

COVID-19 Update – United Arab Emirates

Friday May 01, 2020

Category	Recent Developments
Economic Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• HH Sheikh Hamad bin Mohammed Al Sharqi, Ruler of Fujairah, has exempted local licensing fees and taxes year 2020. (Link)• HH Sheikh Saud bin Rashid Al Mu'alla, Ruler of Umm Al Quwain, has issued an economic incentive package to support businesses and individuals. The incentive includes, among other things, a 50% discount on fees related to new and renewal of business licenses. (Link)• UAE now produces over 6 million tons of food. The Food Security Minister stated that production could increase during times of crisis. (Link)• Private-sector employees must commit to ensuring employee wages are safeguarded and paid on time via the Wages Protection System. (Link)• Dubai Economy has shut down 19 shops, issued 165 warnings and imposed penalties on two businesses for not complying with the precautionary measures for reopening. (Link)• The Abu Dhabi Global Market free zone has announced the enactment of several incentives for new businesses. These incentives will commence on May 3 and are an extension of ADGM's larger suite of support measures recently announced. (Link)
Health & Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On April 29, the UAE saw 552 new cases (+0.5% from the previous day) of the coronavirus, bringing the total to 12,481 total confirmed cases. (Link)• Four new field hospitals have been built in the UAE's northern Emirates to increase patient capacity amid the coronavirus outbreak. (Link)• The National Reference Laboratory announced that it is increasing its daily coronavirus testing capacity by 2,500 raising the total number of tests from 3,500 to 6,000. (Link)• Abu Dhabi Health Services Company (SEHA) has completed about 20,000 coronavirus tests for mall and ship employees across the Emirate of Abu Dhabi ahead of reopening. (Link)
Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emirates is set to operate a limited number of passenger flights to Frankfurt, London, Manila, Sao Paulo and Shanghai in May. (Link)• Etihad suspends ticket sales on all flights before June 16. Previously, Etihad was selling tickets from May 16 onwards. (Link)
Daily Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Ministry of Education has launched the "Sanadcom" initiative for children of medical, administrative and nursing staff to promote their academic progress and meet all their technical and psychological requirements. (Link)• The Ministry of Education has announced that it is collaborating with Al Yah Satellite Communications Company to extend the reach of its Remote Schooling initiative for students seeking access to e-learning platforms during the current coronavirus situation. (Link)

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Executive Council of Umm Al Quwain has issued a decision to reopen commercial establishments in the emirate as per the amended timing of the National Disinfection Program. (Link)