

'Kuwaiti team succeeded in managing dust storm phenomena upon UNCCD recommendations'

Oil sector plays huge role in environment protection: Hussein

ANKARA, Oct 22, (KUNA): Member of the Kuwaiti National Committee on Combating Desertification Hayat Abbas Hussein said here on Thursday that the oil sector plays a key role in implementing a number of environmental projects that contribute to the protection of environment and limit the deterioration of lands.

Hussein added in remarks to KUNA on the sidelines of the 12th conference of member countries in The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in Ankara that the oil sector works to solve the problem of oil-contaminated soil. Protection of environment is considered one of the oil sectors' priorities, she added.

The oil institutions exert all possible efforts in coordination with Environment Public Authority (EPA) in order to implement provisions of the UNCCD through listing the oil companies' projects to rehabilitate the deteriorated lands in a number of areas, she affirmed.

The participation in this conference contributes to the enhancement of cooperation among supervisory, research and executive bodies, besides the civil society institutions in the field of combating desertification in Kuwait, and limit the effects of drought, she said. Member of the committee Mohamad

Al-Dousiri said in remarks to KUNA that the Kuwaiti delegation succeeded in managing the dust storm phenomena upon the recommendations of UNCCD. Al-Dousiri, who is a scientific researcher in Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) added that the Kuwaiti delegation shed light on this phenomena which negatively affects

health, economic and social aspects in the region's countries in general, and Kuwait in particular. Kuwait is participating in this conference with delegations from EPA, KISR, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC), besides The Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET), besides others.



KUNA photo
KRCS' volunteers distributing food packets to 1,000 refugee families.

KRCS offers food aid to Syrian refugees in Jordan

The Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) on Thursday distributed food aid to 1,000 Syrian refugee families in Al-Mafraq city, north of Jordan.

It also offered 600 school bags to Syrian students studying in Amman. The KRCS teams in cooperation with the Jordan Red Crescent (JRC) delivered aid to refugees as part of efforts to meet their needs of food and relief supplies, head of the KRCS's mission in Jordan Khaled Al-Zaid told KUNA.

Al-Zaid added that the KRCS and the JRC have been carrying out several relief

and humanitarian projects since the eruption of the Syrian crisis, four years and a half ago.

He referred to Kuwait's humanitarian initiatives and efforts under His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to alleviate the sufferings of the Syrian refugees in Jordan and other neighboring countries.

For his part, head of the JRC in Al-Mafraq Ali Al-Shudifat, said that Kuwait's non-stop aid has had such positive impact on lessening the trouble and sufferings of the refugees in the Kingdom. (KUNA)



KUNA photo
Kuwaiti Ambassador Al-Bedawi and his spouse pose with the S. Korean students.

Pupils shown video clips on modern history

Kuwait embassy holds cultural day for South Korean students

SEOUL, Oct 22, (KUNA): Kuwait's Ambassador to South Korea Jassim Al-Bedawi hosted a group of local students at his residence in the capital Seoul to get them become acquainted with the Kuwaiti culture and heritage.

The diplomat and his spouse received a total of 20 students from a local primary school in Seoul last night, a Kuwait embassy statement said.

Al-Bedawi explained in a charming style through a number of video clips, the modern history of Kuwait, and the development and progress of the country, indicating that a number of buildings showed in the videos were built by South Koreans in Kuwait.

He called on the students to exert all possible efforts in their educational career.

The students later tasted a number of famous dishes from the Kuwaiti cuisine, which was a unique experience for most of them.

The teacher, who was accompanying the students, and also director of arts museum in

Seoul expressed her appreciation and gratitude for the ambassador and his spouse's generosity.

This experience is part of the museum's efforts to broaden the understanding of the students through international cultural exchange, she affirmed.

This step comes as part of the embassy's various activities to further communicate with the Korean people, as it exerts tremendous efforts through official and public means via non-governmental institutions and media devices, besides academic organizations, to form communication bridges away from the political and economic fields, Al-Bedawi said.

The embassy is working to organize the largest cultural venue gathering peoples of Kuwait and Korea, through the "Kuwaiti Cultural Week" by next December in Seoul, which will include a show of a musical band, paintings and handcrafts exhibitions, besides holding a number of lectures, he said.

US firms seek 'licenses' to operate in Kuwait: diplomat

Press conference held on the launch of Discover America Week

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 22, (KUNA): A bevy of American companies will shortly ask to be licensed to operate in Kuwait in the same manner that recently IBM, GE, and the Chinese company Huawei did, senior commercial officer at the US Embassy Jeff Hamilton said here on Thursday.

At a press conference kicking off the Discover America Week in Kuwait, running Oct 25-31, Hamilton underscored the growing bilateral relations between the US and Kuwait in numerous fields including the economic, political, cultural, and social ones. He regarded the Discover America Week as a further culmination of these relations.

Running up statistics on bilateral trade, he said US exports to Kuwait had risen by 87 percent since 2010 and right up through last year. The trade exchange came up to USD 15 billion in 2014, with the trade balance tipping in favor of Kuwait, as it exported to the US USD 11 billion whereas US imports from Kuwait amounted to USD 3.5 billion, he said.

Most of Kuwaiti exports were concentrated on crude oil and oil products whereas US exports were of automotive nature including cars and car spare parts, among other things, said Hamilton, noting that lower oil prices might impact adversely the size of bilateral trade.

He underlined the keen interest of US companies in major Kuwaiti development projects, particularly those in the energy sector.

Speaking at the same press conference, Charles Cole, counselor for public affairs at the embassy, affirming bilateral relations, indicated that there are currently about 11,000 Kuwaiti students studying in the US, about 6,000 of whom aspiring for bachelors' degrees and the rest for post-graduate ones.

He said the Discover America Week is an apt gateway for those seeking to learn more about American culture including music, theater, food and other things that the public in Kuwait will have access to in various locations across the country.

This year's Week is the third time it is being organized in Kuwait with the success of the two previous ones tempting US Embassy officials to organize similar ones in the UAE, Oman, and Bahrain, said Cole.

France and Kuwait deal on accreditation hailed

PARIS, Oct 22, (KUNA): Director General of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET) Dr Ahmad Al-Athari affirmed Thursday that the agreement signed between the PAAET and the Paris Academy will make a "quantum leap" in systems and methods of education and training in the upcoming period.

Al-Athari made the statement to KUNA following the signing ceremony of the deal during the official visit of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah to France that concluded today.

By the virtue of the deal, an academic accreditation will be granted to the programs of PAAET, especially the training sector, he said, noting that the deal went through several phases. Al-Athari said that the PAAET got accredited for three programs, expressing hope that all programs of PAAET would be accredited by 2017 to achieve unprecedented progress in Kuwait's educational systems.

He also noted that accreditation aims to provide better education at PAAET's institutes, adding that graduates will have Europass certificates to make postgraduate studies at French Sorbonne University or any university in a European country.



Photos by Mohammad Morse
The United States Air Force 'Full Spectrum Band' performed at The Avenues Mall on Wednesday as part of the week-long Discover America 2015 Festival being held from Oct 21 to 31, organized by the US Embassy in Kuwait.

Interior minister receives UAE, British ambassadors

Prep for child protection summit discussed

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 22, (KUNA): Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Sabah discussed with UAE's Ambassador to Kuwait Rahma Hussein Al-Zaabi and British Ambassador Matthew James Lodge the preparations for the second international summit on child online protection from abuse. The event will be hosted by UAE on Nov 16-17. The meeting dealt with a number of relevant points aiming to promote cooper-

ation in this regard, said a statement by the ministry's General Directorate for Public Relations Thursday, adding the topics included determining children who have been sexually abused and bringing the perpetrators to justice.

The statement said that Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled paid much attention to provide all possible means to make this event successful as it has a key role in protecting family and society.

The two ambassadors thanked the State of Kuwait and Kuwaiti people as well as Minister of Interior and all State's institutions for efforts exerted in protecting children from sexual abuse and exploitation, it noted.

They also lauded Kuwait's effective participation in all activities pertaining to the protection of children from any risks and exploitations that run counter to humanitarian criteria, it made clear.

News in Brief

'Keen to provide full care': Kuwait's Ambassador to Jordan Dr. Hamad Al-Duaij said that Kuwait has always been keen on providing full care and attention to the handicapped, who, in return, interpreted that care into various achievements for their country in sports, social, and cultural arenas.

The Kuwaiti diplomat made his remarks Thursday in a statement to KUNA after meeting the delegation of KUNA national table tennis team for the handicapped, currently competing in two tournaments in the Jordanian capital.

The Kuwaiti handicapped sport achievements were due to the political leadership's keenness in supporting this segment of society, Al-Duaij said.

He also commended efforts exerted by the Kuwait Disabled Sports Club in building up generations that attained achievements for Kuwait.

Meanwhile, Mansour Al-Sarhid, head of the delegation, expressed the team's appreciation to Ambassador Al-Duaij's support to the players, as well as his recent encouragement for further achievements and effective participation in the Asian table tennis championship for the disabled, set to kick off in

Amman on Friday, which is part of qualifying to the Rio 2016 Paralympics in Brazil. (KUNA)

Al-Essa receives AJS chief: The Minister of Education and Higher Education Dr Bader Al-Essa received in his office the Chairman of the Artists and Journalists Syndicates Nabeel Al-Failakawi accompanied by some members Tareq Al-Ali, Jamal Al-Rawdan, Khalid Amin, Khalaf Al-Enezi and Khalid Bu Humeid.

During the meeting, Al-Essa affirmed that the decisions that deprive performing arts students will be cancelled provided their acting does not affect their studies.

However, the delegation is said to have apprised the minister about the student participation in such works.

The minister is said to have given his nod and is of the opinion that the decisions issued against them should not continue if it is beneficial to them and also because of the shortage of such students in art arena.

However, the minister is of the opinion that their level of the educational must supersede their artistic career.