الصندوق الكويتي للتنمية
KUWAIT FUND FOR DEVELOPMENT

النشرة الصحفية اليومية
DAILY PRESS DIGEST

الأحد 11 أكتوبر 2026 · Sunday, 11 October 2026

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سجلت الكويت، خلال الساعات الـ48 الماضية، 6 مواقف دبلوماسية بارزة أمام الجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة.

وجاءت تلك المواقف خلال مشاركة أعضاء وفد البلاد الدائم لدى الأمم المتحدة في أنشطة وفعاليات الجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة واجتماعات اللجان المختصة التابعة لها.

وفي الموقف الأول، جددت الكويت دعمها الراسخ لتعزيز العدالة الدولية ورفضها لانتهاكات القانون الدولي ومبادئ ميثاق الأمم المتحدة، مؤكدة التزامها بتعزيز العمل متعدد الأطراف وتسوية المنازعات بالوسائل السلمية وضرورة إرساء نظام دولي قائم على العدالة والمساواة بعيدا عن الانتقائية وازدواجية المعايير.

وفي الموقف الثاني، أكدت الكويت أن قوة الأمم المتحدة لا تقاس بعدد القرارات التي تعتمدها أجهزتها فحسب، وإنما بمدى احترام تلك القرارات وتنفيذها وقدرة المنظومة على ترجمة ما تتوافق عليه الدول الأعضاء إلى نتائج ملموسة على أرض الواقع.

وفي الموقف الثالث، فقد دعت خلاله الكويت إلى إصلاح الهيكل المالي الدولي، بما يواكب التحولات الاقتصادية ويعزز تمثيل الدول النامية بشكل أعمق وأكثر توازنا.

وبينما أعربت الكويت في الموقف الرابع عن رفضها القاطع لجميع أشكال العنصرية والتمييز العنصري وكره الأجانب وما يتصل بذلك من تعصب مشددة على أن الكرامة الإنسانية حق أصيل للجميع لا يجوز الانتقاص منه أو التمييز في التمتع به لأي سبب كان، شددت الكويت في الموقف الخامس على دعمها لجهود الأمم المتحدة الرامية إلى إنهاء الاستعمار بجميع أشكاله ومظاهره انطلاقا من إيمانها الراسخ بحق الشعوب في تقرير مصيرها واحترام سيادة الدول وسلامة أراضيها والالتزام بمبادئ ميثاق الأمم المتحدة وأحكام القانون الدولي.

وأخيرا، أكدت الكويت في موقفها السادس أهمية تعزيز التعاون الدولي في المجال الرقمي لسد الفجوات التكنولوجية وتوسيع الاستثمار في البنية التحتية الرقمية وضمان استفادة البلدان النامية من التقدم التكنولوجي، بما يسهم في تحقيق أهداف التنمية المستدامة لعام 2030.

السعيدي لجمعيتها العامة:

قوة «الأمم المتحدة» تقاس بتنفيذ قراراتها.. وليس بإصدارها

السعيدي متحدثاً في الأمم المتحدة

الغابة من اعتماد القرارات تحقيق الأهداف الصادرة لأجلها

أكدت الكويت أن قوة الأمم المتحدة لا تقاس بعدد القرارات التي تعتمدها أجهزتها فحسب، وإنما بمدى احترام تلك القرارات وتنفيذها وقدرة المنظومة على ترجمة ما تتوافق عليه الدول الأعضاء إلى نتائج ملموسة على أرض الواقع.

جاء ذلك في كلمة للكويت ألقاها السكرتير الثالث بوفدها الدائم لدى الأمم المتحدة عبدالعزيز السعيدي خلال جلسة عامة للجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة، الخميس، لمناقشة البند المعنون «تنفيذ قرارات الأمم المتحدة».

وقال السعيدي إن الغاية من اعتماد القرارات لا تكتمل بإقرار نصوصها، بل بتحقيق المقاصد التي صدرت من أجلها، مؤكدا ضرورة تعزيز آليات المتابعة المنهجية لتنفيذ قرارات أجهزة الأمم المتحدة، ولا سيما مجلس الأمن الدولي بما يتيح تقييم مستوى التنفيذ وتحديد حالات عدم الامتثال ومعالجتها.

تجربة الغزو

واستذكر في هذا السياق تجربة الكويت إبان الغزو العراقي الغاشم عام 1990 باعتبارها نموذجا باررا لفاعلية العمل الدولي متعدد الأطراف عندما تقترن قرارات الشرعية الدولية بإرادة سياسية جادة لتنفيذها.

ولفت إلى أن قرارات مجلس الأمن، بدءا من القرار 660 الذي طالب بانسحاب القوات العراقية من الكويت فورا وبلا قيد أو شرط وصولا إلى القرار 687، اسهمت في استعادة البلاد حريتها واستقلالها وسلامتها الإقليمية.

وأكد أن تلك التجربة أثبتت قدرة الأمم المتحدة على حماية سيادة الدول وردع العدوان واستعادة الحقوق وصون السلم والأمن الدوليين، داعيا إلى إبقاء هذا النموذج قاعدة للعمل الدولي لا استثناء في تاريخه.

وفي سياق متصل، جدد السعيدي إدانة الكويت واستنكارها الشديدين للاعتداءات الإيرانية التي تعرضت لها مئذ فبراير الماضي بالصواريخ الباليستية والجوالة والطائرات المسيرة، رغم عدم مشاركتها في النزاع القائم بالمنطقة وعدم سماحها باستخدام أراضيها أو أجوائها أو مياهها الإقليمية في أي أعمال عسكرية ضد إيران.

وأشار إلى أن تلك الاعتداءات استهدفت بصورة متكررة الأعيان المدنية والمنشآت الحيوية، بما فيها مطار الكويت الدولي ومحطات الكهرباء والمياه والمنشآت النفطية، وأدت إلى سقوط شهداء وضحايا مدنيين وإصابة آخرين، فضلا عن أضرار مادية واقتصادية جسيمة.

توثيق الاعتداءات

وتطرق إلى اعتماد مجلس الأمن القرار 2817 الذي أكد سيادة الكويت ودول مجلس التعاون لدول الخليج العربية والأردن وسلامتها الإقليمية، منبها إلى أن الاعتداءات تواصلت بعد صدوره من جانب إيران والميليشيات الموالية لها في العراق.

وأضاف أن الكويت حرصت على توثيق تلك الاعتداءات وإحاطة مجلس الأمن بها عبر رسائل رسمية متتالية، مؤكدا تمسكها بالتنفيذ الكامل للقرار 2817، وضرورة اعتماد معيار واحد ومنسق في احترام وتنفيذ قرارات الشرعية الدولية من دون انتقائية.

دلال شرار للجنة الاقتصادية:

إصلاح الهيكل المالي الدولي.. وتعزيز تمثيل الدول النامية

دلال شرار مُلقيةً كلمة البلاد

مؤلنا ألف مشروع إنمائي في 107 دول

دعت الكويت إلى إصلاح الهيكل المالي الدولي بما يواكب التحولات الاقتصادية ويعزز تمثيل الدول النامية مع توسيع نطاق التمويل الميسر وإعادة توجيه حقوق السحب الخاصة ونقل التكنولوجيا وتوفير التمويل المناخي من دون زيادة أعباء الديون على الدول النامية.

جاء ذلك في كلمة الكويت التي ألقتها الملحقة الدبلوماسية دلال شرار أمام اللجنة الثانية المعنية بالشؤون الاقتصادية والمالية التابعة للجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة، (الخميس)، خلال المناقشة المشتركة للبندين «قضايا سياسات الاقتصاد الكلي» و«متابعة وتنفيذ المؤتمرات الدولية لتمويل التنمية».

وقالت شرار: إن الاقتصاد العالمي يمر بمرحلة دقيقة تتسم بتباطؤ النمو وتصاعد أعباء الديون وتراجع تدفقات التمويل الخارجي ما يستدعي إصلاح النظام المالي العالمي وتعزيز قدرة الدول النامية على مواجهة التحديات الاقتصادية وتحقيق أهداف التنمية المستدامة.

حرية الملاحة

وشددت على أن حماية المكتسبات التنموية تتطلب ضمان أمن الممرات البحرية معربة عن إدانة الكويت إغلاق إيران لمضيق هرمز وتهديد حرية الملاحة فيه واستمرارها في عرقلة وتعطيل الملاحة في باب المندب عبر وكلائها في المنطقة وفقا لقرار مجلس الأمن الدولي 2817.

وحذرت من تداعيات هذه الممارسات على إمدادات الطاقة وسلاسل الإمداد العالمية وما يترتب عليها من ارتفاع أسعار الأسمدة والغذاء والطاقة داعية إلى ضمان حرية الملاحة وسلامتها وفقا للقانون الدولي واتفاقية الأمم المتحدة لقانون البحار.

وعلى صعيد الجهود التنموية استعرضت شرار إسهامات الصندوق الكويتي للتنمية الاقتصادية العربية الذي مول منذ تأسيسه عام 1961 أكثر من ألف مشروع إنمائي في 107 دول إلى جانب دوره في بناء القدرات الوطنية ونقل الخبرات وتعزيز الشراكات المحلية بما يضمن استدامة نتائج المشروعات التنموية.

الاستجابة الطارئة

ولفتت في هذا الإطار إلى إطلاق صندوق الكويت للاستجابة الطارئة في يوليو الماضي بهدف تعزيز الجاهزية الوطنية وضمان استمرارية الخدمات الحيوية ودعم التعافي من الأزمات.

وفيما يتعلق بالأوضاع في الأراضي الفلسطينية المحتلة نبهت شرار إلى حجم الكارثة الإنسانية والاقتصادية في قطاع غزة موضحة أن 92% من المنشآت الاقتصادية تعرضت للضرر أو الدمار فيما تجاوزت نسبة البطالة 90% وبلغت احتياجات التعافي وإعادة الإعمار 71.5 مليار دولار.

وحثت على دعم الاقتصاد الفلسطيني وضمان تدفق المساعدات الإنسانية وتمكين المؤسسات الفلسطينية من قيادة جهود التعافي وإعادة الإعمار في القطاع.

وفي ختام كلمة البلاد، أكدت شرار أن تمويل التنمية مسؤولية جماعية تتطلب إصلاح النظام المالي العالمي ومعالجة أعباء الديون بما يضمن عدم ترك أي دولة أو فرد خلف الركب.

بوصخر للجنة المالية:

ضرورة التعاون الدولي لسد الفجوات التكنولوجية

عبدالله بوصخر مشاركاً في الاجتماع

أكدت الكويت أهمية تعزيز التعاون الدولي في المجال الرقمي لسد الفجوات التكنولوجية وتوسيع الاستثمار في البنية التحتية الرقمية وضمان استفادة البلدان النامية من التقدم التكنولوجي، بما يسهم في تحقيق أهداف التنمية المستدامة لعام 2030.

جاء ذلك في كلمة ألقاها الملحق الدبلوماسي عبدالله بوصخر، الجمعة، أمام اللجنة الثانية المعنية بالشؤون الاقتصادية والمالية التابعة للجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة خلال مناقشة البندين 14، بشأن «تسخير تكنولوجيات المعلومات والاتصالات لأغراض التنمية المستدامة» و19، بشأن «العولمة والترابط».

وأكد بوصخر أهمية تنفيذ الميثاق الرقمي العالمي ومخرجات القمة العالمية لمجتمع المعلومات، داعيا إلى تعزيز مشاركة البلدان النامية في الاقتصاد الرقمي العالمي ونقل المعرفة وبناء القدرات وفق الأولويات الوطنية.

ولفت إلى دعم الكويت للفريق العلمي الدولي المستقل المعني بالذكاء الإصطناعي والحوار العالمي المعني بحوكمة الذكاء الإصطناعي، مؤكدا أهمية ضمان المشاركة الفاعلة للبلدان النامية في أعمالهما.

وعلى الصعيد الوطني، أكد بوصخر أن الكويت تولي أهمية خاصة لتسخير تكنولوجيا المعلومات والإتصالات في خدمة التنمية من خلال تطوير الخدمات الحكومية الرقمية وتأهيل الكفاءات الوطنية وتعزيز الشراكات الدولية في مجالي التكنولوجيا والإبتكار في إطار رؤية «كويت جديدة 2035».

وتطرق في هذا السياق إلى اعتماد «إعلان الكويت بشأن الذكاء الاصطناعي المسؤول من أجل الازدهار الرقمي العالمي»، في فبراير الماضي، بما تضمنه من توجهات لتطوير المهارات وتيسير التجارة الرقمية ودعم ريادة الأعمال، وأضاف بوصخر أن توقيع الكويت اتفاقية الأمم المتحدة لمكافحة الجريمة السيبرانية في 25 سبتمبر الماضي يجسد التزامها بتعزيز التعاون الدولي والتصدي لاستخدام تكنولوجيا المعلومات والاتصالات لأغراض إجرامية.

السعيد أمام لجنة الشؤون الاجتماعية:

رفضنا قاطع لكل أشكال العنصرية

عمر السعيد مُلقياً كلمة البلاد

أعربت الكويت عن رفضها القاطع لجميع أشكال العنصرية والتمييز العنصري وكره الأجانب وما يتصل بذلك من تعصب، مشددة على أن الكرامة الإنسانية حق أصيل للجميع لا يجوز الانتقاص منه أو التمييز في التمتع به لأي سبب كان.

جاء ذلك في كلمة الكويت التي ألقاها الملحق الدبلوماسي عمر السعيد أمام اللجنة الثالثة المعنية بالشؤون الاجتماعية والإنسانية والثقافية التابعة للجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة خلال مناقشة بند «القضاء على العنصرية والتمييز العنصري وكره الأجانب وما يتصل بذلك من تعصب».

وشدد السعيد على ضرورة التنفيذ الكامل والفعال للاتفاقية الدولية للقضاء على جميع أشكال التمييز العنصري وإعلان وبرنامج عمل ديربان باعتبارهما ركيزتين أساسيتين للجهود الدولية الرامية إلى مكافحة العنصرية ومعالجة أسبابها الجذرية وآثارها على الأفراد والمجتمعات.

وأكد ضرورة التصدي للأفكار والممارسات التي تغذي العنصرية وفي مقدمتها خطاب الكراهية والتحريض على التمييز والعنف، محذرا من أن خطاب الكراهية والتحريض على التمييز والعنف يشكل تهديدا متزايدا لتماسك المجتمعات واستقرارها.

وسلط الضوء على أهمية الحوار والتثقيف واحترام التنوع الثقافي والديني في مواجهة التعصب وترسيخ ثقافة التسامح والتعايش السلمي.

محمد الملا للجنة المسائل السياسية:

دعمنا ثابت لجهود إنهاء الاستعمار

محمد الملا مُلقياً الكلمة

جددت الكويت موقفها الثابت والداعم لجهود الأمم المتحدة الرامية إلى إنهاء الاستعمار بجميع أشكاله ومظاهره انطلاقاً من إيمانها الراسخ بحق الشعوب في تقرير مصيرها واحترام سيادة الدول وسلامة أراضيها والالتزام بمبادئ ميثاق الأمم المتحدة وأحكام القانون الدولي.

جاء ذلك في كلمة ألقاها الملحق الدبلوماسي محمد الملا، (الجمعة)، أمام اللجنة الرابعة المعنية بالمسائل السياسية الخاصة وإنهاء الاستعمار التابعة للجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة.

وأكد الملا أن القضية الفلسطينية تظل في صدارة القضايا التي تستوجب من المجتمع الدولي تحمل مسؤولياته لإنهاء الاحتلال الإسرائيلي لأراض الشعب الفلسطيني المحتلة وتمكين الشعب الفلسطيني من ممارسة حقوقه المشروعة وفي مقدمتها حق تقرير المصير وإقامة دولته المستقلة على حدود الرابع من يونيو لعام 1967 وعاصمتها القدس الشرقية.

إدانة للانتهاكات

وجدد إدانة الكويت لانتهاكات سلطات الاحتلال الإسرائيلي ضد الشعب الفلسطيني ورفضها القاطع لسياسات الاستيطان والضم والتهجير القسري وأي محاولات لتغيير الوضع القانوني والتاريخي للأراض الفلسطينية المحتلة بما فيها القدس الشرقية.

وشدد على ضرورة الالتزام بإيقاف إطلاق النار في قطاع غزة وضمان وصول المساعدات الإنسانية بلا عوائق وحماية المدنيين وتهيئة الظروف اللازمة للتعافي وإعادة الإعمار بما يمهد لتحقيق سلام عادل وشامل ودائم.

وفي الشأن الإقليمي، أعرب الملا عن إدانة الكويت الشديدة الاعتداءات الإيرانية التي استهدفت أراضيها وأراضي عدد من الدول الشقيقة ورفضها القاطع لأي أعمال تمس سيادة دول المنطقة وأمنها واستقرارها داعيا طهران إلى التنفيذ الكامل لقرار مجلس الأمن 2817 لعام 2026.

وأكد موقف الكويت الثابت في إدانة استمرار الاحتلال الإيراني للجزر الإماراتية الثلاث طنب الكبرى وطنب الصغرى وابوموسى ودعمها الكامل لسيادة دولة الإمارات على الجزر وعلى مياهها الإقليمية ومجالها الجوي وجرفها القاري ومنطقتها الاقتصادية الخالصة.

جزر الإمارات

وشدد الملا على أن أي قرارات أو ممارسات إيرانية على الجزر الثلاث تعد باطلة ولاغية ولا تغير من الحقائق التاريخية والقانونية التي تؤكد السيادة الإماراتية عليها، داعيا إيران إلى حل القضية سلمياً عبر المفاوضات المباشرة أو اللجوء إلى محكمة العدل الدولية.

كما أكد أهمية الحفاظ على أمن وسلامة وحرية الملاحة الدولية في مضيق هرمز وضرورة إيقاف جميع الممارسات التي تهدد السفن التجارية أو تعرقل حركة الملاحة بما يضمن استقرار التجارة الدولية.

وفي ما يتعلق بقضية الصحراء المغربية جدد الملا دعم الكويت للجهود الأممية بقيادة الأمين العام ومبعوثه الشخصي ستيفان دي مستورا للتوصل إلى حل سياسي عادل ودائم ومقبول من الأطراف، مؤكداً دعمها لمبادرة الحكم الذاتي التي تقدمت بها المملكة المغربية وترحيبها بقرار مجلس الأمن 2797 لعام 2025.

واختتم الملا كلمة البلاد بالتأكيد على التزام الكويت مبادئ ميثاق الأمم المتحدة ودعم جهود إنهاء الاحتلال والاستعمار وإيجاد حلول سلمية وعادلة للنزاعات القائمة بما يعزز الأمن والسلم الدوليين.

المطيري للجنة القانونية:

ترسيخ العدالة الدولية.. واحترام القانون الدولي

المطيري مُلقياً كلمة الكويت

جددت الكويت دعمها الراسخ لتعزيز العدالة الدولية ورفضها انتهاكات القانون الدولي ومبادئ ميثاق الأمم المتحدة، مؤكدة التزامها تعزيز العمل المتعدد الأطراف وتسوية المنازعات بالوسائل السلمية وضرورة إرساء نظام دولي قائم على العدالة والمساواة بعيدا عن الانتقائية وازدواجية المعايير.

جاء ذلك، في كلمة ألقاها الملحق الدبلوماسي محمد المطيري، (الجمعة)، أمام اللجنة السادسة المعنية بالشؤون القانونية التابعة للجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة خلال مناقشة البند المعنون «سيادة القانون على الصعيدين الوطني والدولي».

وأكد المطيري أهمية محكمة العدل الدولية بوصفها الجهاز القضائي الرئيسي للأمم المتحدة وضرورة احترام أحكامها وتنفيذها وفق الالتزامات القانونية ذات الصلة قائلاً: إن سيادة القانون تمثل أساسا لتحقيق السلم والأمن والتنمية واحترام حقوق الإنسان.

واستذكر المطيري تجربة الكويت مع العدوان العراقي عام 1990 وما جسدته من أهمية الاحتكام إلى ميثاق الأمم المتحدة واحترام سيادة الدول وسلامة أراضيها وعدم جواز الاستيلاء على الأراضي بالقوة، مؤكداً أن احترام القانون الدولي وتنفيذ قرارات مجلس الأمن يمثلان ضمانة أساسية لأمن الدول واستقرارها ولا سيما الدول الصغيرة.

وعلى المستوى الوطني، لفت إلى مواصلة الكويت تطوير منظومتها التشريعية والقضائية وتعزيز كفاءة المؤسسات العدلية وتيسير الوصول إلى العدالة وتمكين المرأة وتكافؤ الفرص بما يعزز الشفافية والمساءلة والحوكمة الرشيدة.

وجدد المطيري في ختام كلمة الكويت التزام البلاد تعزيز سيادة القانون على المستويين الوطني والدولي، ودعم الجهود الرامية إلى تحقيق العدالة والمساءلة دون تمييز وبناء نظام دولي أكثر عدلا وإنصافا.

Kuwait reaffirms support for ending colonialism, defending sovereignty

Diplomatic Attaché rejects racism, calls for stronger global action

KUWAIT: Kuwait has reaffirmed its unwavering support for United Nations efforts to end colonialism in all its forms, stressing the right of peoples to self-determination, respect for state sovereignty and territorial integrity, and adherence to the UN Charter and international law. The position was outlined by Kuwaiti Diplomatic Attaché Mohammad Al-Mulla in a statement before the UN General Assembly's Fourth Committee, which deals with special political and decolonization issues.

Al-Mulla said the Palestinian cause remains among the foremost issues requiring the international community to fulfil its responsibilities by ending Zionist occupation of Palestinian territory and enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their legitimate rights, foremost among them self-determination and the establishment of an independent state within the June 4, 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital. He reiterated Kuwait's condemnation of violations committed by occupation authorities against Palestinians and its categorical rejection of settlement policies, annexation, forced displacement and attempts to alter the legal and historical status of occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem.

He stressed the need to uphold the ceasefire in the Gaza Strip, ensure the unhindered delivery of humanitarian assistance, protect civilians and create conditions for recovery and reconstruction, paving the way for a just, comprehensive and lasting peace. On regional developments, Al-Mulla strongly condemned Iranian attacks targeting Kuwait and several other countries in the region, rejecting any actions that undermine their sovereignty, security and stability. He called on Tehran to fully implement UN Security Council Resolution 2817 (2026).

Mohammed Al-Mulla

Omar Al-Saeed

He also reiterated Kuwait's position condemning Iran's continued occupation of the three Emirati islands of Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa, expressing full support for the United Arab Emirates' sovereignty over the islands and their territorial waters, airspace, continental shelf and exclusive economic zone. Al-Mulla said any Iranian decisions or actions concerning the islands were null and void and did not change what Kuwait described as the historical and legal facts affirming Emirati sovereignty. He called for resolving the dispute peacefully through direct negotiations or referral to the International Court of Justice.

He further stressed the importance of safeguarding security and freedom of international navigation in the Strait of Hormuz and ending practices that threaten commercial vessels or obstruct maritime traffic, in order to protect international trade. Regarding Western Sahara, Al-Mulla reiterated Kuwait's support for UN efforts, led by the secretary-general and his personal envoy, Staffan de Mistura, to reach a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution.

He also expressed Kuwait's support for the autonomy initiative presented by Morocco and welcomed UN Security Council Resolution 2797 (2025). Al-Mulla concluded by reaffirming Kuwait's commitment to the principles of the UN Charter and its support for efforts to end occupation and colonialism and resolve conflicts through peaceful and just means to strengthen international peace and security.

Kuwait rejects racism

In a separate statement before the UN General Assembly's Third Committee, which handles social, humanitarian and cultural affairs, Kuwaiti Diplomatic Attaché Omar Al-Saeed reaffirmed Kuwait's categorical rejection of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. Al-Saeed stressed that human dignity is an inherent right that must not be diminished or subjected to discrimination on any grounds. He emphasized the need for the full and effective implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Durban Declaration and Program of Action, describing them as fundamental pillars of international efforts to combat racism and address its root causes and consequences for individuals and societies.

He called for confronting ideas and practices that fuel racism, particularly hate speech and incitement to discrimination and violence, warning that such conduct poses a growing threat to social cohesion and stability. Al-Saeed highlighted the importance of dialogue, education and respect for cultural and religious diversity in countering intolerance and fostering a culture of tolerance and mutual respect, particularly among younger generations. He also stressed the need to strengthen national legislation to protect national unity and preserve social peace.

At the national level, he noted that Kuwait presented its combined 25th and 26th periodic reports before the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in Geneva last August, reaffirming the country's commitment to continued cooperation with UN human rights mechanisms. He concluded that eliminating racism requires genuine political will and concrete measures to guarantee equality and protect human dignity, rather than relying solely on slogans and declared commitments.

Financial reforms

Meanwhile, Kuwaiti Diplomatic Attaché Dalal Sharar called for reforming the international financial architecture, strengthening developing countries' representation at the United Nations, expanding concessional and climate financing, and easing debt burdens. Addressing the General Assembly's Second Committee, which deals with economic and financial affairs, on Thursday, Sharar said slowing global growth, rising debt and declining external financing made urgent reforms necessary to help developing countries achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

She condemned Iran's closure of the Strait of Hormuz and disruptions to navigation in the Bab Al-Mandab Strait by its regional proxies, warning of potential repercussions for global energy supplies, supply chains and food prices. She called for protecting maritime navigation in accordance with international law. Sharar highlighted the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development's record of financing more than 1,000 development projects in 107 countries since 1961. She also referred to the launch of the Kuwait Emergency Response Fund last July.

Addressing the situation in Palestine, she said 92 percent of economic establishments in Gaza had been damaged or destroyed, unemployment had exceeded 90 percent, and recovery and reconstruction requirements had reached $71.5 billion. She called for greater support for the Palestinian economy and for enabling Palestinian institutions to lead reconstruction efforts. Sharar concluded that sustainable development financing requires collective action to reform the global financial system, address mounting debt burdens and expand access to resources, ensuring that no country or individual is left behind. — KUNA

Khaled Khalifa Novel Award

By Taleb Alrefai

Every time I met my late friend, the novelist Khaled Khalifa (1964–2023), the same thought would visit me once the evening was over: Khaled resembled no one but himself, in the way he lived, in his conduct and conversation, in his novels and his dreams, in his laughter, his clothes, his hairstyle and his beard, and in his love for every moment of life. We met only at long intervals, but the instant we shook hands and embraced, our souls fell into conversation, as though we had parted only yesterday. So, when news of his death reached me, my first thought was: there is no averting God's decree. And I told myself: Khaled lived his life in his own way, as if draining every drop from each day.

He came lightly, and lightly he left. But his closest friends noticed and insisted he should not truly leave; he should remain present in a literary form worthy of an important Arab novelist. And so, the Khaled Khalifa Novel Award was born in 2024. I often say the prize is a good thing for everyone: its founder, the literary form it serves, the writer, the translator, the reading public, and, finally, culture in its widest and fullest sense.

The prize was conceived as the first Syrian award open to entries from across the Arab world, and it came entirely free of government support or interference. It is an initiative of Khaled's closest friends, who loved art and believed in it as a lasting human message among people. The prize celebrates "the art of the novel, which Khaled Khalifa loved and in which he excelled. It is aimed at novelists publishing their first novel and seeks to honor and support those who embody the spirit of innovation, freedom of expression and cultural depth."

Our vast Arab homeland, fragmented and wretched, teems, despite its punishing circumstances and the savage fighting among the sons of a single country, with young writers, women and men, whose talent and dreams deserve to be noticed and embraced. And nothing serves this better than a literary prize that carries the name of a gifted Arab novelist. Finding a literary prize in the Arab world is like building a lighthouse, a beacon that takes sailors by the hand through the darkness of night.

Today, the cultural world has come to see a prize in any writer's biography as the clearest sign of talent. Seen in that light, the launch of an Arab novel prize in the name of one of its own sons is a significant addition to the Arab prize landscape, especially given the professionalism, transparency and integrity that have marked it from its first day. And although it offers the winner no more than a thousand dollars, consider the Prix Goncourt, one of France's greatest literary awards, founded in 1903. It gives its winner a symbolic ten euros, yet it secures enormous sales for the winning book and a fame that carries the author toward the world stage and perhaps toward immortality.

The first edition of the prize took place at the National Library in Damascus on 30 September 2025, and Syrian novelist Manahel al-Sahwi won it for her novel "The Praying Mantis Is Female" (Untha Faras al-Nabi). The second edition (2026) was won by the Tunisian novelist Imad Ali Qaydah for "The Bygone" (Al-Munsarimun), and the ceremony took place in the Syrian city of Latakia, which Khaled Khalifa loved.

A circle of close friends, among them Hussein Darwish, Sayyid Mahmoud, Boulos Hallaq, Khaled Mansour, Fadi Assaf, Lina Sanjab and others, founded the Khaled Khalifa Novel Award for the Novel. And what could be lovelier than keeping a writer's name present and ever renewed, bound to creativity, to youth and to humanity? This alone is how literature wins its final battle against absence.

Cardiometabolic symposium highlights integrated heart care

By Abdellatif Sharaa

KUWAIT: The third Cardiometabolic Symposium kicked off on Saturday with the sponsorship and participation of the Kuwait Heart Association, bringing together physicians and specialists to discuss the latest advances in cholesterol management, therapeutic nutrition and cardiac rehabilitation. The one-day event focused particularly on improving recovery and preventing recurrent complications among patients who have undergone coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG) and catheter-based interventions.

Conference Chairman Dr Khaled Al-Mulla, director of the Sabah Al-Ahmad Heart Center and a member of the Kuwait Heart Association, said the symposium provided an important platform for strengthening cooperation and exchanging knowledge and expertise among specialists. He said the discussions would contribute to advancing the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular and metabolic diseases while improving patient care in Kuwait and across the Gulf region.

Al-Mulla added that the association's sponsorship and participation reflected its commitment to supporting scientific activities, promoting communication among medical professionals and encouraging the exchange of experiences and best practices to enhance healthcare quality. He noted that cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, obesity and hypertension remain major health challenges requiring coordinated efforts among physicians, researchers, policymakers and other stakeholders. These challenges have become increasingly important amid changing lifestyles, population ageing and rising rates of diabetes and obesity, he said.

The symposium addressed developments in disease prevention, diagnosis, digital health, precision medicine and multidisciplinary care. It also provided opportunities for professional networking and partnerships aimed at translating scientific advances into clinical practice. Al-Mulla encouraged participants to engage actively with speakers, raise questions and make use of networking sessions, noting that exchanging ideas and experiences could help improve healthcare services and open new avenues for cooperation.

Integrated care after heart procedures

Symposium General Coordinator Dr Ahmed Al-Sarraf, head of the Lipid Disorders Unit at Sabah Al-Ahmad Heart Hospital, consultant in biochemistry and lipid disorders, and a member of the Kuwait Heart Association, highlighted the importance of integrated, multidisciplinary care in supporting recovery and reducing the risk of complications following bypass surgery and catheterization procedures.

He explained that CABG improves blood flow to the heart muscle but does not eliminate atherosclerosis. Consequently, managing cholesterol and other cardiovascular risk factors, adhering to prescribed medication and maintaining regular medical follow-up remain essential components of postoperative care. Al-Sarraf said the workshop examined treatment targets for low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol, including levels below 55 milligrams per deciliter for patients at very high cardiovascular risk, depending on individual clinical assessment.

KUWAIT: Dr Khaled Al-Mulla, director of Sabah Al-Ahmad Heart Center and chairman of the third Cardiometabolic Symposium, speaks during the one-day event held in Kuwait on Saturday to discuss advances in cholesterol management, therapeutic nutrition and cardiac rehabilitation, with a focus on improving recovery and preventing complications among heart patients.

He also discussed the role of statins and additional treatments, including ezetimibe and PCSK9 inhibitors, when necessary to achieve recommended cholesterol targets. Therapeutic nutrition was another key focus, with particular emphasis on the Mediterranean diet, which includes vegetables, whole grains, legumes, fish, olive oil and nuts. Al-Sarraf stressed the importance of limiting saturated fats, avoiding trans fats and reducing refined sugar consumption as part of a heart-healthy lifestyle.

The workshop also examined cardiac rehabilitation programs, which help patients gradually resume physical activity under medical supervision according to their health status and stage of recovery. Such programs can restore functional capacity, improve quality of life and support long-term cardiovascular health. He emphasized that combining appropriate medication with a balanced diet and a structured exercise program forms the foundation of sustainable care. Educating patients and involving them in treatment decisions are equally important to maintaining positive outcomes and reducing future risks.

Global burden of cardiovascular disease

Al-Mulla and Al-Sarraf highlighted the urgency of these efforts, citing World Health Organization estimates that cardiovascular diseases caused approximately 19.8 million deaths worldwide in 2022, accounting for about 32 percent of all deaths. Heart attacks and strokes were responsible for approximately 85 percent of these fatalities.

They also referred to evidence published in The Lancet from an analysis involving around 170,000 participants across 26 randomized trials. The analysis found that reducing LDL cholesterol by approximately 39 milligrams per deciliter through treatment lowered the relative risk of major cardiovascular events by about 22 percent. The findings underscore the importance of controlling cholesterol, adhering to prescribed treatment and maintaining regular medical follow-up to reduce the risk of serious complications. Al-Mulla thanked the organizers, sponsors, speakers and participants for their contributions to the scientific discussions, commending their efforts to advance healthcare services for patients with cardiovascular and metabolic conditions.

Kuwait marks World Mental Health Day, calls for patient-centered care

KUWAIT: The Ministry of Health marked World Mental Health Day on October 10, highlighting the importance of listening to patients and their families to improve mental health services, support recovery and combat the stigma associated with mental illness. This year's observance, led by the World Health Organization (WHO) under the theme "Listening to Lived Experiences: Real Voices, Real Change," emphasizes the role of patients' experiences in shaping more effective and inclusive mental health care.

Speaking during a celebration at Capital Mall, Dr Khulood Al-Ali, director of the Kuwait Center for Mental Health, said listening to patients and their families was a fundamental pillar of improving service quality, promoting recovery and reducing the stigma surrounding mental illness. She stressed that mental health care extends beyond treatment and medication, beginning with listening to patients, respecting their dignity and understanding their needs, challenges and aspirations. She also highlighted the importance of involving patients and their families throughout the treatment and recovery process.

Al-Ali said healthcare institutions had a responsibility to provide a safe and supportive therapeutic environment that safeguards patients' dignity and rights, strengthens their self-confidence and helps rebuild their trust in society. Achieving comprehensive mental health care, she added, requires close collaboration among medical, nursing, psychological, social and administrative professionals to ensure that patients receive integrated care tailored to their needs.

She called for translating the message of World Mental Health Day into practical measures that prioritize listening, understanding and involving patients in shaping the future of mental health services. Learning from patients' experiences, she said, can help improve their quality of life and ensure that healthcare services respond more effectively to their needs. Al-Ali also commended mental health professionals for their continued efforts to care for patients and support their families, expressing appreciation to those who shared their personal experiences and helped spread awareness and hope.

KUWAIT: Dr Khulood Al-Ali, Director of the Kuwait Center for Mental Health, officials and other medical experts are pictured during the event. — KUNA

The celebration featured an awareness booth at Capital Mall, where several doctors participated in activities aimed at promoting public understanding of mental health and the importance of seeking appropriate care. The initiative also sought to reinforce the role of patients and their families in treatment and recovery while encouraging a more supportive community culture that challenges misconceptions and reduces the stigma associated with mental illness. — KUNA

To enhance operations & innovative banking solutions

Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait participates in IMF & World Bank Annual Meetings in Bangkok

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 10: Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) Group is participating in the Annual Meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank Group, taking place in Bangkok, Thailand, from 12 to 18 October 2026. The meetings bring together finance ministers, central bank governors, banking leaders and financial policymakers from around the world.

The ABK Executive Management delegation comprises Abdulla Al Sumait, Deputy Group Chief Executive Officer; Omar Wahby, CEO of ABK-UAE, Noura Alduweesh, General Manager of Treasury and Investments; and Leen Haddad, Assistant General Manager of Executive Management Affairs.

The delegation will also attend a reception hosted by the Kuwait Banking Association on the sidelines of the meetings to exchange views on key economic and financial developments and explore opportunities for cooperation that support sustainable growth and long-term prosperity.

Abdulla Al Sumait, Deputy Group Chief Executive Officer

Commenting on the participation, Al Sumait said, "Our participation in the IMF and World Bank Annual Meetings in Bangkok holds particular significance, as they provide a global platform to discuss the latest economic trends and exchange expertise with leading figures in the international financial and banking sectors. We are committed to drawing on these insights to enhance our operations and continue delivering innovative banking solutions that support financial stability and meet the aspirations of our customers and shareholders."

He added, "These international gatherings open doors to lasting partnerships and allow us to explore investment and development opportunities focused on digital transformation and sustainable finance, reinforcing ABK's leading position and its role in supporting economic growth in Kuwait."

Al Sumait emphasised that the Group's participation aims to draw on forward-looking discussions about the future of the global economy, gain fresh perspectives on financial stability and banking developments, keep pace with global economic changes and learn from international best practices in banking.

AlSumait concluded by emphasizing that these annual meetings strengthen ABK's ties with global financial institutions and bolster growth prospects across Kuwait and the wider region. Furthermore, he noted that the insights gained enable the Bank to innovate future-ready solutions, services, and products, reinforcing its market-leading position.

Delegation will discuss global economy challenges

National Bank of Kuwait participates in IMF & World Bank Group Annual Meetings in Bangkok

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 10: National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) will participate in the 2026 Annual Meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group, scheduled to take place from October 12 to 18 in Bangkok, Thailand, as part of its ongoing efforts to strengthen international cooperation and promote the exchange of expertise in finance and economics.

NBK's delegation is headed by Mr. Isam Al-Sager, Vice Chairman and Group Chief Executive Officer, and includes Mr. Salah Al-Fulaij, Chief Executive Officer, NBK – Kuwait; Mr. Sulaiman Al-Marzouq, Deputy CEO, NBK – Kuwait; Mr. Omar Bouhadiba, CEO – International Banking Group;Mr. Khaled Al-Sayer, Head of Financial Institutions;and Mr. Abdul Mohsen Al-Rushaid, Head of Digital Communications.

The Bank's delegation will participate in the Annual Meetings, which will address key economic and financial challenges, alongside a number of important topics, including the role of governance reforms in supporting economic growth and social inclusion.

The delegation will also attend the seminar hosted by the Group of Thirty (G30) alongside the IMF and World Bank Group Annual Meetings. Held annually, the seminar brings together central bank governors from around the world, financial sector leaders and chief executives, as well as academics, to discuss the most pressing financial and systemic issues facing the global central banking community. The delegation will also attend the Annual Membership Meeting of the Institute of International Finance (IIF).

NBK headquarters

The Bank's delegation will also attend a reception hosted by the Kuwait Banking Association (KBA) for senior global banking leaders on the sidelines of the meetings and related events. The reception will bring together senior executives from Kuwaiti banks, a number of heads of international banks, representatives of European and Arab central banks, as well as a large number of prominent global figures and policymakers. The delegation will also attend a luncheon hosted by the Ambassador of the State of Kuwait to Thailand and the GCC-Asia Forum, in addition to reception events hosted by other financial institutions.

The Annual Meetings are convened by the Boards of Governors of the IMF and the World Bank Group, bringing together central bank governors, finance and development ministers, private-sector executives, representatives of civil society organizations and think tanks, and academics to discuss issues of global importance, including the global economic outlook, global financial stability, poverty eradication, inclusive economic growth and job creation.

NBK's delegation will also hold a number of bilateral meetings with senior international officials on the sidelines of the Annual Meetings taking place during the same period. The meetings and discussions will highlight some of the most significant challenges that have recently been facing the banking and financial industry worldwide.

The Annual Meetings also include meetings of several key committees and groups, most notably the Development Committee, the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC), the Group of Ten (G10), the Group of Twenty-Four (G24), and a number of other forums. The IMFC meeting is expected to focus on the outlook for the global economy, developments in financial markets and other pressing issues.

To advance global financial dialogue

Kuwait International Bank participates in IMF & World Bank Group Annual Meetings in Bangkok

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 10: Kuwait International Bank (KIB) announced its participation in the Annual Meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group (WBG), scheduled to take place in Bangkok, Thailand, from 12 to 18 October 2026. The high-level meetings will convene central bank governors, finance ministers, development officials, policymakers, leaders from financial institutions and the private sector, academics, and representatives of international organizations from across the globe.

The KIB delegation will be led by Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Raed Jawad Bukhamseen, and will include KIB Board Members Marzook Khaled Al-Marzook and Abdulrazzaq Salah Al-Mutawa, KIB Invest Board Member Ahmad Bader Al-Farsi, KIB General Manager of International Banking and Financial Institutions Ma'ab Al-Qassem, General Manager of Treasury Mohammad Al-Duwailah, and Executive Manager of the Office of the Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Fahad Al-Sarhan.

Raed Jawad Bukhamseen

Commenting on the occasion, Bukhamseen stated: "KIB's participation in this year's Annual Meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group reflects the significance of this global platform and the valuable opportunity it provides to stay abreast of key economic and financial developments worldwide, while exchanging perspectives and expertise with leading policymakers and financial and banking industry leaders from around the world."

He added that the importance of KIB's participation extends beyond attending the events to engaging in specialized discussions on markets and the financial sector, exploring global banking industry trends, and gaining insights into best practices and experiences across financing, investment, digital transformation, and risk management. The participation will also provide an opportunity to explore potential areas of cooperation and partnership that can support business growth and broaden the horizons of Kuwait's banking sector.

Bukhamseen also highlighted that the timing of the Annual Meetings adds further significance to KIB's participation, amid the rapid transformations shaping the global economy and financial markets, as well as the new opportunities and challenges arising from continued developments in technology and artificial intelligence across the financial sector. He noted that the Meetings' agenda provides a valuable platform to explore and exchange perspectives on a range of issues of growing importance to the global financial landscape, including financial stability, artificial intelligence and the global economy, the future of financial infrastructure, cross-border payments and cybersecurity, sovereign risks, developments in Asian labor markets, and ways to strengthen resilience in the face of global shifts.

He emphasized that such meetings enable banking institutions to benchmark their experiences against global trends, better understand the shifts reshaping customer and market needs, and support the continued development of their products and services while enhancing their readiness for future opportunities and challenges.

The Annual Meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group bring together government, banking and financial leaders, alongside representatives of the private sector, civil society, and international institutions, to discuss global economic and financial issues, development challenges, and practical solutions to address them. The 2026 Meetings will be held at the Queen Sirikit National Convention Center in Bangkok, reflecting Asia's growing role in shaping the global economic and financial stability agenda.

About KIB

Kuwait International Bank (KIB) is a bank that operates according to the Islamic Shari'ah, based in the State of Kuwait. Incorporated in 1973, and originally known as Kuwait Real Estate Bank, KIB made the transition to its current Islamic operating model in 2007. In 2018, KIB embarked on a new phase of its journey full of innovation and development. As part of its new strategic direction, the Bank focuses on offering a next-level customer experience under the slogan: "Bank for Life".

Through a network of branches spread across the State of Kuwait, KIB offers a broad range of banking products and services, as well as innovative digital banking solutions in line with international best standards. As part of its duty towards the community, the Bank also encompasses a leading social responsibility program that aims at positively impacting all members of the community through a wide range of impactful initiatives and activities.

Today, KIB has taken concrete steps in implementing its new strategic objectives. The Bank has cemented its role as a key player in the local banking industry and has continued to maintain its strong financial performance; enabling it to be globally recognized for its strong credit rating and financial position.

Kuwait calls for reform of global financial system

NEW YORK, Oct 10, (KUNA): Kuwait's Diplomatic Attache Dalal Sharar called for reforming the international financial architecture, enhancing developing countries' representation at the United Nations, expanding concessional financing and climate funding, and easing debt burdens.

Addressing the UN General Assembly's Economic and Financial Committee (the Second Committee) on Thursday, she said slower global growth, rising debt and declining external financing required urgent reforms to help developing countries achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

Sharar condemned Iran's closure of the Strait of Hormuz and disruption of navigation in the Bab Al-Mandab Strait through its regional proxies, warning of repercussions for global energy supplies, supply chains and food prices. She called for protecting maritime navigation in accordance with international law.

She highlighted the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development's financing of more than 1,000 development projects across 107 countries since 1961, as well as the launch of the Kuwait Emergency Response Fund last July.

On Palestine, the Kuwaiti diplomat said that 92 percent of economic establishments in Gaza had been damaged or destroyed, unemployment had exceeded 90 percent, and recovery and reconstruction needs had reached USD 71.5 billion.

6 laws drive economic reform agenda

Kuwait introduces reforms to enhance investor confidence

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 10, (KUNA): Government efforts in Kuwait accelerated during the third quarter of the year to develop the financial and economic infrastructure through legislative reforms and structural changes aimed at improving the business environment, diversifying revenues and attracting foreign investment.

Six laws approved in recent months reflect the governments commitment to placing the national economy on a more sustainable path in support of Kuwait Vision 2035, alongside restructuring state sectors and advancing major development projects.

The enactment of Law No. 90 of 2026 on government sukuk marks a significant step in developing Kuwaits sovereign financing framework by expanding available financing instruments and introducing a Sharia-compliant option.

The law allows sukuk alongside conventional debt instruments, enhancing financing flexibility, diversifying funding sources and broadening the domestic and international investor base. It also supports capital market development and more efficient management of financial obligations.

The law permits sukuk issuance against existing government assets, operating rights and benefits associated with government assets, or assets to be provided in the future.

The Ministry of Finance said it would adopt an institutional approach to issuance, supporting Kuwaits regular presence in domestic and international capital markets and strengthening its position as a sovereign issuer.

The government also issued Decree-Law No. 81 of 2026, allowing borrowing from the Future Generations Reserve to support the States General Reserve while preserving the reserves capital.

The law permits the use of realized returns on a repayable basis, supporting sustainable asset growth and long-term returns without depleting the underlying wealth. The measure enhances sovereign financing flexibility alongside the Financing and Liquidity Law, which permits domestic and international debt issuance of up to KD 30 billion.

The draft Decree-Law on arbitration, approved by the Cabinet in mid-September, seeks to strengthen Kuwaits legal and economic environment and provide clearer safeguards for investors.

The legislation consolidates arbitration provisions under one framework, drawing on international best practices and principles established by the Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration.

It provides faster and more flexible settlement of commercial and investment disputes, strengthens guarantees of neutrality, transparency and confidentiality, and permits electronic procedures, hearings and document exchange.

Meanwhile, the Economic Circuits Law, issued last August, establishes specialized circuits at the Court of First Instance, Court of Appeal and Court of Cassation to handle specified economic, commercial and investment disputes.

The law aims to expedite litigation, simplify procedures and expand electronic services, strengthening investor confidence, reducing costs and risks, and supporting Kuwaits position as a regional financial and commercial center.

Decree-Law No. 78 of 2026 on combating commercial concealment seeks to promote transparency, fairness and equal opportunity while strengthening state oversight and regulation.

The law prohibits enabling any person to conduct an economic activity in violation of the legislation, directly or indirectly, including through the use of another partys trade name or license.

It safeguards bona fide third parties and provides for reconciliation to settle certain violations under specified conditions without custodial penalties.

In late September, the Cabinet also approved a draft decree-law amending the Companies Law No. 1 of 2016 to facilitate company establishment and enhance confidence in business transactions.

The draft removes the requirement to notarize all company-related legal procedures and transactions, requiring written documentation signed by partners or their representatives. Commercial Register registration will constitute notarization and establish enforceability against third parties.

It also allows self-employed professionals to establish one-person professional companies and grants existing offices and companies one year to regularize their status.

In parallel, the government continues to enhance public financial management through a four-year program to strengthen integrity, transparency and governance in financial performance from April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2030.

The program supports effective government and creative human capital by promoting specialized financial knowledge, best practices and financial and technological analysis to improve decision-making and support sustainable development under Kuwait Vision 2035.

Kuwait has also intensified measures to stimulate economic activity and strengthen fiscal sustainability through capital spending on development projects, private-sector reforms, new economic opportunities and greater private-sector participation.

The draft state budget for fiscal 2026/2027 includes 433 ongoing projects across ministries and government departments, in addition to 101 new projects.

Projects at affiliated public authorities total about 122, including 15 new and 107 ongoing projects.

Cook faces new inquiry amid Fed independence concerns

WASHINGTON, Oct 10, (AP): President Donald Trump opened another chapter in his effort to fire Federal Reserve Governor Lisa Cook Friday by establishing a "committee of inquiry" to investigate allegations that she made false statements in mortgage applications.

The inquiry will include a hearing at the White House Nov. 5, Trump said in a written memo, that Cook "shall" attend to answer questions from the committee. The hearing wouldn't be public but a transcript would be published, the memo said.

Trump's extraordinary demand that Cook testify before the committee will likely renew concerns about threats to the Federal Reserve's independence. The president has repeatedly called for the central bank to cut its key interest rate, but just last month, the Fed raised it instead, led by Chairman Kevin Warsh, whom Trump appointed earlier this year.

Trump's attempts to fire Cook from the Fed's seven-member board of governors represent the first time in the central bank's 113-year history that a president has sought to remove a Fed governor. Cook was appointed by former President Joe Biden and is the first Black woman on the Fed's board. Trump's attacks on her followed other efforts to oust or indict Black officials, such as New York Attorney General Letitia James and Gen. Charles Q. Brown, the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"As President, it is my job to ensure the laws are faithfully executed, including by firing subordinates who cannot be trusted to tell the truth and follow the law," Trump wrote in the memorandum.

Cook's attorneys, Abbe Lowell and Norman Eisen, said they were considering having Cook appear at the Nov. 5 hearing and respond to the charges.

"We have engaged with the White House to evaluate whether the process proposed has a possibility of being a genuine one and not simply a box checking exercise," Lowell and Eisen said in a statement. "Governor Cook welcomes the opportunity to present the facts so she can clear her name and demonstrate there is no legal basis to fire her."

The "committee of inquiry" will be composed of Kevin Hassett, the president's top economic adviser, who has frequently echoed Trump's criticisms of the Fed; Keith Sonderling, the acting director of the Office of Government Ethics, whom the president has also appointed to lead the Labor Department, and Andrea Lucas, the chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, whom Trump appointed in November 2025.

Trump initially tried to fire Cook in August 2025 after alleging she had committed mortgage fraud by declaring two different properties to be her "primary" residence in mortgage applications in 2021. Mortgages on primary homes can often receive a lower interest rate or other beneficial terms.

Cook has denied any wrongdoing and has not been charged with a crime. Lowell and Eisen have previously said Cook committed an "inadvertent error" and did refer to one of the properties as a vacation home in other documents.

"An inadvertent error is not fraud, as the President and a third of his cabinet should know because they reportedly did the same thing," Lowell and Eisen said in August.

The Federal Reserve declined to comment on Trump's announcement.

Trump and some of his economic advisers have blamed the Fed's broader rate-setting committee, which includes 12 voting members and 19 officials in total, for forcing last month's rate hike, even though it followed comments by Warsh in August that signaled higher rates were likely. As a member of the board of governors, Cook is also one of the 12 voting members of the committee. The vote to lift rates Sept. 16 was unanimous.

The move also follows a Supreme Court ruling in June that Cook could keep her job after Trump sought to fire her last year.