

Act Before Crises Escalate into Open Conflicts

UN Charter provides mechanisms for mediation, de-escalation and diplomatic solutions, says envoy

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Bahrain reaffirmed its steadfast commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes, warning that the growing number of global flashpoints and escalating tensions require the international community to act before conflicts develop into open confrontations.

The Kingdom stressed that the United Nations Charter, particularly Articles 33 and 34, provides essential tools for early intervention, enabling the UN Security Council to assess escalation risks, support mediation efforts, reduce tensions and create conditions for diplomatic solutions.

The remarks were delivered by Bahrain’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, Ambassador Jamal Fares Alrowaiei, during a Security Council session on strengthening the peaceful settlement of disputes.

The session was attended by UN Secretary-General António Guterres and chaired by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, represented by Foreign Minister Thérèse Kayikwamba Wagner.

Addressing current regional developments, Ambassador



Alrowaiei strongly condemned Iran’s attacks on Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries and Jordan, as well as the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, describing such actions as threats to regional security and international maritime routes.

He highlighted Iran’s failure to meet its international obligations, including commitments made under the “Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding”, and its non-compliance with UN Security Council Resolution 2817, which 136 countries co-sponsored.

The ambassador also noted Iran’s continued failure to adhere to several UN resolutions calling on it to adopt responsible conduct that contributes to regional security and refrain from supporting proxy groups.

He pointed out that some

“Successful mediation can only be achieved through an end to hostilities, respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, full adherence to international law and Security Council resolutions, and the protection of maritime security.”

- JAMAL FARES ALROWAIEI

countries targeted by Iran had previously played constructive roles in mediating between Tehran and the international community, but those efforts did not prevent them from becoming targets.

The envoy also referred to Security Council Resolution

2788, unanimously adopted in 2025 following an initiative by Pakistan, stressing the need for the effective and consistent use of peaceful dispute settlement mechanisms and a shift from reaffirming principles to implementing them in practice.

He called for the full implementation of Resolution 2788 through greater use of the tools available under Chapter VI of the UN Charter, encouraging parties to pursue dialogue, mediation and confidence-building measures.

Ambassador Alrowaiei further stressed the importance of strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and regional organisations to achieve peaceful and acceptable solutions.

He added that diplomacy must be given the necessary time and space to succeed, while stressing that calls for dialogue cannot replace the obligation to respect international law.

Ambassador Alrowaiei said strengthening peaceful dispute resolution requires political will, early action and more effective use of the UN Charter’s mechanisms to enable the Security Council to help reduce tensions, support diplomatic solutions and safeguard international peace and security.

Seven-Year Sentence Upheld in Zallaq Cycling Crash

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The First High Criminal Court of Appeal upheld a lower court ruling sentencing the defendant to seven years in prison in connection with a fatal road accident that killed two cyclists and injured two others on Zallaq Highway.

The verdict follows a case in which the defendant was found responsible for striking four cyclists after becoming distracted while driving.

According to court records, the accident occurred when the driver lost focus while attempting to retrieve a cigarette inside his vehicle, causing him to collide with members of the Laspag Cycling Group riding along Zallaq Road.

The crash claimed the lives of two cyclists at the scene, while two others sustained injuries and were taken to hospital for treatment. The collision also damaged the vehicle and the bicycles involved.

The Public Prosecution charged the defendant with possessing and consuming a psychotropic substance without legal authorisation, causing deaths and injuries through negligence, failing to provide assistance to victims, leaving the accident scene without informing authorities, causing property damage, and driving without due care and attention.

Investigations showed that the defendant left the scene following the crash without assisting



“Franz” Abatayo Delostrico, a mechanic, and Mario Valdez, a private chauffeur, lost their lives in the tragic Zallaq Highway crash.

What Happened?

- A 29-year-old citizen was sentenced to seven years in prison for a fatal crash on Zallaq Highway.
- The crash happened at approximately 5:55am on March 21, 2026, during Eid Al Fitr.
- The accident killed two Filipino cyclists and injured two others from the Laspag Cycling Group.
- The driver lost control after becoming distracted while reaching for a fallen cigarette, striking four cyclists.
- He was also convicted of drug-related charges, leaving the scene, and failing to assist victims.

the injured cyclists or contacting emergency services. He was later identified, arrested and referred to trial.

The Court of Appeal’s decision confirms the seven-year prison sentence issued by the lower court.

Residents Hit by Higher Electricity Bills

A family of three received an electricity bill of almost BD200, according to the councillor.

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Hasan Barakat

Northern Municipal Council member has called for an official explanation after receiving numerous complaints from residents over what they describe as a sharp and unexpected increase in their June electricity bills compared to the same period last year.

Councillor Mohamed Saad Al Doseri said several households had contacted him in recent days, reporting that their monthly electricity bills had nearly doubled despite no noticeable change in their consumption.

According to Al Doseri, many residents who paid between BD70 and BD90 during the summer months last year were shocked to receive bills approaching BD200 this June.

He stressed that the issue was not limited to isolated in-



“Our priority should be to verify these complaints, resolve any errors, and strengthen public trust”

- MOHAMED SAAD AL DOSERI, NORTHERN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEMBER



the accuracy of the charges.

Al Doseri noted that residents have been circulating various theories to explain the increases, but said none could be verified without an official response from the relevant authorities.

He called on the responsible authority to clarify how electricity bills are calculated and confirm whether any changes have been made to electricity tariffs, meter-reading procedures or billing mechanisms.

Faster Decisions for Minors Affairs

Processing time reduced from 48 to 14 working days as part of service improvement efforts

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The Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Waqf has upgraded its “Review of Decisions” service within the Minors Affairs Sector as part of ongoing government efforts to improve service quality and streamline procedures.

The enhanced service allows individuals under guardianship and those responsible for managing their affairs to submit requests for reconsideration of decisions issued regarding their applications. Requests will then be reviewed and reassessed in accordance with approved procedures.

Under the upgraded system, the service completion time has been reduced from 48 working days to just 14 working days. The number of required documents has also been reduced to a single document, while the number of approvals needed to obtain the service has been cut by 25 per cent.

The ministry has also unified



“This upgrade reflects our commitment to simplifying procedures and delivering faster, more accessible services. By reducing processing times and expanding digital channels, we are making it easier for beneficiaries to receive timely and efficient support.”

- JUDGE ISSA SAMI AL MANNAI, JUSTICE AND ISLAMIC AFFAIRS UNDERSECRETARY

service information published across all official channels, improving accessibility, transparency, and clarity regarding requirements and procedures.

Justice and Islamic Affairs Undersecretary at the Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Waqf, Judge Issa Sami Al Mannai, said the development of services provided to individuals under guardianship reflects the ministry’s continued efforts to simplify procedures, enhance efficiency, and provide more flexible and convenient channels for beneficiaries.

He explained that the improvement process included restructuring the service workflow by reviewing applications through the service centre, limiting supporting documents to only one required document, and expanding the use of approved electronic channels for submitting requests.

These measures, he added, will help simplify procedures, accelerate application reviews, and ensure decisions are made more efficiently.

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Rehab Mohammad

The First High Criminal Court of Appeal upheld three-year prison sentences against an Asian mother and father after they were convicted of neglecting their premature baby, resulting in his death.

The court also upheld a one-year jail term for the mother’s

friend for taking part in burying the baby without informing the authorities. All three defendants additionally received a one-month prison sentence for illegal residency and will be deported after completing their sentences.

The case dates back to August 2025, when the mother, who had avoided medical care during her pregnancy due to residency issues,



gave birth prematurely at an apartment in Bahrain.

According to court records, the

woman delivered the baby alone when she was around six to seven months pregnant. She cut the umbilical cord herself and did not seek medical assistance despite the child’s premature condition.

The baby was alive after birth, but his health deteriorated the following day. The parents failed to take him to receive the specialised medical care required, leading

to his death.

Following the baby’s death, the parents did not report the birth or death to the authorities within the required legal period. They later agreed with the mother’s friend to bury the child near their residence.

The mother, aged 35, and father, aged 26, were charged with exposing their child to abuse and neglect

by failing to protect his safety and provide necessary medical care, resulting in his death without intent.

The mother and her friend, aged 39, were also convicted of burying the baby without notifying the authorities, while the father was found guilty of participating in the act. All three will be deported after serving their sentences.