



**The Amiri address delivered by His Highness the Prime Minister at
the opening of the second session of the thirteenth legislative term of
the National Assembly**

27th October 2009

In the holy name of Allah The Most Gracious, The Most Compassionate

**Speaker of the venerable National Assembly,
Esteemed members,**

Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuh,

I was honoured to deliver the Amiri address on the occasion of the opening of the second session of the thirteenth legislative term of the National Assembly and I convey to the zealous and loyal Kuwaiti people my sincere best wishes and cordial sentiments, confirming our genuine commitment to continue our toil for the glory of our country and its people.

In the holy name of Allah The Most Gracious, The Most Compassionate

“While Allah has created you and that which you do”

At the outset of our meeting today, we begin by praising the Almighty for the many blessings He has bestowed upon us, keeping the Almighty ever present in our hearts and conscience whenever dealing with State matters, heeding His call for unity, cooperation and joining forces in the public interest, whereby harmony leads to unanimity, oneness of opinion and great achievements, however if there is discord and disunity all efforts shall be lost.

**|Speaker of the venerable National Assembly,
Esteemed members,**

Before us lays arduous work and tough tasks as we approach this difficult phase with its internal and external challenges, it requires us to be vigilant of inadvertences and recklessness in practicing our respective roles of establishing national heritage and strengthening the State of law and institutions, working hard in the interest of the country and its citizens. We reminisce of the course taken by our fathers and forefathers and recall the historical experience of the Kuwaiti society and the virtues of fraternity, understanding, perseverance and collective resolve. We perceive absolute rejection of factional, tribal, or sectarian discrimination and any oddities that are unfamiliar to this society.



Speaker of the venerable National Assembly,
Esteemed members,

The period separating us from the first session was rife with many efforts and practical procedures in confronting emergencies and fulfilling the necessary development needs, most prominently:

- **First:** Mobilizing various institutes and relevant bodies in Kuwait to confront the Swine Flu epidemic A(H1N1) virus, taking all necessary measures and executive procedures to activate early warning systems of the disease and providing all necessary requirements for preventing, diagnosing, combating and treating, as well as providing medical equipment, medication, and securing all means of preventing the infection and protecting citizens from the dangers of this serious epidemic in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO) and all other specialized circles. Also the success achieved in regulating students' attendance which are commendable efforts that merit support in realizing their objectives.
- **Second:** The issue of "consumer loans" has been of concern to the government who has dealt soundly with the matter through establishing funds for the needy based on objectivity and professionalism in confronting the difficulties that face citizens in meeting their financial commitments, without infringing on the principle of justice stipulated in the constitution as an essential constituent of the Kuwaiti society, and putting into consideration all relevant matters.
Consequently, it is noteworthy to mention the absurdities some have suggested which the world has never witnessed the like of; such as the call to write off consumer loans, this is a misleading concept since it conceals enormous costs to public funds, not to mention the grave impact it will have on the national economy as well as laying negative values that necessitate the rejection of such propositions.
- **Third:** Due to the ramifications of the economic global crisis and its impact on the local situation, the problem of laying off citizens employed at some companies and institutes in the private sector has arisen and positive steps have been taken to deal with this issue to prevent the effected parties and their families from the repercussions of this crisis.
- **Forth:** Last August witnessed the Mishref sewage plant fiasco, whereby the council of ministers assigned a committee to investigate the incident, the confusion enveloped around it, its causes, its shortcomings and those responsible for it, and took the appropriate procedures to submit the comprehensive report to the prosecution for investigation. Punitive administrative procedures are also being taken concerning the content of the report which pointed to the liability of employees and workers in the ministry for their negligence.



- **Fifth: In the framework of providing assistance to support the standards of living for citizens, Warba Bank was established as a Kuwaiti shareholding company practicing banking according to (Islamic Law) Shariaa, with a capital of 100 million K.D, allocating 24% of its stocks to the Kuwait Investment Authority and 76% granted as bonus shares to all citizens and subscribed to by the State on their behalf.**

The government, keen to fulfill its obligations, submitted its agenda for the thirteenth legislative term to the national assembly; it is considered a methodical act in dealing with the comprehensive and balanced priorities of development in all fields, this in light of the strategic vision of the State- Kuwait 2035- “towards transforming Kuwait” into a financial and commercial hub to attract investors, whereby, the private sector leads the economic activity, encourages competition, increases the efficiency of production in light of a supportive institutional apparatus ,provides an appropriate infrastructure, developed legislations and an encouraging business environment.

**Speaker of the venerable National Assembly,
Esteemed members,**

The regional and international state of affairs is witnessing changes and developments that forecast further tension and exacerbation, it is evident that we are not isolated from the security, political and economic repercussions, therefore, we are obliged to be vigilant and precautions, utilizing all means and capabilities to protect our country and maintain its security and stability and collaborating to maintain our national unity which will remain a formidable fortress for the safety and security of our society and an edifice of justice in Kuwait and a source of pride for the people of Kuwait, thus, the government spares no effort in preserving its elevated status.

On the other hand, if the world collectively vouches for the success of our foreign policies over the last decades, and the astute handling of all information at the most sensitive and complicated stages, then the State of Kuwait is keen to continue on its steady course of widening and cementing its international relations through intensifying exchange visits, opening diplomatic missions, activating diplomatic action at this critical phase charged with developments and challenges on all levels, especially that the State of Kuwait assumes the responsibility of chairing the Arab Economic Summit, and will soon be chairing the GCC Summit further increasing the burdens of our responsibility and seeking to serve the interest of GCC countries and the Arab nation.



Speaker of the venerable National Assembly,
Esteemed members,

The government agenda has not overlooked the manner in which to handle the latest global developments and their impact on the economic and local social situation in light of the given information, as this agenda is the product of the efforts and contributions by government apparatus in preparing it according to the five year plan that reflects the State's development aspirations and its ability to accomplish them within the general State budget. The agenda needed a detailed description of the requirements for implementing the numerous projects such as legislative, financial, institutional and consultative as well as stating deadlines. The agenda, in its various implementation aspects includes mechanisms and effective systems to follow up, measure and evaluate the development performance in a way that guarantees preparing the environment and the necessary factors for accomplishment.

Thus, it is noteworthy to mention that the government attaches great importance on the private sector's participation in implementing its development programmes, confirming its compliance with regulations and legal principles to fulfill supervisory authority requirements, consequently guaranteeing the integrity of all procedures and agreements and avoiding any breaches or uncertainties.

The government agenda includes a number of major projects, amongst which; the expansion of current services, others related to providing new projects in line with the policies of the development plan and its objectives, the field of finance, economy and human, societal and environmental development, public administration, legislation, planning and information, along with other sustainable development policies. On preparing the agenda, care was taken to reflect the utmost reality and transparency in highlighting citizens' concerns and troubles, and providing the appropriate solutions to meet their interests; particularly those effecting their daily life i.e. educational, healthcare, housing, social, cultural, technical and leisure, as well as issues related to women, children and youth, family and dealing with the imbalance in the demographic structure in its various dimensions along with other issues listed in detail in the agenda.

Speaker of the venerable National Assembly,
Esteemed members,

We call on everyone to overcome the drawbacks of the past experience, along with the decline in political rhetoric, its indications as well as the level of dialogue that distorts the democratic system in the political practice by, exhausting the constitutional instruments, which oppose the rules and acts of the constitution. The outcome is painful, resulting in the loss of confidence between both branches; the legislative and the executive and a regression in attaining the development objectives.



**Speaker of the venerable National Assembly,
Esteemed members,**

Article (50) of the constitution clearly stipulates segregation between the branches while cooperating at the same time, and the great oath you took upon yourselves forms the strong foundation and sound practical method that governs the relationship between both branches the legislative and the executive to achieve the hopes and aspirations of citizens.

Thus, the government's agenda may not represent a complete plan of action; however, it is a crucial step on the correct path, where the government has been keen to handle the shortcomings in its previous agenda. The government renews its sincere call for cooperation, affirming that it extends its hand with an open heart and genuine intentions in receiving the assembly's opinions and positive observations, since the government and the assembly are partners in responsibility and decision, which builds fruitful cooperation, opening a new chapter of composed dialogue, mindful understanding and mutual confidence with feasible action in driving the reform and development process towards achieving the objectives. No doubt our media institutes play an important role in enhancing this system, bolstering cooperation and practicing its noble purpose in the framework of responsible freedom, positive spirit, adherence to objectivity and constructive criticism.

**Speaker of the venerable National Assembly,
Esteemed members,**

Undoubtedly, the government is called upon to exert serious and comprehensive efforts to implement its agenda, as is the assembly, which is required to provide the aspects of stability, calm and wisdom to achieve the objectives much sought after.

Government and assembly drive progress, development and reform, and the people of Kuwait place their trust in you to switch to a better present and a brighter future for generations to come. It is an invaluable confidence and a great responsibility that we pray to Allah to assist you in bearing its heavy burdens and consequences.

Kuwait belongs to all its citizens, it is strong in their unity and solidarity, and remains a cradle for security and a home for welfare and prosperity for all those who reside on its land; it is a huge blessing and a secure haven for all eternity. We ask the Almighty to fill our hearts with belief and good intentions, helping us to exercise sincerity in our words and actions, and spread harmony amongst us, supporting our good offices and for our country and society.

Most excellent is the Patron and most excellent is the Helper.

Wassalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuh .