Israeli ‘state terrorism’ condemned

The minister of Foreign Affairs Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, took part yesterday afternoon in the ordinary session of the Ministerial Meeting of the Council of the Arab League in Riyadh to discuss the Palestinian cause.

The meeting condemned the organised state terrorism, practised by Israel and the grave violations and heinous crimes that amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity, perpetrated by the Israeli soldiers and settlers including systematic killing, settlement, Judaisation and ethnic cleansing.

The Council blamed the Israeli government for these heinous crimes, stressing the illegitimacy and illegality of the settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories, which violate international law, the international legitimacy of the Fourth Geneva Convention.

The Council called on the United Nations Security Council to issue a decision that would enforce its relevant resolutions, particularly the decisions on application of the Fourth Geneva Convention on the occupied territories, provision of international protection to the Palestinian territories including Quds and halt of the grave Israeli aggressions that constitute a threat to world peace and security.

The Council also called on the Palestinian people and groups to close ranks, form a national unity government and hold general elections in order to be able to confront the looming danger lying in the Israeli plans that aim to shake the Palestinian unity.

It also stressed support for the Palestinian leadership in its quest for a just political solution, on the basis of an independent sovereign state of Palestine on its national territory with Quds as a capital.

Sanitation keeps cholera at bay

Dr. Manea allays fears on the disease

Health Ministry (MoH) Undersecretary for Hospital Affairs Dr. Waleed Manea yesterday said that as many as 55 suspected cholera cases coming in from Iraq and one from Kuwait but only eight among them required a follow-up check.

Among the eight cases, only two of them had to remain in hospital due to the severity of their condition. Rest of them were released immediately and they are in good health, he said.

Dr. Manea’s press briefing came after the Cabinet meeting in which Prime Minister HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa received updates on cholera cases in the Kingdom and urged the MoH to follow preventive measures.

 Bahrain is not a source region for cholera, Undersecretary for Hospital Affairs confirmed, adding that the Kingdom supplies hygienic drinking water and the drainage system is well-maintained in Bahrain. In some countries, drainage water gets mixed with the drinking water, increasing the risk of Cholera outbreak.

In Bahrain, there is no such problem as we have effective sanitary system,” he said, adding that all eight Cholera patients recently came from other countries.

So far killed six people, some precautions are need of the hour, he said, highlighting the importance of personal hygiene while visiting cholera affected countries.

Measures like maintaining personal hygiene, washing fruits and vegetables before eating and exercising cautiousness while eating uncooked food could prevent Cholera to a maximum extent. Preventive measures are more effective than taking vaccinations, Dr. Manea said. The MoH has been reviewing all Cholera related developments taking place in and around Bahrain.

The ministry is also in touch with the World Health Organisation to get latest information on the disease. In the meantime, MoH is closely monitoring the Iraq developments, he said, urging the Iraq journey organisers to take all necessary measure to save Bahrainis from Cholera.

He also advised the journey organisers to accompany a paramedic during Iraq journey. "Having a paramedic is advantageous. But awareness is more important," he said.

Meanwhile, he asked people to visit nearest health centre if they notice any symptoms of Cholera.

Minister of Health inspects hospital

The minister of Health Faqqa bint Saleh Al Saleh paid an inspection visit to the Muharraq Hospital and Elderly in the presence of Assistant Undersecretary for Hospital Affairs Dr. Waleed Al Manea along with a number of ministry officials and hospital administrators.

During the visit, Health Minister inspected the hospital rooms and overall health services. She also met with a number of nursing staff and elderly patients who have expressed their happiness on her visit.

The minister stressed their keen interest to achieve optimal development and improve health services to the elderly according to their appropriate health and social needs. She pointed out the importance of creating an appropriate environment to enhance ways of communication and interaction with them and their families as it will positively impact on their psychological health.

The hospital’s administrator, Hassan Al Farraj, expressed his desire to improve services with the interest of the elderly patients by developing and providing a positive atmosphere with social and recreational programmes. The centre was recently updated and renovated with its health records, fixtures, doctors' rooms and departments of pharmacy, laboratory, child care, maternity and pharmacy.