

Abdullah Al-Mahri chairs first session in new building

Municipal Council holds its first regular session on Monday

KUWAIT CITY, April 16: The Municipal Council will hold its first regular session, chaired by Abdullah Al-Mahri, in its new building on Monday. The members will be briefed on the incoming messages, including the approval of the State Minister of Municipal Affairs Fahad Al-Shula for the minutes of meeting No. 14/2023, reports Al-Qabas daily.

The speech of the Director General of Kuwait Municipality Eng. Ahmed Al-Manfouhi regarding the amendment of Article VII of the draft regulation on building of umbrellas (parking shades) outside the boundaries of the real estate in areas of private and model housing, government agencies, investment housing areas, and areas of industrial, craft, agricultural and commercial use in return for a one-time fee, will be discussed.

The members will discuss the proposal submitted by the Chairman of the Municipal Council, Abdullah Al-Mahri, to unify the uses of the plots over-

looking the main streets of Kuwait City, which are predominantly commercial, given their commercial importance, and to achieve the goal of transforming them into a financial and commercial center.

Al-Mahri called for unifying the use of plots that overlook the main streets of Kuwait City.

For the following requests, the members will discuss the responses received from the executive body for the proposals and questions of the members, and then the recommendations received from the various committees.

1. Approval of KDIPA's request on allocating a site of approximately 850,000 square meters in north of the Zour refinery for the establishment of two projects for the treatment of used catalysts and the production of carbon electrodes.
2. The issuance of several decisions of the Municipal Council approving

the transfer of the use of some real estate to commercial use in all regions of Kuwait.

3. The difference in building rates granted to the investment plots in Kuwait City, which led to the creation of an architectural chaos that is not commensurate with the aspirations for a beautiful capital.
4. The owners of the investment plots do not benefit from the services and facilities that are available in the commercial buildings adjacent to their plots.
5. The building line on the same street is considered one of the basic criteria in planning and developing cities, but the presence of investment plots adjacent to the commercial plots of the same street, and the different regulations that allow licensing both uses, lead to the loss of the building line and blur the architectural identity of the city.

Kuwait kicks off national campaign aiding debtors

Campaign targets people with disabilities

KUWAIT CITY, April 16, (KUNA): Minister of Social Affairs, Woman and Childhood Mai Al-Baghli announced launching national campaign aiming to aid debtors, adding that donations will commence Sunday night and last until Thursday midnight.

The campaign, conducted in cooperation with ministries of Information and Justice, comes as an extension of Kuwait's humanitarian role, stated Al-Baghli in press briefing.

She further affirmed the ministry's keenness on nationalizing such campaigns and alleviating the burdens of citizens, as this goes in hand with council of ministers directives of prioritizing care for nationals.

It is religiously permitted to donate Zakat for the campaign, explained the Minister, adding that a link will be provided to collect donations, and the amount will be transferred to the Ministry of Justice's General Directorate of implementation.

The campaign targets people with disabilities or special needs, elders and women, with the condition that all related rulings are of civil cases, clarified Al-Baghli.

Ministry of health announces 'online bookings' for patients

KUWAIT CITY, April 16, (KUNA): The Ministry of Health announced the possibility of registering a request to schedule an appointment with visiting doctors through its official website or the application (Kuwait Health Q8) in the context of continuing to automate the Ministry's services and to facilitate patients.

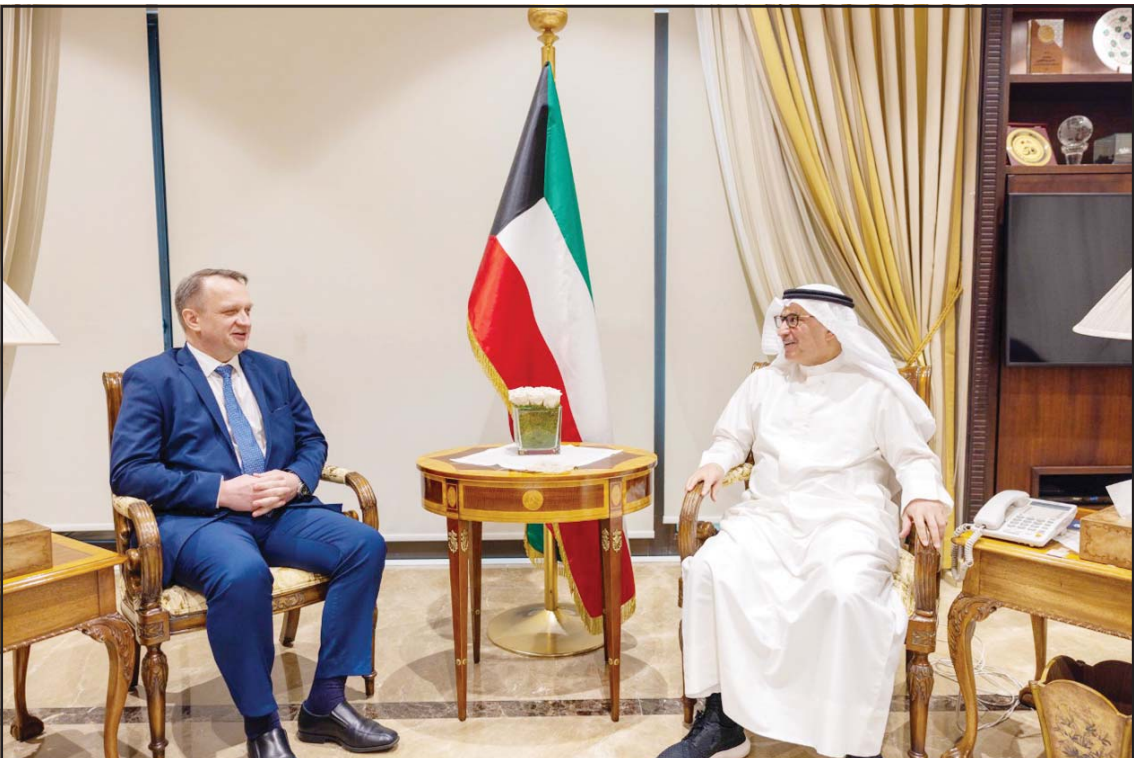
Patient

The official spokesman for the Ministry, Dr. Abdullah Al-Sanad, indicated in a press statement on Saturday, that submitting the registration application is currently available through the official website of the Ministry or through the application (Kuwait Health Q8) by completing the patient's data, provided that this is attached to the medical reports related to the case, according to which the extent of the disease is determined. Acceptance of the application in accordance with the field and specialization of the visiting doctor, as decided by the special

coordination team in this regard.

Al-Sanad noted that the medical condition will be provided upon acceptance of the request via a text message over the phone with the date of going to the concerned hospital to carry out the necessary preparations and examinations before the scheduled appointment with the visiting doctor to make optimal use of the visitor's time in patient service.

He stressed that the digital transformation in the Ministry and the completion of the mechanization of health services under the direct supervision and guidance of the Minister of Health, Dr. Ahmed Al-Awadi, and this service came under the follow-up of the Undersecretary for Technical Affairs in the Ministry, Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Mutairi, and the Assistant Undersecretary for Digital Health, Ahmed Gharib, to facilitate patients, as this is a right, commitment, and a solid basis for the Ministry's work methodology.



Deputy Foreign Minister, Ambassador Mansour Ayad Al-Otaibi, receives the Polish Ambassador on the occasion of the end of his tenure in the State of Kuwait.

Kuwait Deputy FM receives outgoing Polish envoy

Kuwaiti Deputy Foreign Minister Ambassador Mansour Al-Otaibi met with outgoing Polish Ambassador Pawel Lechowicz at the ministry's headquarters on Wednesday. During the meeting, the deputy foreign minister commended the Polish ambassador's role and contributions during his tenure to the promotion and development of Kuwaiti-Polish relations, wishing him best of luck in his next career. (KUNA)

EDUCON provides opportunities to exchange ideas

AUK to host IEEE EDUCON 2023

KUWAIT CITY, April 16: The American University of Kuwait (AUK) is the official host for the upcoming IEEE Global Engineering Education Conference (EDUCON 2023). Held for the first time in Kuwait, the University will be accommodating international conference attendees in May. EDUCON 2023 is sponsored by KIPCO (premier sponsor), Burgan Bank (premier sponsor), and Gulf Insurance Company - GIG (premier sponsor), MathWorks (platinum sponsor), Binary Logic (platinum sponsor) ABET (platinum sponsor), along with Qatar Airways as the official carrier.

The IEEE EDUCON 2023 is the fourteenth in a series of conferences that rotate among central locations in IEEE Region 8 (Europe, Middle East, and Africa). EDUCON is one of the flagship conferences of the IEEE Education Society.

Held every year since 2010, EDUCON provides an opportunity to scientists, professional engineers, and students to present their work, publish their results, exchange ideas, and network for future scientific and industrial collaborations.

The conference will be an opportunity to host 200 attendees from 40 countries consisting of a diverse and global group of scientists to discuss the latest research topics in engineering education including artificial intelligence, developments in STEM education, among others.



EDUCON Poster

Minimum admission rates have not been changed

KU approves more than 7,000 seats this year

KUWAIT CITY, April 16: The Acting Dean of Admission and Registration at Kuwait University Dr. Rawa Al-Jarallah revealed that the Kuwait University Council, during its last meeting, approved 7,298 admission seats for the first semester of the 2023/2024 academic year in the various colleges of the university, with the exception of the Faculty of Public Health, reports Al-Qabas daily.

She explained that the proposed numbers have been submitted to the Council of Public Universities to adopt the admission plan. These numbers were distributed to the colleges according to two conditions, the first is the capacity of the college in terms of halls and the number of members of the academic and supporting staff, and the second is an assessment of the needs of the labor market.

Some medical colleges, for example, decided not to raise the number of admissions in order to ensure the quality of education provided to students, which was approved by the members of the university council.

The admission policy decided to reduce admission to some colleges despite having sufficient capacity due to the saturation of the labor market with graduates of some disciplines, including the College of Engineering and Petroleum, and the College of Life Sciences.

In a related context, Dr. Al-Jarallah said the university council discussed the proposed rules in the university admission plan for the current academic year, adding that the plan has been submitted to the Council of Public Universities for discussion and approval.

She indicated that the minimum admission rates have not been changed.

Dr. Al-Jarallah revealed some changes to the admission policy approved by the university council with the aim of enhancing the university's ability to provide study seats for new students and raising the efficiency of the admission plan.

She explained that the most prominent of these amendments relates to facilitating the acceptance of children

of employees in the specializations of their scholarships approved by their employer, by limiting admission to the second semester, because the employees' scholarships or their academic sabbaticals are dependent on a specific major, and therefore their admission happens by automated sorting in another major and they may miss their educational opportunity.

The university council approved the exception of students, who withdraw from foreign scholarships, from the condition that two years should not have passed since the high school qualification to register at the university, and no more than an academic year has passed since their withdrawal.

The amendment will give the withdrawing students an opportunity to register at the university and complete their studies, instead of losing out because of passage of time on their certificate.

Dr. Al-Jarallah indicated that the requirement to pass the personal interview for admission to the College of Education has been abolished.

Ahmad Al-Nawaf ...

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In all countries of the world, laws compelling a person to pay what he owes have been amended. The legal rule is based on the fact that the incapacitated person cannot pay it off, and he must have a way to live from it in order for him to fulfill his dues. The government should be working on a set of simple procedures that facilitate the debtor's payment, which is extension, stopping the cumulative interest, and not preventing him from obtaining legal services.

The majority of loans are from usurers who practice physical coercion on people. Some of them are from banks that are guaranteed by mortgages in kind. As for those who force the debtor to sign cheques without balance and use it to imprison them, they are benefiting from laws that prevailed during the time of slavery.

Your Highness, how can a closed country be built by force, while neighboring countries have turned into tourist attractions that do not require anyone to have a university degree in order to visit, or for a woman to be over fifty years of age?

In the past months, the UAE received more than 60 million tourists. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia announced it received 24 million tourists, visitors and Umrah performers who entered during the month of Ramadan. The number could reach 30 million in the remainder of the holy month. Bahrain, Qatar and Oman receive millions of tourists every year. All of them did not stipulate impossible visiting terms and conditions similar to those of our country, Kuwait.

We do not know the reason behind this tight closure of the country, and the genius who came up with this idea. Our hotels are almost empty, and our markets depend on expatriates. What was achieved in the national

product in neighboring countries during the past year alone? Some of them enriched them from the use of oil money. Here it is possible to consider the Emirati and Qatari experiences in this regard.

Saudi Arabia announced a few days ago the establishment of four industrial and investment zones, made room for investors from all over the world to work in them, and granted them many facilities. On the other hand, Kuwait is living on the glories of the past.

Your Highness, it is not possible for a country to be run by assignment and deputiation, as if it has become a sterile country that does not have any of the energies that can be relied upon. Rather, assignment leads to corruption, as the assigned official will not work, either for fear of assuming responsibility, or for his certainty that whoever comes after him will destroy everything he has built.

It is necessary for you to go out to people, visit their forums and their diwanis, see what they say, discuss with them, hear their opinion, and explain your vision.

This is your chance; rather it is the chance of Kuwait with you. For this we say - Raise your spear, and leave the rivalries and hypocrites behind you. Work with the values you were brought up on, which were placed in you by the man of piety and conscience.

This is a message to Your Highness. There is no doubt that other messages will follow, and you have the choice to receive them in a written form or verbally.

Dozens killed

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U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said he consulted with the foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. "We agreed it was essential for the parties to immediately end hostilities without

pre-condition," he said in a statement early Sunday.

At the Vatican, Pope Francis said he was following "with worry" the events unfolding in Sudan. "I am close to the Sudanese people already so tried, and I invite prayers so that arms are laid down and dialogue prevails, to resume together the path of peace and harmony," the pontiff said in remarks Sunday to the public in St. Peter's Square.

The rival forces were fighting in several locations across Sudan, including the western Darfur region where tens of thousands of people live in camps for displaced people after years of genocidal civil war.

In the province of North Darfur, three Sudanese employees of the World Food Program were killed in clashes in the town of Kebkabiya, said Volker Perthes, the U.N. envoy to Sudan.

He said U.N. and other humanitarian premises were attacked and looted in several locations in Darfur.

"These recurring acts of violence disrupt the delivery of life-saving assistance and must end," he said. He urged all sides to "ensure the safety and security of U.N. and all humanitarian personnel and respect the integrity of premises and assets."

Dozens of people were also killed and wounded since Saturday at a camp for displaced people in North Darfur, said Adam Regal, a spokesman for a Darfur charity.

Also:

KUWAIT CITY: The Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry on Saturday voiced extreme concern over ongoing armed clashes between the Sudanese army and Rapid Support Forces.

In a press statement, the ministry called on all warring parties to stop infighting immediately, exercise self-restraint and resort to reasoning and dialogue in order to overcome their disputes and maintain Sudan's security and stability.

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