



High-Level Segment: Middle East region dignitaries

24-26 February 2020

BAHRAIN: H.E. Mr. Abdullatif Bin Rashid Alzayani - Minister for Foreign Affairs

Some of the recent adopted initiatives are: Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry, Declaration on Tolerance and Peaceful Coexistence among People, Law on Alternative Sanctions, Isa Award for Services to Humanity. Bahrain was reviewed three times by the UPR. Bahrain seeks to ensure security, prosperity and sustainable development for all.

EGYPT: H.E. Mr. Ahmed Ihab Gamaleldin - Deputy Minister for Human Rights

The recommendations received during the UPR in 2019 will serve as the basis for future national human rights vision. In 2019, Egypt also presented several national reports to Treaty Bodies, namely to CCPR, CAT, and CRC.

IRAN: H.E. Mr. Ali Bagheri Kani - Deputy of International Affairs of the Judiciary

Terrorism should be considered as a human rights issue. Iran is a victim of unilateral coercive measures; sanctions imposed prevents the progress and hampers the right to development in the country.

IRAQ: H.E. Mr. Mohamed Ali Alhakim - Minister for Foreign Affairs

The lack of economic prospects and corruption led people to the streets in October 2019, protests then escalated. A Commission of Inquiry was set up to assess the situation. The Government resigned in November 2019. A National Project for Employment and Youth recruitment was launched. Women's empowerment is at the cornerstone of the restoration of peace and sustainable development.

LIBYA: H.E. Mr. Faiez Mustafa Serraj - President of the Council of the Government of National Accord

International community should provide support to Libyan people and help to deal with the root causes of crises such as terrorism, aggression and transboundary organised crime. The importance of achieving humanitarian peace cannot be undermined. Commissions of Inquiry should be established to monitor the human rights violations such as forced displacement, arbitrary detention, and extrajudicial killings.

PALESTINE: H.E. Mr. Riad Al-Malki - Minister for Foreign Affairs and Expatriates

Palestinians' rights, whether humanitarian or diplomatic, must be defended. People are being killed; the use of death penalty is in place. States should support Palestinians and help emancipate them from Israeli occupation. The so-called "Deal of the Century" is not a plan for peace. Council's reports on the unlawful operation of international companies in the occupied territories is a positive step.

SAUDI ARABIA: His Highness Prince Faisal Bin Farhan Al Saud - Minister for Foreign Affairs

A number of policies enacted by Saudi Arabia as part of Vision 2030 contributed to empowerment of women. Saudi Arabia has been reviewed by three cycles of the UPR, and looks forward to continuing this work. Saudi Arabia continues its efforts in uprooting terrorist groups regionally, nationally and internationally.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: H.E. Mr. Ahmed Al Jarman - Assistant Minister for Human Rights and International Law

UAE created an independent national human rights committee, on the basis of the Paris Principles. Federal laws adopted on the protection against domestic violence, and on the fight against hatred and discrimination. More than a half of the members of the Government are women. In 2019, the Year of Tolerance, UAE launched a joint program with UNESCO. UAE to host Expo 2020, under a theme "Creating the Future".

QATAR: H.E. Ms. Lolwah Rashid Al-Khater - Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs

Qatar is honoured to be a member of the Human Rights Council. In the past five years, Qatar had spent some \$2.5 billion on health, education and development internationally. The coercive measures imposed against Qatar led to violations of fundamental human rights. Extended an invitation to ILO to open an office in Qatar to help to improve the situation of migrants and workers. Qatar appreciates the constructive criticism by the international community.

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