

Kuwait vows to stop unlicensed charity work

'We have not licenced any Kuwaiti charitable organisation or any Kuwaiti national to collect donations for charity work abroad,' ministry says

- By Habib Toumi, Bahrain Bureau Chief
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Manama: Kuwait's social affairs and labour ministry has pledged zero-tolerance towards unlicensed charity work, mainly for foreign causes.

"We have not licenced any Kuwaiti charitable organisation or any Kuwaiti national to collect donations for charity work abroad," the ministry said in a statement. "We will take stringent legal action against anyone who breaks the rules that stipulate that only charity campaigns endorsed by the ministry can receive donations."

There are official channels to convey donations and those keen on giving should contact them. The Kuwaiti Red Crescent is such an official agency, the ministry said.

"There is an urgent need to abide by the law to ensure that the spirit and purpose of charitable works remains alive and people benefit from it. At the same time, we can all preserve Kuwait's reputation in providing assistance for the needy," the ministry said.

Kuwait has one of the highest levels of charity work in the Muslim world

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