

Local

# Pompeo, GCC-Jordan-Iraq FMs focus on bolstering cooperation, facing challenges

Agreement on the need to counter Iran's destabilizing behavior in the region



NEW YORK: Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah takes part in the GCC-US-Jordan-Iraq meeting. — KUNA



Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah attends a meeting on Syria.

NEW YORK: US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, GCC counterparts from Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE as well as Iraq and Jordan held a meeting in New York, focusing on bolstering cooperation and facing challenges on regional and international scales. State Department Spokesperson Morgan Ortugus said in a statement that Pompeo emphasized, during a Ministerial meeting on the margins of the UN General Assembly in New York, "the importance of regional coordination to confront the region's challenges, including through multilateral initiatives such as the International Maritime Security Construct and the Middle East Strategic Alliance (MESA)." Pompeo praised "the territorial defeat of (IS) in Iraq and Syria but warned that (IS) remains a threat and vigilance is still necessary."

"Participants agreed on the need to bring peace and stability to Syria and Yemen and to ensure a secure and prosperous Iraq," the statement added. The statement affirmed that the "GCC and the United States stressed the need to counter Iran's destabilizing behavior in the region." Pompeo and the Foreign Ministers "had productive discussions on MESA - based on a united GCC - to advance prosperity, security, and stability in the region." Furthermore, the US top diplomat "thanked the foreign ministers for their partnership with the United States."

Kuwait's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah attended the meeting, accompanied by Ambassador of Kuwait to the US Sheikh Salem Abdullah Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. The meeting was called upon by Pompeo and was held on the sidelines of the 74th UN General Assembly.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled attended a meeting concerning the latest developments in Syria. Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled was invited to the meeting by EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and

Vice President of the European Commission Federica Mogherini. The meeting discussed international efforts to ease the humanitarian pains of the Syrian people and ways to overcome the conflict.

Furthermore, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled met separately with his Ethiopian, Eritrean, and Senegalese counterparts — Gedu Andargachew, Osman Saleh Mohammed, and Amadou Ba respectively. Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled discussed with the officials ways to bolster bilateral relations between Kuwait and the officials' respective countries and also touched on the latest developments within the regional and international arenas. Several officials, including head of Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled's office Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah, Kuwait's Permanent Representative at the UN Ambassador Mansour Al-Otaibi, and others, attended the meetings.

In the meantime, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled met with Dr

Ghassan Salame, the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative and Head of the UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL). During the meeting, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled reaffirmed Kuwait's commitment to supporting the UN-led efforts to stabilize sisterly Libya. He applauded the strenuous efforts being made by Dr Salame in this regard, including the recently unveiled plan of action to restore peace and security across Libya. The UN envoy meanwhile thanked Kuwait for its support to the UN peacemaking efforts worldwide.

Separately, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled met with Ralph Gonsalves, prime minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, to discuss the friendly ties and ways to promote cooperation in various fields. During the meeting, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled congratulated the Vincentian prime minister on the Caribbean country's winning of non-permanent seat at the UN Security Council for 2020-2021. — KUNA



KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Anas Khaled Al-Saleh meets with the US Ambassador to Kuwait Lawrence R Silverman. — KUNA

## Cabinet Affairs Minister meets US Ambassador

KUWAIT: Kuwait's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Anas Khaled Al-Saleh discussed yesterday with the Ambassador of the US to Kuwait Lawrence R Silverman means of enhancing cooperation and distin-

guished bilateral ties between both nations in various fields and at all levels. The meeting was held at Seif Palace, on the occasion of the ending of the diplomat's tenure in the country, as both parties tackled issues of common interest. — KUNA

## WHO official lauds Kuwait's health support to Yemen

GENEVA: Representative of the World Health Organization (WHO) in Yemen Altaf Musani lauded yesterday the role played by Kuwait in supporting healthcare in Yemen. Musani's statement came after his meeting with Kuwait's Permanent Representative to the UN and International organizations headquarters in Geneva Ambassador Jamal Al-Ghunaim. Kuwait is committed to its humanitarian role and continues to provide vital aids to Yemenis, affirmed the WHO official, indicating that the new batch of support will be directed towards supporting hospitals and health clinics in Yemen. The Kuwaiti aid will also address the shortage of medi-

cine and the spread of contagious ailments such as Cholera, he revealed. Meanwhile, Ghunaim said that Kuwait, as a global center of humanitarian aid, would continue to provide much-needed aid to the people of Yemen in accordance to the directives of Kuwaiti leadership. The new batch of support comes in line with the pledge made by Kuwait in the UN donors' conference for Yemen this spring, he added. Ghunaim indicated that he was glad that the Kuwait hospital in Yemen was one of the major operational health facilities in the war-torn country, hoping that the Kuwaiti-funded hospitals will attend to the needs of Yemenis. — KUNA



GENEVA: Ambassador Jamal Al-Ghunaim meets with WHO Representative in Yemen Altaf Musani. — KUNA



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