

Local

FM says terrorism ugly threat to international peace, security

Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled stresses role of regional, sub-regional organizations

NEW YORK: Terrorism is one of the ugliest threats to international peace and security, Kuwait's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah said on Wednesday. This came in Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled's speech in a UN Security Council session on cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization; the Collective Security Treaty Organization; and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) to maintain international security and peace.

Terrorism targets innocent civilians, including children and women, he noted. Because of its growing threat to global security, countries and organizations must step up their efforts, he argued. The phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters is of serious concern, he said, noting that this has become a main concern to many countries. He pointed out that the UN and its counter-terrorism agencies have a vital role to play, including through General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, as well as relevant treaties and conventions.

During its presidency of the Security Council last June, Kuwait organized a high-level briefing on cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States (LAS), and means of cementing this collaboration, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled said. The session culminated in a presidential statement encouraging cooperation between the United Nations, and regional and sub-regional organizations, he stated.

Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled called on the Security Council to hold further meetings to address the means necessary to ensure cooperation between regional and sub-regional organizations. Experience has shown that no one country by itself can confront the diverse and complicated modern challenges facing the world today, including terrorism, drug and people trafficking, among

others, he explained. The Kuwaiti minister stressed the important role of regional and sub-regional organizations, given their proximity and knowledge of the history and culture of the region, as well as their commonalities.

Central Asia is a vital and promising region with geostrategic importance and natural resources, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled said. The three regional organizations being discussed today have close ties with the countries of the region, he noted. They play an important role by galvanizing collective efforts to confront its challenges, he said. He said that the UN and its bodies concerned with terrorism play a vital role in making international policies and strategies in line with legal frameworks represented in the resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly as well as the relevant international conventions and treaties.

Despite all these international measures, they require further effective cooperation on the regional level, he made clear. The minister commended the key role of the United Nations Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia in bringing views of the Central Asian countries together and bringing them to the negotiating table. He voiced his hope that the center's efforts, in cooperation with the regional organizations, would support economy and development of Afghanistan to achieve security and stability there as soon as possible.

Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled said this is an essential element in maintaining regional and international peace and security, and a key factor in strengthening them. Being a member of several international organizations like the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Arab League, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and others, Kuwait has approved several plans and strategies, and exerted many efforts in this path, he said.

Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled pointed to contributions of these or-



NEW YORK: Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah addresses the UN Security Council on Wednesday. — KUNA

ganizations to approving several pacts concerned with combating terrorism and putting a strategy contributing effectively to boosting efforts of member states of these organizations to counter terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as well as criminalizing extremist ideologies and set up a database on terrorism and terror groups.

The organizations also contributed to disseminating awareness through social media and discarding extremism as well as promoting youth's role and family and setting a program to rehabilitate terrorists returning from the conflict zones, he said. Finally, the minister hoped that these discussions would lead to more proposals and strategies so as to promote cooperation between the UN, and regional and sub-regional organizations. — KUNA

GCC FMs meet Indian, Pakistani counterparts

NEW YORK: Kuwait's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah took part in the GCC-India and GCC-Pakistan ministerial meetings on Wednesday. The separate meetings, held on the sidelines of the 74th UN General Assembly, were co-chaired by Oman's Minister Responsible for Foreign Affairs Yusuf bin Alawi bin Abdullah - the current chair of the GCC Ministerial Council, and Indian Minister of External Affairs Subrahmanyam Jaishankar and Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi.

The meetings reviewed the friendly relations between the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and India and Pakistan as well as the status quo of the existing partnerships on cooperation in various fields. Also attending were Kuwait's Assistant Foreign Minister Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah, Permanent Representative to the UN Mansour Al-Otaibi as well as other senior diplomats. — KUNA

FAO lauds Kuwait's support of programs

GENEVA: Kuwait support and donations to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is of a great interest in the region, said Director of the FAO Liaison Office with the UN at Geneva Carolyn Rodrigues Birkett yesterday. The remarks to KUNA came after her meeting with Kuwait's Per-

manent Representative to the UN and other international organizations in Geneva Ambassador Jamal Al-Ghunaim.

The meeting discussed Kuwait's support and donations allocated to FAO's programs in Yemen, which would help in the rehabilitation of the agricultural and food services sector in Yemen, she said. Birkett expressed hope of this fruitful cooperation with Kuwait to continue. Ghunaim said cooperation between Kuwait and FAO aims at directing humanitarian support to those in need and affected in the first place. Kuwait's cooperation with FAO, whether in Yemen or Syria, is the only one of its kind in the region, he added. — KUNA



GENEVA: Director of the FAO Liaison Office Carolyn Birkett meets Kuwait's Permanent Representative to the UN Jamal Al-Ghunaim yesterday. — KUNA

Sheikh Salman: ICAO recognition of DGCA efforts an 'honor'

WASHINGTON: The International Civil Aviation Organization's (ICAO) recognition of Kuwait's Directorate General of Civil Aviation's (DGCA) efforts is an honor for all Kuwaitis, said the directorate's chief yesterday. In his speech to the ICAO's 40th General Assembly in Montreal, Canada, after being chosen as First Vice-President of the Organization, DGCA Director Sheikh Salman Al-Hmoud Al-Sabah said that he appreciated the recognition bestowed by the 194-member organization.

He affirmed that the recognition also came due to the extensive efforts carried out by Kuwaiti aviation in the international scene. Sheikh Salman also hinted at the humanitarian role played by Kuwait on the regional and global spheres, saying that those working in the aviation and air cargo sector played a huge role in implementing the directives of the Kuwaiti leadership in this



MONTREAL: DGCA Director Sheikh Salman Al-Hmoud Al-Sabah meets Singaporean Minister of Transport Khaw Boon Wan. — KUNA

regard. On the sidelines of the General Assembly, Sheikh Salman met Singaporean Minister of Transport Khaw Boon Wan, discussing with him ways to bolster cooperation within aviation security and air cargo. — KUNA