

## Speech of the Representative of H.H. the Amir of the State of Kuwait

H.E. Sheikh Dr. Ahmed Nasser Al-Mohammad Al- Sabah, Minister of Foreign Affairs

during the high-level meeting on Financing for Development in the era of Covid-19 and beyond Thursday 28/5/2020

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Your Excellency, Mr. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada. Your Excellency, Mr. Andrew Holness, Prime Minister of Jamaica. You Excellency, Mr. Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations. Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, I am pleased to convey the sincere appreciation of His Highness the Amir of the State of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al- Jaber Al-Sabah, for the invitation to hold this crucial meeting in light of the dire circumstances the entire world is going through as a result of the pandemic of the novel Coronavirus, that has negative effects on all social and economic levels, that undoubtedly is changing the pattern in dealing with the current reality.

Kuwait highly appreciates the important role played by Canada, Jamaica and the United Nations in responding to this pandemic by consolidating international efforts to combat COVID-19 Development, which is the core of our meeting, remains today a challenging issue that needs more of our work to overcome the huge losses the global economy has been subjected to.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The collective responsibility of the United Nations' Member States prompts them to exert more efforts to defeat COVID-19, which has infected over 5.7 million people and claimed the lives of more than 350 thousand people, and from this forum I extend my sincere condolences and sympathies to the families of the victims around the world, and pray for the patients for a speedy recovery.

The State of Kuwait recognized early on the seriousness of COVID-19 and that protecting the lives of everyone who lives in Kuwait, citizens and expatriates alike, requires strict and preemptive measures.

From the first day of the outbreak of this disease, the State of Kuwait has worked

The State of Kuwait, due to the spread of Covid-19 virus around the globe, has initiated procedures to face the severity of this pandemic, in particular its effects on global oil markets, in order to avoid the consequences in the coming phase.

Your Excellencies, ladies and Gentlemen,

The promotion of international cooperation and cohesion in health, economic and social areas, will contribute to return the trust in the future of our international system.

The State of Kuwait affirms the importance of consolidation and synergy between our countries in confronting current and future perils, and substituting conflicts and isolation with integration and unity, in an aim to reach the goals and objectives of human development we strive for.

In conclusion, we pray to Allah Almighty to lift this pandemic, to protect us all from harm and to bless the efforts of those who are sincere everywhere, so we can contain and survive the effects of this pandemic.

I wish you all health and safety and for this gathering all success.

Thank you