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## **US Ready to Extradite 5 Kuwaiti Guantanamo Detainees -- Kuwaiti FM**

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Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Dr. Mohammad Al-Sabah on Tuesday said the Kuwaiti side has insisted that its detainees at the US Guantanamo Bay Camp should "maintain contacts with their attorney, who would convey to them that Kuwait would not forget them." In remarks to KUNA here, Sheikh Mohammad said, following a meeting with Pierre-Richard Prosper, US special ambassador for war crimes for the second time in three days, that "we were made certain through the confirmations by Ambassador Prosper that the US is ready to hand over five out of the 11 Kuwaitis detained in Guantanamo, and this issue needs logistic procedures." "We hope the five detainees be extradited very soon and their trial in Kuwait according to the Kuwaiti judicial system would start," Sheikh Mohammad said.

Regarding the remaining six Kuwaiti Guantanamo detainees, the leading diplomat said "I hope this message is conveyed to them 'the Kuwaiti government is serious regarding getting them back in Kuwait', and about them ending their (hunger) strike, and we would be starting a mechanism for their return and trial in Kuwait," he added.

He said that Prosper has handed him a report on the detainees' health conditions saying "the important thing is that the US side is seriously working to end the strike through improving the detainees' conditions (at the detention camp)." He stated that "Kuwait was working to get back all the detainees into Kuwait to be brought to Kuwaiti justice." -- Prosper said the talks focused on means to ensure release of Guantanamo detainees.

He said, "This week is very busy. A lot of engagements, conversation with the Minister, Secretary Rice .. It shows the seriousness of trying to find a solution." "In all frankness, we continue to move forward and in the right direction to find an answer to this question." Answering a question by KUNA, the ambassador refused to give any timetable for the release of the detainees.

"There is no timetable. The key is that rather than focusing on exact date it is more on the process or the substance and we are working on the substance because both countries are mindful of the desires to return the nationals to their home country. We are also mindful of making sure that every one understands what we are getting into, meaning what the threat the individual may or may not pose and what other issues are associated with this."

"What we are engaged in is really deliberate, very precise conversations to ensure both countries (feels) what is right. There are a lot of complexities behind this, it is continuing to tie in the various loose ends, resolve some of the complexities in another area."

He said there are security aspects of concern for the US side and humanitarian aspects for the Kuwaiti side noting that "both countries are looking through it to see if we can find an answer that everyone will be satisfied with."