

The Elders meet Kuwaiti leaders, call for greater dialogue on regional security issues

KUWAIT CITY, 3 July 2018

The Elders and the Emir of Kuwait agreed that only dialogue and understanding can resolve political disputes and regional conflicts in the Middle East.

In two days of meetings, Lakhdar Brahimi and Martti Ahtisaari met HRH Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Emir of Kuwait, the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad al-Sabah and Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Jarallah, as well as the Speaker of Parliament and MPs.

They also met Abdel Latif Yousef Al-Hamad, the President of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, and representatives of civil society groups.

They praised Kuwait's founding role in and continued commitment to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and expressed their hope that all Council members cooperate with Emir in his role as mediator to resolve their current differences.

The Elders also commended the Emir for Kuwait's efforts to prioritise peaceful and political processes to address all the problems of the region, in particular the conflicts in Yemen, Syria and Palestine.

[Lakhdar Brahimi](#), former Foreign Minister of Algeria and UN diplomat, said:

“Kuwait has long been a voice for stability and cooperation in this region and we welcome its continued commitment to a peaceful path, including as a member of the UN Security Council. We also greatly appreciate Kuwait’s generosity to the victims of war in Syria and Iraq through the pledging conferences for humanitarian aid it has hosted and contributed to in such a substantial way.”

[Martti Ahtisaari](#), former President of Finland and Nobel Peace Laureate, added:

“We admire Kuwait’s work and determination to foster a peaceful and harmonious environment for its people, its neighbours and the wider region. All member states of the United Nations have a responsibility to follow the honourable principles set out in the UN Charter.”

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The Elders are independent leaders using their collective experience and influence for peace, justice and human rights worldwide. The group was founded by Nelson Mandela in 2007.

The Elders are [Martti Ahtisaari](#), [Kofi Annan](#) (Chair), [Ban Ki-moon](#), [Lakhdar Brahimi](#), [Gro Harlem Brundtland](#) (Deputy Chair), [Hina Jilani](#), [Ricardo Lagos](#), [Graça Machel](#), [Mary Robinson](#) and [Ernesto Zedillo](#).

[Ela Bhatt](#), [Fernando Henrique Cardoso](#), [Jimmy Carter](#) and [Desmond Tutu](#) are Elders Emeritus.

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