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Audit Bureau participates in ARABOSAI meeting

KUWAIT: Kuwait State Audit Bureau (SAB) will participate with a delegation headed by SAB's President Faisal Al-Shaya, in the 62nd meeting of the Executive Council of the Arab Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ARABOSAI), to be held for two days in the Qatari capital, Doha. Director of Training and International Relations at Kuwait SAB Dr Saud Al-Zamanan said in a press statement that the meeting will include signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ARABOSAI and Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). ESCWA is one of the five regional commissions of the United Nations to stimulate economic activity in member countries, strengthen cooperation between them, and promote development.

The meeting will discuss the report of the Chairman of ARABOSAI about the Council's activity, as well as the report of the General Secretariat since its last meeting. Zamanan pointed out. The development initiatives proposed by the Presidency of ARABOSAI will be reviewed, also the estimated budget for the year 2021 will be approved, in addition to presenting the bodies' reports on their participation in the work of committees and working groups emanating from International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI), he said. ARABOSAI was established in 1976 with an aim to develop cooperation between member agencies, strengthening ties between them, plus encouraging the exchange of ideas, viewpoints, experiences, studies, and research among the member institutions in the field of auditing and work to promote auditing in both scientific and practical terms while raising awareness within the Arab world. — KUNA

Photo of the Day



KUWAIT: A picture showing high-rise buildings in Kuwait City. — Photo by Fouad Al-Shaikh

GCC, 'smart city' District 2020 sign partnership to support start-ups

RIYADH: The Secretariat General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) announced yesterday the signing of a partnership with District 2020 to provide support to start-up businesses across the region through District 2020's Scale2Dubai global entrepreneur program. The agreement was signed by GCC Secretary General Dr Nayef Al-Hajraf and Reem Al Hashimy, the UAE's Minister of State for International Cooperation and Director-General of Expo 2020 Dubai, said the Secretariat General in a statement. The alliance underlines the commitment of District 2020 - the future of Expo 2020 Dubai that will evolve into a human-centric smart community and a global innovation ecosystem - to support the growth of entrepreneurship in the UAE and across the GCC region.

"This is an important and strategic collaboration for the GCC's present and future, as we commit to working alongside partners like District 2020. The fact that start-ups and small businesses contribute significantly to the GCC's GDP is well known, meaning such companies are crucial to creating sustainable economic progress in the future," said Hajraf. "Together with District 2020, we will stimulate the growth potential of the region and enable a start-up ecosystem to flourish. We will do this by identifying the most promising companies and giving them District 2020 as a platform. Here, they will be exposed to collaborative innovation

across key industries and technologies, which will in turn stimulate job creation and drive competition in the wider economy," he added.

Hajraf pointed out that this agreement signifies the strong alignment between District 2020's mandate to support the local and regional start-up ecosystem, and the mission of the GCC to promote economic, security, cultural and social cooperation among the Arabian Gulf states. It also recognizes the pivotal role of start-ups and small businesses in driving transformative, innovation-led ideas and growth. "As part of ongoing efforts to diversify their economies, Gulf nations are looking to entrepreneurs and innovators to develop new sectors and approaches, and supplement government initiatives through a sustainable and shared vision," Hajraf said.

Meanwhile, Hashimy said that building partnerships that will reinvent economies, fuel prosperity and create better lives for people across the UAE, the region, and the world is Expo 2020's mission. This pivotal alliance between District 2020 and the GCC will foster entrepreneurship and give start-ups and small businesses the opportunity to realize their full potential in a supportive, connecting ecosystem - a powerful launch pad for growth and a demonstration of Expo's meaningful, long-term legacy.

District 2020 is bringing together regional and global entities comprising Fortune 500 companies, SMEs, start-ups, academic institutes, labs, accelerators and venture capitalists to curate an ecosystem that is focused on spurring innovation. Through this partnership, the GCC will support in identifying and channeling to its Scale2Dubai program a pipeline of high-potential start-ups and small businesses that are aligned with District 2020's ecosystem focus areas. Scale2Dubai is designed to facilitate a soft landing within Dubai through an easy set up within District 2020's ecosystem, and aims to help start-ups and small businesses overcome the most challenging

aspect of growth: scaling.

Each year, the equity-free program is expected to support between 80 and 100 of these businesses, with the first cohort being selected during Expo 2020 Dubai. It will offer successful applicants two years of free work space, business setup support and guidance needed to scale up, while also providing access to funding, deal flow, networking opportunities and connections with big-name global players such as Siemens, DP World, and Terminus Technologies. District 2020 will actively facilitate opportunities for cross-industry collaboration between these large and small businesses, driving mutually beneficial exchange and providing a launchpad from which to access the Middle East, Africa and South Asia region (MEASA) and global markets.

District 2020's enabling environment will be an ideal home for budding businesses and entrepreneurs, and is designed to stimulate creativity, knowledge exchange and innovation. Businesses will become part of District 2020's human-centered smart urban community, which will provide a fully integrated destination to live and work. Promoting a balanced and social lifestyle, the mixed-use community combines the best of the physical and the virtual, by integrating next generation connectivity, flexible workplaces, modern urban living, experiential events, culture, learning, retail, hospitality, and F&B offerings, in one destination.

The Scale2Dubai program is currently accepting expressions of interest from local, regional and international start-ups through the District 2020 website: www.district2020.ae/scale2dubai. The application and short-listing process will follow, with the first cohort of successful applicants announced during the six months of Expo 2020 Dubai. Those chosen to be part of the program will be able to move into their workspaces at District 2020 shortly after Expo 2020 closes, when District 2020 begins its phased opening by October 2022. —KUNA

Critical research on Suad Al-Sabah's 'Usage of Poetic Structures'

KUWAIT: The book "Usage of Poetic Structures with Suad Al-Sabah" has seven critical research items, and was released recently in Kuwait. The research specialized in rhythmic structural approach in the "Fatafeet Emraah" poems, which was supervised, prefaced and critiqued by Modern Arab Literature Professor Dr Hamad Doukhi.

Huda Aziz, Ahmad Shaheed, Waad Musaher, Munjid Ramadan, Shaima Iyad, Raheed Ahmad and Saad Sarhat participated in presenting the research. The research focused on the rhythmic aspect in the poetic experience of Suad Al-Sabah. Her "Fatafeet Emraah" anthology includes research on headlining rhythm, repetition and visual rhythm, dialogue rhythm, color rhythm, narrative rhythm and finally rotation and psychological rhythm.

In his foreword for the book, Dr Hamad Doukhi writes about the rhythmic structure in the poems of Suad Al-Sabah. He said preoccupation with the rhythmic paragraphs in the "Fatafeet Emraah" anthology is due to the "Tafeelah" system that represents the poet's longings.

With this discreet diligence in the rhythmic structure, and confidence in achievement, the poet (Suad Al-Sabah) confirms her constant artistic flair towards modernity and the aspirations of civilized representation of the human expression represented in the most sublime beautiful image - which is poetry - because it is the peak of expression and its goal, Doukhi said. She utilizes all this power that was available to her out of her creative keenness, loyalty to her heritage and humanitarian poetic legacy, he added.

Huda Aziz said the poet was able in her "Kuwaitiya"

poem to deliver poetic action to the world that does not know anything about the Kuwaiti woman through the headline rhythm, with the help of a visual rhythm that enabled her to describe and deliver her idea that ended with her choice that she wanted to be congratulated for.

About the title of the "Five o'clock Tea" poem, she focused on the bond between the headline and the text, and the extent of the rhythmic interaction between them, as the headline was repeated more than once within the text, in addition to the poet's employment of the counterpoint method through mentioning antonyms - "my blessing and my curse" and "my smile and my tear".

About the dialogue rhythm, Monjed Ramadan believes the dialogue worked to elaborate poetic texts of Suad Al-Sabah with its monologic style, that worked to transfer the internal ideas of the poet and criticize the patriarchal society that deprives a woman of her rights. The poet defended her through this internal voice that comes out into reality, in effect calling for changing the status quo.

Ramadan said Suad Al-Sabah also portrayed some of her life's stages through her texts that are full of love, and she worked through the internal dialogue to reflect the beauties of love and life through rhythmic tunes that she worked on, which gives the texts deliberate symbolism through suggestive language that used dialogue extensively to pass her ideas.

As for the color rhythm, Shaima Ahmad finds that color is effectively present in Suad Al-Sabah's poems through the multiplicity of its forms, as she represents the color spectrum in most of her poems. She points out that this is a new study that reveals the variety of the color present in the poet's anthology. It also reveals the dimension of beauty formed by the color, which enriches the text indicatively and morally.



Suad Al-Sabah

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Kuwaiti academic gains G3ict membership

KUWAIT: Dr Zeinab Al-Meraj, Assistant Professor at Information Science Department at College of Life Sciences, affiliated to Kuwait University (KU), gained membership of the Global Initiative for Inclusive Information and Communication Technologies (G3ict). KU said in a press statement on Sunday that Dr Meraj's representation of the university in the (G3ict) boosts the approach, in digital environment, toward achieving rights of people with disabilities in Kuwait and countries of the region. G3ict is a global initiative that was launched back in 2006 via the United Nations' Global Alliance for Information and Communication Technologies and Development in cooperation with the General Secretariat of the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of Persons

with Disabilities (CRPD), it added.

This membership will offer Dr Meraj an opportunity to increase awareness of the ability to reach the information technology at the national and international levels, as well as supporting policies' makers, it added. It will also help in facilitating and exchanging good practices and innovation, as well as enhancing interoperability on a global scale. It will further contribute to boosting skills of reaching others, it said. Furthermore, the statement quoted the Acting Head of the Information Sciences Department at the College of Life Sciences, Prof Ahmad Al-Lafi, as saying Dr Meraj's membership is a great achievement, taking into consideration her distinguished contributions and researches. Dr Lafi expressed his deepest thanks and congratulations for Dr Al-Meraj for this accomplishment, wishing her further progress and success. Dr Meraj won two international certificates of expertise in the Human Computer Interaction field, which allows her to be the first expert in Kuwait in that domain, and one of the elite professionals in the field in the Gulf region. — KUNA