

Local

Kuwait's FM highlights preventive diplomacy's role in avoiding disputes

Deputy FM lauds Kuwaiti-UN cooperation for serving humanity

KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah confirmed the importance of the preventive diplomacy to stop the eruption of disputes and conflicts, and enhance dialogue and mediation amongst countries. This came in a speech delivered by Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled in a ceremony on Sunday held by the office of the United Nations Secretary General Representative and Resident Coordinator to Kuwait Tarek El-Sheikh. The minister pointed to the current cooperation between the UN and Kuwait and linking between the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations and Kuwait's 2035 vision. Since attaining membership to the United Nations in 1963, Kuwait has been keen on partaking effectively in the UN's activities and events, he told the ceremony. This comes in line with Kuwait's realization of major responsibilities and duties facing the UN, he added. Throughout its current non-permanent membership of the UN Security Council and in support of other members, Kuwait has highlighted those affected by the ongoing humanitarian disasters all over the world, he said.

Kuwait renews UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres' speech on the importance of preventive diplomacy to avoid conflicts and disputes, and strengthen the role of dialogue and mediation, he noted. While pre-

siding over UN Security Council sessions last June, Kuwait held a meeting to discuss preventing the eruption of disputes in order to enhance the UN Secretary General's vision at the UN Security Council's meetings, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled said. He further noted that Kuwait recalls with pride the UN strong and historical stances, in particular the Security Council and its role in maintaining international peace and security. Kuwait also recalls the UN Security Council's role in the liberation of the country in 1991 that reflects the current varied and close cooperation between the state and the UN, he mentioned.

One of the most outstanding cooperation is the linkage between the UN Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and Kuwait 2035 vision, he said. He pointed out that Kuwait's 2030 vision affirms its full commitment to partnership and international solidarity within the framework of the policies of the country's government in the short, medium and long term to achieve the highest sustainable development gains. Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled finally expressed appreciations to the efforts exerted to make a successful event.

Serving humanity

Meanwhile, Kuwaiti Deputy Foreign Minister Khalid Al-Jarallah hailed Kuwait-UN cooperation and its crucial role in promoting world peace and serving humanity.



KUWAIT: Officials pose for a group photo during a ceremony held by the UN office in Kuwait to celebrate the UN Day. — Photo by Fouad Al-Shaikh

This continuous and fruitful cooperation has all support from His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and the Kuwaiti leadership at all levels, Jarallah told reporters on the sidelines of the ceremony held by the UN in Kuwait to celebrate the UN Day. He pointed that Kuwait is keen on participating in the UN activities out of a deep belief in the great role it plays. Kuwait is very proud of this

effective role, he said.

In the meantime, Tarek El-Sheikh shed light on the work of UN teams in Kuwait. They are working through the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to improve the role of women in society and boost entrepreneurship in collaboration with the Kuwait University and research centers on women's affairs, he said. He noted that the UNDP-Kuwait has been cooperat-

ing with state institutions to develop many important strategies. Kuwait and UN are doing a great job in the humanitarian action through cooperation between Kuwaiti parties and the International Organization of Migration and other UN concerned bodies, he clarified. El-Sheikh expressed gratitude to Kuwait for its fruitful and constructive cooperation with the UN in various domains. — KUNA

Kuwait's global aid efforts unparalleled, says Deputy FM

KUWAIT: Kuwait has made unmatched contributions towards global economic growth, its deputy foreign minister said yesterday, citing a UN honor bestowed upon His Highness the Amir as a testament to the Gulf country's devotion to human welfare. The mere name of Kuwait has become "synonymous" with humanitarian aid efforts, Khaled Al-Jarallah told reporters as a seminar over Kuwaiti foreign aid opened, saying the country continues its mission to "delight nations" all over the world. He acknowledged the efforts of a Kuwait-based fund that have helped lift thousands out of sheer penury, emphasizing that the country's penchant for assisting countries in need "knows no limits."

During the seminar, held in conjunction with the World Bank Group, he said national development is among the pillars of sustainable economic growth, pointing out that Kuwait is proud to collaborate with a "venerable institution" such as the World Bank. Much like the UN, he recalled that the World Bank also honored His Highness the Amir in recognition of his immense contributions towards humanitarian causes, as their partnership yielded notable events such as Kuwait-hosted talks over



KUWAIT: Deputy Foreign Minister Khalid Al-Jarallah speaks during the seminar. — KUNA

reconstruction efforts in Iraq.

On Kuwait's future plans, the official said the country finds itself in a "race against time" to bring its ultimate goal of morphing into a global financial hub to fruition. Kuwait's private sector has also contributed a fair share of the country's foreign aid, according to the director general of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development Abdulwahab Al-Bader. Through its philanthropic endeavors, Kuwait has left an "indelible mark" on many nations, helping prop up vital sectors through copious amounts of humanitarian aid, he added. — KUNA



KUWAIT: UNHCR Head of Office in Kuwait Samer Haddadin, Zain Kuwait's Chief Corporate Communications and Relations Officer Waleed Al-Khashti with officials from public and private sectors during the honoring.

Zain participates in first Humanitarian Corporate Social Responsibility Forum

KUWAIT: Zain, the leading digital service provider in Kuwait, participated in a panel discussion entitled 'Walk the Talk: Highlighting the Pioneering Role of the Kuwaiti Private Sector in Humanitarian Giving' as part of the First Humanitarian Corporate Social Responsibility Forum. The forum, organized by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) under the patronage of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, witnessed the presence of UNHCR Head of Office in Kuwait Samer Haddadin, and many officials from the public and private sectors.

Zain took part in the forum represented by Zain Kuwait's Chief Corporate Communications and Relations Officer Waleed Al-Khashti. The event witnessed the attendance of many of the UN's partners from the civil community, private sector, international organizations, as well as a number of public figures. The seminar discussed the social responsibility of private sector institutions in supporting refugee issues. Zain participated in the forum as part of its Strategic Partnership with the UNHCR.

During his participation in the panel discussion, Khashti said: "we are proud that Zain was one of Kuwait's first private sector companies to form a strategic partnership with the UNHCR by signing an MoU back in 2016. The MoU aimed at finding the best ways in which to contribute to the improvement of the living and social conditions of refugees and any other individuals who the UNHCR provides assistance to, and we agreed to regularly consult with one another in order to contribute to the improvement of the well-being of refugees."

Khashti explained: "the private sector has a vital and active role in supporting the public sector and global agencies like the UNHCR to uplift the suffering of refugees around the world. For this, we have embraced and launched many programs and initiatives throughout the past years in line with the UNHCR's needs and goals."

Khashti continued: "Zain's efforts are well aligned with those of the nation, where the directives of His Highness the Amir Sheikh



Zain Kuwait's Chief Corporate Communications and Relations Officer Waleed Al-Khashti speaks during the panel discussion.

Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Humanitarian Leader, have succeeded in making the State of Kuwait a leader in development projects and humanitarian assistance. We are extremely proud to work under the umbrella of these directives."

Zain's participation came as an extension of the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the company and the UNHCR during April of 2016. The agreement considered the best ways in which to contribute to the improvement of the living and social conditions of refugees and any other individuals who the UNHCR provides assistance to, and is considered an embodiment of the spirit of cooperation between private and global humanitarian sectors. Through its dedicated booth, Zain showcased its most prominent contributions in humanitarian fields during the past two years, including its #ZainWithRefugees campaign, field trips to refugee camps, online donation campaigns, strategic partnerships with local and global humanitarian entities, and more.

In 2017, Zain launched its humanitarian campaign #ZainWithRefugees in collaboration with the UNHCR. The campaign aimed at

improving the living conditions of thousands of refugees in the region who suffer from the lack of essential supplies during the harsh winter season. Donations were utilized to provide families with financial support, winter clothing, thermal blankets, heaters, and more.

Zain prides itself in its long list of joint collaborations with the UNHCR, including the extension of mobile telecommunications coverage to reconnect displaced families in the Middle East, offering telecom services in deprived areas, as well as awareness campaigns through SMS services and social media channels.

In relevance to the international refugee situation, Zain partnered with Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) to organize a humanitarian trip that saw 12 of its volunteered employees visiting and supporting Syrian refugees in Lebanon to distribute food, clothes, blankets and cater to a number of KRCS-supported projects. Zain also continued its annual Clothes Donation Campaign and extended it this year to Kuwait University, where over 10.5 tons of clothes were donated and sent by Kuwait Society for Relief to displaced Syrian families.



KUWAIT: Board Chairman and Director General of Kuwait News Agency Sheikh Mubarak Al-Duaij Al-Sabah meets with members of media delegations participating in the 3rd Gulf Women Journalists' Forum 2019. — KUNA

Women strong pillar of Gulf journalism: Official

KUWAIT: Board Chairman and Director General of Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) Sheikh Mubarak Al-Duaij Al-Sabah received yesterday media delegations participating in the 3rd Gulf Women Journalists' Forum 2019. "Women have become a strong pillar of Gulf journalism and helped in its promotion in the last few years through raising a number of important issues that interest many segments of society," Sheikh Mubarak Al-Duaij addressed the audience after welcoming them, praising the leading role of women in elevating the level of media performance in the Gulf. He affirmed that

Gulf women journalists have become role models of commitment and credibility in presenting those cases in a subjective manner. Afterwards, KUNA's Deputy Director General and Editor-in-Chief Saad Al-Ali took the visiting delegation in a tour around the agency's different departments, briefing them with the workflow and recent developments. The reception was attended by KUNA's Vice Chairman and Trustee of Kuwait Journalists' Association Adnan Al-Rashed, Chairwoman of Bahraini Journalists' Association Ahdia Ahmad Al-Sayed Noor. — KUNA