



KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah meets His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah. —Amiri Diwan photo

## AMIR, CROWN PRINCE RECEIVE STATE OFFICIALS

AMIR RECEIVES LETTER FROM PAKISTANI PRESIDENT

**KUWAIT:** His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received at Bayan Palace yesterday His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

Meanwhile, His Highness Sheikh Nawaf received His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled, Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah,

Minister of Commerce and Industry Dr Yousef Mohammad Al-Ali and Minister of Communication and Minister of State for Municipality Affairs Essa Ahmad Al-Kanderi.

Separately, His Highness the Amir received a letter yesterday from Pakistani President Mamnoon Hussain, inviting him to attend the Organization of Islamic Cooperation's (OIC) summit for Science and Technology to be held in Pakistan in November. Pakistani Ambassador to Kuwait Mohammad Islam Khan handed the letter to Deputy Amiri Diwan Affairs Minister Advisor Mohammed Daifallah Sharar. —KUNA

# GCC FMS CONCLUDE MEETING IN RIYADH

**RIYADH:** The GCC foreign ministers concluded their 136th session of the ministerial council Tuesday, with Kuwaiti First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah attending.

The meeting, chaired by Qatari Foreign Minister Khalid Al-Attiyah, discussed crystallizing a united Gulf stand towards current regional and international events, particularly situations in Yemen, Syria, and Palestine, in addition to subjects relative to the joint GCC action and other issues, the ministerial council said in a concluding statement.

GCC ministers confirmed their stand with every measure and procedure that the State of Kuwait takes to preserve its security and stability, affirming security in Kuwait and Gulf states is 'inseparable'. They also praised recent efforts exerted by Kuwaiti security bodies in dismantling a cell belonging to a terrorist organization, which was planning to destabilize Kuwait's security, reaffirming full support to whatever measures Kuwait takes to maintain its security and safety of its people and residents.

### Security investigations

The council also voiced a deep concern over outcomes of recent security investigations in Kuwait, which indicated possible dangers that could threaten the country's security and sovereignty, particularly after the discovery and confiscation of a huge arsenal of weapons, ammunition and rockets that were to be used to destabilize security of the country. It also condemned the statement by the UN

Human Rights Council (UNHRC), which was delivered by the Swiss Federation and a number of countries, on Bahrain's interior affairs. The UNHRC joint statement contained several contradictions and fabrications regarding human rights and failed to reflect the Kingdom's noticed progress in the human rights field, the statement said. The ministerial council expressed full support of Bahrain, praising the Kingdom's achievement in boost-

ing the march of human rights, and in implementing all international resolutions in this regard.

The GCC council also expressed total rejection to Iran's continued interventions in Gulf States' interior affairs, attempts to ignite radical seditions and separation among its citizens, and plots to harm its security, stability, and people's interests.

### Al-Aqsa Mosque

It also condemned the Israeli Special Force recent incursion into the holy Al-Aqsa Mosque courtyard in East Jerusalem and the besieging of worshippers inside, as well as the repeated assaults carried out by Israeli officials and settlers against the sanctities of Al-Aqsa Mosque, calling on the international community to bear its responsibilities in protecting the Palestinian people and religious sanctities.

However, GCC council welcomed the recent adoption by the UN General Assembly of a resolution to raise the flag of the State of Palestine over the UN headquarters as a non-member observer state, stressing the importance of this step in the march of the Palestinian cause.

The meeting's outcomes are to be submitted to GCC leaders for consultations and discussions in the 15th annual consultative summit, to be held in Riyadh in May, 2016. Later, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled departed the Saudi capital after taking part in the meeting, and was seen off at the airport by Kuwait's Ambassador Sheikh Thamer Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah. —KUNA



RIYADH: Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Sabah arrives to attend the 136th ordinary meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), on September 15, 2015, in the Saudi capital Riyadh. —AFP

## SAUDI EMBASSY STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO MISLEADING REPORTS

**T**he Kingdom of Saudi Arabia does not intend to speak about its efforts to support Syrian brothers and sisters, during their distress, as it has, since the beginning of the problem, dealt with the situation from a religious and humane perspective, and did not wish to boast about its efforts or attempt to gain media coverage, an official source of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said, adding that media reports have contained erroneous and misleading information, and the Kingdom now considers it important to discuss its efforts with appropriate facts and figures.

The official source explained that the follow-

ing actions have been taken by the Kingdom:

- 1- The Kingdom has received around 2.5 million Syrians since the beginning of the conflict. In order to ensure their dignity and safety, the Kingdom adopted a policy that does not treat them as refugees or place them in refugee camps. They have been given the freedom to move about the country and those who wish to remain in Saudi Arabia (some hundreds of thousands) have been given legal residency status like the remaining residents. Their residency comes with the rights to receive free medical care, to join the labor market and to attend schools and universities. This was con-

tained in a royal decree in 2012 that instructed public schools to accept Syrian students. According to government statistics, the public school system has accepted more than 100,000 Syrian students.

- 2- The Kingdom's efforts were not limited to accepting our Syrian brothers and sisters after their crisis; it also extended its efforts to support and care for millions of Syrian refugees in neighboring countries such as Jordan, Lebanon and others. Efforts included providing them with humanitarian assistance, in coordination with the host governments and with international human aid organizations.

Aid was provided, in cash and kind.

- 3- The aid provided by Saudi Arabia to the Syrian people totals around \$700 million, according to the statistics of the Third International Humanitarian Pledging Conference for Syria, which took place in Kuwait on March 31, 2015. Government aid and aid provided by the National Campaign, are included in that number.
- 4- Humanitarian aid provided to Syrians by the Kingdom consisted of food, medical, academic, residential supplies and included the establishment of Saudi specialized clinics in refugee camps, especially at Za'atari Camp in Jordan.

The Kingdom was able to provide medical care in the form of immunization, preventive treatment and medical procedures. In addition, Saudi Arabia sponsored a large number of Syrian families living in Lebanon and Syria (specifically, through paying for their rent and living costs).

The ministry official concluded by stating that: It is apparent from the previous facts, that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will remain a leader among other countries supporting Syrian people and it is impossible to outbid its efforts in this matter, or to question its position in any way or form, the statement concluded.

**Eid al Adha**

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