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KUWAIT: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL WELCOMES STEPS TOWARDS RATIFICATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

Amnesty International today welcomed the steps taken by the Kuwaiti government towards the ratification of human rights instruments.

“This is an extremely positive step towards demonstrating Kuwait's commitment to upholding internationally recognised human rights standards,” Amnesty International said. “We hope that Kuwait will take steps to address all outstanding human rights concerns in the country.”

Kuwait's National Assembly yesterday passed bills submitted by the government which, after signature by the Amir, will lead to Kuwait's ratification of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Earlier in January, a bill was passed in Kuwait allowing ratification of the United Nations Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

Amnesty International is urging the Amir to sign these bills promptly if he has not already done so. The organization is also calling on all other states in the region which have not already ratified these treaties to recognise the importance of doing so and to follow suit.

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