

Yemen govt appreciates GCC states for significant support

KRCS delegation inspects 9 projects

ADEN, Jan 2, (KUNA): The Yemeni government expressed appreciation to Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member states, particularly the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, for their significant support for the Yemeni people at this critical stage.

This came during an extraordinary cabinet meeting held on Thursday in the interim capital of Aden and chaired by the Prime Minister Dr. Ma'een Abdulmalik to discuss the government's plans and efforts to handle economic challenges, improve living conditions, basic services and security situations.

At the advent of the meeting, the Premier Abdulmalik briefed the cabinet about the outcome of his state-visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and his talks with Saudi officials, GCC secretary general and ambassadors of the five permanent member state of the UN Security Council.

He stated that the Saudi leadership and the GCC governments have promised a substantial support to bail out the national economy, empower the government and address the Yemeni peoples' concerns and needs all over the country.

Then, the Yemeni cabinet endorsed several measures aimed to support the national currency exchange rate and slash the bill of unnecessary imports.

Last week, a delegation from Kuwait Red Crescent Society handed over two ambulances to an integrated field hospital in Tarim city, Hadhramaut governorate, east Yemen.

The hospital, set up by the Society in September 2020 to treat fever patients, serves the residents of the city and the people who fled to it from the conflict in other parts of Yemen, head of the delegation and KRCS Director-General Abdulrahman Al-Aoun said.

"The hospital, with a 60-bed capacity, fully-equipped wards, an ICU, a lab and a pharmacy, gains additional importance amid the outbreak of coronavirus," he told KUNA.

"The hospital was handed over by our partner in Yemen, the Response Network for Humanitarian Aid and Relief, to the Yemeni Ministry of Health earlier this year.

"Given the modern equipment and huge potentials of the facility, officials of the Ministry confirm plans to turn it from a field hospital into permanent one," he affirmed.

Benevolent

The KRCS delegation made a tour of Hamad Al-Jaw'ani School and Najwah Ahmad Al-Qatami center for caring for orphans in Seiyun city, which were founded with financing from benevolent Kuwaitis under supervision of the Society, Al-Aoun added.

The delegation arrived in Yemen on Tuesday on a mission to inspect nine KRCS-run projects and explore the humanitarian needs of the people, particularly the IDPs.

Meanwhile, the Arab Gulf Programme for Development (AGFUND) and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) signed last week two agreements deepening their four-decade-long partnership.

Under the accords, they will launch two joint Covid-19 response projects in Yemen and Niger.

The agreements come at a time when the pandemic continues to take its toll on marginalized communities in both countries at an unprecedented scale, according to a statement from AGFUND.

In Yemen, AGFUND's contribution will allow UNICEF to increase awareness of Covid-19 preventive measures and generate demand for vaccines by training doctors and community volunteers in risk communication and community engagement.

In Niger, the contribution will help UNICEF support the availability and delivery of Covid-19 vaccines through the deployment of mobile teams to reach people in hard-to-reach areas.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by Nathalie Fustier, the UN Resident Coordinator for Saudi Arabia, and Nasser Alkahtani, the AGFUND Executive Director.

Safe

"No one is safe until everyone is safe, including those in conflict-affected and other hard-to-reach areas," said Eltayeb Adam, UNICEF Representative to the Gulf Area, at the ceremony.

"I am grateful to AGFUND for two the strategic contributions that will allow us to prioritize some of the most vulnerable and underserved communities on the planet," he added.

"In the fight against Covid-19, we cannot leave anyone behind," said Prince Abdulaziz bin Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, President of AGFUND.

"Through our work with UNICEF, we seek to reach vulnerable communities in rural and remote areas.

"They require information, vaccines, and much-needed care and attention," he noted. UNICEF's latest report, released on its 75th anniversary, highlighted the various ways in which Covid-19 is jeopardizing decades of progress on key childhood challenges such as poverty, health, access to education, nutrition, child protection, and mental well-being.

It warned of growing divides between wealthy and poor children, with the most marginalized and vulnerable hurt the most.

AGFUND's contribution is timely in support of UNICEF's role in delivering Covid-19 vaccines and providing risk communication and community engagement services to communities that need it the most supports a vital effort to end the pandemic and reverse the alarming rollback in child health and nutrition.

Established in 1980 under initiative of late Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz and support of GCC leaders, AGFUND aims at tackling the root causes of development problems and benefiting vulnerable communities without discrimination.



Dr Ziad Rajab on TGS

The Guest Show (TGS) starts this year with the extraordinary story of two unconventional individuals, a Kuwaiti cultural, arts, and archaeology pioneer Tareq Sayed Rajab, and his adventurous soulmate, Jehan. Together, they founded the magnificent Tareq Rajab Museum and The English School Kuwait, the first English Secondary School in the country.

The show is also about their equally extraordinary son Dr Ziad Rajab, who, along with his siblings, has inherited this remarkable legacy and is working hard to take it forward.

Dr Ziad Rajab himself is a renaissance man. I have had the good

fortune of listening to his lectures on Islamic art at the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah.

Like the museums he heads and their artifacts, there is an uncommonness to Dr Ziad, perhaps because of his family, upbringing, and learning. In the first episode of 2022, he speaks of his remarkable parents, two individuals so quietly passionate about the same things and their synergy, which led to a collection so vast and a museum so unique, his unconventional childhood, about the Tareq Rajab Museum, his own journey with art, history, culture and artifacts and the challenges that museums face in Kuwait. Tune in this Thursday.

KOC bags 2 awards

KPC obtained 'ISO 31000-2018' certificate in risk management

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 2: Here is the energy sector, economy, finance news events throughout 2021.

Energy: Jan 1: Kuwait Petroleum Corporation's (KPC) International Marketing exports first low sulfur diesel shipment to Pakistan on Al-Salam-2 tanker owned by the Kuwait Oil Tanker Company.

Jan 4: Oil Ministry announces discovery of two new oil fields for the Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) in different regions of the country, in addition to the discovery of an extension to the northern part of the Great Burgan field.

Jan 14: State-owned global energy provider, Kuwait Petroleum International (KPI), and Oman's national petroleum investment company, OQ, announce their joint venture, Duqm Refinery and Petrochemical Industries Company, will bear the new trademark, OQ8.

April 10: Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC) began operation of hydrocracking of Clean Fuel Project at Refinery at Abdullah Port.

April 25: Minister of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy and Minister of Social Affairs Mashaan Al-Otaibi signed a decree to support local agricultural products.

May 19: Kuwait oil price went up USD 1.22 to reach USD 69.76 pb.

May 30: Kuwait Oil Tankers Company (KOTC) received giant crude oil tanker "Al-Siddeeq" from China's shipbuilding company Bohai.

June 6: Kuwait electricity consumption hit the highest level of 15,070 megawatts, amid soaring summer heat crossing the threshold of 50 degrees Celsius.

June 10: Kuwait Petrochemical Industries Company (PIC) announced its Polypropylene Plant obtained three ISO certificates for environment management, quality control and occupational health.

June 29: Kuwait crude oil gained 36 cents to reach USD 74.94 pb.

July 12: Kuwait Integrated Petroleum Industries Company (KIPIC) announced arrival of first LNG shipment of 213,000 cubic meters at Al-Zour Port.

July 14: Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) signed three contracts to treat soil polluted by oil spills caused by invading Iraqi forces.

July 28: KOC signed two new contracts to treat polluted soil.

Sept 9: Kuwait Petroleum International (KPI) won the 2021 Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) for the Chemical Sector Award, in addition to Occupational Health and Safety Gold Award for the 10th consecutive year.

Sept 10: KPI opened a gas station near Milan, northern Italy.

Sept 21: KNPC announced success of operation of clear fuel project.

Oct 5: Minister of Electricity and Water Mashaan Al-Otaibi launched the smart meters and said the ministry plan to install 800,000 of them. Oct 18: KNPC said it controlled a fire in Sulphur cracking unit which injured a number of workers.

Oct 23: KPI supplied Gatwick Airport with sustainable airplane fuel.

Oct 26: Kuwait crude oil rose USD 1.65 to reach USD 85.55 per barrel.

Nov 1: KOC won two awards from Global Business Outlook Magazine for exploration and production of oil and gas, and crises

management.

Dec 13: The Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) obtained the ISO 31000-2018 certificate in risk management (KPC).

Dec 15: Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC) opened fuel station in Sabah Al-Ahmad city south of the country.

Economy & Finance: Jan 4: Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) issues KD 240 million (USD 792 million) worth of bonds and Tawarruq. The issue's maturity period is six months and a return rate of 1.250 percent.

Jan 11: CBK issues KD 240 million (USD 792 million) worth of bonds and Tawarruq. The issue's maturity period is three months and a return rate of 1.250 percent.

Jan 18: CBK issues KD 240 million (USD 792 million) worth of bonds and Tawarruq, with a maturity period of three months and a return rate of 1.125 percent.

Jan 25: Finance ministry announces KD-12.1-billion (USD 39 billion) deficit for the fiscal year 2021-22, a 13.8 percent decline.

Feb 1: CBK issues KD 240 million (roughly USD 792 million) worth of bonds and Tawarruq, with a three-month issue period and a return rate of 1.125 percent.

Feb 8: CBK issues new commemorative coins on the occasions of Kuwait National celebrations.

Feb 14: Kuwait Credit Bank announces total of loans and grants disbursed between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020 amounted to KD 183.8 million (about USD 606.5 million).

April 6: Kuwaiti-Chinese digital economy talks kicked off, discussing the Belt and Road project, with broad participation of the two countries.

April 12: The Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) issued Tawarruq bonds worth KD 240 million (USD 792 million). The issue's maturity period is three months, with a return rate of 1.125 percent.

April 19: CBK issued Tawarruq bonds worth KD 240 million (USD 792 million). The issue's maturity period is six months, with a return rate of 1.125 percent.

April 26: CBK issued Tawarruq bonds worth KD 200 million (USD 660 million). The issue's maturity period is three months, with a return rate of 1.125 percent.

May 3: CBK issued Tawarruq bonds worth KD 240 million (USD 792 million). The issue's maturity period is three months, with a return rate of 1.125 percent.

May 10: CBK issued Tawarruq bonds worth KD 160 million (USD 528 million). The issue's maturity period is three months, with a return rate of 1.125 percent.

May 17: CBK issued Tawarruq bonds worth KD 240 million (USD 792 million). The issue's maturity period is six months, with a return rate of 1.125 percent.

June 7: CBK issued Tawarruq and bonds worth KD 280 million (about USD 924 million), for six months, with a return rate of 1.250 percent. June 14: CBK issued Tawarruq and bonds worth KD 290 million (about USD 957 million), for three months, with a return rate of 1.250 percent.



About 1,400 Yemeni male and female students benefit from the rehabilitation of a Kuwaiti-funded school (Al-Tawasul Foundation).

