

GCC Rejects Conflict Politics



Jasem Mohammed Al-Budaiwi, Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), stressed that the region consistently works toward building a stable and secure regional environment through constructive policies focused on development and prosperity rather than conflict and war.

His remarks came during a session titled "The Middle East After Zero-Sum Politics," held on the sidelines of the Antalya Diplomacy Forum in Türkiye. The session also featured Jordan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ayman

Safadi, and Arab League Secretary-General Ahmed Aboul Gheit.

Albudaiwi said the GCC has long been committed to diplomacy and dialogue, guided by principles of respecting state sovereignty, non-interference, and peaceful resolution of disputes, which have strengthened mutual trust with regional and international partners.

He also referred to recent Iranian attacks on GCC states, describing them as serious and unjustified, and noted their impact on regional security. However, he affirmed that these incidents have not changed the GCC's strategic approach, which remains focused on development, stability, and humanitarian support.

The GCC Secretary-General highlighted the Council's active role in regional issues, particularly its support for the Palestinian cause and the two-state solution, alongside humanitarian and political initiatives in various crises. He stressed that regional and global stability is a shared responsibility.

He further underlined that regional organizations are no longer optional but essential, noting that success is measured not only by internal cohesion but also by the ability to build

partnerships and contribute to global stability.

In this context, he said the GCC has strengthened its international role through 28 strategic partnerships and cooperation with eight regional organizations, positioning itself as a key bridge for dialogue, peace, and prosperity.

Albudaiwi concluded that the GCC's achievements reflect collective Gulf strength and resilience, along with its ability to deliver outcomes beyond expectations, reinforcing its standing on the global stage and supporting a cooperative regional framework that advances security and stability.



“Our achievements reflect the strength of collective Gulf action and our ability to deliver results that exceed expectations”

JASEM MOHAMMED ALBUDAIWI

Peace Dialogue Takes Priority



His Majesty King Abdullah II held talks with Alexander Stubb at Al Hussein Palace, focusing on strengthening bilateral relations and addressing key regional developments.

The meeting, attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II, highlighted opportunities to expand cooperation between Jordan and Finland, particularly in education and technology.

King Abdullah II stressed

that Jordan's strategic location and regional role provide a strong foundation for deeper partnership and dialogue with Finland. He underscored the importance of joint efforts to enhance dialogue and pursue peaceful solutions to regional challenges.

The King also described President Stubb's visit as a key opportunity to explore new avenues of collaboration, reinforcing ties between the two countries.

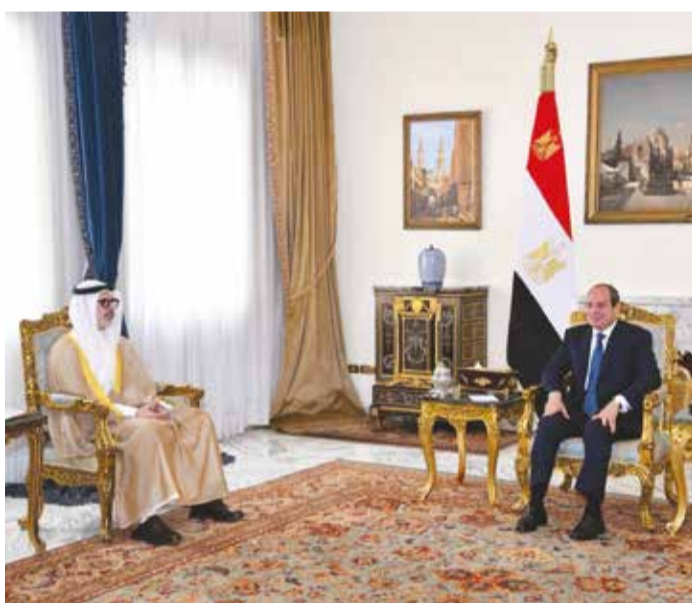
Egypt Rejects Sovereignty Threats

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi reiterated Egypt's firm rejection of any attack on the sovereignty of Kuwait or any other Arab state, stressing that the security of Arab countries is integral to Egypt's national security.

According to a statement by the Egyptian presidency, the remarks came during a meeting in Cairo with Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, in the presence of Kuwait's Ambassador to Egypt and senior foreign ministry officials.

President El-Sisi affirmed Egypt's full support for Kuwait's security and stability, and backed all measures taken to protect its sovereignty and national interests. He also highlighted Egypt's continued commitment to supporting Arab security and stability.

He conveyed his greetings to



Kuwait's Emir Shaikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, praising the strong historical and fraternal ties between the two countries.

The talks also covered ways

to enhance bilateral relations, particularly in investment and trade, in a manner that serves mutual interests and reflects the growing momentum in Egypt-Kuwait relations.

Nations Welcome Libya Budget Deal

Saudi Arabia and several other countries have welcomed Libya's signing of a unified 2026 national budget, marking the first consolidated financial plan in over a decade and a significant step toward bridging divisions between eastern and western authorities.

The agreement, signed on April 11, is seen as a key milestone in strengthening economic coordination and restoring unified financial governance in the country.

In a joint statement, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United States, Türkiye, the UAE, the United Kingdom, Egypt, France, Germany, and Italy praised the move, calling it a constructive effort that could enhance unity, stability, and long-term prosperity for Libya.

The countries stressed that full implementation of the budget would be critical in stabilising Libya's economy, pro-



tecting the value of the Libyan dinar, and improving citizens' purchasing power. It is also expected to support development projects, attract international investment, and strengthen key institutions such as the Central Bank of Libya, the National Oil Corporation, and the Libyan Audit Bureau.

A major feature of the budget is the inclusion of the National

Oil Corporation's first operational funding in years, along with allocations aimed at boosting energy production under enhanced oversight mechanisms.

The statement highlighted that increased oil and gas output would not only support Libya's economic recovery but also contribute to regional and global energy stability.



Sailors and Marines aboard the USS Rushmore conduct blockade operations in the Arabian Sea.

Advancing Peace in South Sudan



The Bahrain highlighted the vital role of the UN Mission in South Sudan in advancing peace efforts, bridging divides, and promoting dialogue, while also expressing concern over escalating violence and worsening humanitarian conditions, and stressing the broader impact of regional instability on humanitarian access and essential supply chains affecting vulnerable populations.