Japan’s SoftBank says Pepper robot remains ‘alive’ and well

Japan’s SoftBank Corp. said that its Pepper robot is “alive and well” despite questions about the fate of the humanoid machine after allegations that a French hospital had recommended it be scrapped over fears that it could transmit coronavirus.

“Pepper’s condition is not a matter of concern,” the manufacturer said in a statement. “We are in close contact with our hospital partner in France and will continue to do our best to support them as they deal with the pandemic.”

Pepper, a 1.2 meter-tall humanoid robot that has been sold in countries including France, China, Thailand and the Dominican Republic, is being used as a “contactless assistant” in hospitals and other places where infection control guidelines are in place.

SoftBank’s statement follows reports that the robot, which has a 50 cm diameter and costs about $1,000, would be scrapped in a hospital in the French city of Nice. The French hospital said it had asked the robot to leave because it could not maintain social distancing, and SoftBank said it would continue to support the hospital.

The company said it had been working with hospitals and other organizations to ensure the robot’s safety and effectiveness in the fight against the virus.

The robot is equipped with facial recognition technology and can be programmed to carry out tasks such as taking temperatures or giving information to patients. It has been used in hospitals in China, Tanzania and the Dominican Republic.}

Kuwait supports OPEC+, efforts towards markets stability: Minister

Kuwait supports OPEC+ efforts towards markets stability, the Minister of Oil and Higher Education, Mohamed Al-Faris, said in a speech to the 181st Ministerial Meeting of OPEC on Saturday.

Al-Faris said that the meeting will focus on ways to support the oil market, as it continues to face challenges due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on mobility.

He added that the oil market continues to face challenges due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on mobility, and that the meeting aims to support the market by making decisions that will contribute to its stability.

The decisions made at the meeting are expected to be a strong signal to the market, and to provide a clear roadmap for the future.

Al-Faris emphasized the importance of cooperation between OPEC+ members in achieving the goals of stability and growth.

He also called for the need to continue to support the market through cooperation and coordination, and to ensure the implementation of decisions.

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