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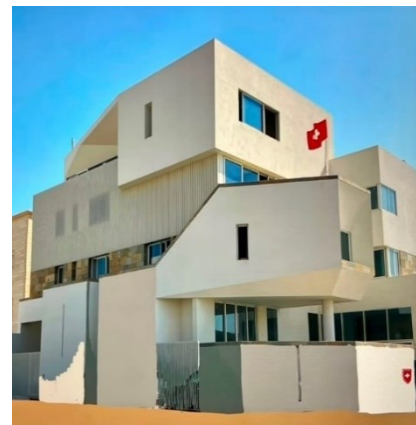
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## Welcome message from the Ambassador

As you receive this Newsletter in your inbox, we are physically leaving our beautiful Residence in Bayan, after more than 20 years of activity in those premises. The Embassy in Qortuba will follow after the summer. This autumn, we plan to inaugurate our new compound in **Qadsiya**, which will **bring together Residence and Embassy in one place** (Block 3, Street 3, House 33). There will be a special event: stay tuned! This step is somewhat historic and, above all, it is a sign of optimism for the future of our bilateral relations, on the eve of the 60th anniversary which we will celebrate in 2026. It is an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to the bright future of the long-standing and excellent relations between Switzerland and Kuwait.

Looking back on the last 5–6 months, our Embassy has continued to organise **a rich series of events and initiatives** aimed at further strengthening the close ties between Switzerland and Kuwait.



Whether it is boosting economic exchange, advancing scientific cooperation and sustainability, supporting friendship and girls' sports, promoting Swiss gastronomic excellency or other cultural engagement, these efforts reflect **the strong relations and shared values of our two countries**.

I wish you all a beautiful summer and, if you happen to be passing through **Lugano** in June, let me know and we can meet up for a coffee if possible.

**Tiziano Balmelli**

**Ambassador of Switzerland to the State of Kuwait**



# BILATERAL RELATIONS & EMBASSY'S ACTIVITIES

## Political consultations in Bern

On the 23 of May, political consultations were held in Bern between H.E. Sheikh Jarrah Jaber al-Ahmad al-Sabah, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, and our Assistant Secretary of



State for the MENA Region, Ambassador Monika Schmutz Kirgöz. The two delegations discussed how to expand the bilateral relations which are already very good. Topics of mutual interest in regional and global affairs were on the agenda (including humanitarian international law and the role of women in the promotion of peace and security).

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## Swiss Girls' Volleyball Team Shines in Kuwait

In February, the Swiss Embassy welcomed the Geneva Volleyball Club to Kuwait for their participation in an [international girls' volleyball tournament organized at the Salwa AlSabah Sport Palace](#) under the



patronage of H.E. Sheikha Naeema Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. The competition gathered teams from eight countries and offered a valuable platform to promote girls' participation in sport. The Swiss team

delivered an outstanding performance, securing the tournament title.



To celebrate this beautiful sport event and Swiss-Kuwaiti friendship, the Ambassador hosted a reception at the Residence in the presence of H.E. Sheikha Naeema [\(watch here\)](#). This initiative also reaffirmed the central role of Geneva in the relationship between Switzerland and Kuwait while showing the potential for building further bridges through sports.



## Water Sustainability event

On the 23 of February, [the Swiss Embassy and UN-Habitat co-hosted an interactive discussion on sustainable water use](#) at the Swiss Residence. The event brought together government officials, aca-



demics, business leaders and development experts to explore challenges and opportunities related to water



management in Kuwait and the Gulf. Ambassador Patricia Danzi, Di-

rector General of the Swiss Agency for Development



and Cooperation SDC, contributed valuable insights into Switzerland's commitment to sustainable development, especially in water governance ([watch here](#)). The platform aims at promoting fruitful exchanges among partners in water and environmental issues in Kuwait.

### Swiss-Kuwaiti Ramadan Diwaniya and Friendship

In March, the Swiss Residence hosted the second Diwaniya, co-organized with the **Swiss Kuwaiti Business Platform**, bringing together many long-time



friends of Switzerland for an evening of cultural exchange and meaningful connection. Held during the holy month of Ramadan, [this special event was a moment to celebrate friendship, mutual respect, and the deep-rooted ties between the Swiss and Kuwaiti communities.](#)

Guests included representatives from three generations of Kuwaiti families with longstanding personal and professional links to Switzerland. The event was also featured on KTV2 ([watch here](#)), underlining the growing public interest in our bilateral relation. Our Diwaniya will continue to serve as an important platform for people-to-people diplomacy, while honoring local tradition and promoting dialogue between cultures.

### Scientific Exchange on Diabetes Prevention

On the 12 of May, the Residence hosted a major event to highlight a Swiss-Kuwaiti project about diabetes. This initiative brought together researchers,

doctors, and health professionals, reaffirming the strong potential of scientific cooperation between the two countries. The evening featured contributions from four high-level speakers:



Professor Dr. Pedro Marques-Vidal (**CHUV Lausanne**), Dr. Abdullah AlKandari (**KISR**), Dr. Ebaa AlOzairi (**Dasman Diabetes Institute**), and Mr. Wolfram Alderson (**KDD**).



The research project is funded by the [Leading House MENA](#) program, underscoring Switzerland's support for long-term academic and scientific partnerships with the region.

### Promoting Dialogue on Labor Rights

On the 30 of April, the Residence hosted an informal discussion and a reception in cooperation with the **International Labor Organization (ILO)** to mark the launch of

an inter-regional programme aimed (with the financial support of the **Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC**) at strengthening labor migration governance between Africa and the Arab States. The event brought together representatives from embassies, UN agencies, and local civil society for an informal exchange and networking.



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### Business Law and Finance

The Swiss Residence once again served as a hub for economic dialogue and networking by hosting an event with our **GBCK** friends, featuring a presentation by Mr. Sammy Al Shatti from **Al Tamimi & Company**. His briefing on recent legal updates in Kuwait's business landscape sparked engaged discussion among attendees from various sectors.





The following week, the Residence welcomed the co-CEO of the **Swiss Bank Vontobel**, Christel Rendu de Lint, for a friendly lunch with representatives of the Kuwaiti business and financial community. The gathering strengthened mutual understanding and bilateral ties.



### Swiss Innovation Advancing Agriculture Worldwide

The Embassy recently hosted a meeting with the the leaderships of the **Swiss company CleanGreens Solutions SA** and its Kuwaiti partner **GreenLife**. The two companies are expanding their cooperation to pro-

## CleanGreens at the EMBASSY OF + IN



mote sustainable agriculture and food security in the region. The meeting coincided with the recent announcement of a major milestone: [the launch of what will become the world's largest aeroponic greenhouse, to be built in Abdali, Kuwait.](#) This project

marks a significant leap in agricultural innovation, using Swiss-developed technology.

### Another Sweet Swiss Evening at the Residence

Following the great success of its first edition, the Swiss Residence once again opened its doors, on the initiative of the ambassador's wife **Ms. Iveta Balmelli**, for a second [chocolate-making evening](#) this time with even more enthusiasm! Guests were invited to roll up their sleeves and discover the secrets of fine Swiss chocolate under the expert guidance of Chef Amer Bassel representing the local distributor of the **Swiss chocolate**



**brand Carma.** Participants worked, laughed, and tasted their way through the evening, enjoying a sweet Swiss-Kuwaiti fusion of flavors and fun. Judging by the smiles and feedback, this second edition confirmed that chocolate diplomacy is alive and well in Kuwait!

## RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP GRANTS 2025 CALL NOW OPEN!

Great opportunity to promote scientific collaboration between Kuwait and Switzerland!

The "Leading House for the MENA region" is fostering scientific collaboration between Switzerland and MENA countries. The 2025–2028 program includes Research Partnership Grants.

For more information click here: [link](#)

Submission deadline: 22 August 2025

# THE EMBASSY IN THE LOCAL NEWS

## A selection of TV and print media:

1. TV Interview with the Swiss Ambassador: [watch here](#)
2. Geneva Volleyball team: [Al Jarida](#), [AlAnba](#), [watch on KTV](#)

3. Water Sustainability event: [Al Rai](#), [Annahar](#), [watch on KTV](#)
4. Diabetes Prevention: [AlQabas](#), [AlSiyassa](#), [watch on KTV](#)
5. Swiss-Kuwaiti Diwaniya: [Arab Times](#), [watch on KTV](#)

# CONSULAR

## Regional Consular Centre (RCC) in Doha

The RCC within the Embassy of Switzerland in Doha/Qatar handles all consular services (legalisations, passports etc.) also for the Swiss citizens based in Kuwait. Contact information below.

## SwissInTouch, Switzerland in your pocket

This App enables the Swiss abroad to get important information from their official representation, the various federal offices and other institutional partners in a single, state-of-the-art platform.



## Travel safely with the Travel Admin App

The app provides ideal support in preparing a trip. It also offers useful information and services for people travelling, not only in case of a crisis. But if the crisis does occur, the app can become a particularly valuable tool: More information [here](#).

## Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA)

The Organisation of the Swiss Abroad has represented the overall interest of Swiss nationals abroad in Switzerland since 1916, and is recognised as the authorities as the mouthpiece of the 'Fifth Switzerland'. The OSA provides online information and personal advice to Swiss nationals living abroad and publishes the 'Swiss Review' magazine. The OSA also provides holiday programmes and educational/training courses for young Swiss nationals.



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Switzerland.