

COVID-19 Update – United Arab Emirates

Friday April 03, 2020

Category	Recent Developments
Economic Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharjah Charity International has provided financial and in-kind support worth AED 7.5 million to the families affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The charity's initiatives have included distributing 4,000 food baskets to low income families and others. (Link) • The UAE Central Bank held its third meeting this year to discuss the implementation of the Targeted Economic Support Scheme, which is aimed at softening the coronaviruses' impact on the economy. (Link) • The Abu Dhabi Global Market (ADGM) free zone has launched support measures for registered businesses to counter the impact of the coronavirus. These measures include the waiver of a number of renewal fees and the refund of certain fees already paid (e.g. annual Funds fees). (Link) • The UAE's Securities and Commodities Authority has taken proactive steps to promote investor confidence. These steps include reducing loss thresholds from 10 percent to 5 percent and developed a mechanism to facilitate share buybacks. (Link) • The Dubai Future Foundation has launched the first issue from a series titled "Life After COVID-19: Workspaces. The series aims to tackle the different challenges that organizations in Dubai will face once the coronavirus pandemic subsides. (Link)
Health & Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On April 2, the UAE saw 210 new cases of the coronavirus, bringing the total to 1,024 total confirmed cases. (Link) • The Dubai Health Authority has extended the validity of expired health cards for three months starting from March 24, 2020. (Link) • Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City, Cleveland Clinic and Tawam Hospital are not dedicated to handling suspected coronavirus cases, according to the Abu Dhabi Department of Health. Individuals are advised to contact Estijaba toll free at 800 1717. (Link) • The UAE has delivered crucial medical supplies to Pakistan in support of their fight against the coronavirus pandemic. (Link) • Dubai Municipality has withdrawn 6 non-compliant hand sanitizers from the market. These non-complaint hand sanitizers are Lulu, Cosmo, Ziva, Feah, and Ameya Isopropyl Alcohol. (Link) • The National Emergency Crisis and Disasters Management Authority (NCEMA) has launched "Weqaya", a website (www.weqaya.ae) designed to raise public health awareness on the coronavirus. (Link)
Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All inbound and outbound passenger flights and the transit of airline passengers in the UAE have been suspended for an additional two weeks. The suspension still applies to those holding a valid UAE residency visa. Flights repatriating UAE nationals and carrying individuals outbound who wish to return to their home countries have been temporarily allowed. (Link) (Link) • Emirates Airlines has received approval from the UAE Government to begin operating certain outbound flights to London Heathrow, Frankfurt, Paris, Zurich and Brussels starting

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	<p>April 6. These flights are meant to carry individuals who wish to return to their home country. (Link)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On April 5, a special Emirates flight is scheduled to depart Dubai to repatriate vulnerable UK tourists. This flight has been made possible with the help of the UAE Government. (Link) UAE has evacuated a total of 1,743 UAE citizens currently abroad with 25 more evacuations currently underway. (Link)
Daily Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Until further notice, the Ministry of Education has banned all forms of remedial tutoring offered to students at private entities, residences and educational institutions. (Link) Dubai Economy has fined 9 pharmacies and 2 suppliers for inflating face mask prices. (Link) The Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development will take harsher disciplinary action against companies that increase prices of food and medical equipment (e.g. face masks) without justification. First time violators will be fined AED 250,000, which will increase to AED 2 million for repeat violators. (Link) The UAE Pro League has announced the launch of a new social responsibility initiative titled “#SkillDonation” to support the Fund of the United Arab Emirates: Homeland of Humanity. (Link) Dubai Economy has launched a Price Monitor portal to track daily prices of staple foods and essentials to ensure that consumers continue to get their basic needs at fair prices in spite of the precautionary measures being adopted. (Link)