

Statement of National Commitment of the State of Kuwait

The government of the State of Kuwait gives great attention to education in all its levels and guarantees it in accordance with the law as stipulated in Article 40 of the constitution (In conformity with the Law and within the limits of public order and morals, education for Kuwaitis is a right guaranteed by the State. In compliance with the Law, education is compulsory and free of charge in its first stages. The Law shall lay down the necessary plans to eradicate illiteracy. The State shall take special care of the physical, moral and intellectual development of youth.) And the government views education as a single system whose mission is to build a person inclined to scientific methodology and equipped with hi caliber scientific knowledge. Article (13) of the constitution also stipulates that: (Education is a cornerstone in social advancement. The State shall guarantee and tend it.).

Based on the above, and after highlighting the results of the national consultations held in preparation for Kuwait's participation in the United Nations' Education Transformation Summit to be held in September 2022 in New York; We state the following:

1- COVID-19 recovery model

- Along the efforts to hinder the effect of Covid - 19 pandemic at the national level, the educational policies were focused on addressing the effects of the pandemic in the education sector; printed and electronic educational resources were made available to all students on a regular basis, and additional opportunities were provided to them to communicate with teachers through a global interactive platform. Teachers were trained and provided with guidelines for managing learning during those circumstances, and plans have been developed to compensate educational loss for all academic levels.
- The recovery plan included the mental health domain; where a platform was set to provide psychological and social services accessible to students and parents, and roles were assigned to rapid intervention and crisis management teams in schools.
- In addition to the above; work continues on recovering from the effects of the pandemic, as educational policies are directed to support learner care centers in each local educational district, moreover, digital tools are provided to connect schools, teachers , students and families on a larger scale. Surveys, questionnaires, and field research in schools were carried out to measure the educational impact and invest the results in improving performance, compensating the lost knowledge and skills, and designing training programs to develop teachers' abilities to achieve this purpose.
- The recovery policy continues with activating the full return to schools within the framework of joint coordination between the education sector and relevant government sectors, mobilizing the active parties in society in the context of community partnership to support education, and reconciling national needs with regional and global trends through cooperating with local, regional and global partners to benefit from supportive and effective models and solutions.

2-Bringing about the desired transformation in education

- National policies give high priority to the development of human capital, as it is the basis for development and the most important factor in building the future. This requires building an educational system compatible with the Fourth Industrial Revolutio based on a new conception of education and conducted through a methodology which includes government, civil and private sectors.
- Emphasizing care and attention to early childhood development and people with disabilities, and providing them with good educational opportunities, according to innovative, attractive, interaction-based curricula that are in-line with international standards.

- Developing a digital infrastructure for the educational system, coordinating with the competent authorities or those related to communications and information technology, while working under the umbrella of unifying e-government applications, and finding a technical partner.
- The government of Kuwait adopts a set of initiatives and projects within the framework of the state's development plan, which includes the improvement of all elements of the educational system and considers the accelerating progress towards achieving the fourth goal of the sustainable development goals, as well as the affirmation of gender equality within the framework of a balanced societal culture.
- The Kuwaiti government is working to improve the quality of the educational process in all its stages, by increasing the efficiency of teaching and educational facilities support, providing a school environment that is comprehensive, safe, protective and conducive to learning, healthy growth and the well-being of children, youth and teachers , reducing student density to ensure quality, developing the quality of graduates, raising their skills in line with the requirements of the labor market and keeping pace with technological developments at the level of public and university education. Also, it is working on deepening scientific research efforts in educational institutions with the trends of academic innovations to face upcoming challenges and the evolving and diverse requirements of the labor market.

3- Review of national education goals and standards

- The strategic transformation of education takes a comprehensive approach by the government, private sector and civil society in order to prepare for the skills of the twenty-first century, as educational policies work on developing curricula to include work and life skills, sustainable development, concepts of climate change, and emphasizing the alignment of standards and content with global trends within the framework of national identity.
- Diversify secondary education tracks in line with international standards and labor market needs and establish a vocational education exchange program in partnership with universities and industrial bodies.
- Work to raise the caliber of the teaching profession, complete the teacher professional licensing system, and include it in continuous professional development programs.

4- Ensuring sustainable public financing

- Expenditure on education exceeds 10 % of total public spending, which is among the highest of many countries.
- Effective use of human and financial resources, including the review of functions and responsibilities of school staff.
- Increase and monitor investment in early childhood development, which has proven to be one of the most effective investments for long-term returns.
- Enhancing education financing by opening the door to investment by developing innovative mechanisms to activate community partnership in order to ensure sustainable financing, provided that these investments strike a balance between environmental, social and educational requirements to make schools environmentally friendly.

In this context, it is necessary to emphasize the call for the adoption of global solidarity and find new means to work together at the global level, as working within a unified global framework helps to combine ideas, exchange experiences and benefit from international experiences, which constitutes an incentive to guide countries as they chart their way towards transforming education in accordance with their cultural specificities and national visions.