

Diwan of
His Highness the Prime Minister
State of Kuwait



دولة الكويت
بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم
مجلس الوزراء
دولة الكويت

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STATEMENT OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT

**DELIVERED BY
THE REPRESENTATIVE OF HIS HIGHNESS THE AMIR
OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT**

**HIS HIGHNESS SHEIKH JABER AL MUBARAK AL HAMAD AL SABAH
PRIME MINISTER OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT**

**BEFORE
THE SEVENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

GENERAL DEBATE

UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS – NEW YORK

WEDNESDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2019

Mr. President

Your Highnesses & Excellencies

Mr. Secretary-General

Ladies & Gentlemen

The Peace, Mercy and Blessings of Allah, be upon you.

It pleases me at the outset, to extend our sincerest congratulations, to you personally, and to your friendly country, the Federal Republic of Nigeria, on your election as President of the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. I would also like to assure you of our full support, in all what would facilitate your work.

I would also like to avail myself of this opportunity to express sincere appreciation for the outstanding efforts exerted by your predecessor, Her Excellency Ms. Maria Fernanda Espinosa, during her capable and successful presidency of the previous session.

In this respect, I would be remiss if I do not pay tribute to the great and continued efforts exerted by His Excellency, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Antonio Guterres, in leading this inveterate Organization.

Mr. President,

The follower of the course of action of the United Nations for more than seven decades, will in effect reach the basic conclusion, that the United Nations has dealt with and addressed numerous serious challenges and chronic crises that the world have faced, being the safe haven to end differences, and ensure the prominence of the logic of peace based on diplomacy, in order to shield the coming generations from the scourge of wars and conflicts.

Mr. President, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Since its inception, the State of Kuwait has been keen on following a foreign policy, based on the foundations of peace. As Kuwait's non-permanent membership in the Security Council nears its end, it has, through its direct involvement and interaction with the overall issues, chronic and urgent, become more aware of the importance of reinforcing dialogue and pluralism to confront the global challenges, wherein the United

Nations embodies the ideal place to contain and address them. In this regard, we renew the position of the State of Kuwait supporting the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter, to ensure the continuity of the work of the Organization and the effectiveness of its outputs, in order to guarantee the realization of its lofty message in the maintenance of international peace and security.

Mr. President,

This year, the Arab Gulf region has been hit by a series of terrorist and subversive acts that have threatened the freedom of navigation in this vital region of the world, and endangered the flow of energy supplies. This is in addition to the more recent attacks on the sisterly Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, specifically the ones that targeted vital installations in the province of Abqaiq and Hijrat Khurais on the 14th of the current month of September. As we renew the strong denunciation and condemnation of the State of Kuwait of those terrorist attacks, we reaffirm the full support of the State of Kuwait, to all the measures the sisterly Kingdom of Saudi Arabia takes to preserve its security and stability. We also call once again on the international community to assume its responsibilities vis-à-vis ensuring and protecting the freedom of navigation in this important part of the world, as well as the adherence to the Law of the Sea, which in turn would preserve international peace and security.

Mr. President,

The Palestinian question occupies a central and pivotal place in our Arab and Islamic worlds. Remaining unresolved increases the intensity of tensions and instability in the region, hence, it is imperative to continue exerting efforts in order to relaunch serious negotiations within a specified time frame, in order to attain the just and comprehensive peace, according to the references of the peace process, the resolutions of international legitimacy and the Arab Peace Initiative as launched in 2002, and the principle of the two state solution, as well as ending the Israeli occupation, and the establishment of the independent Palestinian State, with East Jerusalem as its capital, along the borders prior to 4 June 1967. Furthermore, all Israeli practices violating the sanctity of religious sites must cease, as well as putting an end to all Israeli settlement activities on occupied Palestinian land. At the same time, we emphasize that any settlements, deals or unilateral solutions, outside the framework of these references shall only prolong the Palestinian question and exacerbate its fallouts.

Mr. President, Ladies & Gentlemen,

The developments of the Syrian crisis, which entered its ninth year, bearing all the images and meanings of human suffering, stand as a real witness to the lack of international consensus, and the absence of dialogue between the parties, and were a main reason for prolonging this bloody conflict. From here, we would like to reiterate our firm position, that there is no military solution for this crisis, and emphasize the importance

of working to reach a political settlement, according to the relevant Security Council resolutions, particularly, resolution 2254, and the Geneva Communiqué of 2012, in order to realize the aspirations and ambitions of the brotherly Syrian people.

Mr. President,

The persistence of the Yemeni crisis remains a remarkable indication of the reality on how to deal with relevant resolutions and outputs of the Security Council. However, despite the resumption of the negotiations between the parties to the crisis and reaching the Stockholm Agreement by the end of last year. Nevertheless, the stalemate and the state of non-implementation remain as the prevalent scene.

The State of Kuwait, emphasizing that there is no military solution to this crisis, in addition to its role supporting the United Nations efforts in facilitating the political process, we renew from this place, our readiness to host our Yemeni brothers, to hold another round of consultations in the State of Kuwait under the auspices of the United Nations, in order to reach a comprehensive and final political agreement based on the three agreed upon references. These are, the initiative of the Gulf Cooperation countries and its implementation mechanism, the outcomes of the National Dialogue Conference, and the relevant Security Council resolutions, especially resolution 2216 to put an end to this crisis, and preserve the security, stability, and territorial integrity of Yemen.

Mr. President, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Proceeding from the principled points relating to the consolidation of good-neighbourly relations, contained in the Charter of the United Nations, we renew our call to the Islamic Republic of Iran to take serious confidence-building measures, in order to start a dialogue built on respecting the sovereignty of states and non-interference in their internal affairs, as well as to reduce the intensity of tensions in the Gulf, and maintain the safety of maritime navigation, which will contribute to the establishment of relations based on cooperation and mutual respect, thus reflecting the future aspirations of all the peoples of the region, to live in peace and stability and achieve their welfare and development.

Mr. President, Ladies & Gentlemen,

There is no doubt that the growing phenomenon of terrorism and violent extremism is regarded as one of the most prominent and dangerous challenges that hit the international system to the core. The Middle East region has suffered tremendously from the subversive roles of terrorist organizations, foremost among which is the group called "Daesh" which has used Islam as a cover for its destructive intentions. This was a direct cause to call for intensifying the efforts to combat this real menace in all its forms and manifestations, and to work on draining its resources, eliminating the sources of its funding, and activating international and regional conventions related to combatting terrorism.

In light of the exacerbation of this imminent danger in several countries of our region, namely, Yemen, Libya, Syria, Somalia and Afghanistan, the experience of the brotherly Iraq, being the country that suffered the most from the atrocities of the terrorist group "Daesh", wherein the major role of the international community, in cooperation with the Iraqi Government has had a concrete impact on purging this terrorist entity from Iraqi territory.

Mr. President, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Four years after the adoption of the agenda on the goals of the 2030 Sustainable Development Plan, considered one of the most remarkable phases of important success for the United Nations, which came as a complementary effort to what was achieved by the Millennium Development Goals, where the human being was the main focus in formulating its foundations, and sketching its desired outcomes.

Within the framework of shouldering its responsibilities in this regard, the State of Kuwait submitted its first voluntary national review for the year 2019, concerning the implementation of the sustainable development goals, during the high-level political forum, which was tantamount to the determination demonstrated by the political leadership in the country, on top of which were the instructions of His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Amir of the State of Kuwait, to strengthen Kuwait's commitment to international partnership and solidarity, within the framework of the policies pursued by the Government in the short, medium and long term, to achieve the highest gains in sustainable development, and to objectively link those to Kuwait's 2035 Vision and the 2030 development goals.

We in the State of Kuwait strive to create the right environment to encourage investments, in order to attract quality investments from all over the world. Here we would like to note with profound satisfaction the remarkable progress that has been achieved during the past years. This progress came about as a result of intensive efforts, and a bundle of legislations and measures that the State of Kuwait has undertaken, and have yielded the desired positive effects. We look forward to enhancing the standing of the State of Kuwait within the international financial indicators, including the "ease of doing business index", which is published annually by the World Bank Group.

In conclusion, I would like to express my thanks for your attention and apologize if my statement has taken too long.

The Peace, Mercy and Blessings of Allah Be Upon You.