



From left: HH the Crown Prince with HH Sheikh Nasser, Sheikh Mubarak Al-Duaij and Al-Dakhil.

KUNA photos

# 'Decline in biodiversity tied to misuse of vital resources'

EPA celebrates World Wildlife Day



Above: Some photos of the delegation members while meeting the minister.

## Al-Sabeeh receives 'We appreciate your efforts' team

Hind Al-Sabeeh, Minister of Social Affairs and Labor, the State Minister for Economic Development affirmed the importance of promoting volunteer work and need to motivate the youth to embrace the concept. She disclosed this while

receiving a delegation from the national initiative (We appreciate your efforts) led by rapporteur of the complaints committee at Kuwait Society for Human Rights Counselor Abdulaziz Al-Zefairi. The delegation included

Secretary General Mansour Al-Qattan, head of women's committee and the director of tissue examination unit at the Forensic Medicine Department Dr Nadia Al-Kandari, and head of the media committee Falah Rashed.

## Ministry to cut working hours for employees with disabilities

### 3 private schools to open next academic yr

By Rana Salem  
Al-Seyassah Staff

KUWAIT CITY, March 6: Assistant Undersecretary for Private and Qualitative Education at Ministry of Education Dr Abdulmohsen Al-Huwaila disclosed that three new private schools will be opened in the beginning of next academic year. He stressed that the decision to suspend any increase in the school fees for the next academic year is aimed at re-evaluating the fees and setting up new standards for private schools so that they conform to the respective level and classification to serve those taking part in upgrading and improving the educational process.

Dr Al-Huwaila said this on the sidelines of the inauguration of an annual technical exhibition titled "Scenes from Kuwait Television". He affirmed that the private educational sector aims at restructuring the relationship among schools in order to serve the educational process, create positive relations among schools and provide distinguished educational services in the country. When asked about the sector's support for talents in the exhibition, Dr Al-Huwaila stressed the keenness of the ministry to support technical talents and to encourage them by creating a nurturing environment. He revealed that the sector is looking forward to opening opportunities for innovation and creativity as well as "linking the present with the past by taking back our students and teachers to our beautiful past through television series and advanced artistic works".

The State Ministry for Services intends to reduce the number of working hours for employees with disabilities provided they submit a disability certificate accredited by the Public Authority for Handicapped Affairs (PAHA), reports Al-Anba daily quoting a reliable source.

On the other hand, the ministry will record the data of all employees eligible for the excellent performance bonus in April under the supervision of the Personnel Affairs Committee. The interim committee tasked to carry out the functions of the Municipal Council temporarily will discuss a number of topics in its upcoming meeting, reports Al-Rai daily quoting Director General of the council Yousif Al-Saqabi. According to Al-Saqabi, the committee will tackle the request of the Amiri Diwan to allocate part of Shuwaikh Beach, opposite Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Cultural Center, to establish the highest flagstaff and Amiri Hall. He added the committee will talk about the request of the Electricity and Water Ministry to allocate the fresh water path for water installations in South Metla'a Housing City.

KUWAIT CITY, March 6, (KUNA): Chairman of the Environment Public Authority (EPA) Sheikh Abdullah Ahmad Al-Hmoud Al-Sabah said the world witnesses a sharp decline in biodiversity due to the misuse of vital resources.

"The misuse of these resources has led to the extinction of many plant and animal organisms at higher than normal rates," EPA chief said in a speech on Tuesday during the celebration of World Wildlife Day.

He added that by celebrating this occasion, EPA shows Kuwait's commitment to the efforts meant to raise the awareness of the individuals and the communities about the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and its applications.

He explained that CITES is a multilateral treaty to protect endangered plants and animals; its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. He said that the celebration of World Wildlife Day this year was under the slogan "Big Cats". However, it was agreed with the General Secretariat of the CITES agreement on choosing the slogan "Falcon and Illegal Trade" for Kuwait to suit its needs and combat this phenomenon.

### Decline

He pointed out that in recent years there has been a significant and continuous decline in the number of falcons, therefore, all types of falcons were included in the CITES Convention for conservation and protection.

He stressed that Kuwait has an important geographical location as an important stop-over for migratory birds during their seasonal perilous journey.

For his part, Director of Biodiversity Conservation Department Abdullah Al-Zaidan said in a similar speech that Kuwait chose the falcon's slogan in this year's celebration due to the importance of this organism at the local, regional and international levels.

He stressed the necessity of countering illegal trade of wild animals, especially falcons, adding that protecting the wildlife is the duty of all.

The civil society organizations will carry on with efforts to combat desertification and curb encroachments on the environment, as well as assessing the environmental conditions, he noted.

For her part, head of the wildlife department in EPA Sharifa Al-Salem, talked about the terms of CITES agreement, and illegal trade of endangered species of falcons, stressing that Kuwait has adopted the international laws and principles on the environment protection.



Sheikh Abdullah

## Audiences of HH the Crown Prince

His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received Tuesday at Bayan Palace His Highness Sheikh Nasser Mohammad Ahmad Al-Sabah.

Sheikh Nawaf also received KUNA Board Chairman and Director General

Sheikh Mubarak Al-Duaij Al-Ibrahim Al-Sabah.

His Highness the Crown Prince also received President of Financial Supervisory Authority Abdulaziz Dakhil Al-Dakhil. (KUNA)



Top and above: Some photos from the event

## Sports personalities attend training course

Under the auspices of the Director General of Public Authority for Sports Dr Hamoud Fulaitah, the activities of the sporting media training course for leaders entered its second day at Abdullah Al-Salem Center on Monday.

Several sports personalities attended the training session. Lectures of the day were delivered by Consultant to the International Sports Press Association (AIPS) - Asia Dr Nasser Al-Fadhli, alongside Lawyer Hussein Abdullah and Lawyer Ibtisam Al-Enezi.

## Women represent 50 pc of Saudi community

### Empowering women is a must in bid to drive economic growth

RIYADH, March 6: HRH Princess Lamia Bint Majid Al Saud, Secretary General of Alwaleed Philanthropies, chaired by HRH Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, attends the Second Edition of Women Empowerment and Integration Forum in Jeddah as the main sponsor of the event, organized by Accor Hotels KSA in association with TEDEX. The conference aimed to position itself as an intellectual hub and leader on topics related to diversity, inclusion and, more importantly to contribute to supporting women's integration within Accor Hotels' organization, as well in Saudi society. The forum recognized Alwaleed Philanthropies as a successful model for change and innovation from the perspective of a dynamic all-female team, which is in line with Alwaleed Philanthropies' goals to inspire Saudi women and youth to do the most good in the most effective way possible from within their community.

women worked in Saudi Arabia in 2015 - a number that is only set to increase when driving will allow them easier access to the workplace. This supports our country's target of getting 30% of women active in the workforce by 2030. Driven by the vision of His Royal Highness Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, has always been a strong supporter of women's rights, integration into the workplace and their right to drive.



Princess Lamia Al Saud

Princess Lamia discussed the role of women in the Kingdom and their capacity to shape our future. HRH stated, "we know that women empowerment and integration in the workforce is one of the most effective ways of driving social and economic progress, and this goal influences a large part of our work." HRH also gave a synopsis of Alwaleed Philanthropies' scope promoting local initiatives and highlighted the foundation's main area of focus this year: empowering women and youths. HRH also added that the foundation's new strategy is a critical part of how the foundation's initiatives will help support this vision, as set by the Custodian of the two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and Crown Prince Mohamed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud.

The Saudi Women Leadership/Women Empowerment and Integration Forum provides young generation talents and inspires them to seek their highest level of professional development, by providing them with information, strategies, insights and perspectives on leadership. The Forum collaborated with TEDxAlhamraWomen, Ministry of Labour, General Commission for Tourism and Antiquities (SCTA) in Mecca Al Mukarramah, Human Resources Development Fund, University of Business and Technology (UBT), Dar

Al-Hekma University and Jeddah International College. The Forum, held at Sofitel Jeddah Corniche aims to shed light on the achievements of women and youths in the Middle East. Other attendees from Alwaleed Philanthropies included Ms. Amal Alkathiri, Executive Manager-Local Initiatives and Mr. Salah Oumoudden-SVP Operations and Managing Director of Accor Hotels. Among the Forum's attendees were dignitaries, in addition to 300-female attendees from universities, business schools, local authorities, famous social celebrities as well as notable associations in Jeddah.

For over 37 years, Alwaleed Philanthropies has supported and initiated projects in over 164 countries regardless of gender, race, or religion. We collaborate with a range of philanthropic, government, and educational organizations to combat poverty, empower women and youth, develop communities, provide disaster relief and create cultural understanding through education. Together, we can build bridges for a more compassionate, tolerant, and accepting world.

Alwaleed Philanthropies' Secretary General, closing remarks revolved around her personal experience and the importance of empowering women and youths in the Kingdom. HRH also added, "this is an extremely important moment in the work of Alwaleed Philanthropies, because it allows us both to look at how far we have come in doing good and at our aspirations for a better world. As many as 1.5 million