

His Highness the Amir, Crown Prince and PM congratulate newly elected Algerian president

HH Amir congratulates Bahrain king on reign anniversary

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 14, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah congratulated Bahrain's King Hamad bin Issa Al-Khalifa on Saturday, some two decades after his acces-

sion to the throne.

In a cable he sent to the Bahraini monarch, His Highness the Amir said the Gulf island nation has seen meteoric development under King Hamad's watch, wishing Kuwait's

Gulf neighbor continued success and prosperity.

His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah

Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah sent similar cables to the Bahraini king.

Meanwhile, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a congratula-

tory cable on Friday to Algerian President Abdelmadjid Tebboune, over his victory in the presidential election of Algeria, commending the close ties between both sides.

Both His Highness the Crown

Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah expressed similar sentiments in separate cables.

State worked on preventive diplomacy when UNSC 'non-permanent' member

Kuwait aims at spreading culture of peace



An expressive image of the digital transformation.

KUNA photo

KCB 1st in digital transformation among state entities

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 14, (KUNA): Kuwait Credit Bank (KCB) is the first among government entities to implement digital transformation in accordance with the third phase of the state's 2020-2025 development plan.

According to the KCB Director General Salah Al-Mudhaf, that the ranking was based on a Microsoft

report focusing on the efforts in digital transformation in Kuwait.

Meanwhile, the KCB report said that this achievement displayed the bank's successful efforts within the domain of digital transformation, which is apparently setting an example for other entities in Kuwait.

Digital transformation helped employees to better use tools offered

by the Microsoft Office 365, improving their work skills and work atmosphere.

Technologies such Microsoft Azure, Azure Sentinel and others had also helped to improve standards at work, develop cyber protection and provide better services for clients through the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other tools. (KUNA)

Fajr Al-Saeed returns home

Actress Qamar happy to be honored in Kuwait

The Iraqi artiste Mais Qamar expressed her happiness because she is honored during most festivals organized in Kuwait, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

In her interview with the daily, she said she proud of her artistic works whether in the theater or TV drama.

She pointed out that working in the field of art in Kuwait and achieving success, gives her the opportunity to work abroad. She admitted that she is working in many countries in the region, but is proud of Kuwait, because that is where her artistic works flourish more.

She considers Kuwait as the capital of Art and Culture and here she continues to develop herself and her artistic works.

She praised the Kuwaitis for supporting and encouraging her works of



Fajr Al-Saeed

people to her artistic works.

Meanwhile, after an absence of about 5 months, the writer and media personality Fajr Al-Saeed arrived in the country yesterday from France after complete recovery from a hospital in Paris, reports Al-Anba daily.

Al-Saeed was received at the

Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah Airport, by Counselor Sheikh Duaij Al-Khalifa Al-Sabah, head of the Central System for Remediating the Status of Illegal Residents (CSRSIR) Saleh Al-Fadallah and a group of artistes and media professionals, in addition to her Kuwaiti well-wishers and their families and her family.

Al-Saeed expressed her happiness seeing so many Kuwaitis who had turned out to receive her.

She described her return to the homeland as a dream come true because she had not imagined it, and thanked the medical staff who supervised her treatment in Paris.

Artist Mariam Al-Saleh expressed her happiness at the recovery of Al-Saeed, and wished her good health and wellness.

NEW YORK, Dec 14, (KUNA): The State of Kuwait worked, during its non-permanent membership in the UNSC, on propagating preventive diplomacy and this was visibly on display at the council's June session on prevention of conflict and mediation, said a diplomat late Thursday.

This statement was delivered by member of the Kuwaiti mission to the UN headquarters in New York Fahad Hajji during a UN General Assembly session on the culture of peace.

Hajji said that the notion of spreading peace was under threat from entities promoting extremist ideologies and hate speech.

The lack of understanding and forgiveness had paved the way for violent extremism to the point that some individuals are proud of their crimes on current modes of communication, indicated the Kuwaiti diplomat.

He pointed to the New Zealand Christchurch terror incident as an example of how a hateful person was able to broadcast his heinous act and white supremacist propaganda on social media.

He went on to say that such behavior should be countered by spreading the culture of peace and understanding, affirming that such measure was part of global goal 16 of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG) connected with peace, justice, and strong institutions.

The UN charter called for resolving conflicts in a peaceful manner, Hajji affirmed, pointing out that Kuwait's foreign policy was based on spreading peace as an essential tool.

He reaffirmed that Kuwait was willing to participate in all regional and international efforts aimed at spreading the culture of peace and preventing hate from taking hold of the world.



KUNA photo

President of the Italian Senate with Kuwait's ambassador to Italy

Italy lauds Amir's humanitarian role

Kuwait accustomed to doling out aid for less fortunate worldwide

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 14, (KUNA): Given its UN-bestowed moniker of "Humanitarian Center," Kuwait has long been accustomed to doling out aid for the less fortunate around the world, thanks to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah's penchant for altruism.

Kuwait's humanitarian endeavors run the gamut from food and healthcare aid to educational assistance, where a Kuwait-based charity has just concluded a three-month vocational sewing program for some 150 impoverished women across several Yemeni provinces, allowing them the opportunity to ply their trade.

Tawfik Mohammad, a Yemeni official, thanked Kuwait for the copious amounts of aid the country has given Yemen, particularly amid this critical juncture the war-torn nation is going through.

Such initiatives as the one taken by Kuwait Humanitarian Relief Society in the southwestern Yemeni city of Taiz, allow these families to make ends meet, he explained, while simultaneously narrowing down the unemployment rate in a county suffering from acute poverty, added the official.

Fouad Al-Fakiya, another Yemeni official, heaped equal praise on Kuwait for these generous endeavors, saying such projects help alleviate the misery many Yemenis are mired in, going on to wish the country continued prosperity and development.

Elsewhere in Yemen, the same Kuwait-based charity doled out water tanks to displaced people in Yemen's Ma'rib governorate, where some 2,200 families were the beneficiaries of the aid.

In a statement, the Kuwaiti charity described the initiative as an "answer to the pleas of humanity," saying such projects aim to lift thousands of Yemenis out of sheer penury.

Meanwhile, Kuwait's "outstanding role" in the humanitarian field was acknowledged by UN General Assembly President Tijjani Muhammad-Bande on Thursday, who made the remarks amid a visit to the country.

Kuwait has shown "constant will-

ingness" to cooperate to solve issues related to the region and the Islamic world, he emphasized, saying Kuwait's contributions are mainly towards matters such as human rights, security and development.

Similarly, Kuwait's devotion to humanitarian causes was praised on Wednesday by Nawaf Al-Sherian, a member of the permanent national committee on international humanitarian law.

The commission was established last year and set an action strategy for 2020, he said, revealing that Kuwait seeks to sign several agreements and deals with similar committees in other countries.

Furthermore, The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) on Tuesday praised Kuwait's profound contributions towards global humanitarian endeavors.

Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) is always at the "forefront" of world charities providing urgent aid for some of the world's most impoverished nations, said (IFRC) president Francesco Rocca, as he met with KRCS chief Dr. Hilal Al-Sayer.

Also, Italian Senate President Maria Elisabetta Casellati lauded the recognizable efforts carried out by His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah within the global humanitarian field.

In a statement by the Kuwaiti Embassy in Rome, obtained by KUNA Sunday, Casellati's praise came during her meeting with Kuwaiti Ambassador Sheikh Azzam Al-Sabah.

Casellati expressed, during the meeting, her country's appreciation of His Highness the Amir's efforts in building bridges of dialogue among all people of the world.

The Italian official also commended the role of Kuwait in helping to resolve regional and international conflicts.

On his part, Ambassador Sheikh Azzam Al-Sabah affirmed that Kuwaiti and Italian foreign policies were in alignment on various issues, adding that both countries were willing to bolster cooperation on all possible fields.

NATO chief

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defense against Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear threats," he said.

"Our NATO-ICI Regional Centre in Kuwait offers us the possibility to step up our cooperation in a number of areas, including interoperability, which enhances our ability to work together to manage future crises through joint training," said Stoltenberg a former Prime Minister of Norway.

"We also continue — through our NATO Mission in Iraq — to strengthen the Iraqi military in their fight against international terrorism, to ensure that DAESH (so-called Islamic State) can never return," he stated.

"Furthermore, we believe that as a regional organization, the Gulf Cooperation Council is playing a key role in dealing with the crises affecting the security of its members. A leading principle of our cooperation is non-discrimination of any of our partners. We all have an interest in a unified Gulf Cooperation Council," added the NATO Secretary General.

He said NATO is following developments in the region very closely.

"With instability in the Middle East and North Africa, NATO's partnerships are more valuable than ever.

At our leaders' meeting in London on December third and fourth, we reaffirmed that NATO is a defensive Alliance and poses no threat to any country. We work to increase security for all," he stressed.

"As a multilateral organization, we have strengthened partnerships in our neighborhood and beyond, and we have deepened political dialogue, support, and engagement with partner countries and international organizations. Over the years, we have increased our consultations on security issues of common concern; and on the practical side, our partners have engaged in more focused cooperation activities," he concluded.

ICI was launched in Istanbul in 2004 to promote long-term security cooperation between NATO and Arab Gulf countries. Currently Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and UAE are members of the ICI.

A North Atlantic Council (NAC) delegation on the level of permanent representatives to NATO and led by NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg will visit Kuwait on Dec 15 and 16.

The NATO chief and NATO Ambassadors will attend a ceremony under the patronage of His Highness Prime Minister of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the NATO-ICI, where Stoltenberg will deliver remarks, noted a NATO press release Friday.

Stoltenberg together with NATO Ambassadors will be attending a NAC meeting with the ICI Countries.

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