

# Kuwait, Japan foreign ministers hold meeting

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait's Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Motegi Toshimitsu held a Kuwait-Japan Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Kuwait yesterday.

Minister Motegi expressed his condolences on the passing of the late Amir His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, noting that he had played an important role for the peace and stability of the Middle East and the international community and that his demise is a tremendous loss for the international community as well. In response, Minister Sheikh Ahmad expressed his appreciation to Minister Motegi for his words of condolence.

Minister Motegi stated that he hopes to develop a comprehensive partnership on the basis of the achievements of the two countries to date. Minister Sheikh Ahmad responded that Kuwait values its relationship with Japan and seeks to further develop relations.

Minister Motegi noted that Kuwait, as a country that values regional balance and contributes to regional stability, is an important partner for Japan. Also, Minister Motegi conveyed that Japan's policy to make proactive diplomatic efforts for easing tensions in the Middle East and stabilizing the situation is unflinching even under



**KUWAIT:** Kuwait's Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah meets Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Motegi Toshimitsu. — KUNA

the Suga Cabinet. Minister Sheikh Ahmad appreciated the diplomatic efforts of Japan. Both ministers exchanged views regarding the situation of the Gulf and the Middle East including the Middle East Peace Process, and confirmed that they will continue to cooperate closely for the peace and stability in the Middle East.

The ministers also discussed the situation of East Asia including the East China Sea, the South China Sea and the situation regarding North Korea. In this context, Minister Motegi asked for understanding and cooperation toward the early resolution of the abductions issue and obtained the support of Minister Sheikh Ahmad.

## Thailand's king offers condolences

**KUWAIT:** Thailand's King Maha Vajiralongkorn extended his deepest condolences on Saturday over the passing of Kuwait's late Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, remembering his "profound contributions" towards national development. In a cable the Thai monarch sent to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, he praised the enduring legacy the late Kuwaiti leader has left behind. Replying to the Thai king, His Highness the Amir thanked him for his sincere sentiments, wishing him the best of health and prosperity.

### Duterte pays respects

His Highness the Amir also received a message of condolences from Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte on the demise of the late Amir. The Philippine president praised the late Amir for boosting bilateral relations. His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf sent him a message in reply, expressing deep gratitude for his solace on the grave event, also addressing good wishes for him and his nation.

### Chad sends condolences

Meanwhile, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received a cable of condolences from Chad President Marshal Idriss Deby Itno over the demise of His Highness the late Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. In turn, His Highness Sheikh Nawaf sent a reply cable thanking the president for his kind words and sentiments.

### Ethiopia pays tribute

His Highness the Amir also received a cable of condolences from Ethiopian President Sahle-Work Zewde on Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad's demise. In the cable, the Ethiopian leader expressed heartfelt sympathies over the death of the late Amir, lauding his outstanding contributions to boosting peace and stability on both regional and international levels. She prayed to Allah Almighty to grant solace and patience to His Highness the Amir and the Kuwaiti people. In reply, His Highness the Amir sent a cable to the Ethiopian leader, expressing appreciation for her sincere sympathies and wishing her everlasting good health.

### Consolation from Paraguay

In the meantime, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf received a cable of condolences from Paraguay President Mario Abdo Benitez on the demise of the late Amir. In turn, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf addressed in a cable to Paraguay leader his thanks, expressing gratitude for the sincere consolations on the painful event. — KUNA

## Foreign Minister receives UK defense secretary

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait's Foreign and Acting Defense Minister Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah received UK Secretary of State for Defense Ben Wallace and the delegation accompanying him yesterday. Sheikh Ahmad hosted secretary Wallace and his entourage at the foreign Ministry's reception Diwan on the sidelines of their visit to the country to pay respects for the passing of the late Amir His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. Sheikh Ahmad expressed gratitude for Wallace's visit and paying homage for Kuwait's loss, reflecting the strong ties between both countries. Topics of common interests and the latest development of the region and the rest of the world were discussed during their meet. Present at the meeting was Deputy Chief of the General Staff Lt Gen Khaled Al-Sabah, the Foreign Minister's Assistant for European Affairs Ambassador Waleed Al-Khubaizi, Deputy Assistant for the Office of Foreign



**KUWAIT:** Kuwait's Foreign and Acting Defense Minister Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah meets UK Secretary of State for Defense Ben Wallace. — KUNA

Affairs Ambassador Saleh Al-Logani, and a number of high ranking MPs. Also attending were Britain's Ambassador Michael Davenport and the Embassy's Defense Attache, Captain Paul Mulvaney of the Royal Navy. — KUNA

## Kuwait FM hosts US Defense Secretary

**KUWAIT:** Foreign Minister and Acting Minister of Defense Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Mohammad Al-Sabah met yesterday US Administration's representative Secretary of Defense Mark Esper and his accompanying delegation. Esper and the delegation were in Kuwait to offer condolences on the passing of late Amir His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. During the meeting, the US official expressed deepest sympathy and sorrow over the loss of His Highness the late Amir Sheikh Sabah. Esper and Sheikh Dr Ahmad also discussed issues of common concerns and latest regional and international developments. A number of Kuwaiti and American officials also attended the meeting. — KUNA



**KUWAIT:** Foreign Minister and Acting Minister of Defense Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Mohammad Al-Sabah meets US Secretary of Defense Mark Esper. — KUNA

## Kuwait FM hosts Iranian counterpart

**KUWAIT:** Foreign Minister and Acting Minister of Defense Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Mohammad Al-Sabah met yesterday the visiting Representative of the Iranian Presidency, Foreign Minister Dr Mohammad Javad Zarif. Zarif was in Kuwait to offer condolences on the passing of late Amir His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. During the meeting, the Iranian envoy expressed deepest sympathy and sorrow over the loss of His Highness the late Amir Sheikh Sabah. Zarif and Sheikh Dr Ahmad also discussed issues of common concerns and latest regional and international developments. A number of Kuwaiti and Iranian officials also attended the meeting. — KUNA

## Amir receives condolences from German Chancellor

**KUWAIT:** His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received Saturday a condolence cable from German Chancellor Angela Merkel on the demise of His Highness the late Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. In the cable, Merkel expressed sincere condolences to His Highness the Amir, noting Sheikh Sabah's prominent role in resolving many conflicts as well as praising the outstanding contributions with his wisdom for strengthening relations between Germany and Kuwait. In response to the cable, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf expressed his appreciation for the sincere condolences and wished her good health as well as for Germany to progress and prosper.

### Netherlands sends condolences

Meanwhile, His Highness the Amir received a cable of condolences from King of the Netherlands Willem-Alexander on the demise of the late Amir. His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf addressed a cable in reply to the Dutch king, expressing gratitude for the sincere consolations on the painful event.

### Italy mourns

Italian President Sergio Mattarella expressed condolences on the passing of His Highness Sheikh Sabah, saying that Kuwait has lost "a heedful and farsighted leader that has allowed the country, in all these years, to transform itself into a modern nation and increasingly focused on regional integration." He added that His Highness Sheikh Sabah was able "with wisdom and determination" to make Kuwait a central actor for the perseverance of dialogue and stability in the region and in our common neighborhood. Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Luigi Di Maio expressed "deep sadness" on the passing of His Highness

Sheikh Sabah, describing him as a "Head of State of rare personal and political characteristics." "The great wisdom and efforts made to lead the Gulf region towards a peaceful and stable future will remain in our memories, through a patient work of mediation," the minister said. "In our memories will remain also the contribution that he was keen to make to our bilateral relations politically, economically and culturally, consolidating the traditional relations of friendship and appreciation that bind our two countries."

### Swiss President consoles

His Highness the Amir also received a cable of consolation from President of the Swiss Confederation Simonetta Sommaruga on the demise of the late Amir. She praised the late Amir for his noticeable efforts in the Arabian Gulf and his prominent role for boosting peace in the region. His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf addressed a cable in reply to the Swiss president voicing gratitude for her sincere sentiments of consolation and expressing good wishes for her and her nation.

### Bosnia offers tribute

In the meantime, His Highness the Amir received a cable of condolences from member of the Bosnian Presidency Zeliko Komsic on

the demise of the late Amir. His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf addressed a cable in reply to Komsic, expressing gratitude for the sincere consolations on the sad event.

### Belarus sends cable

Moreover, His Highness the Amir got a cable of condolences from Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko over the passing of Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad. In the cable, President Lukashenko expressed sincere sympathies to His Highness the Amir and the Kuwaiti people over the late Amir's demise. His Highness the Amir sent a cable in reply, thanking President Lukashenko for the sincere sympathies and wishing him everlasting good health.

### Tatarstan pays tribute

In addition, His Highness the Amir received a cable of condolences from Tatarstan's President Rustam Minnikhanov on Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad's passing. In the cable, President Minnikhanov voiced heartfelt sympathies to His Highness the Amir over the death of the late Amir, extolling his path that was full of giving. In reply, His Highness the Amir sent a cable to President Minnikhanov, expressing appreciation for sincere sympathies, and wishing him everlasting good health and his country further progress and prosperity. — KUNA

## Nepal President offers condolences

**KATHMANDU:** President of Nepal Bidya Devi Bhandari sent a message of condolences to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah on the passing of late Amir His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

In the message, President Bhandari extended heartfelt condolences to the members of Al-Sabah family, the government and people of Kuwait. President Bhandari said that the late Amir was a visionary statesman who made significant contribution for peace, progress and pros-

perity of his people and played an important role in fostering understanding and cooperation in the region.

Separately, Nepal's Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli also sent a message of condolences to His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Prime Minister of Kuwait, expressing deep sadness on the passing of His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad. In the message, Prime Minister Oli stated that Nepal has lost a true friend and well-wisher with the demise of the late Amir.

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