Saudi Arabia in Focus

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In This Issue

- > Saudi Council of Ministers Meeting.
- > Saudi Arabia in FATF.
- > Saudi Forces Captured the Leader of ISIS in Yemen.
- > 100 Years of Relation between Tow Kingdoms.

From the Ambassador

Saudi Arabia was granted full membership of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) earlier this month.

the FATF is a policy-making body, which works to generate the necessary political will to bring about national legislative and regulatory reforms in these areas. The decision to grant the Kingdom full membership of the group was based on reports on Saudi Arabia's tangible progress in implementing the action plan approved by the FATF.

That progress includes the Kingdom's status as a founding member of the Middle East and North Africa Financial Action Task Force, established in November 2004, and its position as an observer with the FATF since 2015. The invitation also recognizes the Kingdom's international and regional status, its compliance with international standards, and its commitment to all bilateral relevant international conventions.

In June 2018, the Kingdom completed the mutual evaluation process, which illustrated the effectiveness of the control measures carried out by the relevant authorities in the Kingdom in combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.



Ambassador Abdulrahman S. Alahmed

Council of Ministers: Houthi Terrorist Acts are War Crimes



The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud chaired the Cabinet's session at Al-Salam Palace in Jeddah on Tuesday June 25, 2019, SPA.

The Council of Ministers on Tuesday residential areas as human shields as emphasized Iran-backed Houthi terrorist militias against Saudi Arabia amount to war crimes and a real threat to regional and international security.

Shabanah said in a statement to Saudi the Cabinet affirmed the legitimate right of the Command of the Coalition forces to support legitimacy in Yemen to take and implement procedures and measures to deal with these hostile and terrorist actions and immoral transgressions in accordance with the international humanitarian laws. The Cabinet termed Houthi militias' firing of ballistic missiles and drones to target civilians and civilian facilities in the Kingdom and violating international humanitarian law by taking civilians in

continuing well as launching of remote-controlled hostilities and terrorist operations by booby-trapped boats as war crimes.

The Cabinet welcomed the statement of the Quartet — Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States — expressing concern Minister of Media H.E Turki Al- over the escalating tension in the region, the threat being posed by the Press Agency following the session that Iranian acts of undermining peace and security in Yemen and the region as a whole, as well as the tension created by Houthi militia attacks on the Kingdom.

> Moreover, the Cabinet described the selection of Saudi Arabia as the first Arab country to be a member of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) during its general assembly in US as the outcome of the Kingdom's efforts in combating money laundering and financing of terrorism, and draining of its sources.

Arab Coalition Intercepts Houthi Drone Launched Toward Saudi Territory

Arab coalition forces were able to down a drone launched toward Saudi Arabia by the Houthi militias from Yemeni territory north of Sanaa on the night of June 26^{TH} .

Coalition spokesman Col. Turki Al-Maliki said the drone was intercepted at 10:20 p.m. local time in Yemeni airspace.

"The Houthi terrorists continue to launch drones to carry out hostile and terrorist acts by targeting civilians and public facilities, but none of their targets have been achieved. They have been destroyed and shot down," Al-Maliki said in a statement carried by the Saudi Press Agency.

"We affirm the continued implementation of deterrent measures against these terrorist militias and the neutralization of Houthi capabilities with all rigor and in accordance with international humanitarian law and its customary rules," he added.

THE TERRORIST AND IMMORAL TRANSGRESSIONS BY THE HOUTHIS, CONTINUE WITH NO REGARD FOR CIVILIANS' LIVES

HOUTHI ATTACKS ON ABHA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT:

JUNE 12TH 2019:

26 CIVILIANS INJURED

JUNE 13TH 2019:

5

DRONES INTERCEPTED

JUNE 23RD 2019:

JULY 2ND 2019:

1

CIVILIAN KILLED 9

CIVILIANS INJURED

21

CIVILIANS INJURED WOMEN AND CHILDREN WERE AMONGST THOSE INJURED



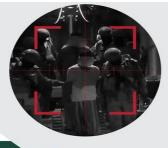
THE OPERATION:

CONDUCTED ON SUNDAY (29 RAMADAN 1440 AH) (JUNE 3RD, 2019) THE OPERATION LASTED FOR 10 MINUTES WITH NO DAMAGES NOR CASULTIES CARRIED OUT BY THE SAUDI SPECIAL FORCES AND THE YEMENI COUNTERPARTS

THE CONTINUES SURVEILLANCE OF A HOUSE PROVED THE PRESENCE OF (ISIS) LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION LED TO THE CAPTURE OF THE LEADER OF (ISIS) IN YEMEN AND MEMBERS OF THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION

ITEMS CONFISCATED WERE (WEAPONS, MUNITIONS, LAPTOPS, COMPUTERS, SUMS OF MONEY IN VARIOUS CURRENCIES, ELECTRONIC DEVICES, GPS DEVICES AND COMMUNICATION DEVICES)

WE WILL NOT REST UNTIL TERRORISM AND EXTREMISM ARE COMPLETELY ERADICATED



PRINCE KHALID BIN SALMAN VICE MINISTER OF DEFENSE:



@KBSALSAUD

THE CAPTURE OF ISIS' LEADER IN YEMEN IS JUST THE LATEST EXAMPLE OF OUR COMMITMENT TO ERADICATING THE SCOURGE OF TERRORISM. SAUDI ARABIA CONTINUES TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY'S EFFORT TO COMBAT TERRORISM & COUNTER EXTREMISM.

THE KINGDOM'S MILITARY OPERATIONS IN YEMEN ARE AIMED AT RESTORING THE LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT OF YEMEN AND PREVENTING TERRORIST GROUPS LIKE THE HOUTHIS, AL QAEDA AND ISIS FROM USING THE COUNTRY TO DESTABILIZE THE REGION AND TO THE THREATEN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY.

AL QAEDA AND ISIS HAVE LONG AGO DECLARED SAUDI ARABIA TO BE THEIR NUMBER ONE ENEMY. THE KINGDOM WEARS THAT DECLARATION AS A BADGE OF HONOR. WE WILL NOT REST UNTIL TERRORISM AND EXTREMISM IN ALL ITS FORMS ARE COMPLETELY ERADICATED.

Saudi Participation in the Meeting of Defense Ministers of Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS



H.E. Chief of General Staff, Major General Fayyad bin Hamed Al-Ruwaili, represented the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the meeting of defence ministers of global coalition to defeat Deash which was held on June 26th at the NATO headquarters in Bruseels.

Building Tolerant Societies



H.E. Dr. Huda Al-Hulaisi with Mufti Dr. Aziz ef. Hasanović, President of Meshihat of Islamic Community in Croatia and Mr John Dennehy, Secretary General of Bussola Institute.

H.E. Dr. Huda Al-Hulaisi, member of the Shura Council, participated on Thursday 13th June 2019 in a Forum event organized by Bussola Institute under the theme of "The Values That Bind Us" entitled, "Policies for Shared Values: Building Tolerant Societies".

Dr Al-Hulaisi shared her thoughts on how to build more open and tolerant societies to address the increasing polarisation that may lead to radicalisation and violence.

The forum was attended by H.E. Abdulrahman Al-Ahmed, Saudi Ambassador to Belgium and Luxembourg, as well as a group of political figures, legislators, security experts and advisors.

Participation in Crans Montana





H.E. Ambassador Abdulrahman Al-Ahmed, with H.E Mr. Jean-Paul Carteron Honorary Chairman & Founder Crans Montana Forum, And H.E. Minister of State Dr. Herman de Croo .

H.E. Abdulrahman Al-Ahmed, Saudi Ambassador to Belgium and Luxembourg participated with a delegation from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia headed by H.E. Dr. Nasser bin Abdulaziz Al-Daoud, Deputy Minister of Interior, and member of representatives of the relevant authorities, at the 30th Annual Session of the Crans Montana Forum in Geneva under the theme: "HAVE PEACE, DEVELOPMENT & STABILITY BECOME A DREAM?" during the period 26 to 29 June 2019.

The forum offered a unique opportunity of cooperation to address the challenges of Peace, Development and Stability. Heads of State, Ministers, MEPs, International Organisations and major Businesses coming from more than 100 countries gathered at this Forum.



One Hundred Years of Relationships Between Two Kingdoms

The Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Brussels published a book entitled: (One Hundred Years of Relationships Between Tow kingdoms 1919-2019). Marking the 100th anniversary of the first event in relations between Saudi Arabia and the Kingdom of Belgium. The book explores all kind of relations between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Kingdom of Belgium, more specifically:

- HRH Prince Faisal's visit to the Kingdom of Belgium (December 1919).
- HRH Prince Saud's visit (Crown Prince at that time) to the Kingdom of Belgium (June 1935).
- The Belgian explorers' trip to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (1951).
- King Faisal's visit to the Kingdom of Belgium (29 to 31 May 1967).
- King Baudouin's visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (4 to 7 November 1975).
- King Khalid's visit to the Kingdom of Belgium (8 to 11 May 1978).
- King Philippe's visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (January 2015).
- The political relationship between the two countries.
- Parliament relationship between the two countries
- Economic and trade relations between the two countries.
- Political and economic agreements between the two countries.

The book is documenting the two kingdoms relationship: Friendship and Cooperation, through a collection of pictures, and the historical relationship stages between the two countries.

The book is available to download at the embassy's twitter account @KSAembassyBE, and website www.embassies.mofa.gov.sa/sites/Belgium.