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EU reiterates commitment to Iran N-deal

7 candidates cleared

VIENNA, June 9, (KUNA): The European Union has reaffirmed "its resolute commitment" to and continued support for the 2015 nuclear deal with Iran, known as the JCPOA.

"The EU is determined to continue working with the international community to preserve this agreement of strategic importance and a key element of the global nuclear non-proliferation architecture," the EU stated on Tuesday.

The statement issued following the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)'s Council of Governors discussions on its verification and monitoring of Iran's nuclear activities.

The EU called on all countries to support JCPOA implementation in line with United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 (2015).

The EU expressed support to the ongoing intensive diplomatic efforts within the JCPOA Joint Commission.

"We welcome the discussions held in Vienna at various levels in view of a possible return of the US to the JCPOA, and the perspective of Iran's return to full JCPOA implementation," added the statement.

The EU stressed that the verified full implementation by Iran of its nuclear-related commitments, should lead to lifting nuclear-related sanctions.

It laid it bare that the EU would like to underline that it has fully upheld its commitments, including sanctions lifting under the JCPOA.

The EU, however, is deeply concerned at Iran's decision to suspend, as of 23 February 2021, the implementation of transparency measures as envisaged in the JCPOA, including the Additional Protocol.

"This action has significantly reduced the Agency's access and oversight regarding sites, activities and relevant information.

"Additionally, Iran has not provided updated declarations and the IAEA was not able to conduct any complementary access under the Additional Protocol," it regretted.

Reverse

The EU urged Iran to reverse all activities inconsistent with the JCPOA and return, without delay, to its full implementation, including of all transparency measures, and support the efforts of the JCPOA participants in addressing all relevant issues within the JCPOA framework.

Seven candidates will compete on June 18 to win the Iranian presidential election, as every candidate started his own campaign promising to improve the difficult economic and living conditions that the country is currently experiencing.

The candidates used different methods for their campaigns like hanging posters and large murals in the streets, using social media and newspapers or promoting themselves on the state TV, which is the most effective means of affecting voters' decisions, negatively or positively, because of its large number of views at the local level.

Five candidates represent the group of the current government critics of the conservative fundamentalist movement, who are the former presidential candidate, the current head of the judiciary, Ibrahim Raisi, the Secretary of the Expediency Council, Mohsen Rezaei, the former Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council Saeed Jalili, Ali Reza Zakani and Amir Hossein Qazizadeh Hashemi.

On the other hand, the Central Bank governor, the moderate candidate, and technocrat, Abdelnasser Hemmati, compete for the presidency alongside the only reformist candidate in this election, Mohsen Mehr Alizadeh.

According to the Iranian election law, the Supreme Constitutional Court studies candidacy applications to support or reject every candidate's eligibility according to the voting mechanism among its 12 members, six of whom are religious scholars and the other half are legal scholars.

The candidates of the fundamentalist conservative movement, in their first appearance through the first television debate, criticized the performance of the current President Hassan Rouhani's government, especially on the economic level, inflation, the deterioration of the citizens living conditions and the depreciation of the national currency in recent years.

Day by Day

THE proverb says, 'When the going gets tough, the tough get going': meaning - when conditions become difficult people with a strong character become more determined. The catastrophic crisis intensifies and we are waiting for relief, so the Speaker of the National Assembly, the bearer of the grief, will have no choice but continue to adjourn the sessions until the right time comes to hold the sessions, so the bear went into a deep slumber, until winter arrives.

By the way, the bears go into deep slumber in winter and wake up in summer while for us in Kuwait everything is the other way around. We trust in God alone.

... Yet, tomorrow is just another day. Zahed Matar

Opinion

Destruction crows ... Houthis, Hamas and ICM

By Ahmed Al-Jarallah Editor-in-Chief, the Arab Times

THE Palestinian cause is no longer the bearing of Arab consensus, especially after it was transformed by the mercenary and materialistic organizations of various political creeds and sects, into a source of division, and made it a path to enrichment, not liberation.

Therefore, it was not surprising that the Hamas representative in Sana'a met with a leader of the Houthi group, which ejected itself from not only Arabism, but also religion, morals, Arab customs and international law. This increases the conviction that these are nothing more than puppets in the hands of their Iranian operator. They do not hesitate to commit any crime for fulfilling the operator's desires.

In fact, Hamas is no different from the Houthis. If Hamas pushed the innocents of Gaza into useless conflict in its Palestinian scheme, the Houthi group - the agents of Iran - did not respect the sanctity of neither the Sacred House when they tried to bomb Makkah, nor the blood and patriotic bond when they took Yemeni women as hostages of their lusts, and took children out of their schools to imprison them in sectarian brainwashing camps.

Given that the "crows" of a feather flock together, it was not surprising that the so-called Muadh Abu Shammala kissed the forehead of the young Houthi butcher and appreciated the role of his group in the resistance.

The questions that need to be raised here are - What is this role? Is it the crimes against humanity committed by the Houthi group in Yemen, and against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia? What resistance are they talking about? Do terrorist movements in various Palestinian areas, which exercise kidnapping and abuse in its cellars-turned-into-slaughterhouses for the Palestinians, consider their actions as resistance?

Over the past decades, we have not seen such brazenness as the kind practiced by the Hamas leaders. They accuse the GCC countries of supporting the Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip. At the same time, they shame-

lessly beg for money from them to rebuild what they deliberately destroyed, while holding hands with the thugs who have been attacking Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states for the past six years.

Here we ask - Have the Gulf governments, including our government which is submissive to the Islamic Constitutional Movement (ICM), seen these photos? Is it not a member of the Arab coalition, and harmed by the Houthi aggression just as Saudi Arabia was harmed? By what measure do they base their positions on Hamas and express their willingness to donate money to them? On what basis...?

If these people assume that such acts are virtuous, as the demons of the Muslim Brotherhood Group suggest to them, then they are mistaken. Those who attack defenseless people, violate the sanctity of mosques and places of worship, and bomb Makkah and Madinah using drones and ballistic missiles cannot be loyal to Palestine, Jerusalem and the Aqsa Mosque.

Why isn't our government, like the rest of the world's governments such as the United States, the European Union and Qatar, firm in its position that any reconstruction must be under the supervision of the United Nations, and not pay any money to Hamas or others in the Gaza Strip so that it does not go into the pockets of the leaders of "trading with the blood and suffering of Palestinians in Gaza"?

In this sensitive international moment, it is useful for our government to return to reality in dealing with this file. Our government shouldn't be carried away into submitting to the demons of ICM towards the abyss in its international relations.

Those who took unrealistic paths, either Sunni or Shiite groups, ended up eating from a broken bowl. It is no longer the time for rhetoric, but for realistic pragmatic policies. Indeed, a sign to a wise man is enough.

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Parliament Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanim during his departure for Geneva. KUNA photo

Al-Ghanim heads to Geneva

By Saeed Mahmoud Saleh Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, June 9: National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanim has started his two-day visit to Geneva where he is scheduled to meet with International Parliamentary Union (IPU) Chairman Duarte Pacheco.

As the representative of Arab parliaments, Al-Ghanim will discuss the recent Israeli attacks on Palestinians in Jerusalem and other parts of Palestine. Deputy Speaker MP Ahmed Al Shuhoumi, Minister of State for National Assembly Affairs Mubarak Al-Harees and Secretary General of the Assembly Adel Al-Lugani sent off the speaker at Kuwait International Airport.

Prior to the meeting with Pacheco, Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union Chairman Saqr Ghobash assigned Al-Ghanim to represent the Arab geopolitical group. During the meeting of the Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union on May 12, 2021; Al-Ghanim suggested forming delegations whose members are from the Arab parliaments to coordinate with the parliaments and parliamentary institutions in other countries in order to highlight the Palestinian cause and push forward in exposing the Israeli crimes.

Meanwhile, MP Hamad Al-Hamad submitted a bill on amending Article 24 of ministerial Decision No. 957/2019 regarding the residency of foreigners. He proposed adding the children of Kuwaiti women married to non-Kuwaitis to the categories covered by Article 24.

According to the bill, beneficiaries will obtain all the rights stipulated in the article; except the bank guarantee which will be replaced by the reference number of the mother at the Ministry of Interior. It stated that the children of Kuwaiti women married to non-Kuwaitis will be treated like citizens in all levels; especially education, health care and employment. They will continue enjoying all these rights even after the death of the mother as per the death certificate and reference number at the Ministry of Interior.

The stipulation on the deportation of this category

Other Voices

Your actions forbidden by all religions

By Ali Ahmed Al-Baghli Former Minister of Oil

The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, which is located in Munif Palace consisting of three huge green towers in Al-Raqi along the Fourth Ring Road, is concerned with Islamic religious affairs. Islamic religion and all religions, as well as good morals and human rights principles, call for the improvement of man for the benefit of his fellow men.

Religion is not about growing beards, shortening 'dishdashas' or having a black spot on the face; it is about good morals, especially when dealing with our brothers in humanity.

The recent action taken by the Ministry of the Green Palace or Awqaf - if true - is shameful and painful. The ministry recently ended the assignment of 18 employees - majority of whom are Bedouins. It removed these employees from the assignment clause. According to the news, these employees expressed dissatisfaction over such a step, which was taken under these circumstances; especially since many of them are working on two assignments to cover their family needs and monthly obligations. The incentive for each assignment is only KD 200.

Therefore, we address the responsible brothers in the Ministry of Awqaf who demanded for a large amount of public fund (KD600 million) from the rational government under the pretext that they exerted tremendous efforts, faced health dangers, and spent long hours on the front line of the fight against the corona pandemic!

Are these the behaviors that our most glorified religion urges us to do? We set aside hundreds of thousands of dinars for ourselves; yet we do not



Al-Baghli

exert any tangible effort and we deprive the needy - mostly Bedouins and expatriates - of crumbs estimated at KD 200 per month.

We call on our honorable legislators, headed by the members of the Human Rights Committee in the National Assembly, to verify this matter and to hold responsible all those behind it if this is true; because these needy people were terminated by our hands. We are responsible for them, particularly our brothers in humanity who have no nationality, among whom the suicide rate increased recently due to the failure to fulfill their wants and needs.

The unjust acts of the Ministry of the Three Green Towers (Awqaf) are not limited to our Bedouin brothers in the matter of allotting a sum of KD 200, because the Kuwaiti citizens were affected as well (according to what was published by our colleague in Al-Rai daily on June 2). The news says that the list of Kuwaiti imams and muezzins has been kept in the velvet drawers of the ministry for years; although one of the projects of this ministry is to appoint nationals in the mosques and encourage them to work as official imams and muezzins, considering the number of Kuwaitis appointed in more than 1,700 has not exceeded 130!!

The projected salary scale for Kuwaiti preachers was not presented in their interest, as the aim is to fortify mosques and ensure social security through the Kuwaitization of this noble profession.

We say to the ministry - represented by its honorable Minister Issa Al-Kandari - that we do not feel better in Kuwait when we hear someone calling for the five daily prayers in the dialect of the country from which he came or in broken Arabic. We would like the call for prayers and the Qur'an to be recited in good Arabic dialect. So, when will the dream of our citizens - our Kuwaiti muezzins and preachers - come true in your hands?!

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Newswatch

CAIRO: Kuwait on Wednesday said the elimination of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction is inextricably linked to regional peace and stability.

All countries in the region "should commit to a treaty designed to stop the spread of nuclear weapons," signed back in 2010, said Abdulaziz Al-Khubaizi, the second secretary of Kuwait's permanent delegation to the Cairo-based Arab League.

Kuwait is ready to host forthcoming talks in New York to shine light on the significance of the matter, added the diplomat, calling for compliance across the board to the global nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. (KUNA)

JEDDAH: The Saudi Cabinet, headed by King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, has lauded the outcome of the recently-held first meeting of the Saudi-Kuwaiti Coordination Council.

In a statement following its weekly meeting on Tuesday, the cabinet noted that the council meeting had witnessed the hammering out of several agreements and memoranda of understanding for bolstering cooperation in a variety of domains as well as achieving common interests. (KUNA)

KUWAIT CITY: At least 1,581 people have been infected with the coronavirus (COVID-19) over the past 24 hours, taking overall infections to 320,257, Spokesman for the Ministry of Health Dr. Abdullah Al-Sanad said Monday.

The number of those recovered from the virus pandemic in the same period hit 1,244, increasing total recoveries to 303,637, he told KUNA. The death toll from the disease rose to 1,801 after registering three mortalities in the corresponding period, Al-Sanad noted. (KUNA)

NEW DELHI: The government and people of India have appre-

ciated continuous relief support from Kuwait to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, Kuwait Ambassador to India Jassem Al-Najem said Wednesday.

In a statement to Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) on the arrival of an Indian military ship to the port of Mumbai from Kuwait, carrying oxygen cylinders and medical aid to support India fight the new mutated strain of the Coronavirus; Ambassador Al-Najem said that Kuwait is in the forefront of global efforts in supplying medical liquid oxygen to India.

He said that oxygen supply from Kuwait has crossed 400 metric tons and 4600 oxygen cylinders were also shipped to India. Ambassador Al-Najem reiterated Kuwait's keenness to help India deal with the pandemic and alleviate the sufferings of the friendly Indian people during this health crisis. (KUNA)

KUWAIT CITY: The Ministry of Health has sent SMSs to people to obtain the second dose of the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine of the coronavirus as of Wednesday (tomorrow), the Ministry's Spokesman Dr. Abdullah Al-Sanad said.

The messages include the place and time of vaccination, he added, noting that the ministry get ready over the past days to prepare the centers of vaccination, the lists and medical teams to provide the doses to the targeted groups. (KUNA)

LONDON: Fastly, the company hit by a major outage that caused many of the world's top websites to go offline briefly this week, blamed the problem on a software bug that was triggered when a customer changed a setting.

The problem at Fastly meant internet users couldn't connect to a host of popular websites early Tuesday including The New York Times, the Guardian, Twitch, Reddit and the British government's homepage. (AP)

NBK Releases the Documentary "The Path Towards A Sustainable Future"



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