

## Local

# NoufEXPO to organize 2nd Consulting Services for Development Plan Forum

## Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad's sponsorship makes ENCON2 a national event: Salman

KUWAIT: Engineer Bader Al-Salman, President of the Federation of Kuwaiti Engineering Offices and Consultant Houses, announced yesterday that the '2nd Consulting Services for the Development Plan Forum' will convene under the motto of 'Role of the Private Sector in Execution and Automated Integration among Related Agencies to boost Productivity and combat Corruption.' The announcement came through a press release issued yesterday.

Salman said that he is delighted that Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense - Chairman of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development, will patronize ENCON2. NoufEXPO will organize the event from April 30 to May 2, 2019 at the Diamond Grand Ballroom of Sheraton Kuwait.

He moved on saying, "The patronage of the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad makes ENCON2 much of a national event. Many ENCON2's agenda and topics are reflections of His Excellency's vision and have their significant impact on Kuwait's growth and prosperity."

### Joint cooperation

Commenting on the organizing agencies, Salman said "ENCON2 is a result of the cooperation of the Federation of Kuwaiti Engineering Offices and Consultant Houses with the General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development, the Central Agency for Public Tenders, the Central Agency for Information Technology, Kuwait

Municipality, and the other executive and supervisory government agencies.

### ENCON2 objectives

Commenting on the topics that will be discussed, Salman said that ENCON2 aims at boosting the efficiency by which the phases of Kuwait's 2035 Development Plan are executed. It also aims at ensuring that projects are executed accurately according to their specifications and allocated budgets. Shortening the documentary cycle and sig-



## Boosting productivity of Development Plan's execution

nificantly limiting variation orders to boost transparency and combat corruption are among the hot topics of ENCON2.

He added, "To achieve these objectives, ENCON2 will focus on increasing the level of cooperation and coordination among all agencies mandated with the delivery of consulting services, particularly those related to Kuwait's Development plan. As a first step, ENCON2 will discuss the requirements for developing a healthy administrative and technological environment among the executive and supervisory government agencies to automate the issuance of approvals and permissions of Development Plan projects."

### Unified electronic portal

ENCON2 will also discuss the development of a web portal to be the unified gateway for issuing all approvals and permissions by government and supervisory agencies to execute consulting services for government and private sector projects. As a first step, the focus will be on issuing approvals and permissions for Development Plan construction projects by qualified consulting houses. ENCON2 will also discuss the best approach to empowering the private sector to execute all phases of Development Plan projects while mandating the public sector to carry out an effective supervisory role only. The event will highlight the technical and legal requirements of implementing such a policy which conforms to Kuwait's strategy of allowing the private sector to play a more important role in Kuwait's economy."

### Notable participation

Salman also welcomed the participation of many related government agencies in ENCON2, namely: Agency for Developing Madinat Al-Hareer (Al-Subiya) and Boubyan Island, Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority, Kuwait Fire Service Directorate, Ministry of Electricity and Water, Environment Public Authority, Ministry of Public Works, Public Authority for Roads and Transportation, Ministry of Health, Kuwait University, Ministry of Education, and Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, and the World Bank.

He also welcomed the participating supervisory authorities: State Audit Bureau, Department of Legal Advice and



Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah



Bader Al-Salman

Legislation, Kuwait Anticorruption Authority (Nazaha), the Financial Supervisory Authority, and the Government Performance Follow-up Agency. Salman also welcomed the participation of many engineering offices and consultant houses. These are highly appreciating the proposed policy to mandate the private sector with projects' execution while limiting the public sector's role to a supervisory role. "The Federation of Kuwaiti Engineering Offices and Consultant Houses and all its members are looking forward to carrying on this responsibility. We believe this is a recipe for success in achieving Kuwait's 2035 vision and objectives," Salman said.

Salman emphasized that ENCON2 and its accompanying exhibition will provide participating and sponsoring organizations,

agencies, and companies with an ideal platform to network and display their specialized services and technologies. Finally, Salman welcomed the continued cooperation between the Federation of Kuwaiti Engineering Offices and Consultant Houses and NoufEXPO to organize ENCON2 while appreciating NoufEXPO's professionalism and dedication. He invited all interested sponsors, organizations, and individuals to contact the organizing company, NoufEXPO on their phone number +965 22469921. They can also send their inquiries to info@noufexpo.com.kw, or visit ENCON2 website at www.noufexpo.com.kw/encon2. The Federation of Kuwaiti Engineering Offices and Consultant Houses may also be contacted on +965 22420482 or website www.oiaec.com.

## Burgan Bank supports special needs exhibition

KUWAIT: For the second year in a row, Burgan Bank successfully concluded its sponsorship of the Kuwaiti Project for Special Needs Exhibition that took place on February 20, 2019 under the patronage of Shaikha Sheikhha Al-Abdullah Al-Sabah. Burgan Bank representatives presented how the special needs segment are fully accommodated with a comprehensive banking experience backed by enhanced accessibility and modern world-class technological applications.

The annual exhibition is conducted to

showcase Kuwait's concentrated efforts in facilitating their overall requirements and ensuring the optimal comfort of the special needs segment. In support of the Central Bank of Kuwait's instructions and regulations, Burgan Bank has maintained six fully-equipped branches at convenient locations, in Adaliyah, Bayan, Khaitan, Qurain, Riqqa and Al-Qosour, allowing physically disabled, visually impaired and seniors to carry out their banking transactions proficiently, independently and with utmost ease. A number of highly proficient employees trained to communicate via sign language are positioned in each branch.

Part of Burgan Bank's long-standing mission is to ensure best-in-class services for all segments of society and as one of the leading sponsors, the bank has played an important role in being the first to develop innovative solutions that comprehensively serve the requirements of vulnerable groups in Kuwait.



## AUB sponsors launch of simplified application for hearing impaired

KUWAIT: Within the framework of its social partnership with Al-Manaber Al-Quraniya Society, Ahli United Bank (AUB) has announced its sponsorship of the 'Kairokoum' application for the simplified interpretation for the hearing impaired, being keen to support creative social projects that contribute to achieving a sustainable social development in line with the vision of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

The 'Kairokoum' service was launched at a celebration sponsored and attended by Ahli United Bank's Acting Chief Executive Officer Tareq Muhmood. The celebration was attended by Sahar Dashti, General Manager Customers Protection Department and the responsible for social responsibility programs at Ahli United Bank, along with a number of the bank's executive management.

In his speech at the launching ceremony, Muhmood said that Ahli United Bank has always been careful to build a social partnership with Al-Manaber Al-Quraniya Society in Kuwait, inspired by the bank's vision of harnessing modern technology and digital transformation in order to achieve a wider spread and better service. The result was this sponsorship of the application in its first stage, to become the first application of its kind that serves this underprivileged segment of society locally and internationally. In doing so, the bank demonstrates its understanding of the importance of supporting this worthy social segment, the need to help them overcome the obstacles that face them, and the vital importance of teaching them the Holy Quran and the important elements of religion. He added that this step is the first, and involves supporting the



KUWAIT: Tareq Muhmood and AUB executive management during the celebration of launching the application.

application. It will eventually be followed by similar steps in the coming years, with the grace of Allah.

Meanwhile, Dashti emphasized that this sponsorship reflects the bank's firm belief in the importance of empowering and supporting individuals with handicaps by helping them overcome hardships. This position, she added, "is in line with the objectives of the United Nations and the plan of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al Sabah for 'New Kuwait 2035'. We interpret Ahli United Bank's concept of social responsibility into a constructive participation in and a deep belonging to society and Kuwait."

It is worth mentioning that the 'Kairokoum' application for a simplified interpretation for the hearing impaired will serve 18 million persons in the Arab world through the sign language, five thousand of whom are in Kuwait. It will also serve all Muslims because it includes a simplified interpretation that addresses synonyms and the lessons learned from the verses of the Holy Quran, to serve as a guide for conduct in our lives. It will also benefit non-Muslims who wish to understand the means of the Quranic verses and suras, since the committee that supervised the production of the application was carefully to ensure that the interpretation be simple in order to be readily understood by all.

In turn, The Chairman of the West Asia



Tareq Muhmood honored by the Al-Manaber Al-Quraniya's Chairman.

Association for the Deaf, Dr Saeed Al-Qahtani, said that he was extremely happy with this unique application, indicating that this amazing work marks a remarkable shift in serving individuals who are hearing impaired both locally and internationally because it provides a simplified interpretation, the meanings of Quranic words and an explanation of essential matters of religion translated into sign language and expressive meanings. Equally important is the fact that it translated the interpretation and religious matters into sign language in line with the Arabic sign language dictionary under the supervision of a team of sign language experts.

## KFH participates in Business Administration College's career fair

KUWAIT: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) participated in the 24th Kuwait University Job Fair, which was organized by the College of Business Administration under the patronage of the Minister of Public Works and Minister of State for Housing Affairs Dr Jenan Bushehri.

KFH's participation is part of its continuous efforts to attract, train and qualify distinguished national recruits and unlock the available jobs in the market, the Islamic banking and private sector environment.

The fair also represents an opportunity to identify the competencies of graduates.

Held from 5 to 7 March, the fair was inaugurated by the college of Business Administration's dean Dr Meshari Al-Hajri and the assistant dean for Student affairs Dr Nayef Al-Shammari, along with the Executive Manager HR Operations and Rewards at KFH Talal Al-Mutairi, as well as several representatives of the exhibition participants. The event offered career opportunities for students and graduates of Kuwait University.

Dr Hajri expressed his delight for the launch of the exhibition, appreciating KFH's participation and its remarkable efforts in supporting the students. Attracted high demand and interesting, a specialized team from the human resources department at KFH provided information about employment and the relevant conditions and terms, importance of human resources role in corporates. Also, KFH explored the need to determine the career path and the employer, as well the local job

market requirements.

On the sidelines of the exhibition, KFH continued the event of 'Your Coffee is on Us' as part of the bank's interest in students and youth. This is to ensure the continuous organization of events and surprises that aim to meet their expectations. The event created a positive impression on students who praised the initiatives of the bank and its focus on the interests of students and youth.

In line with the relevant parties, KFH pays attention to strengthen its role and efforts to attract and develop the local skills as per the international standards. Thanks to the growth opportunity and its large market share, KFH continues employing and developing the Kuwaiti youth to achieve the desired success in all areas.

KFH has recently participated as a platinum sponsor in the exhibition 'Because You Deserve 2' which was hosted by the Manpower and Government Restructuring Program, with the aim of providing jobs for Kuwaiti youth in the private sector, specifi-



KUWAIT: Talal Al-Mutairi with the dean and several officials at the launch of the fair.

cally in banks and financial institutions. KFH accepted during the event 110 applications for employment. KFH has also participated in various job exhibitions organized in Kuwait, either by official bodies or by public

or private universities. Additionally, KFH is the only bank to launch the 'Forsah' program for young outstanding Kuwaiti graduates to develop their skills and equip them with the highest standards to enter the job market.