

*Diwan of
His Highness The Prime Minister
State of Kuwait*



دِيْوَانُ
سَيِّدِ الْمُرْتَبِ
مَجْلِسِ الْوَزَرَاءِ
دَوْلَةِ الْكُوَيْتِ

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STATEMENT BY

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

BEFORE

**THE SIXTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

GENERAL DEBATE

UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS – NEW YORK

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In the Name of Allah, The Merciful, The Compassionate

Mr. President

Your Majesties, Highness & Excellencies

Ladies and Gentlemen

At the outset, it pleases me to extend to you, Mr. President and to your friendly country Serbia, in the name of the Government and the people of the State of Kuwait, our sincerest congratulations on your election President of the 67th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, and to wish you success.

We also would like to commend the efforts of His Excellency Ambassador Nasser Abdulaziz Al Nasr on his successful presidency of the previous session.

In this regard, I cannot but pay tribute to the great and continuous efforts, His Excellency the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. BAN Ki-moon, exert in leading this organization, as well as spreading its noble message aiming at maintaining international peace and security, as well as to wish him success in achieving the priorities he has set for his second term, in the political, economic and humanitarian fields.

From our side, we reaffirm the continued cooperation of the State of Kuwait and its full commitment to support the efforts of the United Nations in its endeavours to achieve the aims and purposes of the Charter, as well as to strengthen and activate its role in following up on what's agreed upon in international conferences. In this context, the State of Kuwait calls for the need to prepare well for the 2012 conference concerning the creation of a zone free from nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, according to the agreed upon reference, as provided in the final document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Non Proliferation Treaty.

Numerous challenges face our organization as it nears the completion of its seventh decade in existence. During these decades, the United Nations, and all of its organs and agencies have worked on resolving and containing many crisis, as



well as political, humanitarian and economic challenges. However, poor coordination, flaws in the joint and united action, the failure by some to fulfill their obligations, and the antiquated mechanisms and pursued policies in resolving international problems, has made the United Nations, in this era of globalization and the information revolution, stand often times, incapable of reaching conclusive solutions for those problems. Therefore, and in fulfillment of the aspirations of the peoples, and in view of the importance of the noble message of this Organization, it is incumbent upon all, to work on reforming, developing and enhancing the United Nations, as well as providing firm political will to promote its performance to face up to the renewed challenges dictated by an ever changing international environment.

After two decades of discussions and in-depth negotiations to reform the Security Council, which in their majority were focused, in what relates to the expansion of its membership, on how many are needed, to achieve a reasonable amount of fairness in representation, and on putting forward ideas for improving the ways and methods of the Council's workings.

The State of Kuwait reaffirms the need to reform the Security Council to reflect the new international reality, and guarantee the rights of Arab and Islamic states in being represented in conformity with their size, their contributions, and their role in advocating the objectives and the principles of the Charter.

Mr. President,

I would like to quote a passage from the statement that His Highness, the Amir of the State of Kuwait, has delivered before the Summit of the Islamic Cooperation Organization held in the holy city of Mecca, on 13 August 2012, where His Highness said, *"The killing and destruction that we witness on a daily basis in sisterly Syria evokes grief and pain. Unfortunately and sadly, the sight of an orphan child, who lost his parents and his house; the sight of a bereaved mother, from the pain of losing the dearest she had, and the cities that has turned into ghost towns from the horrific destruction that have befallen them, have become all too familiar sights. All these scenes, redouble our responsibilities before the*



Almighty, as well as before our peoples and consciences, and call upon us to move without any delay, to put an end to this bloody tragedy."

Therefore, while the State of Kuwait congratulates Mr. Alkhdar Alibrahimi, the Joint Representative of the United Nations and the League of Arab States to Syrian, on the trust, deposited in him, to support him in his efforts and determination, to continue those of his predecessor Mr. Kofi Anan, that yielded the Six Point Initiative, which would have guaranteed to resolve the crisis peacefully, if it was actually embraced. We reaffirm the commitment and the support of the State of Kuwait to the international endeavours and efforts in order to reach a political solution, in a manner that would meet the demands and aspirations of the Syrian people.

We are also required to work on multiplying our efforts with the international community, to whom we appeal to provide more humanitarian assistance to alleviate the pain and suffering of the Syrian people, inside and outside Syria.

Mr. President,

In the coming month of November, the State of Kuwait will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the ratification of its constitution, which is considered a culmination of the phases of political progress and growth over a period of four decades. In consolidation of the development of the relation between the ruler and the ruled, to reach the effective and official practice of democracy, the Constitution is considered a beacon that guides the State of Kuwait, its government and people on their way to a dignified life, based on demonstrating the rights and duties, guaranteeing the basic freedoms, drawing the general policies, as well as regulating the foreign relations without interfering in the internal affairs of other states. This is considered an interpretation of Kuwait's political vision, which is based on its belief in peace, and in the pursuit of peace, as well as its concern to develop and foster its relations with its neighbouring countries according to the principles of mutual respect and common interests.



Mr. President,

The Kuwaiti-Iraqi relations have witnessed a remarkable and positive progress, whereby the State of Kuwait have risen above the painful wounds of the invasion. The participation of His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah, the Amir of the State of Kuwait in the Arab Summit, held in Baghdad last March, has had a huge impact in bringing about a qualitative transformation in the track of the bilateral relations, also the visit of Mr. Nouri AlMalki, the Prime Minister of Iraq to Kuwait, has contributed in creating an atmosphere of trust and determination to turn a new page in the field of fulfilling the commitments and developing the relations. These were followed by the convening of the second round of the Joint Kuwaiti –Iraqi Commission in Baghdad last April, which reflected the desire of both sides in turning the page on the past. Important understandings were reached on some of the pending bilateral issues, which will achieve the interests of both countries. Agreement was also reached on a work program to accelerate Iraq's implementation of its remaining international obligations, according to the relevant Security Council resolutions, which, upon their implementation, will mean the emergence of Iraq from under the provisions of Chapter 7 of the Charter, to exercise its natural role in its regional and international environment. This will contribute to boosting the opportunities of achieving regional security and peace, considered to be the gateway for the prosperity and progress of this region, that has suffered from wars and devastating conflicts during the last three decades.

On the regional level, the State of Kuwait renews its call to the friendly Islamic Republic of Iran to take serious and effective steps toward cooperating with the international efforts that seek to reach a political settlement for its nuclear program, and to dispel the doubts surrounding the goals and purposes of this program, thus sparing the region and its countries from further crisis and conflicts, that unfortunately, have become concomitant to this vital region. We hope from the friendly Republic of Iran to be a positive and active party in the region, exercising its role according to the basis and principles of mutual respect and common interests, which will create a normal environment of cooperation, that will serve the peoples of the region without interfering in their internal affairs.



From this premise, we also hope that the Islamic Republic of Iran will cooperate and respond to the initiatives intended to resolve the conflict over the three Emarati Islands, according to the principles and norms of international law.

Mr. President,

The continued Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories represents a testament on the inability of the international community to come up with solutions that will put an end to the plight of the Palestinian people. The Israeli Government, in gross violation of international conventions and norms, continue to persist, in its method of intransigence and illegal policies, through the expansion in building settlements on occupied Palestinian territories, as well as in its blockade of the Gaza Strip. This does not serve the just and lasting peace we desire in the Middle East. Therefore, we demand from the international community represented by the Security Council to pressure Israel and subject it to the resolutions of international legitimacy, the principle of Land for Peace, the Roadmap, as well as the Arab Peace Initiative, which will guarantee the establishment of the Palestinian State, with East Jerusalem its capital, and the total Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories after 4 June 1967/

Mr. President,

Some states suffer from special and chronic challenges that have led to their marginalization from the international scene for many years. These states are at risk of becoming failed states, if the international community does not double its efforts to assist them to get back on their feet again, and set them at the start of a path to carry out their role in a normal manner and become an effective party in our world today.

In this regard, the State of Kuwait welcomes the decisions and the steps taken by His Excellency President Abd Rubbuh Mansur Al Hadi, and the Yemeni Government in implementing the initiative of the Gulf states, as well as the mechanism for its implementation, and support the finalization of the remaining items of the initiative. We also renew our trust in that Yemen, under an elected President, and a national accord government, is capable of accomplishing the



development and progress that the brotherly Yemeni people aspire for in the various fields. We also reaffirm our continued backing and support for the Yemeni Republic to ensure its political and economic stability.

We also would like to congratulate the brotherly Republic of Somalia on its historical accomplishment, represented in the ratification of the provisional constitution, and the election of His Excellency Hassan Sheikh Mahmoud as President of Somalia. We hope that all these positive developments will help lift Somalia from the stage of conflict and disintegration of the state, to the stage of constitutional institutions, which will draw a new political future that will fulfill the hopes and aspirations of the brotherly Somali people.

The State of Kuwait commends the positive positions of the United Nations and the international community towards the bloody events that the Moslems Minority in Myanmar was subjected to, hoping that these efforts will culminate in stopping the violence, preserving their rights and the prevalence of peace.

Mr. President,

The peoples and governments of the Islamic countries have expressed their strong condemnation and outrage over the production of the film that denigrates the Prophet Mohammad, God's blessings and Peace be upon him, as well as the Islamic faith and its magnanimous values.

This irresponsible and impudent action, have ignited extreme rage among the Moslem peoples and communities all over the world. Some countries have witnessed acts of violence, riots and destruction that led to the death of innocent victims. The State of Kuwait, while it denounces in the strongest terms the production of this film, as well as the acts of killing and destruction that ensued, which are very far from the spirit and the essence of Islam, would like to recall, Mr. President, what His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah, the Amir of the State of Kuwait has proposed before the General Assembly's Summit Meeting on Interfaith Dialogue, held on the 12th & 13th November 2008, and I quote *"The best outcome of our well-intended congregation in this hall, will be the issuance of a universal commitment to respect all religions, to harm not, or intrude*



upon, or ridicule their symbols, but to deter such acts and those who perpetrate and call for them."

The General Assembly must attach in this session, utmost attention to the proposal of the Amir of the State of Kuwait, and to issue a resolution to implement the proposal for the benefit of the entire humanity as well as to preserve social peace and security among peoples.

Mr. President,

Numerous are the environmental, economic, social and security issues that our world faces today. These issues are intertwined, complicated and give rise to many challenges for the states and peoples, particularly in the developing countries and the least developed countries. The consequences of the global financial crisis, the rise in the price of basic commodities, the increase in frequency of the occurrence of natural disasters, as well as the intensification in the phenomenon of terrorism, have highlighted the ugly face of poverty, hunger, as well as the spread of epidemics and communicable and dangerous diseases. Despite of the notable accomplishments in many states in reaching the Millennium Development Goals. However, these accomplishments, according to recent international reports, do not rise to the set ambitions. Therefore, it is imperative to continue the joint efforts to limit the effects of those challenges and contain them, in order to guarantee achieving those noble goals.

The State of Kuwait, while considered a developing country, has however, since gaining its independence in 1961; set itself on a constant course, whereby it attaches a great deal of importance to helping the developing countries and the least developed countries, through numerous mechanisms and initiatives, including the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, that provides development aid that covers Arab, Asian and African countries, as well as countries in Central and Latin America, emanating from Kuwait's belief in the importance of international cooperation and helping the peoples in need.



Mr. President

Departing from the desire of the State of Kuwait to intensify the common regional and international action and increase its effectiveness, and since the various forums, held all over the world, have become one of the main tributaries to review the aspects of cooperation in the regional and economic fields, as well as to develop and maximize the benefit from the successful experiences of states, and wherein the Asian Cooperation Dialogue has been held annually, over the last ten years at the level of the foreign ministers of the participating countries, the last of which was held in Kuwait in the month of October of last year. The State of Kuwait has called for the convening of the first summit of the countries of the Forum, which, God willing, will be held in Kuwait on 15 and 16 October 2012. We look forward for this meeting to provide the leaders of the Asian states the opportunity to discuss all the subjects of importance to the files in the economic, environmental and humanitarian fields.

In the coming month of March, my country, Kuwait will also host the Arab-African Summit, which we hope will deepen the Arab African cooperation, and open new horizons that will serve the stability, the development and cooperation between the peoples and the countries of those two groups.

In conclusion, I cannot but affirm the adherence of the State of Kuwait to the multilateral international system, as well as to the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter, in addition to the need by all states to fulfill the obligations and responsibilities that they have committed to in international agreements and conferences, which will contribute to finding just and fair solutions to the global threats and challenges.

The State of Kuwait believes that dialogue, the dissemination of the culture of tolerance, moderation and the rejection of the manifestations of violence and extremism, is the ideal way and means for the advancement of the values of equality and justice in order to reach the higher goal, namely the maintenance of international peace and security.

“WASSALAM! ALIEKUM WARRAHMATULLAH WABARAKATUH”