

Youth Public Authority keen to develop young people's skills and capabilities

'Imkan' platform to provide distance learning courses for youths

KUWAIT CITY, June 12, (KUNA): Acting Director General of the Youth Public Authority Shafiq AlSayed Omar announced the launch of the electronic platform 'Imkan' starting Sunday, which allows young people to participate in training courses remotely in various fields of youth interest.

Omar told Kuwait News Agency Saturday that the launch of this platform comes under the directives of the Minister of Information and Culture and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Abdul Rahman Al-Mutairi, which aims to invest the youth's time during the summer vacation for their benefit, their society and their country.

He stressed the authority's keenness to develop young people and develop their skills and capabilities to achieve

sustainable development for the country and society, adding that the authority also sought to create an opportunity for young people to remotely learn and develop the services provided to them in this regard due to the circumstances of COVID-19 pandemic.

Regarding this project, the Deputy Director-General of the Youth Development Sector at the Authority, Mishaal Al-Subaie, explained in a similar statement to KUNA that the platform will start its work by broadcasting 23 training courses in the first phase, and that it will hold other courses in succession. Al-Subaie indicated that these activities will develop the skills of the youth participants in various fields, the most important of which are leadership and self-development, science and technology, culture and literature,

multiple hobbies, family and society, and entrepreneurship.

He stated that these courses will be presented by a group of academics and specialists in these fields and will be interactive, explaining that each participant in any training course on the platform, which he will choose according to his desire, will receive an approved certificate of participation to benefit from in the future.

He called on young people to participate in the platform by registering at the authority's website www.ypa.gov.kw, then entering the Imkan platform and creating a personal account by entering the basic and official data of the participant and choosing the appropriate training course for them.



Shafiq AlSayed Omar



Mishaal Al-Subaie



Defense Minister and Chairman of the Supreme Council for the Environment Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah during the visit.



Defense Minister and Chairman of the Supreme Council for the Environment Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah during the meeting.



KUNA photos
Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Environment Public Authority and Director General Sheikh Abdullah Ahmad Al-Hamoud Al-Sabah briefs Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah on the nature of the work and tasks of the authority.

Defense minister visits EPA

'Preserving natural resources key to achieving development goals'

KUWAIT CITY, June 12, (KUNA): Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense and Chairman of the Supreme Council for the Environment Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah stressed the need to preserve natural resources and environmental systems in order to achieve sustainable development goals.

This came in a statement by Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali, quoted by a press statement issued by the General Staff of the Kuwaiti Army Thursday, on the occasion of his visit to the Environment Public Authority, during which he was briefed on the nature of the work and tasks of the authority to implement the state's policy related to protecting the environment and develop strategies and action plans to protect it.

Expressed

Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali expressed his pride in the great role played by the authority, the efforts and services it provides, and its constant endeavor to spread awareness among members of society and to show the importance of preserving the environment and protecting it from pollution and destruction resulting from wrong individual and collective practices and behaviors.

During the visit, the minister listened to an explanation from the Chairman of

the Board of Directors and Director General of the authority, Sheikh Abdullah Ahmad Al-Hamoud Al-Sabah, about the work of the authority and its role in preserving natural resources and environmental systems. EPA also inspects the Environmental Compliance Department concerned with environmental disputes, ways to pay violations, and how to deal with them.

Meeting

In the same context, the Environment Public Authority stated in a press release in this regard that Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali chaired a meeting of the Supreme Council for the Environment, during which many environmental issues and issues were discussed, such as restructuring the Board of Directors of the Environmental Protection Fund and examining the projects that were implemented through it.

He also discussed the Environmental Protection Fund's mandate to supervise landfills and rehabilitate damaged sites in Kuwait and discuss arrangements for protecting and securing natural reserves.

The meeting also touched on the development and expansion project of Doha Port, the two projects of the Doha plant for the production of electricity and water distillation, and the development of Sulai-bikhat Bay.

Bureau seeks to evaluate local 'higher education' institutions

Bid to apply quality standards set by authority

KUWAIT CITY, June 12: In a step considered as the first of its kind, a recent meeting of the Board of Directors of the National Bureau for Academic Accreditation and Education Quality Assurance (NBAQ) ended with a decision to start evaluating local higher education institutions, and applying the quality standards set by the authority on them, reports Al-Qabas daily.

Two memoranda of understanding between the NBAQ and the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education in the United Kingdom (QAA), and the Education and Training Evaluation Commission in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (ETEC) were reviewed during the meeting in order to use the two bodies to train the staff of the bureau and to also consider the possibility of using external arbitrators from both sides to evaluate local institutions according to the standards of the national body.

Praised

The Minister of Oil and Minister of Higher Education Dr. Muhammad Al-Faris praised the efforts of the bureau in improving the quality of higher education and its keenness to support the local labor market with high and homogeneous academic inputs either from inside or outside Kuwait in order to enhance Kuwait's competitiveness globally in line with the vision of 2035.

He insisted that the quality of education and the requirements of sound educational attainment require setting the necessary controls and procedures to ensure their achievement in educational institutions that meet international standards, affirming that this is what the bureau has been doing in its various councils by issuing decisions and setting procedures aimed at leading the process of improving higher education in Kuwait and assessing its qualitative level.

The minister said the bureau also supports local higher education institutions to reach a regional leadership position, and identifies higher education institutions outside Kuwait in terms of the quality that allows the accreditation of the qualifications of its graduates.

In a press statement issued after the meeting, the Director General of the agency Dr. Hamad Al-Adwani explained that the aforementioned memoranda of understanding were presented, whereby QAA and ETEC will be used for training employees of NBAQ and other educational institutions in the country on academic accreditation processes. Virtual workshops will be used for the training purpose. At the end of the training program, a certificate of training quality reference or training quality practitioner will be granted.

Revealed

He revealed that the most important developments in academic standards and evaluation controls were discussed, in addition to the lists of accredited universities and the latest studies and recommendations issued by the competent committees regarding updating the lists of higher education institutions in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries. He affirmed that the bureau took the appropriate decisions in this regard.

Dr. Al-Adwani concluded by praising the constructive and fruitful cooperation and continuous coordination between NBAQ and the Ministry of Higher Education, which greatly contributed to the continuous improvement of academic outputs and keeping pace with Kuwait's vision regarding the quality of education outputs to serve the labor market.

Last month, Minister Al-Faris has called on the concerned authorities to increase the number of seats available at the external missions and higher education institutions inside the country more than the number of Kuwaiti students expected to graduate from high school in the academic year 2021-2022 from the public and private schools.



Dr Muhammad Al-Faris, Minister of Oil and Minister of Higher Education.

Embassy of the Philippines

'Unity and healing'

Message of H.E. Mohd. Noordin Pendorosa N. Lomondot, Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines to the State of Kuwait On Philippine Independence Day 2021



H.E. Philippine Ambassador Mohd. Noordin Pendorosa N. Lomondot

I wish to express my warmest greetings to the 220,000-strong Filipino Community in Kuwait on the 123rd anniversary of the Proclamation of Philippine Independence. It has been 123 years since General Emilio Aguinaldo declared independence from Spain, paving the way for the establishment of Asia's first republic.

While we take stock of the freedoms that we now cherish, this day also reminds us of our continuing struggle to be free from the Coronavirus Disease. It is through bayanihan, the collective will and action of the Filipino people, that today's celebration carries the theme: "Kalayaan 2021: Spirit of Freedom in Unity and National Healing."

I take this opportunity to express my sincere and profound appreciation to His Highness The Amir, Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, and the Government of the State of Kuwait for their continuous hospitality extended to almost a quarter of a million Overseas Filipinos who have made Kuwait their second home, especially during the pandemic.

In April 2020, the Philippines became the first country that benefited from the Kuwaiti government's amnesty program for undocumented residents, bringing home more than 2,200 Filipinos. In December 2020, when the Kuwaiti government rolled out its COVID-19 vaccination program, among the first who received their shots are Filipino front liners.

Since the opening of diplomatic ties in 1979, the relations between

the Philippines and Kuwait have been cordial and friendly as the two countries are continuously endeavoring together in taking significant steps to further boost and strengthen their diplomatic relations.

The Philippines-Kuwait Agreement on the Employment of Domestic Workers was signed in Kuwait in May 2018 to protect the rights and promote the welfare of Filipino domestic workers. Three years on, we hope to live up to the noble intentions of this agreement, including the full implementation of the new Standard Contract for Domestic Workers.

The friendly relations between the Philippines and Kuwait will always remain strong based on trust, confidence, and mutual cooperation.

I express my faith that the Philippines and Kuwait, linked by historical and people-to-people ties, could overcome any issue and would continue to work together to achieve our mutual goals and interests.

May the Almighty continue to bless the Philippines and Kuwait. Mabuhay!



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