

Local

Kuwait's Prime Minister receives visiting South African minister

Foreign Minister holds talks with South African counterpart

KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah received the visiting South African Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Naledi Pandor yesterday. During the encounter held in the presence of Kuwait's Foreign Minister and State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister was handed a letter from South African President Cyril Ramaphosa addressed to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad with the visiting South African Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, and the two sides discussed strengthening their countries' close and solid bilateral relations and reviewed all aspects of close cooperation, particularly on the economic, trade and investment spectrums. During the meeting, views were exchanged on recent developments on the regional and international fronts. Both were in mutual agreement on all the matters discussed. They also discussed cooperation on efforts to tackle the COVID-



Kuwait's Foreign Minister and State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah and South African Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Naledi Pandor sign an agreement to establish a joint committee for the development and consolidation of bilateral relations.

19 pandemic and finding a solution to crises affecting the region.

Sheikh Dr Ahmad praised the prosperous and continuously progressing bilateral cooperation between the two friendly countries. Meanwhile, minister Pandor expressed her aspirations for the continuation of this cooperation, praising the wisdom

and balance of Kuwait's foreign policy and the efforts it makes to consolidate the foundations of regional peace and security. The talks were rounded off with the signing of an agreement to establish a joint committee for the development and consolidation of bilateral relations in all fields and at various levels. —KUNA



KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah receives from South African Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Naledi Pandor a letter from South African President Cyril Ramaphosa addressed to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. —KUNA photos

Deputy FM takes part in Arab-Japanese political dialogue

KUWAIT: Kuwait's Deputy Foreign Minister Ambassador Majdi Al-Dhafeeri yesterday headed the Kuwaiti delegation in the second online session of the ministerial meeting for the Arab-Japanese political dialogue. The session witnessed the participation of Japanese Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi, Qatari Foreign Minister Mohammad bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani, Arab League Secretary-General Ahmad Abul Gheit and representatives of Arab states. During his speech and regarding the coronavirus situation that the world is going through, Dhafeeri praised the effective contributions of the Arab countries and Japan through the global initiative (COVAX) aimed at enabling countries around the world to obtain safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines. Dhafeeri also shed light on the historical and deep-rooted ties between Kuwait and Japan, hailing the bilateral relations between the two countries, which involved important and fruitful cooperation.

Furthermore, he noted that the total volume of trade exchange between Kuwait and Japan in the last two years 2019-2020 reached more than \$3 billion, adding that Kuwait was ranked third among oil-exporting countries to Japan, as Kuwaiti oil



KUWAIT: Kuwait's Deputy Foreign Minister Ambassador Majdi Al-Dhafeeri attends the second online session of the ministerial meeting for the Arab-Japanese political dialogue. —KUNA

exports to Japan in 2019-2020 amounted in value to nearly \$11.3 billion. On the other hand, Dhafeeri stressed the Arab countries appreciate the humanitarian and assistance provided by Japan to the region's states, expressing the Arabs' keenness to upgrade these relations. Regarding the Palestinian cause, Dhafeeri reaffirmed Kuwait's position on the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital on the borders of June 4, 1967. He also affirmed that Kuwait is keen to reach political solutions to the crises in Yemen, Syria and Libya, through dialogue based on International legitimacy

decisions and references in this regard.

Moreover, he expressed Kuwait's solidarity with Egypt and Sudan in their tireless efforts in preserving regional stability and their efforts to resolve the crisis of filling and operating the Renaissance Dam, in a manner that preserves their water and economic rights in accordance with international laws. The Kuwaiti delegation included Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Office of the Deputy Minister Ambassador Ayham Al-Omar and Deputy Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Arab Nation Affairs Counselor Nasser Al-Qahtani. —KUNA

Kuwait re-stresses no military solution to Syrian crisis

NEW YORK: The State of Kuwait has re-affirmed that there is no military solution to the Syrian crisis that has resulted in some 13 million refugees and displaced people. Ambassador Mansour Al-Otaibi, the State of



Ambassador Mansour Al-Otaibi

Kuwait's envoy, addressing a session of the UN General Assembly on the state in Syria, said that the aspired settlement for the crisis must involve all segments of the Syrian people. Such a settlement must attain legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people, safeguard Syria's territorial unity, sovereignty and independence according to the UNSC Resolution 2254 and the 2012 Geneva Declaration.

"We believe that the political process must proceed in tandem with confidence building measures namely real and tangible progress in the file of the detainees and missing ones," Ambassador Otaibi added. Regarding the humanitarian catastrophe in Syria, the State of Kuwait has pursued a humanitarian approach, hosting donors' conferences in 2013, 2014 and 2015 and taking part in subsequent conventions of identical level.

Ambassador Otaibi has stressed on necessity of securing delivery of humanitarian aid to those in need in a secure and sustainable fashion and without any obstacle. The envoy condemned attacks that target civilians, as well as assaults waged by terrorist groups against populated areas. He stressed that to attain sustainable and comprehensive peace in Syria, there must be justice, accountability and prosecution of the criminals. Otaibi renewed support for the UN efforts for advancing the political process in Syria, urged all Syrian parties to cooperate for working out conciliation and appealed to the UNSC member states to put aside differences to tackle the file in a joint manner. —KUNA