

Local

Kuwaiti, Norwegian FMs exchange congratulations on IAEA membership

Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled meets GCC counterparts ahead of UN General Assembly talks



NEW YORK: Kuwait's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and Norway's Foreign Minister Ine Eriksen Soreide sign a memorandum of understanding between the two countries.



Kuwait's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah meets with Foreign Minister of the Republic of Ireland Simon Coveney.— KUNA photos

NEW YORK: Kuwait's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and Norway's Foreign Minister Ine Eriksen Soreide discussed issues of mutual concern and boosting ties. The meeting was held on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly's 74th session in New York late Sunday. The two sides also exchanged congratulations on receiving membership at the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) board of governors for the 2019-2021 term, for both countries. Moreover, they discussed boosting coordination for

their new IAEA membership, and Norway's candidacy for a non-permanent seat at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for the 2021-2022 term. Meanwhile, the Kuwaiti and Norwegian ministers signed a memorandum of understanding on holding talks between the two sides' foreign ministries. The meeting was attended by senior officials from Kuwait's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled met with Foreign Minister of the Republic of Ireland Simon Coveney, and both sides discussed ways to enhance the close bilateral

relations between the two countries on all levels. They also discussed the candidacy of the Republic of Ireland for non-permanent membership of the UNSC for the period 2021-2022, and other international and regional issues of mutual concern. The meeting was attended by Assistant Foreign Minister for Affairs of the Office of Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Ambassador Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Ambassador of Kuwait to the United Nations Mansour Ayyad Al-Otaibi, Ambassador Nasser Abdullah Al-Hayen, the

Assistant Foreign Minister for International Organizations' Affairs, and other senior officers at the Foreign Ministry.

Furthermore, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled headed Kuwait's delegation at Gulf Cooperation Council annual ministerial talks in New York on Sunday. The talks, headed by Oman's Minister responsible for Foreign Affairs Yousef bin Alawi, discussed GCC and global coordination ahead of the United Nations' General Assembly meetings. The discussions also focused on vital matters scheduled on the agenda of talks with other nations, including recent regional

and global developments, also set for the agenda of the General Assembly session.

In the meantime, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled attended the 14th annual banquet on Middle East peace. International Peace Institute's (IPI) President Terje Rod-Larsen, in coordination with the UAE, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, organized the event held Sunday on the sidelines of the 74th UN General Assembly. The meeting focused on the regional challenges facing the Middle East and the international efforts geared towards peace, including the Palestine cause.— KUNA

Kuwaiti Speaker meets with Gulf counterparts

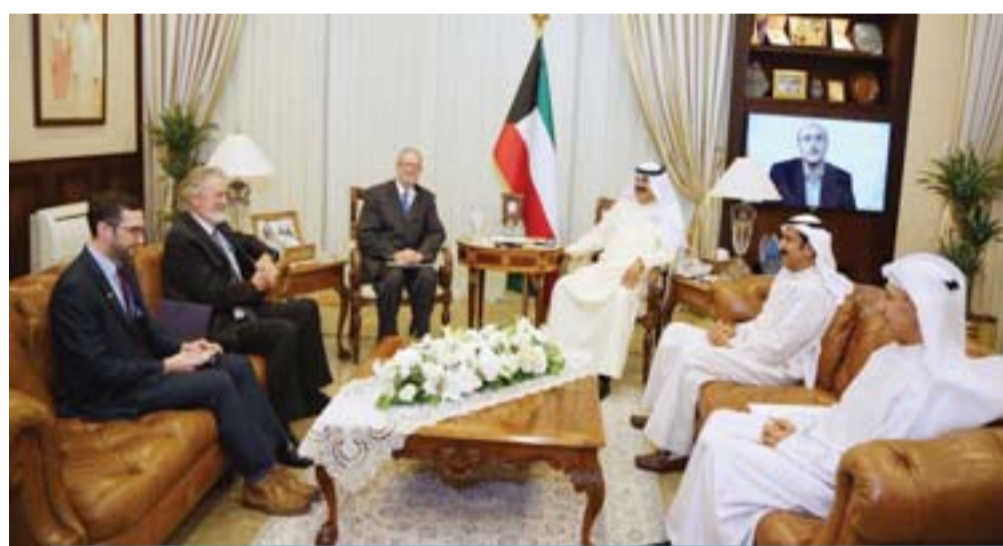
NUR-SULTAN: Kuwait's National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem held yesterday a joint meeting with Saudi Shura Council Speaker Sheikh Dr Abdullah Al-Sheikh, Bahraini Speaker of Council of Representatives Fawzia Zainal, Speaker of Shura Council of Oman Khalid Al-Mawali and the President of the Federal National Council of the UAE Dr Amal Al Qubaisi. The meeting came on the sidelines of the Speakers of Euro-Asian Countries' Parliaments' fourth meeting held in Kazakhstan's capital Nur-Sultan. Al-Dustour news network said in a press release. The meeting discussed the most important issues on the conference agenda in addition to issues to be raised during the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) conference scheduled to be held in Belgrade in October. MP Rakan Al-Nisf of the Kuwaiti side also attended the meeting.— KUNA



NUR-SULTAN: Kuwait's National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem meets with GCC counterparts in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan.— KUNA

Deputy FM meets US, UAE Ambassadors

KUWAIT: Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah met yesterday with US Ambassador to Kuwait Lawrence R Silverman, and the two tackled bilateral relations and current developments in the region and international arenas. The meeting was attended by Deputy Foreign Minister's Assistant Ambassador Ayhem Al-Omar, and Deputy Assistant Foreign Minister for the Two Americas Advisor Salah Al-Hadad. Later, Jarallah met with UAE Ambassador to Kuwait Saqer Al-Raisi. The meeting delved into bilateral relations and recent developments in the region and international arena.— KUNA



KUWAIT: Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah meets with US Ambassador to Kuwait Lawrence R Silverman.— KUNA photos

Malta President receives new Kuwaiti envoy

ROME: Maltese President George Vella received credentials of Faisal Ghazi Al-Mutairi as the new Kuwaiti Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary Ambassador to the Republic of Malta. Ambassador Mutairi handed over the credentials at an official ceremony at the Grand Master Palace on September 19, in attendance of Counselor at the Embassy Mohammed Rashid Al-Nuaimi and Second Secretary Mohammed Abdul Hamid Al-Qattan, the Kuwaiti embassy in Rome said in a statement. Upon the occasion, Ambassador Mutairi stressed the keenness of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to support and enhance bilateral relations between the two countries. Both sides discussed the Kuwait-Maltese relations and ways to improve them on many levels, including politics, economy, investments and education. More than 100 Kuwaiti students study in



Kuwaiti Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary Ambassador to Malta Faisal Al-Mutairi delivers his credentials to Maltese President George Vella.

Malta in the college of medicine. The Ambassador conveyed greetings of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-

Jaber Al-Sabah to the Maltese President with wishes of good health, and more progress and prosperity for the people of Malta.— KUNA



KUWAIT: Acting Prime Minister, Defense Minister, and Chairman of the Supreme Council for the Environment Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah meets with members of the Environmental Advisory Group.— Defense Ministry photo

Sheikh Nasser calls for improving environment

KUWAIT: Acting Prime Minister, Defense Minister, and Chairman of the Supreme Council for the Environment Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah stressed yesterday the importance of adopting related studies to the national environmental strategy, and improving environmental indications and conditions in Kuwait. This came in a press release issued by the Ministry of Defense following a meeting between Sheikh Nasser and members of the Environmental Advisory Group, during which they discussed the most impor-

tant issues related to environment. Sheikh Nasser added that the improvement of environmental indicators achieves several strategic objectives, including the reduction of pollution-related diseases, which may reduce the cost of spending on medical services due to the deterioration of these indicators. The minister also called for the need to combine all efforts in order to overcome various obstacles that may hinder the work of improving the environmental situation in many locations in the country.— KUNA

Kuwait strongly deplors Israel's annexation plans

GENEVA: Kuwait yesterday vehemently condemned Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's plan to annex the Jordan Valley, a substantial part of the West Bank, calling the measure a "new chapter" of illegal settlements on Arab lands. The remarks by the Gulf state's permanent delegate to the United Nations Jamal Al-Ghunaim came amid UN Human Rights Council talks over existential conditions in Arab lands occupied by Israel, including the holy city of Jerusalem. The Kuwaiti diplomat decried what he described as Israel's attempt to "alter the demographic and historical landscape" of Palestinian territories, saying it was a grave infraction of international law. He excoriated Israel for a string of "deplorable actions" including its recent adoption of a "Jewish-nation state" law declaring that only Jews have the right of self-determination, besides destructive tendencies such as the demolition of homes and systematic killings. The Kuwaiti envoy spoke of the international community's "mounting obligation" to intervene and put an end to these atrocities, many of which have been largely ignored at a time where urgent action is needed. Kuwait's unflinching support for the Palestinians is "deeply embedded" in the Gulf state's foreign policy,



Jamal Al-Ghunaim

he added, saying the Palestinians have the right to an independent state with East Jerusalem as its capital. On a UN agency supporting Palestinian refugees, he said it was necessary for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency's (UNRWA) mandate to be renewed, highlighting that some 5.5 million Palestinian refugees have been the beneficiaries of UNRWA's aid. The Palestinian cause will "always take precedence" over other matters concerning the Arab region, added the diplomat, saying ultimate statehood for the Palestinians remains the perennial goal.— KUNA