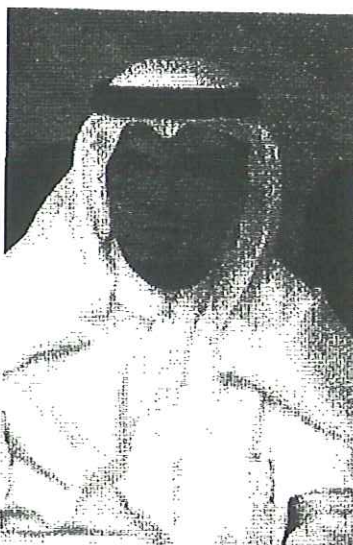




وكالة الأنباء الكويتية (كونا)
Kuwait News Agency (KUNA)

"Tender for Kuwait airport 2nd terminal "soon"

Date : 3/27/2012



(By Nawaf Al-Deqbasi (with photos

KUWAIT, March 26 (KUNA) -- The tender for Kuwait international airport's second terminal would be offered within the upcoming weeks, Assistant Undersecretary at the Ministry of Public Works Hussam Al-Tahous said here Monday.

Al-Tahous told KUNA that the ministry had recently finalized the contract agreement for the design of the new building which took two years to finish, adding that the estimated cost of the building project was between KD 700 and 800 million and to be finished by 2016.

The new building's capacity is estimated at 25 million travelers annually, a huge contrast to the current capacity of eight million travelers, said the official, noting that 16 international companies expressed interest in the project.

The ministry, said Al-Tahous, made sure that the second terminal, to finish mid-2013, would be within international standards for airports operations and services, indicating that there were plans to build another similar terminal in 2035 with the capacity exceeding 45 million travelers.

Yesterday, a team tasked with the construction of a new terminal presented the Cabinet with a report, outlining procedures needed to bring closer the deadline for project's completion.

This included conducting a selection process of contractors and construction companies needed for the project, a media campaign ahead of the final date and a report on the obstacles the deadline could be posed with.

Projects pertaining to roads leading to and from the terminal project were also presented. (end) gta
KUNA 261333 Mar 12NNNN

324 infrastructure projects require investments worth KD 3.5 billion: Safar

KUWAIT: The minister of Public Works and State Minister for Planning and Development Dr. Fadhil Safar said that the government's development plans, which include 324 projects related to infrastructure, are in need for investment to accomplish them at the cost of 3.5 billion Kuwaiti dinars for 2012-2013.

The numbers of projects which will be carried out by the ministry itself are 146 projects in total. He added that the infrastructure is the backbone for any economic development and social growth and this means that the private and public sector should join efforts to make such goal feasible.

He stressed that such ventures are at grand scale and immensely important and therefore should not be taken slightly or part of any government's propaganda. He also said that the region is fraught with exterior danger and therefore matters should be dealt with in utmost delicacy for the years 2010-2011 and 2013-2014. He added that there are positive factors which should be borne in mind to have such development plans achievable. He focused on seven sides during the development plans, saying that the plans are comprehensive and cover many social and economic sectors.

He said the infrastructure is the most important priority for the state, adding that its components are very much related to the development of the country. He also said that the human factor is equally important and that 63 percentage of the development plans are based on the qualification and skills of the human development. He stressed that there would be a great need to qualify some of the national employment to cope with the large scale plans and to be able to operate and run such projects professionally and effectively as needed and as required by the state.

He added that the perspective of the development plans is based on the vision as produced by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah which focuses completely on short as well as long term plans and objectives. Minister Safar said



The minister of Public Works and State Minister for Planning and Development Dr. Fadhil Safar speaking during a conference held Monday, March 26, 2012. (Al Watan)

that the development plans are part of the country's comprehensive reforms, which is in line with the country's ambitious plans. He further pointed out that there should be support and encouragement to achieve such aims at all levels as the matter is of immense seriousness since it is related to the future and development plans of the country.

He acknowledged that there are certain plans and development projects which need to be addressed, but then added that there are also many

plans which are being carried out as the political, social, economic development growth are the gate to progress and prosperity.

The development plans are divided into three categories. One is related to main roads and bridges across the country. The other is related to special buildings and state properties.

The third is related to strategic projects which their investment exceeds 100 million Kuwaiti dinars for each project. -KUNA

Kuwait to launch KD 700-800 million airport tender

KUWAIT: Kuwait will launch in coming weeks an initial tender for construction of a second terminal at its international airport, a project worth around 700 million to 800 million Kuwaiti dinars (2.5-2.9 billion US dollars), state-run news agency, Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) said on Monday.

The project should be finished by late 2016, KUNA quoted the undersecretary for the Ministry of Works, Hossam Al-Tibous, as saying in an interview. He added 16 international companies had expressed interest.

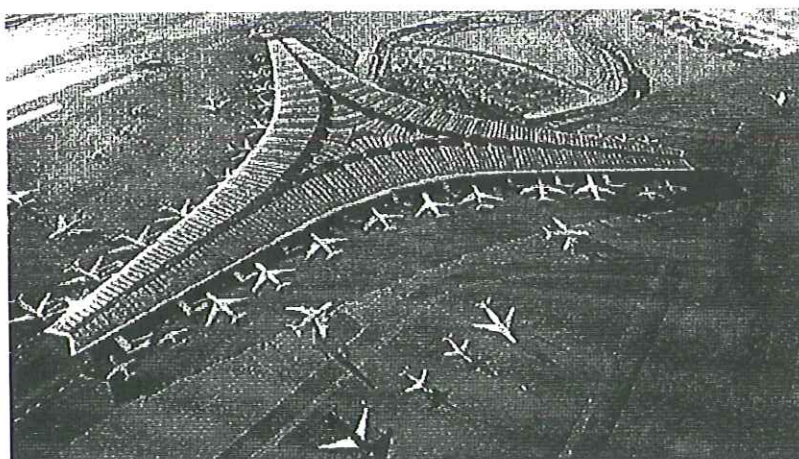
The first stages of the tender will include work on the design, and consultancy services, Al-Tibous said. Tenders for the second phase, which will include construction, should happen in the middle of next year, he said.

He said the ministry hopes solar panels will provide some 10 percent of the terminal's energy supply.

In recent years inefficient planning and tensions between the cabinet and parliament have plagued policymaking, blocking important infrastructure and economic development projects in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) member state.

Any progress on the airport terminal project will come as a welcome sign that Kuwait is working to break down hurdles for foreign investment.

A parliamentary committee has recommended Kuwait amend its laws regarding public tenders to allow foreign companies to participate in biddings di-



A handout picture of the design of the new passenger terminal at the new Kuwait International Airport. Kuwait will launch in coming weeks an initial tender for construction of a second terminal at its international airport, a project worth around KD 700 million to 800 million.

rectly without the need for a local agent, the Arab Times newspaper reported on Monday. The suggested changes are being added to a draft bill, it said. The new rules would apply to oil companies, services and military-related contracts, but

exclude other state-owned company tenders, the newspaper reported, citing MP Ahmed Lari, a rapporteur for the Financial and Economic Affairs Committee.

Under the proposed changes, Kuwait's Central Bank would be given the author-

ity to deal with investment decisions and to supervise tenders, the newspaper said.

In the past decade, Kuwait has attracted just \$1.5 billion in foreign investment, or 0.5 percent of total Gulf inflows, while Yemen attracted \$3.5 billion. -Reuters

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Infrastructural projects worth KD 3.5 bln to be implemented

Govt, private sector engaged in implementing dev plan

"For the ministry of public works the total number of projects would be around 146 projects," he said in his address at the Infrastructure Investment Kuwait Summit held at the Crowne Plaza, Monday morning.

He added, "We strongly believe that the construction of tangible infrastructure facilities is the backbone of economic and social development. The government and the private sector are heavily engaged in the implementation of the goals, policies and the projects of our development plan which covers the period 2010/2011-2013/14."

He disclosed that the development efforts face many challenges, hurdles and constraints due to the geopolitical position of Kuwait; these were not mere justifications but real facts of life which the planners would have to adapt to. "We are surrounded by external regional factors and exceptional circumstances which negatively affect our abilities to accelerate development and push forward the implementation of many vital projects," said Minister Safar.

Plan

He stressed that the comprehensive development plan for Kuwait covers various types of projects in all social and economic sectors. Physical and human projects were being treated as one package since they reflect an integrated approach in the planning and development vision.

He remarked that priorities are given to infrastructure projects since they are considered the foundations and pillars of development and that it is vital that all infrastructure projects include human resources development programs to enable Kuwaitis to manage and run the facilities and the services in the projects.

He also emphasized the need for comprehensive regulatory reforms to ensure that our development focus moves from a traditional view to a more dynamic approach for more efficiency, a greater transparency and a special attention to the basics of sus-

KUWAIT CITY, March 26: Minister of Public Works and Municipality, Dr Fadel Safar Ali Safar announced that the current development plan included about 324 major infrastructure projects and sub-projects with investments totaling about 3.5 billion KD for the fiscal year 2012-13.

tainable development.

He expressed determination to enhance and support the expansion of the role of the private sector in planning and development.

He also informed that the ongoing development efforts focus on stimulating economic growth and accelerating the implementation of infrastructure projects. The government is advocating the transformation of economic growth patterns and social changes to secure balanced distribution of infrastructure facilities and services all over the country. "The progress that we have made in response to development needs is necessary but not sufficient to meet the stated objectives and policies of the national plan," he said.

"Development and

progress cannot be fulfilled without fostering political, social and economic stability this is essential to secure the business environment and to make sure that companies and contractors will be working under safe conditions with no risks or unforeseen circumstances, for this reason the government of Kuwait considers political, social, and economic stability as the gateway to development, progress and successful implementation of our national plan," he concluded.

Infrastructure

He also outlined the leading infrastructure projects for the ministries of health, interior, justice and education. He relayed that an aggressive programme for the construction and enhancement of

roadways was being followed. "Roads are the first signs of a country's progress and development. Thus Kuwait has an excellent network of highways and roads leading in various directions from the center connecting the regions among the country with each other."

The first day programme of the conference included the identifying of infrastructure projects and investment opportunities in Kuwait and modernising infrastructure and standards to attract international and local investment. A current overview of infrastructure development in Kuwait was provided by Hashem Al Tabtabaei, Technical Team Leader of the partnerships Technical Bureau.

A panel discussion evaluating the different types of

financing models for infrastructure projects was followed by a presentation on designing and evaluating risk management strategies for PPP by Dr Robert Booth, Associate Director of Atkins. Infrastructure opportunities in the GCC countries in areas of power, communication, aviation, roads, seaports and water were highlighted by Raghu Mandagathur Senior Vice-president and Head of Research of Kuwait Financial Centre.

Public Private Partnerships were looked at extensively in an examination of risks, benefits, advantages, the contractual structure and responsibilities, financing, and evaluating how government ministries and authorities can effectively engage the market to promote their tendering.

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Kuwait to launch \$2.5-2.9 bln airport tender in coming weeks

Project slated to be completed by 2016

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