

Local

Parliament speaker expresses readiness to cooperate with govt

Governance in realms of legislation, finance and administration

KUWAIT: National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem expressed yesterday readiness by the legislative branch to cooperate with the government, and set governance implementation as a top national priority. Ghanem made the remarks in a speech during the opening ceremony of Governance Conference, held under the title "governance in the State of Kuwait in the realms of legislation, finance and administration."

The event is organized by the legislative and legal affairs committee of the National Assembly, in cooperation with Kuwait's State Audit Bureau, under Ghanem's auspices and attendance. The speaker stressed importance on transforming some of the proposed concepts to the legislative and into legal forms, as well as reforming current laws that would bridge legal and legislative gaps that ham-

“Implementing governance is no longer optional, but a must”

per the implementation of governance in the governmental and private sectors. He also called on reaching a comprehensive vision in order to implement the governance, which would counter corruption in the state's institutions. Governance became a dear need and not only optional, as most of the governments, companies and social entities worldwide are implementing and experiencing it, Ghanem affirmed.

Governance will reflect the values of reward, punishment, transparency, and wise ruling, he said. He expressed hope that the conference would contribute in transferring ideas to applicable visions. He also thanked the legislative and legal affairs committee of the National Assembly, and State's Audit Bureau, as well as all the participants who took part in the conference.



KUWAIT: Speaker of the National Assembly Marzouq Al-Ghanem speaks during the conference. — KUNA



MP Mohammad Al-Dalal delivers his speech.

Five themes

The conference involves five themes including the governance of development planning, the rules and principles of the governance implementation within the framework of the state's development plan, and governance in the roles of the legislative and judicial authorities.



A general view of the audience attending the conference.

The event brings together senior officials and parliamentarians, all of whom will delve into the correlation between solid governance and rapid development in this regard, said MP Mohammad Al-Dalal, who heads an ad hoc committee dealing with legislative legal affairs, adding that the conference would help prop up inspection bodies in the country.

He added that the conference will examine the government's contributions to anti-corruption efforts and measures to ensure transparency and integrity in the government sector.

Dalal said that the conference will bring together officials from UAE and Singapore to benefit from the experiences of the two advanced countries, pointing out to the experience of the UAE, which is considered the most pioneering in the Gulf region.

He noted that the governance will prove instrumental in improving performance within state institutions, particularly, in the fields of finance, legislation and administration. The governance contributes to improving performance of foundations including the private sector and civil society organizations. —KUNA

KAFO provides easier connection, collaboration with young achievers

By Nawara Fattahova

KUWAIT: The Amiri Diwan, in cooperation with the Ministry of State for Youth Affairs, held Kuwait's Achievers for Future Opportunities' first annual forum to celebrate the launch of KAFO's website on Monday at Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Cultural Center. KAFO is the first national platform to ease the process of searching, connecting and collaborating with young achievers. The event included an exhibition, community discussions and networking sessions.

Undersecretary of the Ministry of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Al-Zein Al-Sabah noted that the first KAFO forum will be an annual forum that focuses on creative and innovative young nationals in various fields. "We give them this opportunity to present their projects and ideas. We hope that this forum will build new interactive industries to provide more income sources through encouraging the youth to work in the development sector," she said.

Dr Yousef Al-Ibrahim, Head of the Higher Supervising Committee of the Project, said KAFO consists of various activities highlighting the creativity of Kuwait youth. "A huge number of young people attended this forum, which is a platform with data about special and excellent individuals to create a connection between them, and from here came the



KUWAIT: Undersecretary of the Ministry of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Al-Zein Al-Sabah (left) and Head of the Higher Supervising Committee of the Project Dr Yousef Al-Ibrahim listen to a participant as she speaks during the event. —Photos by Joseph Shagra

idea of KAFO," he said. "We will start with six forums, which includes meetings, to present creative people and their activities, in addition to using technology to create a virtual community for these young individuals. We need to encourage young people not only to find a job, but also to build this country. I believe that KAFO will be the tool to discover these people," added Ibrahim.

KAFO started as a platform with resumes of the par-

ticipants. "The goal was not just to set up a website, but to make it useful, so we re-built it. We bring together youth to voice their opinions, and accordingly, we changed the name and logo to KAFO (Kuwait's Achievers for Future Opportunities). In this way we introduced a traditional Kuwaiti word 'kafo' for 'eigners,'" explained Dr Fatma Al-Musawi, CEO of KAFO project.

Over 700 creative people and volunteers participat-

ed in developing KAFO. "We focused on having key content for public authorities. So we included CVs, connecting achievers, displaying opportunities of cooperation, searching for achievers and opportunities and exchanging experiences through communities. During the first phase, we focused on seven categories - leading businesses, humanitarian work, culture and arts, food and beverage, sports, media and science and technology," concluded Musawi.



Young people participate with their innovations in the forum.

Hydraulic fracturing to yield sublime oil products, says researcher

KUWAIT: A feasibility study of hydraulic fracturing, a technique designed to recover gas or oil from rock, would be instrumental in providing higher quality crude oil products, a leading researcher said yesterday. After a meeting that brought together Kuwaiti and Japanese oil experts to examine the prospect of hydraulic fracturing, Dr Hamza Al-Bazaz, tasked by Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) to preside over the study said that the project aims to find out how applicable such a technique is in Kuwait. He pointed out that the process of hydraulic fracturing could lead to top notch crude oil products that would have positive ripple effects across the global market.

Bazaz put a three-year timeframe on the feasibility study, which was the brainchild of Japanese oil experts who are heavily involved in the project. The Kuwaiti researcher noted that the Japanese contingent would be visiting Mina Abdullah refinery to explain how significant the breakthrough technique is. The meeting also featured a lecture given by a Japanese expert over the most cutting-edge oil extraction techniques, all of which could prove beneficial for the Kuwaiti oil industry. — KUNA



KUWAIT: Kuwaiti and Japanese oil experts meet to examine the prospect of hydraulic fracturing. — KUNA

Kuwait assures continued support for health relief efforts

ISLAMABAD: Kuwait is committed to global health and humanitarian relief efforts, Health Minister Jamal Al-Harbi told attendees of a World Health Organization (WHO) regional committee session yesterday. The minister stressed Kuwait's support for the integration of efforts to combat chronic diseases and detect cancer into national development plans with a focus on early detection.

This has been successfully implemented in Kuwait, he said, mentioning the United Nation's selection of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and Kuwait as a humanitarian global leader and international center, respectively. The Eastern Mediterranean region is the source of more than half of the displaced people and refugees in the world, he said at the 64th session of the WHO Regional Committee in Islamabad.

For this reason, he demanded further efforts to transform commitments into regional action plans to guide the modernization of health programs and expressed optimism for a better future despite the magnitude of the challenges.

He also praised the efforts of the Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean to focus on health information systems and include key indicators to monitor progress towards



Health Minister Dr Jamal Al-Harbi

achieving sustainable development goals, particularly on the basic indicators of member countries. Minister Harbi is amongst the high level representatives of 22 countries in WHO's Eastern Mediterranean region attending the event. —KUNA