

## Local

# Kuwait reiterates its rejection of all terrorism, extremism forms

## Kuwait supports helping countries obtain self-determination

**NEW YORK:** The state of Kuwait reiterated yesterday its firm stance of rejecting all forms of terrorism and extremism regardless of their causes, motives and sources, stressing the support of all international efforts to combat it. This came in a speech delivered by Chancellor at Kuwait's permanent mission to the United Nations (UN) Tahani Al-Nasser during the discussion of 'measures to eliminate international terrorism' in the sixth committee of UN general assembly. She pointed out that terrorism remains a serious threat in many parts of the world and threatens international peace and security, affirming Kuwait's condemnation against terrorism in all its forms.

Nasser added that the fight against terrorism requires concerted international efforts to counter this scourge by taking measures to ensure respect for human rights and the rule of law and to address the conditions conducive to its spread by eradicating poverty and promoting sustainable development and good governance. She mentioned that the world has recently witnessed a series of terrorist and subversive acts. This year, the Gulf region had a share of those acts that threatened freedom of navigation and endangered the flow of energy supplies.

Meanwhile, she stressed that Kuwait has sponsored resolutions related to combating terrorism and other acts of violence based on religion or belief, including the terrorist incident in New Zealand, also supported actively the independent international neutral mechanism to investigate crimes committed in Syria since March 2011. She pointed out that Kuwait is making many efforts through establishing a number of workshops aimed at targeting the finance of terrorism, soci-

ety role in rehabilitation and spread awareness among families and young people and in renunciation of violence and extremism. She also noted Kuwait's participation in international and regional conferences and workshops in Morocco, Germany and Saudi Arabia and its keenness to abide by all international conventions and protocols related to the fight against terrorism.

### Self-determination

Meanwhile, Kuwait affirmed its stance backing the right of self-determination for nations that is a key principle of the UN Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514. This came in Kuwait's speech delivered by First Secretary Bashar Al-Duwaisan on Tuesday before the fourth committee of the UN General Assembly on ending colonization. The UNSC resolution 1514 calls for granting independence to non-self-governing states and nations as well as helping them get the right to self-determination, he noted. Although Palestine is not among non-self-governing states discussed by the committee, Kuwait stresses the necessity of ending the Israeli occupation of the entire occupied Palestinian territories, Al-Duwaisan said. He underlined the importance of achieving the Palestinian people's full and legitimate political rights, including their right to self-determination.

This comes in implementation of the international legitimacy resolutions that allow Palestinian people to establish their independent state on their land and with East Jerusalem as their capital, and make Israel be committed to withdraw from all Arab territories occupied since 1967, he noted. This is the only solution to reach a just, permanent and comprehensive peace in line with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions, the land

for peace, the roadmap and the Arab peace initiative, he told the committee. Of the most outstanding achievements by the UN since its establishment was to help several countries and member states be independent, he stated.

Duwaisan urged the countries managing the non-self governing regions to cooperate with the fourth committee and provide it with accurate and correct data on educational, economic, political and social positions, and revive these regions in line with the UN Charter. He renewed Kuwait's support to the efforts by the UN, Secretary General and his former special envoy Horst Kohler that facilitated holding the first and second meetings of the parties to Sahara issue. He welcomed the participation of Algeria, Morocco, Mauritania and the Polisario Front in the two meetings, in response to the UN Security Council resolutions 2440 and 2414. He lauded the positive atmospheres covered the two gatherings which aimed to find an acceptable peaceful resolution to all parties to the issue. He backs the UN Security Council resolution 2468, which stresses the necessity of making progress to find a practical, political, permanent solution to the Sahara issue based on consensus.

Duwaisan extolled Morocco's achievements made in human rights and its constructive interaction with mechanisms of the International Human Rights Organization (IHRO) in this matter. He renewed Kuwait's backing to Morocco's initiative on autonomy in Sahara to reach an acceptable resolution to all parties, stressing the necessity of respecting Morocco's unity and sovereignty as well as the unified Gulf stance on the Sahara issue that was clear in the 2016 Moroccan-Gulf summit.

### Developmental partnership

In the meantime, Kuwait stressed on the importance of an international cooperation atmosphere that contributes to creating more fair and balanced developmental partnership, and reducing the developmental



Tahani Al-Nasser

gap between the world's nations. Second Secretary of the Permanent Kuwaiti Mission to the United Nations Abdullah Al-Sharrah gave their remarks during a speech he gave during the panel discussions of The United Nations General Assembly Second Committee (also known as the Economic and Financial Committee, or ECOFIN) held yesterday. This requires from the developed countries to meet their commitments regarding offering official developmental aid by allocating 0.7 percent of its Gross national product (GNP) to allow developing countries to overcome their challenges, he affirmed.

The year 2019 is considered an important year development-wise, starting with the implement of UN General Assembly resolution number 72/279 aiming at elevating the role of the organization at various levels, especially in activities serving the development process, he added. Despite that fact that Kuwait is classified as a developing country of high income, yet this nation realized since its independence the importance of the developmental partnership by supporting developmental projects, led by Kuwait Fund for Arab economic development as it offered aid to more than 107 countries, he said. — KUNA



## Kuwait urges more developmental partnership

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KUWAIT: US Air Quality and Health Speaker Dr Sumi Mehta speaks at the workshop.



A general view of people attending the workshop. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat



KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah meets with the UK Cyber Security Ambassador at Department for International Trade (DIT) Henry Pearson. — KUNA

## Kuwaiti Interior Minister meets UK cyber security official

**KUWAIT:** Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah met yesterday with the UK Cyber Security Ambassador at Department for International Trade (DIT) Henry Pearson, discussing with him ways to bolster ties. A statement by the Interior Ministry revealed that Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah touched on issues of mutual interests as well as the deep relations linking the two coun-

tries especially within the security domain. Meanwhile, Ambassador Pearson commended the level of cooperation with Kuwait, saying that the Gulf country played a vital role in maintaining and boosting regional and international security. He hoped that both sides would continue to cooperate to improve relations to a level that achieve the goals set by the two nations. — KUNA

## 5m deaths per year related to air pollution: Mehta

By Ben Garcia

**KUWAIT:** Air pollution is responsible for more than five million deaths annually throughout the world, an environment expert said yesterday. US Air Quality and Health Speaker Dr Sumi Mehta was invited for environmental talks and speaking engagements at Kuwait University and a four-hour special workshop for the local press at Radisson Blu Hotel in order to effectively use data in reporting about environment, air pollution and health issues.

Mehta's presence was sponsored by the US State Department, which has worked with governments around the world to improve environmental policies. Mehta provided information on how and where to get the data necessary for reporting and how to use them in reporting about the environment.

Speaking at the workshop, Mehta said the air pollution problem disproportionately affects vulnerable populations, especially women and children without access to clean household energy. Kuwait is not exempted, and according to data she showed during the workshop, air pollution in Kuwait is responsi-

ble for 10 percent of deaths annually. "More or less 10 percent of deaths are connected to air pollution. Records were derived from reliable sources - and I was involved in gathering some of the records - and they are all accurate data," she pointed out.

Mehta defines air pollution as a complex mixture of gases and aerosols which are manifested as dust, soot, smog or smoke with chemical components of particulate matter (PM). Sources of PM include household fuel combustion, especially from solid fuels, tobacco smoke and power generation, especially from coal, open burning of trash, agriculture waste and forests and motor vehicles like diesel engines. According to Mehta, health risk from PM depend on particle size. She said particles below 2.5 microns (PM2.5) are most harmful because they penetrate deep into small airways and air sacs of the lungs.

Other air pollutants include nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide and ground level ozone, while traffic related air pollution is from the combustion engines of motor vehicles and diesel engines - reported to be the most polluting. Power generation, municipal and agricultural waste incineration also contributes signifi-

cantly to the quality of air. But there are natural sources of air pollution too, which include wind-blown dust, salt and sea spray, volcanic eruptions and forest and grassland fires.

Mehta said that even today, there are around 3 billion people in the world who rely on poor quality of fuel to survive. "In rural areas of India, China and Africa, many people are still relying on biomass (wood, animal dung, crop waste), charcoal, coal or kerosene for cooking, heating and lighting in their houses, and because of that, air pollution inside people's homes reaches up to 100 times higher than the acceptable 2.5 PM level," she mentioned.

In order to address air pollution, she recommends aggressive clean air action in various sectors from the areas of transportation (walking and cycling is highly recommended), residential (using LPG piped gas or electric cooking devices), electric power generation (more into renewable energies), industry (natural gas to replace coal for heating), waste management (ban on burning waste) and incentivizing people to take a more active role, taking into consideration shifting to cleaner fuels and technologies.

## Kuwaiti charity offers housing for Gazans

**GAZA:** Kuwait's Mercy International Society handed over yesterday several renovated houses and apartments, which were affected by a previous Israeli military aggression on the Gaza Strip. Head of projects at the Kuwaiti charitable society Marwan Muhaisen said that the dwellings were handed over to Gazans who suffered from the Israeli military strikes back in May. Kuwaiti donors funded the project to resettle some 10 Gazan families in their dwellings damaged by Israeli aggression, said the official who commended the Kuwaitis firm stance in supporting their brethren in the Gaza Strip. Isamil Al-Ghazali, a house owner, expressed his deepest gratitude towards this generous Kuwaiti donation, saying that it would help in lessening part of the Gazans' suffering. — KUNA



GAZA: Kuwait Mercy Charitable Society hands over newly renovated homes destroyed by Israeli aggression. — KUNA

## Kuwait attends San Marino leaders' inauguration

**ROME:** Kuwait yesterday joined the festivities as the Italian enclave of San Marino's new dual heads of state, known as the Captains Regent, Mariella Mularoni and Luca Boschi, were sworn in. Amid the proceedings, the Gulf state's Charge D'affaires in Italy Sami Al-Zamanan conveyed His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah's warmest greetings to San Marino's new leaders, wishing them every success as they start their tenures as

Captains Regent. The Kuwaiti diplomat went on to highlight his country's eagerness to improve its ties with the government of San Marino, while the officials reciprocated the well wishes, according to a statement by the Kuwaiti embassy. Nestled in the Apennines Mountains in central Italy, San Marino is a wealthy enclave of 34,000 people and its two heads of state are elected every six months by its legislative body. — KUNA