

Iranian activities destabilising region, world



Participants of the eighth meeting of the League of Arab States Permanent Representatives and Members of the EU Political and Security Committee of the Council of the European Union in Brussels, Belgium during a group photo opportunity

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Top Arab Affairs Directorate official yesterday called for better coordination between world nations to address Iran's destabilising activities in the region and the world.

Arab countries are keen on establishing relations with Iran, Ambassador Abdulaziz Mohammed Abdulla Aleid said, but that should be based on good neighbourliness and non-interference in the internal affairs of countries.

Iran, however, has defied all those and continues to interfere in the affairs of Bahrain and other Arab countries, the Director of Arab Affairs Directorate said.

We are always keen on establishing relations with Iran, ones that are based on the principles of good neighbourliness and the non-interference in the internal affairs of countries, however, Iran, since the 1979 revolution and under exporting its revolution, has not stopped interfering in the internal affairs of Arab countries

AMBASSADOR ABDULAZIZ MOHAMMED ABDULLA ALEID

He was addressing the eighth meeting of the League of Arab States Permanent Representatives and Members of the EU Political and Security Committee

of the Council of the European Union in Brussels, Belgium held in which Bahrain took part.

Iran, Abdulla Aleid pointed out, is "smuggling arms and in-

cluding sectarian strife to undermine the security and stability of Bahrain and the rest of the brotherly Arab countries."

Houthi militias supported by them are continuing their attacks on Saudi Arabia and tankers and commercial vessels in the territorial waters of the United Arab Emirates.

In this regard, there is a need to ensure the freedom of maritime navigation in international waters, he said highlighting the international conference on gulf navigation and maritime security held in Bahrain from October 21 to 22, 2019 with the participation of more than 60 countries.

On Yemen, the Director of Arab Affairs Directorate at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs hailed the efforts of the Arab Co-

alition in establishing stability and security, stressing Bahrain's sacrifices to support legitimacy in Yemen.

Ambassador Aleid reiterated Kingdom's supports in all efforts aimed at establishing peace in Yemen.

The meeting held discussions on the developments of the situations in Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Libya, Lebanon, and Iran, as well as on counter-terrorism issues and its funding, migration issues, refugees and displaced persons.

The final communique reaffirmed the strengthening of the European-Arab partnership as an appropriate regional response and their commitment to effective multilateralism and an international system based on respect for international law.

Develop specialised scientific media: AGU official

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Top Arabian Gulf University (AGU) has called upon states to develop specialised scientific media to help spread the culture of science and knowledge.

"This will have a significant impact on building the next generations basing on science and knowledge, which will contribute to the development of their nations," said Media Director at the Arabian Gulf University (AGU), Dr Abdullah Al Turaif.

Al Turaif was speaking during a lecture on "The Role of Media in Building Scientific and Technical Culture in the Society" organised by the King Fahad Bin Abdulaziz Academic Chair for Medical Biotechnology in AGU.

Developed countries, he said, had already realised this and have initiated various programmes in addition to science curricula to wipe out science illiteracy among citizens.

Further, Dr Al Turaif called upon scientists and academics to make use of the opportunities provided by the social media platforms to publish their scientific and technical materials.

Bahrain to host top AI, Fintech and VAT conference

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Bahrain will host a conference on Artificial Intelligence, FinTech and VAT at the Gulf Hotel in partnership with the UAE-based Smart SMB.

Themed "The Second Digital Transformation", the event will be held on January 29 under the patronage of the President of the Sustainable Energy Authority (SEA), Dr Abdulhussain bin Ali Mirza.

More than 30 individuals and companies in Bahrain will be honoured during the event for which Dr Mirza will be the key speaker.

Conference chairman, Dr

Jassim Haji, said that the event focuses on artificial intelligence, future sciences and role of women in the field of artificial intelligence.

The conference will attract more than 20 speakers from the Supreme Council for Health, Women in FinTech Bahrain, University of Bahrain, Bahrain Polytechnic, Derasat, GARMCO, the Bahrain Institute of Banking and Finance (BIBF), in addition to other experts.

Held annually in Dubai, Saudi Arabia, Oman and Kenya, the event attracts a great number of participants and exhibitors from mega-companies.

Meeting mulls private sector tie-ups in projects

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Bahrain's private sector will be involved in the implementation of some of the projects planned by the municipal councils and capital trust, said the Work Minister.

Essam Khalaf, the Minister of Works, Municipal Affairs and Urban Planning, was chairing a meeting of the Higher Coordination Committee between the Ministry of Works, Municipal Affairs and Urban Planning, and heads of municipal councils. The meeting reviewed the latest plans and priorities related to services and projects of the municipal councils and the Capital Trust as well as



Minister Essam Khalaf chairing a meeting of the Higher Coordination Committee between the Ministry of Works, Municipal Affairs and Urban Planning, and heads of municipal councils.

budgets of operations and projects, expected to witness major achievements in 2020.

The minister told the meeting that the ministry is keen on enhancing coordination and com-

munication with the councils to ensure the progress of projects and services.

The ministry, Esam Khalaf said, will harness capabilities and resources to advance mu-

nicipal work and sustainability goals as outlined in the action plan and work programme of the government headed by His Royal Highness Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa.



Indian School Celebrates Book Week

Indian School Bahrain (ISB) held an Annual Book Week celebrations at its Isa Town campus from January 19 to 23, along with a book fair. The fair was inaugurated by ISB Principal VR Palaniswamy by lighting a lamp. Staff representative Johnson Devassy, Vice-Principals Anand Nair, Vinod S, Heads of Departments, staff and students were present. Book Mart, Barnes & Noble, Majestic book shop, and City bookshop took part in the fair. Competitions in English short story writing, fancy dress, Quiz on Mahatma Gandhi, book reviews and library logo designing were held on the occasion.

