

Diwan of
His Highness The Prime Minister
State of Kuwait



دِيْوَانُ
بِمُؤَدَّرَاتِ مَجْلِسِ الوُزَرَاءِ
دَوْلَةُ الْكُوَيْتِ

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STATEMENT OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT

DELIVERED BY

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

BEFORE THE

THE SIXTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

GENERAL DEBATE

UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS – NEW YORK

THURSDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2014



IN THE NAME OF ALLAH
THE MERCIFUL, THE COMPASSIONATE

Mr. President
Your Majesties, Highness & Excellencies
Ladies & Gentlemen,

THE PEACE, MERCY AND BLESSINGS OF ALLAH
BE UPON YOU

It pleases me at the outset, to extend in the name of the government and people of the State of Kuwait, our sincere congratulations to you, and to your friendly country Uganda, on your election as President of the 69th Session of the General Assembly. We are certain that your vast experience in international affairs will enable you to conduct the deliberations of this session wisely and ably, and wish you success in this endeavour.

We also note with praise the successful manner with which your predecessor, H.E. Mr. John Ashe, conducted the deliberations during his presidency of the previous session.

In this regard, I would also like to pay tribute to the tremendous efforts exerted by H.E. the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. BAN Ki-moon, in leading this Organization, in accordance with visions and ideas, derived from the principles and purposes of the Charter, to maintain international peace and security, and at the same time aim to achieve its goals in a sustainable manner by confronting the kinds of risks and challenges engulfing the world, whether chronic or recent.

Mr. President,

In its nearly seventy years of existence and service, the United Nations Organization, has witnessed increasing challenges represented in numerous incidents and crises, and overcame exceptional political and economic turning



points, that made it a haven and a destination for all the peoples and nations of the world. This bestowed upon the Organization wider dimensions to contain crises and gave it larger roles to reach solutions and achieve more accomplishments.

However, the deep rooted and wide-ranging international transformations during the past few years, has made the continuation of this Organization, according to its current executive mechanisms and administrative structures an obstacle to what is expected of it.

When talking about changing for the better, it is imperative to seek comprehensive reform, through setting forth scenarios and solutions aiming at activating the Organization, its organs, and specialized agencies, to ensure the enhancement and development of their capacity to become more proactive and in line with modern times, and more understanding of the basic requirements of Member States. Here, the reform should start with the Security Council, being the organ entrusted with the maintenance of international peace and security, and the closest to reality, as well as the most effective and predisposed to measure its accomplishments according to its mandates.

The State of Kuwait, which currently presides over the Arab Summit, and being coordinator of the Arab Group, concerning the issue of Security Council reform, stresses the importance of addressing, thoroughly and carefully, the structural flaws in the composition of the Council, particularly the aspect relating to the expansion of the permanent membership category, by ensuring a permanent Arab representation in the Council, given the wide-ranging demographic dimension of Arab States, whose population exceed 350 million, and that their number increased from (5) states in 1945, to (22) states at the present time. This represents nearly 12% of the total Member States of the United Nations, in addition to the fact that the issues relating to Arab States and their region top the work agenda of the Council.

Mr. President,

Currently, several countries in the Middle East region, face tremendous security, political and humanitarian challenges, and an exceptional situation,



due to the inability of the Security Council to carry out its functions which, has led to the aggravation and deterioration of the situations in many states of the region. The latest Israeli military aggression on the Gaza Strip, which lasted for 50 consecutive days, during which the non-stop killing and destruction machine kept targeting all that relates to humanity, harvesting the lives of thousands of unarmed civilians, the majority of whom were elderly, children and women, in an apparent embodiment of the landmarks of the series of Israeli violations of the most basic rules of international law, and international humanitarian law, in a new addition to its historic bloody record, that rejects all regional and international initiatives to lay down the foundations of a just and lasting peace.

In this regard, the State of Kuwait welcomes the “cease-fire” agreement signed on 26 August 2014, as well as the international and regional endeavours and efforts that were exerted to put an end to this crisis and aggression; foremost among which, were those exerted by the sisterly Arab Republic of Egypt.

In this connection we renew our call for the need of the Security Council to assume its responsibility, to provide international protection to the Palestinian people and territory, according to the 4th Geneva Convention of 1949, and compel Israel, the occupying power, to halt its unilateral practices and policies that aim to impose a policy of “faits accompli”, such as the illegal settlement and the unlawful siege on the Gaza Strip, in addition to its attempts to change the demographic nature of Jerusalem, by its Judaization . Israel must be compelled to return to the negotiations table, with a view to end its occupation of all Palestinian and Arab lands, as well as the establishment of the Palestinian State, with East Jerusalem as its capital, according to the relevant Security Council resolutions, the principle of land for peace, the Roadmap, and the Arab Peace Initiative.

Mr. President,

As the crisis in Syria, now entering its fourth year tends to enter bloodier phases than its previous scenes, we are moved from regional and international fears from the consequence of the failure of the state, to the feelings of anxiety



felt from the exacerbation of the cycle of violence there, that claimed the lives of more than 190,000 people, caused 3 million people to become refugees, and displaced another 6 million. In this regard, the State of Kuwait welcomes Security Council resolution 2165, on opening new crossings to deliver aid to the afflicted Syrian people, hoping that efforts would unite, in order to deliver humanitarian assistance to the Syrian people in the besieged areas, and throughout the Syrian territories and beyond as soon as possible.

Responding to the fallout of this increasingly intense humanitarian crisis, the State of Kuwait hosted in January 2013, and January 2014, the two international donors conferences to support the humanitarian situation in Syria. The declared pledges in those two conferences amounted to 3.8 billion US dollars, of which the State of Kuwait contributed 800 million US dollars, which were delivered in their entirety to United Nations specialized agencies, and other governmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with humanitarian affairs. In this context, we reiterate the importance of continued regional and international efforts and endeavours, to reach a political solution that fulfills the aspirations of the Syrian people for a free and decent life, according to the Geneva (1) Communique, and preserve Syria's unity, security, and stability.

In the sisterly Republic of Yemen, the State of Kuwait, being the current Chair of the Gulf Cooperation Council , has sought, within that mandate, to establish security and stability in Yemen, as well as fulfill the aspirations of its people for development and prosperity, according to the Gulf States Initiative and its execution mechanism. However, the tensions resulting from the continued rivalry between some factions, and the apparent deterioration that this has brought to the security and political conditions, is a source of concern, because of its negative impact on the future of the political process in Yemen, and threatens its unity and territorial integrity. We reiterate our full support to enforce the outcome of the national dialogue, and face-up to the various forms of violence and terrorism, led by some splinter groups.

As for the conditions in Libya, the State of Kuwait renews its support to the legitimately elected Libyan Government, as an integral complement in the process of democratic transformation that ensures the security, unity, and



territorial integrity of Libya. The State of Kuwait also emphasizes the need for the engagement of the international community and the Security Council, by adhering fully to resolution 2174, in order to guarantee a better future for Libya and its people.

On the same regional level, concerning Iran's nuclear program, the State of Kuwait supports the ongoing efforts to resolve this issue by peaceful means, that will guarantee the Islamic Republic of Iran, and all the countries in the region, the right to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, under the supervision and monitoring of the International Atomic Energy Agency. We also emphasize the importance of reaching international agreement on Iran's nuclear program, according to a full Iranian commitment to cooperate with the I.A.E.A., implementing all relevant Security Council resolutions and committing to enforce the highest standards of safety and security for its nuclear facilities.

Mr. President,

The State of Kuwait reiterates its principled and firm positions in rejecting all forms of terrorism and extremism, whatever their reasons, motives or sources. It also believes that the promotion of the culture of tolerance and coexistence among peoples and nations is a priority in the approach it follows in its internal and external policies, derived from the teachings of the tolerant Islamic Sharia. The State of Kuwait emphasizes its full support to all international efforts to combat and put an end to the terrorist threats facing the world, that seek to undermine the elements of international peace and security.

In this context, we denounce the actions of the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and Levant, as well as its terroristic practices and aggression on parts of Iraqi and Syrian territories, and the grave violations of human rights and international humanitarian law ISIL perpetrate. We reiterate our commitment to support the efforts and endeavours of the Iraqi Government to overcome the destructive scourge of terrorism that threaten its security, stability, and territorial integrity, and adversely and clearly affects the political process there.



Mr. President,

The giant technological leap and modern means of communications, which has become a criterion of the ability of the United Nations to contain and subjugate them to serve its lofty message; have increased the complexities of monitoring and taking stock of the fast paced global environment, as well as dealing with its outputs, and addressing their resultant effects. The accumulation of expertise and the numerous experiences at the professional, technical and political levels, that abound in our Organization, are undoubtedly embodied in the Declaration of the Millennium Development Goals. The clearly identified priorities and ease of understanding, have played a major and outstanding role in improving the lives of millions of people in many regions of the world and have set an example to be followed in demonstrating the importance of partnership in international work, through cooperation and coordination between governments, and the promotion of the role of civil society organizations and the private sector, and by relying on modern technology and scientific advances, have provided the peoples and nations of the world new hopes for creating a better world, and provided a push forward to fulfill these goals, through the support of the Organization to Member States to devise a comprehensive and ambitious post 2015 development plan, wherein sustainable development, in its three dimensions, economic, social and environmental would constitute its core, in order to deal with the new dangers and challenges, as well as anticipate future conditions, which will be different in their aspects from the ones in our world today.

In this regard, the State of Kuwait welcomes the convening, 2 days ago, of the "Climate Summit" by the Secretary-General, and reiterate that the effects of climate change have negative repercussions on development all over the world in general, and on the Arab region in particular. This calls for international action and solidarity within the framework of sustainable development goals, according to the principle of shared but differentiated responsibility, that would guarantee that all states benefit from it, and pays special attention and treatment to assist the developing countries, being the most adversely affected by climatic changes.



Mr. President,

Since gaining its independence and consequent joining of this World Organization, the State of Kuwait was never isolated and far from the crises and challenges that the world faces, whether chronic or casual. Our founding fathers defined a purely humanitarian approach to help the needy, and restore hope to all those who have lost hope, away from anticipated reasons for giving, that relies to a great measure on geographic locations, ethnic origins and political affiliations. It is the approach followed by their sons, subjugating those essentials to the trends of the times, through the pillars upon which our foreign policy is based, which remained devising and developing the methods of providing assistance and aid to the majority of the countries of the world, promoting all that would support the message of the United Nations in creating a world, where security and stability prevail, and its peoples live in peace and prosperity. The establishment of the Kuwait Arab Economic Fund in 1961, was an expression of the sincere desire of the State of Kuwait, in providing assistance to Arab States and friendly countries, through providing soft loans and technical assistance, in support of their efforts to achieve their development.

In pursuing this approach, and as an embodiment of its keen interest in supporting the humanitarian role of the United Nations, the State of Kuwait doubled the amount of its fixed annual voluntary contributions, to a number of international agencies and organizations, including its recent donation to the World Health Organization to combat the spread of the Ebola virus in West Africa. This has provided the humanitarian work of the State of Kuwait with wider horizons, and more comprehensive dimensions. These wide-ranging diplomatic efforts, led by the benevolent march of His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah, the Amir of the State of Kuwait -that long march filled with challenges, hopes and achievements - on the various regional and international levels, have culminated in bestowing upon His Highness an exceptional and unprecedented international honor, when the Secretary-General of the United Nations presented His Highness with a certificate of appreciation as "Humanitarian leader", as a recognition by the international community and the United Nations of the outstanding role of the leadership, government and people of the State of Kuwait in saving the lives of millions of people.



In conclusion, I would like to emphasize the adherence of the State of Kuwait to the multilateral international system, as well as the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, and its belief in the importance and necessity of pushing forward all efforts to ensure the continuity of our inveterate Organization, through the fulfillment of all states of their obligations and responsibilities they pledged in international conventions and conferences, which will contribute to finding just and fair solutions to the global threats and challenges, and reach the loftier goal of the maintenance of international peace and security.

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