

# COVID-19 Update – United Arab Emirates

Monday March 30, 2020

Category	Recent Developments
Economic Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Emirates Red Crescent is planning to launch a set of initiatives in support of the “Fund of the United Arab Emirates: Homeland of Humanity”. These initiatives should cover various sectors including, health, education, and food security. <a href="#">(Link)</a></li> <li>The Dubai Free Zones Council has launched an economic stimulus package that aims at contributing to the strengthening of Dubai’s businesses. The package will postpone certain rent payments for a period of 6 months, allow businesses to make installment payments, refund security deposits, cancel fines for both companies and individuals, and permit temporary contracts that allow the free movement of labor between companies operating in the free zone for the remainder of the year. <a href="#">(Link)</a></li> <li>Dubai Future Foundation emphasized the Foundation’s role in leveraging its initiatives, partnerships and in-house talent to find innovative and effective solutions to support the UAE’s efforts against the spread of the coronavirus. <a href="#">(Link)</a></li> <li>Dubai has launched a helpline for consumers to report price hikes. <a href="#">(Link)</a></li> </ul>
Health & Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On March 29, the UAE saw 102 new cases of the coronavirus, bringing the total to 570 total confirmed cases. <a href="#">(Link)</a></li> <li>Over the next 10 days, coronavirus drive-up test centers will be opening across the UAE, including in Dubai Sharjah (which will serve Ajman and Umm al Qaiwain), Ras Al Khaimah, Fujairah, Al Ain and Al Dhafra. <a href="#">(Link)</a></li> <li>A coronavirus drive-up testing center is now open in Sheikh Zayed Sports City. The testing center operates from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. every weekday and provides services to about 600 people every day. The center can complete a test within 5 minutes and sends results through SMS or the SEHA application. <a href="#">(Link)</a></li> <li>The Ministry of Health and Prevention has announced that more than 220,000 coronavirus tests have been carried out across the UAE, which means that the UAE has the second highest per capita test administrator in the world. <a href="#">(Link)</a></li> <li>The Emirates National Accreditation System is providing accreditation services and carrying out emergency evaluations in order to ensure the safety of institutional experts to limit the spread of the coronavirus. <a href="#">(Link)</a></li> <li>The ‘National Disinfection Programme’ has been extended until April 4. Individuals are highly discouraged from leaving their homes past 8 p.m. each night until 6 a.m. each morning. <a href="#">(Link)</a></li> <li>Dubai Municipality has reassured the public that the sterilization products being used during the ‘National Disinfection Programme’ do not pose any risks to individuals and meet the highest standards of safety and effectiveness. <a href="#">(Link)</a></li> </ul>
Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Etihad Airways announced that it has suspended all flights from or to Abu Dhabi for an initial period of two weeks. <a href="#">(Link)</a></li> <li>UAE will be arranging flights home for UAE citizens who are in the United States and wish to return to the UAE. <a href="#">(Link)</a></li> </ul>

Category	Recent Developments
Daily Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sharjah Chamber of Commerce has announced the activation of online attestation services for all transactions through the Chamber’s website or smart application. <a href="#">(Link)</a></li> <li>• The Ministry of Health and Prevention has launched a service to allow Emiratis, GCC citizens and residents to renew their health cards online. <a href="#">(Link)</a></li> <li>• A new list of fines, 15 in total, have been issued for violators of coronavirus prevention rules. The most severe fines include an AED 50,000 fine for not complying with home quarantine instructions, violating closures of public places (e.g. beaches) or refusing to take prescribed medicine. Individuals may also be fined AED 10,000 for organizing social gatherings, meetings or public celebrations. <a href="#">(Link)</a></li> <li>• Effective Sunday March 29 and for a period of two weeks, a maximum of 30 percent of the workforce of private entities are permitted to be physically in the office while others whose jobs do not necessitate physical presence should be working from home. <a href="#">(Link)</a></li> </ul>