KUWAIT: Deputy Chairman of the Arab League human rights committee Dr Abdulkareem Alzalani said the Kuwaiti center for sheltering foreign workers is a pioneering center in the region in providing basic services for the expatriates and solving their problems. “The center, an affiliate of the Public Authority for Manpower (PAM), provides a humanitarian treatment, including dwelling and healthcare, for the expatriates, males and females, who lost their livelihoods and enables them to solve their legal problems,” he said.

Alzalani, now on a visit to Kuwait, made the press remarks after inspecting the center along with other members of the committee known also as “the charter committee.” The delegation took note of the existence of places of worship at the center which signals the country’s respect for different faiths of the expatriates and keenness on helping them to coexist with each other,” he added.

The delegation was briefed on the role of the authority in caring for the expatriates and solving their problems in coordination with the competent ministries such as the ministries of justice, interior and foreign affairs. “We have also met representatives of civil society institutions advocating for human rights protection and discussed with senior officials of the Ministry of Interior the legitimate rights of prisoners,” he added.

Meanwhile, PAM Director General Abdullah Al-Motawwah welcomed the visit of the delegation and reaffirmed keenness on full cooperation with the Arab League committee out of belief in its important role. He added that the center provides the expatriates with medical, psychological and livelihood services until they are able to integrate with the community or leave for home in coordination with their respective embassies. “Four years ago, the center receives the expatriate workers who are willing to live there until their work or residency problems are solved. — KUNA

ANNOUNCEMENT

KUWAIT: Photo shows palm leaves baskets - a Kuwaiti ancient house tools from the past. — KUNA

ARAB HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER COMMENDS PAM

KUWAIT: Kuwait’s participation in the Palestinian International Book Fair as a “guest of honor” is a crowning of its leading cultural role regionally and internationally, said Minister of Information Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Sabah. Sheikh Salman, also Minister of State for Youth Affairs, made the statement to KUNA prior to his departure to Ramallah City in the West Bank to take part in the event, adding that there is a close relation between the cultural scenes of the two countries.

He referred to the depth of relations between Kuwait and Palestine on all levels - expressing his gratitude to Palestinian brothers for this invitation which was welcomed by Kuwaiti intellectuals to support the event. — KUNA

KUWAIT PARTICIPATES IN PALESTINIAN BOOK FAIR

KUWAIT: Kuwaiti participation in the Palestinian International Book Fair as a “guest of honor” is a crowning of its leading and effective cultural role regionally and internationally, said Minister of Information Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Sabah. Sheikh Salman, also Minister of State for Youth Affairs, made the statement to KUNA prior to his departure to Ramallah City in the West Bank to take part in the event, adding that there is a close relation between the cultural scenes of the two countries.

China-Arab research institute

TOKYO: A national-level China-Arab research institute was launched on Thursday in northwest China’s Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, where many of the country’s Muslim Hui ethnic minority live, state-run Xinhua News Agency reported. The institute, affiliated with Ningxia University in the regional capital of Yinchuan, will bring together Chinese and Arabic scholars, according to the report. It will focus on such areas as Sino-Arabic diplomatic affairs, Sino-Arabic cooperation in finance, technology transfer and industry, and cultural and educational exchanges between China and Arab countries.

US-Hormuz operation

WASHINGTON: The US will “continue to fly, sail and operate wherever international law allows,” a military official said in response to threats to close the Strait of Hormuz to the US. “We would have concerns with comments like that. You know that we will continue to fly, sail and operate wherever international law allows,” Department of Defense spokesman Peter Cook said in a press briefing. The comments were made in response to reports that Iran’s Revolutionary Guard Deputy Commander Gen Hossein Salami said that Tehran would close the strategic waterway to the US and its allies if Iran felt it was under threat. “Any effort to cut down, to somehow shutdown, a waterway of critical importance to the global economy is under threat. “Any effort to cut down, to somehow shutdown, a waterway of critical importance to the global economy is not something that we would treat with a great degree of concern,” added Cook. “Obviously we have our forces present in that part of the world to make sure that there is the free flow of commerce and that certainly American interests are maintained,” the US official underlined.