



Office of the Resident Coordinator
in the State of Kuwait

مكتب المنسق المقيم
في دولة الكويت

18 January 2009

Welcoming Remarks by Mrs. Valerie Cliff, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Kuwait on the Occasion of the Inauguration of the New United Nations House.

Assalam o Aleikum

Your Highness, Sheikh Nasser al Mohammad Al Sabah,

Your Excellency, Sheikh Doctor Mohammad Al Sabah,

Your Excellencies, Ministers of the Government of the State of Kuwait,

Ladies and Gentlemen, Distinguished guests,

It is my profound privilege to welcome you here tonight on behalf of all of my United Nations colleagues serving in Kuwait.

This is a very special occasion for the United Nations in Kuwait, and we are so grateful that so many of you were able to be here tonight, even at this highly unusual late hour, to share with us this occasion, as we inaugurate our new home in Kuwait, the new United Nations House.

It is my honor to invite His Excellency Sheikh Doctor Mohammad al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait, to the podium to make his welcoming remarks. Your Excellency -

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It is my profound honor to introduce to all of you, the Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-moon. Mr. Secretary General, will you please come to the podium.

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

We will now have a ribbon-cutting ceremony in the lobby of the building at the traditional Kuwaiti-doors-entrance.



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There will be a chance for Kuwaiti officials, members of the diplomatic community, UN Heads of Agencies and honored guests, to pay their greetings to His Excellency Sheikh Doctor Mohammad al Sabah and Secretary General Ban Ki-moon immediately following the ribbon-cutting ceremony, in the lobby of the building. After the greetings, we will then have a walk-through tour of the building which you are welcome to join.

I would now ask that you remain seated until His Excellency Sheikh Dr. Mohammad and Secretary General Ban Ki-moon make their way out of the auditorium, and then you are welcome to join us in the lobby.