

Delegation from the State of Kuwait
Position Paper for the Security Council

Being an active Member of the United Nations (UN), the State of Kuwait has always been dedicated to working multilateral. Honored to be a Member of the Security Council (SC), the State of Kuwait is very much looking forward to contributing to the following topics at the upcoming conference: Strengthening Peacebuilding to Mitigate Conflict; and The Impact of Climate-Related Disasters on International Peace and Security.

I. Strengthening Peacebuilding to Mitigate Conflict

As defined by *An Agenda for Peace* Report in 1992, peacebuilding means any “action to identify and support structures which will tend to strengthen and solidify peace in order to avoid a relapse into conflict”. Even after 30 years of peace, the State of Kuwait knows how fragile peace can be. Thus, Kuwait is continuously working on promoting the role of the SC in conflict prevention by investing the capabilities of the UN in the field of preventive diplomacy, as well as dealing with all crises that threaten international peace and security in an orderly, prompt and efficient manner.

Since its accession in the UN in 1963, Kuwait pursues close relations with its Member States, particularly countries of the Middle East region, with the aim of strengthening the security and stability of that region in tune with the principles and objectives of the *United Nations Charter* (1945) and international law. Although a small country, the State of Kuwait has multilateral depth, stemming from its memberships in various regional and international organizations such as the Gulf Cooperation Council of Arab States, the League of Arab States, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the Group of 77 + China, and the Non-Aligned Movement. The State of Kuwait welcomes the efforts made, as in S/RES/2282 (2016) and its definition of “sustaining peace” as this paves the way for further actions.

The State of Kuwait strongly believes in conflict prevention through preventive diplomacy. Therefore, Kuwait proposes a network of Member States as well as regional organizations to exchange expertise in order to mitigate conflicts and promote peace. Furthermore, Kuwait underscores the importance of national ownership of a reconciliation process. Existing international funds, as for instance the Peacebuilding Fund should be used in particular to promote reconciliation. However, the long process of real reconciliation must be encouraged by long term support of the international community and regional organizations.

II. The Impact of Climate-Related Disasters on International Peace and Security

June 21st, 2016 has been an historic day for the State of Kuwait. With 53,9 degrees Celsius, it marked one of the highest temperatures ever recorded. Very worriedly, the State of Kuwait observes the ongoing climate change worldwide. According to the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), “climate change is real and human activities are the main cause”. As Mansour Ayyad Sh. A. Alotaibi, the Permanent Representative of the State of Kuwait to the UN has added, “Nobody is sheltered”. Hence, climate change’s consequences are affecting every single State. Kuwait believes, that many of the challenges International Peace and Security is facing today, are due to climate change.

The State of Kuwait has always been a leading player in climate protection. Signing the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as well as ratifying the *Kyoto Protocol* (2005) and *Paris Agreement* (2015), Kuwait strongly endorsed further steps in combating climate change. Reaffirming its willingness to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), the State of Kuwait has participated in the 2019 Voluntary National Review of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

In addition, Kuwait increased the voluntary contributions it provides to the UN specialized programmes, funds and agencies such as to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to support climate-related victims, among other things.

Kuwait strongly urges all Member States in the SC to address climate change as a serious risk to international peace and security. Therefore, the State of Kuwait proposes a coordinated approach in combating climate change. Firstly, Kuwait is calling upon the Member States of the SC to officially

recognize climate change as a threat to international peace and security. Secondly, the State of Kuwait further proposes a platform for Member States to share scientific as well as technological knowledge in order that immediate measures against climate change can be taken. Lastly, Kuwait encourages the Member States to take national measures in accordance to A/RES/70/1 (2015), especially the implementation of SDG 13, because in order to prevent future climate-related crises, significant steps have to be taken on a national level.