side during crises and hard days". The Kuwaiti delegation during the meeting displayed a video documentary chronicling his role during the blatant Iraqi invasion, with messages from the Kuwaiti people to His Excellency. — KUNA

Justice minister: Kuwait, PCA to deepen ties

THE HAGUE: Minister of Justice Faleh Abdullah Al-Azab met yesterday with the Secretary General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) Hugo Hans Siblesz and discussed ways to strengthen and deepen cooperation with the PCA. Speaking to KUNA and Kuwait TV after the meeting, Azab said he exchanged views on how we can develop relations by the presence of the PCA in Kuwait. He hoped that Kuwait would become the first country in Arab world to host the PCA on its territory.

Azab stressed that Kuwait is a state of law and hence it is capable to host international organizations. He noted that Siblesz proposed the creation of arbitration court for Islamic sharia and added Kuwait as a matter of principle and after consultation with the higher authorities in the country will look into this idea.

Siblesz told KUNA that he received the Kuwaiti minister and his delegation to discuss the ongoing cooperation between the PCA and Kuwait. "In the past Kuwait has financed the Arabic language translation of the guides to the PCA arbitration rules. We have held a conference in Kuwait early last year and we have looked at further possibility of cooperation in the future," he said.

They also discussed possible approaches and creation of specific rules for Islamic finance under the PAC auspices. "That is a project that we have discussed with the



THE HAGUE: Kuwaiti Justice Minister Faleh Al-Azab meets with the SG of the PCA Hugo Hans Siblesz. — KUNA

Kuwaiti authorities and we hope that this will lead to results to make the PCA even more visible in the Arab world with the cooperation with Kuwait," he added. After the meeting, Tareq Yusif Al-Shumaimri, Counsellor at the Kuwait embassy and chairman of the financial committee of the PCA and observer administrative council at the PCA gave a presentation to the gathering on the PCA's mandate and activities and its rulings and cases.

He noted that Kuwait contributed in cooperation with the Gulf Cooperation Countries to the creation of the Arabic page on the PCA website. He explained that there is a new international trend to resolve disputes through the international arbitration as it is swifter and costs less than the traditional methods of arbitration. Shumaimri pointed out that no country can influence the decision making process of the PCA. Later speaking to KUNA, he noted that the Kuwaiti minister of justice is on a 3-day visit to the Netherlands following an invitation by Hans Siblesz with the aim to further strengthen relations between the PCA and Kuwait. — KUNA

ANSA chief welcomes ties with KUNA

ROME: Director General of the Italian News Agency (ANSA) Giuseppe Cerbone has praised KUNA's Chairman and Director General and President of the Federation of Arab News Agencies (FANA) Sheikh Mubarak Al-Duaij Al-Sabah for his efforts to promote Arab-European media cooperation, as well as the focus on professionally qualifying young personnel in the field.

In an interview with KUNA yesterday, Cerbone said ANSA was proud of hosting the first Arab-European forum for news agencies, held in Rome last month, as well as of cooperating with FANA. The event is likely to help augment the role of news agencies as a reliable source for information, at the face of widely-spread "fake news," he said. News agencies are responsible for working hard to divulge the truth, and show what is false through joint methods and goals, with full respect of people's beliefs and culture, and rejection of the "Ideology of Death" or linking it to any faith, he added.

Cerbone recalled his long discussions with Sheikh Mubarak Al-Duaij, which mirrored the long and well-established ties with KUNA, and his being FANA chief. He said that Sheikh Mubarak Al-Duaij has keenness and crystal-clear vision on the prime importance of the human element, and professionalism, in media. He added that they are posed to study some practical proposals made by Sheikh Mubarak Al-Duaij during the forum, topped



ROME: Director General of ANSA Giuseppe Cerbone meets KUNA's Chairman and Director General and President of the FANA Sheikh Mubarak Al-Duaij Al-Sabah. — KUNA

with an initiative for a joint project on organizing specialized courses to qualify the Arab and European media graduates and young cadres. The initiative will come to light once the necessary measures and studies are completed, Cerbone said.

Meanwhile, the ANSA Director General welcomed an invitation from Sheikh Mubarak Al-Duaij to visit KUNA over the coming period. He said he is eager to make the visit that will reaffirm the particular relations with KUNA, and the agency's prominent role on the media scene. He hoped further programs would be concluded during the visit for promoting bilateral professional and technical cooperation on the long run. Sheikh Mubarak Al-Duaij and Director General of Italian News Agency (ANSA) Giuseppe Cerbone, at the Arab-European forum, sealed a deal to ratchet up cooperation between the two news agencies. — KUNA