

COVID-19 Update – United Arab Emirates

Saturday April 18, 2020

Category	Recent Developments
Economic Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The UAE Central Bank has stated that banks in the UAE are not allowed to terminate employment contracts of nationals as a result of the coronavirus. (Link) Khalifa Foundation launches 'Ramadan Ration' initiative which aims to provide food to those in need. (Link) Emirates Red Crescent has announced that it will be a patron and provide care to the families of those who have deceased from the coronavirus. (Link) As part of Abu Dhabi's stimulus package, the Abu Dhabi Department of Finance has partnered with a number of banks to provide small and medium-sized companies with more financing options. (Link) The Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development has issued 30 violations and 375 warnings to various commercial facilities for failing to comply with the decisions and circulars recently issued by the department covering the price monitoring of fruits, vegetables and consumer goods. In addition, the Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development has carried out 31,223 inspection visits in 15 days. (Link)
Health & Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On April 17, the UAE saw 477 new cases (3.7% increase) of the coronavirus, bringing the total to 6,302 total confirmed cases. (Link) The Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development has announced that it will set up clinics in Mussafah and offer the residents there free coronavirus testing. (Link) Dubai's International Humanitarian City has facilitated the distribution of over 85 percent of the World Health Organization's Global Medical Response in the fight against the coronavirus. (Link) The Dubai Chamber of Industry has launched a streamlined guide to the National Disinfection Programme with an aim to help the private sector learn how to manage their businesses smoothly during the national disinfection drive. (Link)
Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The UAE has evacuated 11 foreign nationals from the Yemeni island of Socotra. The evacuated tourists have landed in the UAE where they will receive necessary healthcare before heading to their home countries. (Link) Etihad Airways plans to operate a reduced network of scheduled passenger flights from May 1 to June 30 with an aim to gradually returning to fuller schedule as the coronavirus situation improves. (Link) Emirates Airlines has added additional flights from Dubai to Manila next week to help repatriate more individuals from the UAE. (Link)
Daily Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dubai's Supreme Committee of Crisis and Disaster Management extends round-the-clock sterilization program for an additional week. (Link)

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="311 181 1417 277">• Dubai has reduced the number of permits it is issuing that allow individuals to leave their homes. Dubai Police have stated that individuals are permitted to leave their homes to buy groceries and visit the pharmacy once every three days. (Link)<li data-bbox="311 293 1433 322">• Dubai has extended the closure of restaurants, hotels and events until further notice. (Link)<li data-bbox="311 338 1326 434">• Activities of the national campaign “UAE Volunteers” has commenced. The national campaign aims to support volunteering efforts at the national level and harness the expertise, skill and talents of community members. (Link)