



The address of His Highness the Prime Minister at a luncheon held in honour of heads of diplomatic missions abroad at their fifth conference

10 April 2006

In The Holy Name of Allah most gracious most merciful.

The venerable Mr. Mishari Jassem Al-Anjari, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly,

Your Excellency Dr. Mohammed Sabah Al-Salem Al- Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs,

Ministers, Advisors in Al-Diwan Al-Amiri, and the Diwan of His Highness the Crown Prince,

Dear Governors,

Esteemed Colleagues Heads of Diplomatic Missions,

I am pleased to meet with you here in Kuwait, which is ever present in our hearts and minds, in spite of the distances, to convey to you the appreciation of His Highness the Amir, His Highness the Father Amir, His Highness the Crown Prince and the people of Kuwait for your prominent role and constant efforts in serving our dear country and the interests of its people.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I will not conceal my feelings as I look at you today and yearn for past memories and years of service in the diplomatic corps in numerous countries. I continue to share with you the difficulties you encounter in your work; I had experienced them in the past and I am conscious of them at present, and you shall continue to receive my support in the future to overcome these difficulties and obstacles for the welfare of our country.

The Kuwaiti diplomatic missions took on its current shape in the reign of His Highness the late Sheikh Abdullah Salem Al-Sabah, the leadership of Kuwaiti diplomacy was assumed by the dean of world Foreign Ministers His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah preceded in assuming the Foreign Ministry by the late Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah.

The open policy continued during the reign of the late Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah epitomized in opening more Kuwaiti diplomatic missions in a number of friendly and brotherly countries, not forgetting the great role His



Highness the late Amir Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah attached on motivating Kuwaiti diplomacy in various Gulf, Arab, and Islamic, regional and international arenas.

We also recall His Highness's speech before the United Nations General Assembly in September of 1990, when this great leader received a standing ovation, having placed his belief in the diplomatic effort as he presented them with the injustice that befell his country and people at the hands of an Arab and Moslem brother.

The significant role also assumed by His Highness the Father Amir Sheikh Sa'ad Al-Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah has not escaped us, since he made visits to countries around the world to rally support for Kuwait and its people during the brutal aggression of Saddam's forces.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I feel fortunate and satisfied that we have all received our comprehensive training in the field of diplomacy at the hands of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah which will remain a beacon to guide our diplomatic and political efforts.

I wish to confirm to you ladies and gentlemen that the government will continue to follow in the footsteps of the government of His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah as all the commitments of his government, whether regional or international shall be implemented.

Kuwaiti diplomacy performed a crucial and historic role since the first days of the brutal Iraqi aggression; this was illustrated in the international mobilizations that lead to the liberation of Kuwait, which was unprecedented in the history of the world and an object of admiration in the international community. The world undulates with challenges and developments, from which we cannot live in isolation, whereby we face increased responsibilities in addressing these developments, in order to achieve our objectives and the interests of our country, affirming at the same time, our firm position towards just Arab, Islamic and international issues.

You may be aware of the necessity to continue efforts and present the bright picture of Kuwait in different international arenas, and its persistence in supporting international efforts to achieve international peace and security, combating terrorism which would maintain Kuwait's position and highlight its distinguished role on the global arena, enhancing its relations with countries of the world in all fields.

Our aspirations should not stop at a certain point, and our road to progress and advancement is closely linked to increased global progress, thus, it is important to extend the hand of cooperation and develop the various dimensions of our international relations on the basis of give and take in equal proportions.



In this area, we must constantly emphasize on Kuwait's civilized aspects; its commitment to a moderate system, the sovereignty of its constitution, the rule of law, the role of institutes in a sound democracy, transparency in addressing sizable and modest issues, adherence to values and traditions, besides the respect of the leadership and the people for human rights practices and assisting others, all of which represent a beacon in projecting Kuwait's humanitarian and charitable role.

Once again, I reiterate my gratitude and appreciation for the great role you have undertaken to serve your country, and a special thanks to His Excellency the deputy Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Dr. Mohammed Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah and members of his ministry, availing myself the opportunity to commend his leadership of Kuwaiti diplomacy with skill and proficiency.

May Allah grant you success in pursuing all that is in the welfare of Kuwait and its people under the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir and His Highness the Crown Prince.