

Arab-Iranian dialogue needs serious willingness on agreement

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The Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council, Abdel Rahman Al-Attiyah, said here on Thursday that the success of any Arab-Iranian dialogue depended on the willingness of seriousness to reach an agreement.

In a press statement marking the new year, Al-Attiyah said that the Gulf-Iranian relations were "good" but it lacked the spirit of dialogue based on genuine political will to address the central issues involved in establishing good neighbourly relations and to ensure full peace, security and stability in the region. He expressed believe that a successful and fruitful dialogue between countries of the region is tied by full agreement on respect for neighbouring States's rights, non-interference in internal affairs and arms reduction. He also called for curbing sectarian conflicts that could destabilize the security situation in the countries of the region and to reject any nuclear armament plans. He called for replacement of non-peaceful nuclear armament plans with cooperation in the nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

He said that the reality of Arab-Iranian relations are not based on a misunderstanding, as some reports recently in Iran, but reflected on incontrovertible realities such as interference in internal affairs and the issue of occupation of the UAE islands by Iran.

With regard to developments in Lebanon, Attiya called on the Lebanese political forces to preserve the national reconciliation and work on devoting the formula of coexistence.

On Iraq, he called on all forces in Iraq to stay away from hidden agendas and narrow visions and work to achieve a comprehensive national conciliation.

On the Palestinian issue, Attiya called on the Palestinian factions to unify ranks in face of the Israeli occupation, which has been exploiting the differences between the Palestinians to continue the attacks and the establishment of more settlements in disregard of its obligations with the Palestinian side, the international community and most recently the Annapolis peace conference. He stressed that a just, lasting and comprehensive peace represents the only way to achieve security and stability in the Middle East and to ensure the building of international relations, which requires the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with its capital in East Jerusalem, the Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Syrian Golan and the remaining occupied Lebanese territories.