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HH Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan

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HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum

Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates and the Ruler of Dubai



HH General Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan

Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and the Deputy Supreme Commander of the United Arab Emirates Armed Forces

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FOREWORD



HE Nasser Ahmed Alsowaidi
Chairman – Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development

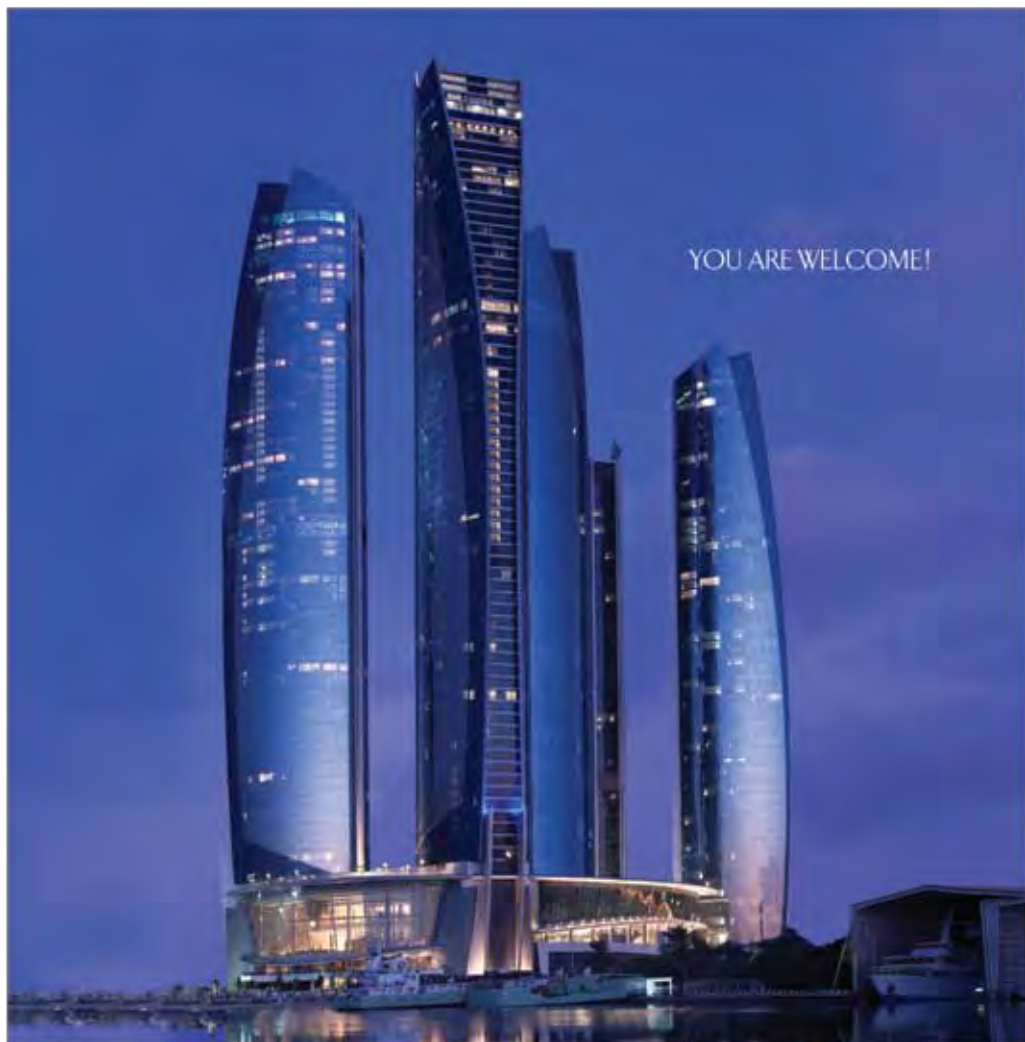
His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Abu Dhabi, and before him the visionary Founding Father of the UAE, Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, have long sought prosperity for the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and its people. The mandate of Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development (ADDED) is to contribute to bringing about this prosperity, and in a manner likely to make it truly sustainable.

ADDED is a leading government department responsible for the achievement of the aims of Abu Dhabi Economic Vision 2030. Vision 2030 is the plan by which the emirate will successfully diversify and move ever closer to being a 'knowledge-based' economy, rather than one driven principally by oil and gas. In this way, Abu Dhabi's economy will be better equipped to contribute to, and compete in, the world economy.

In order to fulfill its objectives, ADDED works closely with each of the stakeholders in Vision 2030. A necessary prerequisite to the success of Vision 2030 is the support and participation of the private sector, which helps wealth generation across a broad range of sectors - in healthcare, education, transportation & logistics, metals, aviation, and financial services, as well as in technology and media, and many others.

Morison Menon's 'Doing Business in Abu Dhabi' will play a helpful and informative role promoting the kind of diversified economic environment that Abu Dhabi needs. It will, on a daily basis and in practical ways, augment ADDED's own activities of corporate registration and the provision of general advice to all kinds of businesses operating in the emirate.

We are grateful to Morison Menon for their interest in Abu Dhabi, and wish them well in their future endeavours.



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MESSAGE



HE Mohamed Thani Murshed Al Rumaithi
Chairman of UAE Federation of Chambers of Commerce & Industry
Chairman of Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce & Industry

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi is located at the crossroads of key European, Asia Pacific, African and North American business hubs, providing greater access to many important markets and resources. Abu Dhabi offers top-notch infrastructure, tax benefits, stable currency and business friendly Government Departments that help prospective investors to quickly establish their business.

The Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce & Industry offers a simplified “One Stop Shop Service Center” to provide investors and companies with quick, efficient and professional services with strong governmental support at the highest level. Collaborations between public and private entities are a key feature of the business landscape in Abu Dhabi. This has been made possible through proactive role that is being played by several Government Departments and Abu Dhabi Chamber. The ADCCI mission is “to contribute effectively to the enhancement of Abu Dhabi economy through adoption of the best professional and technical practices”.

The Abu Dhabi Chamber, which came into being in 1969, has since then made rapid strides in promoting Abu Dhabi as an economic hub in the region. It has achieved outstanding growth in terms of increasing membership as well as services provided to companies in Abu Dhabi. Today, there are more than 95,000 registered members in the ADCCI.

The Chamber has been working with key partners in Abu Dhabi to boost foreign investments and promote services and facilities. Through its efforts, it has managed to attract major international companies which are critical to the realization of Abu Dhabi’s Economic Vision of 2030, a common framework for aligning all policies and plans that contribute to the ongoing development of the emirate’s economy.

The spinoffs from Abu Dhabi Economic Vision 2030 are already beginning to show results across many sectors of the economy.

By bringing a handbook on ‘Doing Business in Abu Dhabi’ Morison Menon is doing exemplary service to the foreign investors wanting to be part of Abu Dhabi’s growth story. The handbook captures all relevant business information that a potential investor looks for.

I look forward to the book becoming a useful reference material that guides the potential investors.



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PREFACE



CA. Raju Menon
Chairman & Managing Partner, Morison Menon

On behalf of Morison Menon, I am happy to announce the launch of the fifth edition of 'Doing Business in Abu Dhabi'. Morison Menon takes pride in publishing this book, which covers Abu Dhabi Economic Vision 2030, managed under the honourable auspices of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE and the Ruler of Abu Dhabi, and the means by which the diversification of the Abu Dhabi economy into non-oil and gas sectors is to proceed. Essentially, the book details the rules and regulations and other useful information to help existing businesses and new investors planning to start businesses in Abu Dhabi.

Abu Dhabi Economic Vision 2030 emphasises the need for a greater role for the private sector in the economic development of the Emirate. It stresses the importance of investment in education, health and infrastructure, driving the evolution of a sustainable knowledge-based economy, and one that leaves the values, heritage and culture of this great Emirate intact.

The business-friendly initiatives now in place under the guidance of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE and the Ruler of Abu Dhabi and His Highness General Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces makes Abu Dhabi a preferred destination for businesses across the globe planning to expand their presence in the Middle East. In the World Economic Forum's latest Global Competitiveness Index the UAE as a whole ranked 24th out of 144 countries for 2012-13 (up from 27th the previous year). Considering the UAE is such a young nation, this is a great achievement. In addition, the Global Competitiveness Report ranks the UAE 6th for quality of overall infrastructure (up from 9th), 2nd for quality of roads (up from 7th), and 3rd for government procurement of advanced technological products (up from 5th).

I take this opportunity to thank HE Nasser Ahmed Al Sowaidi, Chairman - Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development and the ADDED team, and HE Mohamed Thani Murshed Al Rumaithi, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce & Industry, for the support and patronage offered to Morison Menon during the publication of this book.

In summary, we expect this book to be of considerable help to entrepreneurs setting up businesses in Abu Dhabi, including its Free Zones, and should provide them with all the required information in one place. We look forward very much to your valuable suggestions and feedback.

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UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

A BRIEF INTRODUCTION

The United Arab Emirates (the UAE) is a Federation of States at the Southeastern end of the Arabian Gulf. It is bordered by Saudi Arabia to the west and Oman to the north and south-east.

The UAE is a Federation of seven emirates: Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm al-Quwain, Ras al-Khaimah and Fujairah.

Prior to its independence on 2nd December, 1971, the UAE was collectively known as the Trucial States, derived from a 19th century truce between local Sheikhs and the United Kingdom. Islam is the official religion. UAE is known for its religious tolerance.

Arabic is the official language, although English is widely spoken, followed by Hindi and Urdu.

According to 'Abu Dhabi 2011 - The Oil & Gas Year', the UAE possesses the fifth largest oil reserves in the world. The Emirate of Abu Dhabi accounts for the majority of the UAE's hydrocarbon reserves.

Although often ranked as an emerging

economy, the UAE is generally accepted to have one of the most developed economies in the MENA region.

According to the CIA World Factbook, in 2011 the UAE had an estimated GDP at purchasing power parity of US\$ 262.1 billion, ranking 50th globally. GDP per capita was estimated to be US\$ 48,500, equivalent to a ranking of 12th globally.



UAE Country Facts:



Location

Middle East

Australia and USA);
[local population 0.95 million whereas
expatriate population is 7.31 million].

Geographic Coordinates

Between the latitudes of 22° and 26° 30' North and longitude of 51° and 56° 30' East.

Government Type

Federation, with specific powers delegated to the UAE Federal Government, with other powers exercised by the Rulers of the various emirates. The Federal National Council has a defined legislative role.

Total Area

83.6 thousand sq. kms (approximate)

Capital

Abu Dhabi

Boundaries

Oman 410 Kms; Saudi Arabia 457 Kms

Climate

Desert; cooler in eastern mountains.

Legal System

Combination of Sharia (Islamic Law) and Civil Legislative Law.

Population

According to UAE National Bureau of Statistics, the population has recently been estimated at 8.26 million (comprises local population and expatriates from South Asia, Far East, Middle East, Europe,

Currency

The UAE Dirham (Arab Emirates Dirham - AED). One Dirham equals 100 fils.

Inflation Rate

The UAE National Bureau of Statistics estimated that inflation was 0.9% in 2011 for the country as a whole. It is projected at 1.5% in 2012 by the IMF.

For Abu Dhabi specifically, SCAD (Statistics Center - Abu Dhabi) recently reported that inflation was 1.3% over the first seven months of 2012, year-on-year.

Market Exchange Rate

Fixed at US\$ 1.00 = AED 3.67

Major Trading Partners

India, China, USA, Germany, Japan, South Korea.

Major Export Products

Crude Oil, Natural Gas, Re-Exports, Aluminium, Dried Fish, Dates.

Major Import Products

Manufactured goods, Machinery, Foodstuffs, Transportation equipment.

Taxation

No corporate, personal, or withholding taxation. Tourism taxes apply.

Customs Duty

5% Import Duty (on general products)



1

ABU DHABI INTRODUCTION

The City of Abu Dhabi is the capital of the United Arab Emirates. The Emirate of Abu Dhabi borders Saudi Arabia to the west and south, Dubai to the north, and Oman to the east. It has some 600 kilometers of Arabian Gulf coastline and over 200 natural islands along its northern boundary. Abu Dhabi comprises almost 87% of the UAE's total land area. Abu Dhabi is regarded as a window to the whole Middle Eastern region due to its strategic location.

The Emirate is positioned as a preferred location for international firms looking to expand into the growth markets of MENA and Asia. For administrative purposes, the Emirate is divided into three regions. The first region encompasses the City of Abu Dhabi, which is both the capital of the emirate and the federal capital. Abu Dhabi's second region, the Eastern Region, has Al Ain city as its capital; it is relatively fertile and rich in greenery, with plenty of farms, public parks and

important archaeological sites. The Western Region, known as Al Gharbia, the emirate's third administrative sector, comprises 52 settlements, with Madinat Zayed as its capital. Extensive afforestation covers at least 100,000 hectares, including more than 20 million evergreens. The country's main onshore oil fields are located here, as is the country's largest oil refinery.

In addition to the three mainland regions of Abu Dhabi there are a number of important islands within the emirate, including Das, Mubarraz, Zirku and Arzanah, where the main offshore oil fields are located. Closer inshore are Dalma, Sir Bani Yas, Merawah, Abu al-Abyadh and Saadiyat, together with many others.

Key facts at a glance

- Sub tropical climate.
- The mission of conducting the

Abu Dhabi census 2011 was assigned to Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi, and its findings have yet to be published. The Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce & Industry has estimated that the population of Abu Dhabi emirate is about 2.9 million.

- Abu Dhabi accounts for 94% of the UAE's proven oil reserves, according to the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company.
- No foreign exchange control, quotas or trade barriers.
- Customs duties are levied on the import of most goods into Abu Dhabi at 5%, thought to be relatively low; tobacco and alcoholic beverages are currently subject to customs duties of 100% & 50% respectively of the CIF value.
- Full repatriation of profit and capital allowed in the emirate's Free Zones.



2 ECONOMIC POLICY, STRATEGY & VISION

The economic policy of the UAE is based on safeguarding and respecting the individual freedom of ownership of the means of production, enabling the practice of almost any type of business activity and the provision of a wide range of necessary facilities. There are no restrictions on imports and exports except for some minor customs and administrative duties.

The government plays a supervisory role in issuing legislation, designed to organise the functioning of the various economic sectors while causing limited hindrance to business.

Abu Dhabi's government has laid out a long term plan for economic diversification called 'Abu Dhabi Economic Vision 2030' and Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development is its custodian. The long-term roadmap for economic progress for the Emirate

requires the effective engagement of the private sector in its implementation. The Vision 2030 initiative builds upon the foundations set by the Abu Dhabi Policy Agenda 2007/2008 and was produced by a taskforce including stakeholders from the public sector and private sector. The target is that by the year 2030 the proportion of real GDP derived from hydrocarbons should have fallen below 40% via effective growth and diversification in non-oil and gas sectors.



3

ECONOMIC VISION 2030

The Abu Dhabi Economic Vision 2030 was developed by Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development, the Abu Dhabi Council for Economic Development, and the General Secretariat of the Executive Council. Its overall aim is to encourage all stakeholders in the economy to contribute to a transition to a more balanced 'knowledge' economy, and away from too much emphasis on oil and gas.

In summary, Abu Dhabi's Government has identified Nine Pillars likely to mould the emirate's social, political and economic future:

- A large empowered private sector
- A sustainable knowledge-based economy
- An optimal, transparent regulatory environment
- The enhancement of strong and diverse international relationships
- The optimization of the emirate's resources
- The development of premium education, health and infrastructure assets
- A high level of international and domestic security
- The maintenance of Abu Dhabi's values, inherent in its culture and heritage

- A significant and ongoing contribution to the Federation of the UAE

The Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development is responsible for formulating the economic and commercial policy of Abu Dhabi emirate and for preparing the plans and programmes required for implementing this policy. The Department provides commercial licensing and trade name registration and conducts the necessary studies to encourage and promote the private sector. It also holds conferences to promote Abu Dhabi as an investment destination, and conducts seminars designed to train prospective exporters.



SECTION - 1 ABU DHABI

4

NATURE OF BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

The year 1958 heralded the beginning of the era of oil production and exporting in Abu Dhabi, and accelerated the relative decline in importance of traditional economic activities. Prior to that, the main economic activities had been pearl diving, fishing and general trading. In 1971, the government of Abu Dhabi negotiated new concessions with its foreign partners securing the controlling interest in its oil resources.

The Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) was established to administer the industry. Expansion and development of the oil and gas industry, which ADNOC and its subsidiaries administer, translate into projects worth millions of dollars.

Although the intention is to reduce the proportion of hydrocarbon-based GDP within the total, it is also the leadership's plan to increase oil production from about 2.8 million barrels/day (MBD) currently to 3.5 MBD by 2017.



5

TRADING REGULATIONS

International manufacturers and exporters may conduct business by concluding transactions directly with importers and traders already established in Abu Dhabi. This type of arrangement may be suitable for low-volume trade. However, for an ongoing business relationship, overseas companies may well want to consider a more permanent form of representation.

Trade practices in the UAE are in line with normal international standards. As a sophisticated market, full technical specifications should be provided with CIF UAE prices and Middle East references. UAE is a member of WTO. Only importers who have the appropriate trade licence may import goods into the UAE.

Commercial Agencies

A foreign company wishing to supply goods and services from abroad, but without establishing a physical presence in Abu Dhabi, can appoint a Commercial Agent. The UAE Commercial Agencies Law, Federal Law No. 18 of 1981, as amended by Federal Law No. 14 of 1988, and Federal Law No. 13 of 2006 (the '2006 Amendments'), and Federal Law No. 2 of 2010 (the '2010 Amendments') regulates and governs the appointment of registered Commercial Agents in the UAE. The Commercial Agency Law is supplemented by, inter alia, the UAE Commercial Transactions Law, Federal Law No. 18 of 1993 (the 'Commercial Code'), implementing

regulations, custom and practice. Together, the Commercial Agency Law and the Commercial Code provide the primary regulatory framework for agency relationships through which foreign businesses provide products and services in the UAE.

- Commercial Agents are entitled to receive commissions on sales in their designated territory irrespective of whether such sales are made by or through the Commercial Agent, unless otherwise agreed.
- Commercial Agents are entitled to prevent products subject to their agency from being imported into the UAE if the Commercial Agent is not the consignee, unless the



UAE Council of Ministers has exempted the subject products from application of the Commercial Agency Law.

- A principal may not terminate or fail to renew the agency agreement unless there is a material reason justifying such termination or non-renewal. Either party is entitled to claim compensation for damages suffered and losses incurred due to termination or non-renewal of a registered Commercial Agency.
- A registered Commercial Agent can preclude the foreign principal from appointing a replacement registered agent even if the registered agency was for a fixed term and expired, unless the former agent consents or the principal obtains a favorable decision from the specialized agency disputes committee or a court in the UAE.
- Commercial Agency Law provides that Commercial Agency Agreements shall be governed exclusively by UAE law notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in the agency agreement.

However, due to the restrictive provisions in the Commercial Agency Law, foreign investors do not always prefer this route to set up business in UAE unless it is mandatory to appoint a Commercial Agent to distribute their products as per the local laws.



المؤسسة العليا للمناطق الاقتصادية المتخصصة
HIGHER CORPORATION FOR SPECIALIZED ECONOMIC ZONES



“معاً نصنع مستقبل الصناعة”
“Shaping Industrial Futures... Together”

The Higher Corporation for Specialized Economic Zones (ZonesCorp) is a government-backed entity that was established in Abu Dhabi in 2004 to enhance and develop the industrial sector. ZonesCorp is directly responsible for the establishment and management of specialized economic zones in Abu Dhabi, committing to develop the industrial infrastructure in the capital, cultivating a business climate conducive to growth and driving the diversification of the economy. ZonesCorp is also the EHS Regulatory Authority for the Industrial Sector within the Abu Dhabi Emirate. The Corporation provides customer-centric services including a One-Stop Shop, a foreign labor service center, and quality workers' accommodation. ZonesCorp targets to leverage on an enhanced financial capability by procuring new specialized clusters through Public-Private Partnership management structures and involvement of the ZonesCorp Infrastructure Investment Fund. ZonesCorp's current and future projects include 5 industrial cities in Abu Dhabi and Al Ain, in addition to a construction and building materials production city and other quality worker' accommodation cities.

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Trading Regulations: Entry Strategy for Foreign Investors

Before 1984, each emirate (viz. Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Ras Al Khaimah, Umm Al Quwain and Fujairah), followed its own procedures governing the operations of foreign business interests. In 1984, Federal Law No. 8 of 1984, its amendment by Federal Law No. 13 of 1988 - the 'Commercial Companies Law' and its by-laws have been issued. The law makes it conditional that the companies are wholly owned by nationals or that nationals own at least 51% of their share capital, while the remaining 49% may belong to foreigners. The law provides that commercial companies established in the U.A.E may take any of the following legal forms:

1. **General**

Partnership Company:

This is a firm which consists of two or more partners who are jointly and

severally responsible for all the firm's liabilities. Partnership companies are confined to UAE nationals only because partners are responsible for the liabilities of the firm backed by all their assets, which cannot necessarily be applied to foreigners as in many cases their assets are held abroad.



2. Partnership in-commendam (Limited Partnership)

This is a firm consisting of one joint partner or more liable with all their monies for the firm, together with another in-commendam partner (or partners) only responsible for the liabilities of the firm to the value of their share in the capital. According to the law, all joint partners in such an enterprise should be UAE nationals.

3. Public Joint Stock Company (PJSC)

A Public Joint Stock Company is a company with capital divided into equal negotiable shares. In such companies a shareholder's liability is limited by the number of shares held by him. Minimum capital required to form a Public Joint Stock Company is AED 10 million with a nominal face value of AED 1 – 100, and for a banking entity it is AED 40 million and for insurance and investment companies it is AED 25 million. Among the other requirements for the establishment of a Public Joint Stock Company is the preparation of a founders' agreement, a prospectus or invitation for public subscription supported by an overall business plan or feasibility study and auditor's certificate, a due diligence survey, a memorandum and articles of association. A PJSC must have at least 10 founder members



Procedures to set up a Public Joint Stock Company

Basic Requirements:

Name	To be derived from the purpose
Capital	AED 10,000,000
Duration of the Company	To be decided by the founder members
Memorandum of Association	To be prepared in consultation with the standard Memorandum of Association available with the Ministry
Number of founding members	Minimum 10
Committee to continue	3 – 5 members from the founding members

and its management should be vested in a board of directors consisting of a minimum of three to a maximum of fifteen persons whose term of office may not exceed three years. The Chairman and majority of the Directors in a Public Joint Stock Company must be UAE nationals. In addition, at least 51% of the shares of the PJSC should be held by UAE nationals. The founder members may only hold 45% of the share capital, as 65% is required to be offered to the public. The Law stipulates that the companies engaged in banking, insurance or financial activities should be run as Public Joint Stock Companies.

Application Procedure:

A)

1. Application
2. Memorandum of Association
3. Feasibility Study of the Project
Application to be submitted to the Ministry of Economy.
4. Permission from the Emirate where

the company is intended to be established.

5. Suggested completion period of the execution of the project to start its operations to be provided.

B)

6. The Ministry shall set up a committee to study the project.
7. The committee shall prepare a report within 2 weeks of the application.
8. The Ministry shall issue a decision within 60 days from the date of application. If the decision has not been issued within the period the application is deemed rejected.
9. If the application is rejected, the applicants can contest before Civil Court within 60 days.

General Assembly:

The founding members shall invite the subscribers to a general assembly meeting within 30 days of the close of subscription.

Subscription	
Founders	20% or above but less than 45%. Certificate from the bank to be provided
Subscription of Money	25% of the commercial value. Balance 75% within a period of maximum 5 years. However, subject to company's contract.
Period of Subscription	10 – 90 days
Minimum Subscription	100%

Quorum:

¾ of the owners of the shares

majority of the Directors in a private shareholding company must be UAE nationals.

If no quorum:

Second Meeting – After 30 days; quorum is half of the owners of shares.

Third Meeting – After 15 days; no quorum required.

After the general assembly within 7 days, application for declaration of company to be in existence to be provided to the Ministry.

Minister will issue a decree within 30 days regarding the establishment of the company.



4. Private Shareholding Company (PSC)

A Private Shareholding Company is incorporated by not less than three people. Unlike a public shareholding company, a private shareholding company cannot invite the public to subscribe to its shares. The minimum share capital to form a private shareholding company is AED 2 million. The Chairman and



5. Limited Liability Company (LLC)

A Limited Liability Company is the most common form of business entity formed in UAE. These can be formed by a minimum of two and a maximum of 50 persons whose liability is limited to their shares in the company's capital. The minimum equity participation by UAE nationals is 51%. The capital required to form a Limited Liability Company is AED 150,000, contributed in cash or in kind. Profit or loss distribution can be prescribed and the responsibility of management of an LLC can be vested in the foreign or national partners or in a third party. The shares of such a company are not open for subscription by the public and they do not issue negotiable shares. As per the Commercial Companies Law, LLCs may be licenced to engage in a wide range of commercial activities, except for banking, insurance and the investment of money for third parties unless they obtain prior approval from the UAE Central Bank. An LLC can be used as the preferred vehicle for a joint venture between a foreign party and a UAE party (UAE national partner) if both parties have a common business objective to be achieved in the UAE.

Process of Establishing an LLC

- Obtain initial approval for name and activity from the Department of Economic Development.
- Obtain approval from concerned Ministry/Department in case the activity is of a special nature.





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- Obtain approval from the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi.
- Draw up company's Memorandum of Association and have it legally notarized.
- Finalize an office tenancy in a commercial building.
- Capital contribution certificate to be obtained from bank for cash shares and auditor's certificate for both cash shares and kind shares.
- Submit applications and initial approval, together with notarized copy of Memorandum of Association, capital certificate, tenancy contract etc., to the Department of Economic Development.
- After scrutiny by the legal department, the Company name will be entered in the Commercial Register and will have its Memorandum of Association published in the Ministry of Economy Bulletin. The Department of Economic Development will then issue the licence.
- Registration of the Company with Ministry of Labour and Department of Immigration.

Activities that require special approval

Licences to practice the majority of activities are directly issued by the Department of Economic Development. However, certain activities require special approval from the related Ministry/Department (e.g., medical, pharmacies, etc. from the Ministry of

Health; air transport, air cargo etc. from the Department of Civil Aviation; financial institutions, banks, money exchange, etc. from the Central Bank; new industrial projects or expansions, from the Ministry of Finance & Industry; publishing, printing, newspaper, advertising, video film, photography, etc., from the National Media Council (Ministry of Information); education, training, etc., from the Ministry of Education; agriculture, veterinary, etc., from the Ministry of Agriculture; customs clearance, freight forwarding, sea cargo, etc., from the Seaports & Customs Authority; Telecommunication equipment from the Ministry of Communication; branch of foreign company, Insurance Company, Chartered Accountants firm etc., from the Ministry of Economy).

6. Joint Venture (Consortium Company)

A Joint Venture is a type of company where two or more partners agree by contract to share the profits or losses of one or more commercial enterprises, which will be carried on in the name of



one of the partners. Contract of Joint Ventures may be written or oral and are not required to be notarized. Third parties can have recourse only to the partners with whom they deal. However, should the Joint Venture be disclosed to the third parties, all the partners are liable to the third parties. The existence of a Joint Venture may be proven by various means.

7. Professional Companies (Professional Partnership)

Such a firm must be regarded as a professional company which practices a profession as its main object and where the partners rely for their livelihood on the intellectual effort they apply, rather than in profiting from the businesses of others. On this basis the professional companies are set up between professionals or partisans and carry out non-commercial activities. The firms, which are registered as professional companies or firms may only practice specific activities and not extend that to commercial activities. Such activities include rendering the services of legal practice and consultancy, auditing, organising and keeping accounting records and books, civil engineering, architecture consultancies and services, managerial and economic consultancy and studies, technical services, medical and curative services, educational services and other similar services.



8. Sole Proprietorship Firm to Practice a Profession

A foreign investor is permitted to practice certain types of business activities allowed for non-nationals without having a national partner. Such activities are Management Consultancy, Legal Practice and Consultancy, Computer Consultancy and similar services provided that such an investor holds a valid and legal UAE residence permit. However, it is a condition that he should have a local Service Agent and accordingly to have a service agency contract authenticated by the Court.

9. Opening a Branch or Representative Office of a Foreign Company

The Companies Law, in Article (313) allows a foreign company to exercise its main activity in the UAE by opening a branch or a representative office. The difference between the two is that the foreign company which opens a branch in the UAE may freely exercise the activities for which it is licenced, whereas a representative office may practice only promotional business for the products and services provided by the parent company. Unlike a foreign branch a representative office cannot conduct a business operation or market its product. In order to engage a foreign branch to conduct its operation in Abu Dhabi it should obtain a licence from the Ministry of Economy ('the Ministry') prior to obtaining a licence from the Department of Economic Development. Foreign

companies licenced to operate in Abu Dhabi may not start their activities before being inscribed in the Ministry's Register of Foreign companies. The main stipulation for opening a representative office or a branch of a foreign company in the UAE is to appoint a Service Agent who should be a UAE national. A Service Agent is not an empowered agent who can bind his principal as explained in the definition of the term 'agent' in the Commercial Companies Law. A Service Agent is not required to undertake any financial obligations concerning the activities of the company's branch or representative office within the UAE or abroad. They should not interfere in the matters relating to the company's management or activities. Their duties towards the company and others are confined to providing such services as required by the principal. These services usually include obtaining entry/residence permits, acquiring the necessary licences or facilitating the processing of its transactions with government authorities. The Service Agent is remunerated via a lump sum for the services rendered to the foreign company, subject to the agreement between them and the company.

Foreign company branches or representative offices are required to submit a bank guarantee of AED 50,000 in favor of the Ministry as part of the licence application documentation. The licence of the foreign company's branch/ representative office will be cancelled

if it is not renewed within two years of the expiry date, and the fee due to the Ministry will be deducted from the guarantee.

10. Establishments by GCC Citizens

The states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Sultanate of Oman, Qatar, Kuwait and Bahrain) signed the United Economic Agreement in Riyadh on 7th June 1981, with a view to coordinate and unify economic, financial, monetary, commercial and industrial legislations, and the UAE endorsed this agreement in 1982. It is conditional as per the Federal Law No. 2 of 1989 concerning permitting the GCC citizen to conduct a business operation in UAE that the investor should be a person residing in the UAE and practicing the required activity by themselves, and possessing a licence to practice the activity in their country of origin.

Setting up Branches of GCC Companies in Abu Dhabi

A Company registered in a GCC country can open a branch in Abu Dhabi without obtaining prior approval from the Ministry of Economy. However, the branch must fulfill the requirement of obtaining prior approval from an external department if the licence procedure requires so. A GCC Company is not required to appoint a Service Agent.

If there are shareholders who are not from the GCC in the mother company,

such a company shall be considered to be a foreign company and will be required to register at the Ministry of Economy in accordance with usual procedure.



Kizad: A Major Pillar of the Capital's Economic Diversification/

Kizad will be a powerful magnet for foreign direct investment, with global business developing large-scale primary and downstream manufacturing facilities in the industrial zone. It is anticipated that between 60 and 80 per cent of the goods manufactured in Kizad will be exported, which is why it is located in close proximity to Khalifa Port. Kizad's strategy is to attract world-class companies and to establish international industry best practices throughout the zone. One way it will achieve this objective is by offering free zone and non-free zone options to tenants. Kizad incorporates investment locations designated as free zones, which allow companies to be 100 per cent foreign owned. It also includes non free zone areas allowing companies to benefit from GCC agreements on customs duty. Two large parcels of land in Zone A, which is 51 square kilometres in size, have so far been given free zone status,

and are together known as Abu Dhabi Free Zone. With increases in demand, more areas will be designated as free zones. In Kizad, both global and local companies will find efficient business, easy market access, low operating costs and long-term support, providing firms with competitive advantages. Kizad will set new standards for regional infrastructure, environmental protection and efficient operation, reinforcing Abu Dhabi's status as the region's premiere business destination. Companies setting up in Kizad's free and non-free zone areas are very much regarded as strategic partners, helping to bring expertise and investment to Abu Dhabi. Sustained government investment in the area will help companies participate in the long-term growth and success of the Emirate, and they will play an essential role in creating tomorrow's business opportunities, today.



Kizad's Strategic Advantages /

Easy Access to Markets

Abu Dhabi is the ideal location for businesses to tap into the huge regional and global markets. Its strategic location means businesses in the Industrial Zone can tap into a market of more than 4.5 billion consumers within four time zones of Abu Dhabi.

Kizad tenants will benefit from excellent access by sea through its ultra modern deepwater seaport, Khalifa Port. Kizad is also directly connected to the wider Middle East through the UAE's excellent highway network, Abu Dhabi International Airport, Al Maktoum International Airport and Dubai International Airport are all less than 40 minutes away, while the emerging freight and passenger rail networks will link tenants at Kizad to the far corners of the Arabian Peninsula and beyond.



Low Operating Cost Environment

Abu Dhabi offers utilities at some of the lowest rates in the world and land lease costs are also benchmarked against regional competitors. Vertically integrated clustering brings primary, midstream and downstream producers together creating economies of proximity and increased productivity.

Kizad includes clusters for Aluminum, Steel, Engineered Metal Products, Petrochemicals, Pharmaceuticals, Paper, Print & Packaging, Food and Trade & Logistics. Currently in Abu Dhabi individuals

and most companies are not subject to tax on their income. Furthermore at Kizad, foreign companies can either choose a joint venture with a local company allowing them to claim exemption from import duties on raw materials and exemption from customs duties when goods manufactured in Kizad are exported to GCC countries or alternatively they can choose 100% foreign ownership and avoid duties on imported goods kept in bonded status in the Industrial Zone and re-exported from the UAE.

Ease of Doing Business

Kizad offers a number of features that help tenants do business. Kizad's long term bankable agreement (Musataha) can be used to help raise finance for projects for example. Kizad's One Stop Shop will facilitate relationships with Government agencies, licensing authorities and utility companies in order to help tenants get their business started. Kizad also offers workforce accommodation,

warehousing, and a business park which will provide offices, commercial showrooms, a business hotel, training and research facilities, and associated retail. Taken together the cost benefits ensures that businesses at Kizad are well positioned to be competitive in their industries and to drive growth in Abu Dhabi for the long term.





The benefits of free zones /

Free Zones are set-up to license companies who apply to operate under the following principles: A free zone is an area which allows 100 per cent foreign ownership for businesses operating inside of it. Free zone companies enjoy the benefits of zero per cent corporate tax, and can repatriate capital and profits. Companies operating within free zones are also exempt from all import or re-export duties, and no restrictions are placed on hiring foreign employees. Free zones are an integral part of the UAE's economy. Over 10,000 companies are

currently registered in UAE free zones. They are a way to attract foreign investment by offering sustainable business environments, easy-to-manage start-up and licensing procedures and substantial monetary opportunities. The large concentration of companies in free zones provides vibrant networking atmospheres, making it possible to form new business relationships daily. With this in mind, Kizad is leading the way in putting the Abu Dhabi Economic Vision 2030 into action, helping to drive the Emirate forward as the region's major business hub.

Company set up /

As is the case in any country, foreign investors looking to set up companies in the UAE face a number of steps which can appear daunting. Dealing with government agencies in order to gain permits, licenses, approvals and clearances are essential. However, Kizad is working to speed up the procedures in registering a company by creating simple, streamlined administrative processes for investors, and by employing

dedicated relationship managers in a one stop shop, based in Kizad, to oversee set up, regulations and licensing requirements. These managers will ensure the timely processing of all paperwork, ensuring that every application is in order. As industry specialists, these relationship managers will be of considerable use to investors, and will be on hand to guide clients through all the processes of setting up their businesses.

Frequently asked questions /

These FAQs are subject to the terms and conditions of the Companies Registration Regulations, the Business Licensing Regulations, the Employment Regulations and such other regulations as may be applicable to the Abu Dhabi Free Zone from time to time (the Regulations). These FAQs do not amend, modify or supersede the Regulations

Setting Up Company in Abu Dhabi Free Zone

1. What are the regulations that I should refer to when setting up a company in Abu Dhabi Free Zone?

The main applicable regulations are the following:

- a) Commercial Companies Registration Regulations
 - b) Business Licensing Regulations
 - c) Employment Regulations
- These regulations may be obtained by contacting the Registration and Licensing Department or the Customer Services Department at Kizad.

2. Can I use any trade name to register my company?

Yes. However, use of name is subject to approval by the Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development. The Kizad OSS (Kizad One Stop Shop) will assist you with the same.

3. What type of business operations are permitted in the Free Zone Areas?

All types of legitimate business operations are permitted. Please refer



to Companies Registration Regulations and the Licensing Categories Decision document published by Abu Dhabi Free Zone.

4. Can I establish a branch of my own company?

Yes, you can establish a branch or subsidiary of your company based in the UAE or outside the UAE.

5. Can I be a shareholder in more than one company?

Yes. There are no restrictions at present on the number of businesses in which a person can be involved.

6. What is the minimum capital required for establishing a company in the Abu Dhabi Free Zone?

There is no minimum capital requirement if you are setting up a branch of your company in the Abu Dhabi Free Zone. If you are establishing a limited (Corporate) or limited (Natural) Company, the minimum capital requirement is AED 150,000. However, depending on the type and size of the operations, the Registrar may request higher minimum amount.

Business License

1. Can I have a business license from Abu Dhabi Free Zone but operate/set up anywhere from Abu Dhabi or another Emirate?

The business license issued is valid for operating your business inside the Free Zone Areas of Kizad. You cannot utilize this license to set up a business in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi or any other Emirate.

2. Can I sell goods manufactured in the Abu Dhabi Free Zone in the UAE?

Goods may be sold in the UAE through agents or distributors who hold valid trade license issued by the relevant government authority e.g. Department of Economic Development.

3. What are the various categories of Licenses issued by the Abu Dhabi Free Zone?

Three categories of License are issued i.e. Industrial, Trading and Service License.

4. What are the various activities that are licensed in the Abu Dhabi Free Zone?

Lists of activities for which licenses may be sought in Industrial, Trading and Service categories are published and available from the Customer Services Department.

5. Can I use a trading license to undertake service or industrial activities?

No. Subject to approval by the Abu Dhabi Free Zone, you would be required to obtain separate licenses to undertake

service or manufacturing/industrial activities.

6. Can I use a trading license to undertake assembling of products in my warehouse?

This is subject to approval by Kizad. You would be required to obtain separate industrial license to undertake limited assembling activities inside the warehouse.

7. Can I first obtain a Business License and then lease plot of land, office or warehouse at a later date?

No. It is a pre-requisite to secure your lease agreement by signing a Confirmation of Lease (CoL) prior to registration of company and licensing of activities in Abu Dhabi Free Zone.

8. What is the lease rate for the plot of land in the Abu Dhabi Free Zone?

Rate is dependent on various factors. We invite you to meet our Business Development Department for further information or call us on +971 800 10 20 30.

9. Can I add additional activities to my existing license?

Yes, subject to approval by concerned departments within Kizad and payment of applicable fee.

10. What is the validity period of the license?

The license is valid for a period of one year and renewable every year. Interim amendments/revisions to the current license do not change the validity (end date) of the License.

11. Are there any corporate taxes imposed when operating in the Abu Dhabi Free Zone?

No.

Project Development and Operating a Business in Abu Dhabi Free Zone

1. Do I need approval from any government authorities in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi?

Depending on the nature of the business/operations you will require approval from various government authorities in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. Approvals would be required during different phases of the life cycle of your project. Kizad OSS will provide you with full guidance and support to coordinate the relevant approvals as may be required from time to time.

2. Are there any rules and regulations that I have to comply with?

In addition to the Applicable Laws, you will be required to comply with Kizad Rules and other regulations issued by the Abu Dhabi Free Zone from time to time.

3. Are there development regulations for industrial and warehouse plots in the Abu Dhabi Free Zone?

Yes, Kizad has established Development Control Regulations that addresses relevant requirements.

4. Does Kizad assist in securing finance for my business or will Kizad finance my business?

No.

5. Can I seek financing from the United Arab Emirates?

Companies/Businesses in the Free Zone Areas are not precluded from seeking financing in the UAE.

6. Who issues my company and my employees with visas?

Kizad OSS will assist all companies, their employees and dependents to obtain visas, entry pass and approvals, as required from time to time subject to Employment Regulations.

7. How long is my residence visa valid?

Residence visa is valid for a period of 2 years.

8. Can I import and export goods?

Yes, depending on the business license. No custom duties are imposed if goods are imported and exported within the free zone areas.

9. Can I obtain Certificate of Origin as "Made in UAE" from the Chamber of Commerce for goods manufactured in the Abu Dhabi Free Zone?

No, companies licensed by Abu Dhabi Free Zone are treated as Foreign Companies and thus do not qualify to obtain such a Certificate. Companies may label their products or packaging materials

with "Made in/Packaged in the Abu Dhabi Free Zone, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates".

10. How can I obtain the latest tariff list for services?

As and when the tariff list is updated, all companies are informed of the same on their email address registered with Kizad OSS. You may also obtain the latest list of tariff by visiting Kizad OSS.

11. Can my workers live in factory/warehouse premise?

No. Staff should be accommodated in designated Accommodation units inside Kizad (subject to availability) or accommodated outside Kizad.

12. How does Kizad OSS assist my business?

Kizad OSS facilitates ease of doing business in Kizad. Kizad OSS will assist your organization to expedite day to day government related transactions including Kizad approvals while you focus on your business. For more information on services provided please contact the Kizad OSS desk or call on the number +971 800 10 20 30.

13. Can my business in the Abu Dhabi Free Zone own property in the United Arab Emirates?

Depending on the nature of your business, you may be granted ownership rights over your plot in Abu Dhabi Free Zone through a Standard Musataha Agreement.

Customs

1. Who are authorized to clear cargo through customs at Sea Ports in Abu Dhabi or International Airports in Abu Dhabi?

- a) Within the Free Zone, consignees holding Business License issued by the Abu Dhabi Free Zone
- b) Agents holding an Abu Dhabi Economic Department Clearing and Forwarding (C & F) license may also clear cargo on behalf of the consignee.

2. What documents do Abu Dhabi Customs require for imports into the Free Zone?

The following minimum documents are required (Please re-confirm with customs department):

- Bill of Lading
- Delivery Order
- Packing List
- Certificate of Origin
- Original Invoice
- Free Zone Bill of Entry

3. What documents do Abu Dhabi Customs require for exports from the Free Zone?

The following minimum documents are required (Please re-confirm with customs department):

- Bill of Lading
- Packing List
- Certificate of Origin
- Original Invoice
- Country specific additional documents will be required



Employee and Administration

1. Will I and my employees have a legal Employment contract if employed within the Abu Dhabi Free Zone?

Yes. All employment contracts with companies operating in the Abu Dhabi Free Zone are governed by the Employment Regulations enforced by the Abu Dhabi Free Zone.

2. Can I and my employees bring our Family members in the UAE?

Yes, subject to your eligibility as per the Abu Dhabi Free Zone regulations and Emirate of Abu Dhabi / UAE Immigration rules.

3. Can I and my employees live and travel freely in any Emirate in the UAE?

Yes.

4. Can I and the members of my employees' family work?

Yes. Once they obtain a residence visa they may opt to work in the UAE as per applicable laws and regulations.

5. Can I open a bank account with any bank in the UAE?

Yes. However, you may check with your employer on the bank they deal with.

6. Do I and my employees need to pay income tax when employed in the Abu Dhabi Free Zone?

No.

7. Can I and my employees obtain a driving license or convert existing driving license?

Yes, you can obtain a driving license in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. A UAE license is issued upon the completion of required formalities with the government authority concerned. The UAE recognizes driving licenses from certain countries. Please check with the Kizad OSS for more information.

8. Can I and my employees transfer money outside the country freely?

Yes. There are no restrictions imposed by the authorities.



6 ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION OF ABU DHABI

Abu Dhabi is taking a number of important steps to diversify its economy away from any overdependence on hydrocarbons. The Emirate intends to become one of the most attractive investment destinations in the region.

With this in mind, various specialized economic zones offering tax-free incentives to investors and catering to a variety of industrial sectors are being developed.

Industrial Development

Abu Dhabi is in the process of developing a modern industrial sector capable of reducing the traditional importance of oil and gas. There is major effort underway to attract increased foreign direct investment into the Emirate, for example into aluminium, iron & steel, glass, petrochemicals, and also the health care and financial services sectors, to name but a few. At the same time the education and training sectors

are being targeted, to help thousands of UAE nationals gain basic and specialized qualifications.

Abu Dhabi possesses various of the key ingredients necessary to create a successful industrial sector. Availability of industrial land, natural resources, cheap energy, state of the art industrial infrastructure, fast and flexible project delivery, simplified procedures for obtaining industrial licences and flexible foreign ownership regulations are some



of the major factors that make Abu Dhabi an attractive destination for investment in the industrial and manufacturing sectors.

The Higher Corporation for Specialized Economic Zones ('ZonesCorp')

In line with the Government's vision to make Abu Dhabi a favoured investment destination, a higher institution for Specialized Economic Zones, ZonesCorp, was launched as an initiative under law number (3) of 2004.

Supported by the Government, "ZonesCorp" is directly responsible for the establishment, management and operation of specialized economic zones in Abu Dhabi. It is committed to the development of industrial infrastructure in the capital and to the creation of a business environment conducive to driving growth and diversification of the economy.

ZonesCorp: a One-Stop-Shop

Because land development must be preceded by the acquisition of a licence, it stands to reason that the faster and easier an investor can obtain an industrial licence, the more likely they will be to consider undertaking an industrial investment in Abu Dhabi. This is where ZonesCorp plays a key role. To succeed in creating an industrial environment conducive to sustainable economic development, ZonesCorp has established the one-stop-shop program

for industrial land provisioning and licensing.

The close cooperation and existing coordination between the Corporation and the various government bodies, the ZonesCorp provides the following services to an investor:

- Forwards the application to the concerned department.
- Reserves the land depending on availability and prepare the lease contract.
- Gets approval from the Environment Agency.
- Processes a construction permit and grant preliminary approval.
- Issues the permanent industrial licence.

ZonesCorp Offers:

a. Investment Climate:

- Conducive business climate.
- State of the art infrastructure.
- Cluster-based zoning model, allowing the full integration within the industry value chain deriving synergy benefits.

b. Operational Benefits:

- Products manufactured within the zones enjoy duty-free access to the Gulf Cooperation Council countries, as well as to signatory countries to the Greater Arab Free Trade Agreement.
- Duty-free import of machinery and raw materials.
- Customer-centric approach through the adoption of a "one-stop-shop" concept.

- Tax exemptions.
- Free repatriation of profit and capital.
- Competitively priced utilities.

c. Workforce:

- International spectrum of skills.
- Vocational training centres ensuring supply of skilled labour force.
- Workers' Residential Cities providing world-class labour accommodation.
- Streamlined labour procedures through the Foreign Labour Services – FLS.

d. Logistics:

- 12 minutes to Abu Dhabi International Airport.
- 50 minutes to Jebel Ali Port and Jebel Ali Airport.
- Planned on-site Port– the Abu Dhabi Industrial Port- to serve ZonesCorp's projects.

e. Other Services:

- Provision of advice to help select the land plot suitable for the needs of the investors and assisting them determining their operational requirements.

Zones managed by ZonesCorp

Industrial City of Abu Dhabi: ICAD I

ICAD I is focused on heavy-to-medium manufacturing, engineering and processing industries, including metal products, construction materials, fibreglass and plastics assembly. It hosts



a shopping mall and other services including a hotel, a cultural centre, a business centre, bank services, a clinic and a new residential complex for workers. ICAD I extends over an area of 14km².

Industrial City of Abu Dhabi:

ICAD II

ICAD II is focused on light-to-medium manufacturing, engineering and processing industries, including wood processing, oil and gas, construction materials and chemicals. The zone covers an area of 11km² and has been constructed in distinct phases according to a detailed master plan.

Industrial City of Abu Dhabi:

ICAD III

ICAD III is focused on light-to-medium engineering and processing industries with an international focus. Wood processing, chemicals and plastics, construction materials, high-tech industries, and food and textiles are the key target sectors for this zone. It extends over an area of 12 km².

Al Ain Industrial City (I and II)

Al Ain Industrial City is a multi-use development with a focus on Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the light-to-medium manufacturing, engineering and processing industries, including wood, chemicals, plastics, construction materials, food and textiles. It covers an area of 10km².



Future Zones

ICAD IV and V, Energy Zone

Indicative rate of land lease and utilities

Rate of Land: AED 20 - 30/sq. meter per year [land lease for 30 years; renewable]

Cost of Electricity: 15 fils/KWA

Cost of Natural Gas: AED 5/MMBTU

Cost of Water: AED 2.20/CM

Al Ruwais Industrial Complex

Al Ruwais Industrial Complex, located about 240 km west of Abu Dhabi, was developed by Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) and hosts a number of petrochemical industries. It includes an oil refinery plant, a natural gas liquids fractionation plant, a fertiliser plant, a marine terminal and a sulphur handling terminal.

Industrial City at Madinat Zayed

The Industrial city at Madinat Zayed, will be set up on an area of 5.2 square kilometers. It will be dedicated to oil and gas services, food-related industries and logistics.



7 CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES AND CLASSIFICATION OF CONTRACTING FIRMS

1. Building Codes

All types of construction activities in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi should comply with certain building codes, rules and regulations. In order to improve the construction standards for buildings in Abu Dhabi, the Department of Municipal Affairs (DMA) has adopted the International Building Codes. The new unified Building Codes introduce a common and transparent set of regulations to govern all construction industry activities throughout Abu Dhabi Emirate. DMA adopted the International Codes published by the International Codes Council (ICC), the world's leading building code authority, and adapted them for Abu Dhabi's local conditions in a multi-phased code development process. The Building

Code's requirements for new buildings cover a wide range of aspects - from energy conservation, to light, ventilation, sanitation, structural strength, stability and maintenance, to safety from hazards like fire. They set the foundation for more cost-effective buildings with greater durability and higher health and safety standards. The Abu Dhabi Building Codes are a major step towards achieving the Abu Dhabi 2030 vision.

2. Classification of Contracting Firms

Contracting Firms have been classified under Regulation No. (2) of the year 2009 and accordingly the contractors have been classified into six categories. The conditions for classification are as follows:



Conditions for Contractors' Classification			
Category	Financial Conditions (Capital & Assets Value)	Conditions of Quality, Health & Safety	Technical Conditions (Permanent Technical & Accounting Cadre)
Special	AED 30,000,000 (Thirty million) at least	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISO 9001 • ISO 14001 • OHSAS 18001 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full time specialized engineering and technical cadre registered in the Engineers' Registry, including at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One senior engineer with a minimum of (15) years experience. • One engineer with a minimum of (12) years experience. • Two engineers with a minimum of (10) years experience. 2. Full time accounting cadre including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One financial manager with a minimum of (10) years experience. • One accountant with a minimum of (7) years experience.
First	AED 15,000,000 (Fifteen million) at least	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISO 9001 • ISO 14001 • OHSAS 18001 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full time specialized engineering and technical cadre registered in the Engineers' Registry, including at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One engineer with a minimum of (12) years experience. • Two engineers with a minimum of (5) years experience. 2. Full time accounting cadre including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One financial manager with a minimum of (7) years experience. • One accountant with a minimum of (5) years experience.
Second	AED 7,000,000 (Seven million) at least	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISO 9001 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full time specialized engineering and technical cadre registered in the Engineers' Registry, including at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One engineer with a minimum of (10) years experience. • One engineer with a minimum of (5) years experience. 2. Full time accounting cadre including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One financial manager with a minimum of (5) years experience. • One accountant with a minimum of (3) years experience.

	Experience Conditions (executed projects during the last six years prior to classification request)	Estimated Value of the Project the Contractor may participate in.
	The total value of the previously executed projects must not be less than AED 480,000,000, out of which at least AED 360,000,000 executed as a main contractor. Provided that the value of one of the projects is not less than AED 120,000,000 for each of the specializations to be classified.	More than AED 100,000,000 (One hundred million)
	The total value of the previously executed projects must not be less than AED 240,000,000, out of which at least AED 180,000,000 executed as a main contractor. Provided that the value of one of the projects is not less than AED 60,000,000 for each of the specializations to be classified.	More than AED 60,000,000 (Sixty million) up to AED 180,000,000 (One hundred eighty million)
	The total value of the previously executed projects must not be less than AED 120,000,000, out of which at least AED 90,000,000 executed as a main contractor. Provided that the value of one of the projects is not less than AED 30,000,000 for each of the specializations to be classified.	More than AED 30,000,000 (Thirty million) up to AED 100,000,000 (One hundred million)

Conditions for Contractors' Classification (continued)			
Category	Financial Conditions (Capital & Assets Value)	Conditions of Quality, Health & Safety	Technical Conditions (Permanent Technical & Accounting Cadre)
Third	AED 4,000,000 (Four million) at least	NA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Full time specialized engineering and technical cadre registered in the Engineers' Registry, including at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One engineer with a minimum of (7) years experience. One accountant with a minimum of (3) years experience.
Fourth	AED 1,500,000 (One million five hundred thousand) at least	NA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Full time specialized engineering and technical cadre registered in the Engineers' Registry, including at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One engineer with a minimum of (5) years experience. One accountant with a minimum of (1) year experience.
Fifth	AED 750,000 (Seven hundred fifty thousand) at least	NA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Full time specialized engineering and technical cadre registered in the Engineers' Registry, including at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One engineer with a minimum of (4) years experience.
Sixth	AED 300,000 (Three hundred thousand) at least	NA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Full time specialized engineering and technical cadre registered in the Engineers' Registry, including at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One engineer with a minimum of (4) years experience.

	Experience Conditions (executed projects during the last six years prior to classification request)	Estimated Value of the Project the Contractor may participate in.
	The total value of the previously executed projects must not be less than AED 60,000,000, out of which at least AED 45,000,000 executed as a main contractor. Provided that the value of one of the projects is not less than AED 15,000,000 for each of the specializations to be classified.	More than AED 10,000,000 (Ten million) up to AED 60,000,000 (Sixty million).
	The total value of the previously executed projects must not be less than AED 28,000,000, out of which at least AED 21,000,000 executed as a main contractor. Provided that the value of one of the projects is not less than AED 7,000,000 for each of the specializations to be classified.	More than AED 8,000,000 (Eight million) up to AED 30,000,000 (Thirty million).
	NA	AED 10,000,000 (Ten million) or less.
	NA	AED 7,000,000 (Seven million) or less.

8 TOURISM

Abu Dhabi Authority for Tourism and Culture has replaced the emirate's two main tourism and culture agencies, Abu Dhabi Tourism Authority (ADTA) and the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage (ADACH). The Abu Dhabi Authority for Tourism and Culture aims to preserve, protect and manage the cultural heritage of the emirate, along with promoting tourism development.

The merger will see the new authority regulate the tourism sector and develop policies overseeing hotels, exhibitions, and other tourism facilities. The authority will also organise conferences and festivals. The Authority for Tourism and Culture will also plan and implement programmes for archaeological explorations and the establishment and development of museums.

The Abu Dhabi Authority for Tourism and Culture issues licences and permits to Travel Offices, Travel and Tourism Outlet Offices, Tours Offices, Cruisers, Tourist Restaurants, Floating Restaurants, Hotels Management and Operation, Tourism Licence for Hotels etc.

Travel offices

Establishments or companies that provide travel tickets and hotel reservations within and outside the borders of the emirate.

Requirements:

- Submission of travel/tourism licence application with ADTA along with investors' passport copy.
- Foreign ownership is allowed up to 49%.
- Office lease contract.
- Business Plan with profile of management team (to comply with requirements of ADTA regarding experience and expertise in tourism sector).



- Trade name shall be allocated to the entity by the Department of Economic Development.
- Bank guarantee of AED 100,000 shall be deposited within 30 days of granting the licence.
- An undertaking to observe all the rules and regulations of ADTA.
- Approval from Waste Management Center.
- Licensing fees of a travel ticket sales office shall be AED 5,000.

Tours Offices

Establishments or companies that prepare tourism and entertainment programs, transporting tourists to destinations and tourism facilities inside and outside the emirates, employing tourist means of transportation.

Requirements:

Submission of tourism licence application to ADTA along with the requirements specified above and further to furnish the following:

- Undertaking to engage two tourist guides licenced by the ADTA, engage licenced and experienced drivers, one tourist bus and two light vehicles.
- Fees for tours organising offices shall be AED 2,500.

Cruisers:

Any means of maritime transport and cruising, equipped to work at sea, regardless of its power or tonnage, dedicated to transport tourists within the territorial waters of the country, provided

that it is licenced by the authority to be used for cruising.

Requirements:

Submission of tourism licence application to ADTA along with the specified requirements and the following:

- Title document of the ship or a lease contract.
- Feasibility study with detailed description of the services to be provided along with the activities and proposed areas.
- Approvals of competent authorities concerned with anchorage places start off, and arrival of ships according to a lease contract or a special agreement for this purpose.
- Comply with the following additional requirements:
 1. All ships shall be provided with safety equipment.
 2. At least three administrators shall be appointed. The number of technicians and administration staff shall correspond to the number of licenced ships.
 3. All ships shall be equipped with maritime wireless radios working on global marine channels, specifically on those set for the purposes of rescue and safety if the length of the cruiser is 35 feet or more.
 4. A captain and technical assistant licenced by competent authorities shall be made available.
- Cruiser licensing fees shall be AED 2,500.

Tourist Restaurant:

Any restaurant that is licenced by the authority to serve food and beverages and may provide entertainment or artistic services to its customers within the site of the restaurant against certain charges.

Requirements:

Submission of tourism licence application to ADTA along with the specified requirements and the following:

- Food Control Certificate issued by Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority shall be submitted.
- Tourist restaurant licensing fees shall be AED 2,500.

Licences for Floating Restaurants, Hotels Management and Operation, Tourism Licence for Hotels, etc. are also issued by ADTA in accordance to the rules and regulations adopted from time to time.

Major Tourist Attractions in Abu Dhabi

- Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque
- Emirates Palace Hotel
- Abu Dhabi Corniche
- Yas Marina Circuit (Formula 1)
- Manarat Al Saadiyat Galleries, Saadiyat Island
- Ferrari World, Yas Island
- Jebel Hafeet Mountain & Road
- Al Ain National Museum
- Saadiyat Beach Golf Course
- Yas Links Golf Course
- Sir Bani Yas Island Resort
- Abu Dhabi Wildlife Centre



9

BANKING & FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Role of UAE Central Bank

The regulatory framework for banking in the United Arab Emirates is contained in the Federal Law No. (10) of 1980. Under the Law, the Central Bank was established, which regulates the banking and monetary systems operating or wishing to operate in the country.

The Central Bank is authorised to issue licences and regulations for banks and other financial institutions which are distinctly categorised into:

- Commercial Banks
- Restricted Licence Banks
- Investment Banks
- Finance Companies
- Financial Investment Companies
- Banking, Financial, Investment Consultation Activities
- Monetary Intermediaries
- Financial Intermediaries
- Representative Offices of Foreign Financial Institutions

From the ambit of law are excluded Statutory Public Credit Institutions, Government Investment Institutions, Development Funds, Private Savings & Pension Funds and the Insurance Sector. Representative Offices of foreign banks are expressly barred from conducting banking activities.

Commercial Banks – [locally incorporated and branch of foreign banks]

Banks in the UAE are divided into two major categories: locally incorporated banks which are public shareholding companies licenced in accordance with provisions of Union Law No. (10) of 1980, and branches of foreign banks which have obtained Central Bank's licence to operate in the country as per provisions of the said Law. Historically, national banks (with majority national shareholding) and foreign banks existed prior to the establishment of the former



Currency Board and, hence, before the Central Bank was created and commenced its operations. Within such historical circumstances the number of banks and their branches in the country and abroad increased very rapidly on obvious disproportion with the capacity of the local market, hence, provoking the monetary authority at that time to withhold issuance of licences to any new bank and set about reducing the number of branches of a foreign bank to a maximum of eight branches.

In United Arab Emirates currently 47 banks are operating of which 21 are locally registered banks and 26 are branches of foreign banks.

Restricted Licence Banks

A Restricted Licence Bank is a commercial bank, which is not authorized to accept deposits from residents in local currency, but may receive deposits in foreign currencies. Such bank may also extend credit facilities to residents and non-residents. There is only one restricted licence bank operating in the country at present, namely, Banca Commercial Italiana.

Investment Banks

Union Law No. (10) of 1980 defined Investment Bank is a bank that does not accept deposits whose maturities are less than two years, but may borrow from its head office, from local or foreign banks, or from financial markets. There are two investment banks operating in the UAE at present, namely United Arab Emirates Investment Bank (PJSC), and

HSBC Financial Services (Middle East) Limited.

Finance Companies

Finance companies may conduct one or more of the following principal business activities:

- Extending advances and/or personal loans for personal or other consuming purposes.
- Financing small trade and small businesses, as well as opening letters of credit and issuing guarantees on behalf of customers.
- Participating in the capital of projects and/or in the issuance of shares or bonds and/or Certificates of Deposit.
- The finance company cannot conduct any other additional business activities without the prior approval of the Board of Directors of the Central Bank; such activities cannot be amended without the approval of the Board of Directors of the Central Bank.

Major Conditions for Granting a Licence

- The legal status of the company must be in one of the forms stipulated in Federal Law No. 8 of 1984 regarding commercial companies. However, if the company takes the form of Limited Liability Company (LLC), then its paid-up share capital must be not less than AED 50 million.
- The company must provide a 'letter of guarantee' issued in favour of the Central Bank for an amount being the equivalent of the whole of its minimum required paid-up share capital.

- The applicant must demonstrate that not less than 12 of its principal founding shareholders are financially capable and have not previously failed their financial commitments either as individuals or companies.
- The number of company's board members should not be less than 5, all of which have not previously failed their financial commitments. At least 60% of the board members should be knowledgeable in finance/banking business.
- The value of accepted deposits should be limited to 100% of the paid-up capital and reserves of the company during its first 2 years of operations. Thereafter, approval may be sought from the Central Bank to allow the value of accepted deposits to increase to 200% of paid-up share capital and reserves; up to 300% after 4 years; and up to 500% after 7 years.
- The founding members of the finance company must meet the necessary requirements with regard to personal integrity and professional qualifications as deemed appropriate by the Central Bank.

Financial Investment Companies

In order to organise and promote the business of financial investment companies to the appropriate internationally recognized standards and protect investors, the Board of Directors of the Central Bank issued Resolution No. 164/8/94 dated 18.4.1995. The resolution defines financial investment companies as those conducting one or



more than one of the following business:

- Opening investment accounts and managing portfolios on behalf of others, whether individuals or companies.
- Preparing feasibility studies for projects and marketing allotments and stocks of shareholding companies.
- Establishing and/or managing investment trust funds.
- Establishing and/or managing other investment funds and act as trustee of funds entrusted to it by a trust to manage on behalf of a beneficiary.
- Subscribing to companies' capital and participating in syndicated loans.

Major Conditions for Granting a Licence

- The legal status of the company must be in one of the forms stipulated in Federal Law No. 8 of 1984 regarding commercial companies. However, if the company takes the form of Limited Liability Company (LLC), then its paid-up share capital must be not less than AED 50 million.
- The company must provide a 'letter of guarantee' issued in favour of the Central Bank for an amount being the equivalent of the whole of its minimum required paid-up share capital.
- The applicant must demonstrate that not less than 12 of its principal founding shareholders are financially capable and have not previously failed their financial commitments either as individuals or companies.
- The number of company's board members should not be less than 5, all of which have not previously failed



their financial commitments. At least 60% of the board members should be knowledgeable in finance/banking business.

- The company must obtain Central Bank approval for its proposed organisation structure which should be appropriate and balanced, showing the main departments, sections, lines of reporting, authority and responsibilities.
- The founding members of the finance company must meet the necessary requirements with regard to personal integrity and professional qualifications as deemed appropriate by the Central Bank.

Banking, Financial, Investment Consultation Activities

As per the UAE Central Bank Board of Directors' Resolution No. 164/8/94, a natural or juridical person licenced to offer banking, financial and investment consultations against a fee, may conduct one or more of the following main activities:

- Preparing feasibility studies regarding investing in banking, financial or investment projects in financial markets and various securities.
- Designing various strategies, which aim at improving the performance level of existing banking, financial and investment projects.
- Providing advice or opinion to a natural or juridical person, directly or in writing or through publications, regarding the value of securities or any other financial instruments,

or regarding any banking services available in the country or expected to be provided in the future.

- Recommending to a natural or juridical person, directly, in writing or through publications, to carry out banking activities or to benefit from banking services, provided by banking institutions, or to invest or show interest in securities or any other financial instruments, or to purchase or sell such securities or instruments.
- Looking for technical investment methods with a better return, and providing general instructions or directives regarding the development of banking services or investment programs.
- Issuing periodical or non-periodical reports with limited circulation regarding the banking system, or available banking services or services which may become available in the future; or regarding securities or any other financial instruments which include, among other things, an analysis of and a promotion for such instruments.

Conditions for Granting a Licence

- The legal status of the company can be a sole proprietorship concern owned by a UAE citizen or in one of the forms stipulated in Federal Law No. 8 of 1984 regarding commercial companies. However, if the company takes the form of Limited Liability Company (LLC), then its paid-up share capital must not be less than AED 50 million.

- The applicant must provide the Central Bank with the curriculum vitae of the manager-in-charge, and managers of the main sections together with other relevant documents and certificates for prior approval. The Central Bank may decide to interview proposed staff through a special central bank committee to evaluate their technical and administrative qualifications and abilities.
- The contract of the manager-in-charge, who is also an authorised signatory, should contain an article stipulating that any violation on his part shall be considered a criminal offence for which he shall be punished, if it is proven that what he signed is untrue or misleading.

Money Exchanges

Money Exchange is a thriving business in the UAE owing to its demographic structure, which contains large numbers of expatriates regularly transferring remittances to their families and relatives in their home countries. The number of moneychangers operating in the country and volume of their transactions increased rapidly in recent years.

Conditions for Granting a Licence

- The legal status of the company can be a sole proprietorship concern owned by a UAE citizen.
- The minimum paid-up capital of the concern must be AED 1 million for currency trading and AED 2 million if the scope of activity includes issuance

of drafts and pay orders.

- The proposed entity may adopt other legal forms stipulated in Federal Law No. (8) of 1984 (as amended) regarding commercial companies. However, if the entity takes the form of Limited Liability Company (LLC), then its paid-up share capital must be not less than AED 50 million.
- The company must provide a letter of guarantee, issued in favour of the Central Bank for an amount being the equivalent of the whole of its minimum required paid-up share capital.
- The applicant must provide the Central Bank with the curriculum vitae of the manager-in-charge, and managers of the main sections together with other relevant documents and certificates for prior approval. The Central Bank may decide to interview proposed staff through a special central bank committee to evaluate their technical and administrative qualifications and abilities.
- The contract of the manager-in-charge, who is also an authorised signatory, should contain an article stipulating that any violation on his part shall be considered a criminal offence for which he shall be punished, if it is proven that what he signed is untrue or misleading.

Financial and Monetary Intermediaries [Financial/ Stock Brokers]

As per the UAE Central Bank Board of Directors' Resolution No. 126/5/95 and 153/5/97, a Financial/Monetary

Intermediary means any natural or juridical person, other than the financial institutions, licenced to conduct the business of financial and monetary brokerage activities. The business carried out by the intermediary shall be confined to intermediating in the sale and purchase of domestic and foreign stocks and bonds, currencies and commodities, as well as intermediating in money market transactions.

Conditions for Granting a Licence

The paid-up capital or the capital funds allocated for brokerage activities should not be less than AED 1,000,000 (One Million Dirhams) if the licence is confined to brokerage in dealing domestic stocks and bonds; AED 2,000,000 (Two Million Dirhams) if the licence is required for brokerage in dealing foreign stocks and bonds; AED 3,000,000 (Three Million Dirhams) if the licence is required for brokerage in dealing currencies and commodities as well as intermediating in money market transactions.

And in case the licence is required for two or more types of brokerage activities, the capital shall then be increased by adding up the amount specified for each activity.

Representative Offices of Foreign Financial Institutions

The Representative Offices should represent a bank or any other financial institution incorporated outside the



country. A Representative Office can undertake the following activities in the UAE:

- Representing the financial institution licenced to deal inside the country, including contacts on its behalf with concerned agencies as well as promoting its services in the local market.
- Providing the head office of the licenced financial institution with data relating to economic developments in the country.
- Providing customers of the licenced financial institution with information on the local market.
- Providing data to local agency, which intends to develop its business at countries wherein the licenced institution conduct its business.
- Providing customers with banking, financial and investment consultation services.

Conditions for Granting a Licence

- The applicant should be a bank or another financial establishment incorporated outside the country.
- The applicant should have completed a period of not less than ten (10) continuous years of conducting the business in the country of origin.
- The bank applicant's paid-up capital and reserves should not be less than AED 83.7 Million.
(The Board of Directors shall decide on the capital of any other financial establishment in view of the size of its business and the kind of its activity.)
- The relevant authority, to whose



supervision the applicant is subject to, should exercise the required control on the banking and/or financial system in the country of incorporation of the applicant. Furthermore, this authority should issue an approval or no-objection letter to opening a representative office in the country. However, in cases where the relevant authority does not issue such letter, it should state this clearly in its official documents, or confirm it in writing.

Financial Institutions not subject to Central Bank's Licensing

These include any remaining financial institutions; specialized banks (the Industrial Bank and the Real Estate Bank), Investment institutions (Abu Dhabi Investment Authority and Abu Dhabi Investment Company), Development Institutions (Abu Dhabi Development Fund and UAE Development Bank), Insurance Companies, etc.

Banks in Abu Dhabi Local Banks

- National Bank of Abu Dhabi
- Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank
- Al Masraf Bank
- Union National Bank
- Commercial Bank of Dubai
- Dubai Islamic Bank PJSC
- Emirates NBD Bank
- Emirates Islamic Bank
- Mashreq Bank PSC
- Sharjah Islamic Bank
- Bank of Sharjah PSC

- United Arab Bank PJSC
- Invest Bank PLC
- National Bank of R.A.K (RAK Bank)
- Commercial Bank International
- National Bank of Fujairah PSC
- National Bank of U.A.Q PSC
- First Gulf Bank
- Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank
- Dubai Bank
- Noor Islamic Bank
- Al Hilal Bank
- Ajman Bank

Foreign Banks

- National Bank of Bahrain
- Rafidain Bank
- Arab Bank PLC
- Banque Misr
- El Nilein Bank
- National Bank of Oman
- Credit Agricole
- Bank of Baroda
- BNP Paribas
- Janata Bank
- HSBC Bank Middle East Limited
- Arab African International Bank
- Al Khaliji (France) S. A.
- Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait
- Barclays Bank PLC
- Habib Bank Ltd.
- Habib Bank A.G Zurich
- Standard Chartered Bank
- CitiBank N.A.
- Bank Saderat Iran
- Bank Melli Iran
- United Bank Ltd.

10 CUSTOMS PROCEDURES

Abu Dhabi Customs Administration (ADCA)

Abu Dhabi Customs is one of the first governmental departments established in the Emirate and responsible for monitoring the movement of passengers, goods and means of transport through borders. ADCA involves in clearance of goods and facilitating smooth running of trade activities in the Emirate.

Exporting from Abu Dhabi

The export procedures are depending on the type and volume of merchandise as the export of some goods are subject to periodic restrictions based on the local consumption and need.

In general, exporters or clearing agents have to arrange the following documents and attach them with the customs declaration form prior to submitting the application at ADCA:

- Original Invoice
- Packing List
- Bill of Lading
- Original Certificate of Origin

Procedures

- Obtain the necessary approval from concerned authorities for the

shipment of goods that are subject to export restrictions imposed on certain items and quantities.

- Prepare the documents required to complete the customs declaration process and submit them for verification.
- Submit the Original Certificate of Origin of goods intended for export.

Re-exporting from Abu Dhabi

Re-export involves importing merchandise of foreign origin into the country and shipping it to another destination in the same condition when it was imported or after reprocessing inside the country.



Required Documents

- Original Invoice.
- Copy of declaration on temporary entry or import for re-export purpose.
- Original Certificate of Origin.

Procedures

- Make sure that there are no restrictions on the export or the quantities of certain items.
- Produce the shipment to the customs officer who will check the number of consignments in each item and the total number of consignments to be re-exported.
- The customs officer will also verify the type and volume of the items to be re-exported and whether the lead seal which is used to prevent unauthorized opening of goods under customs control is intact.

Importing to Abu Dhabi

Before approaching the customs, make sure that the documents are in the name of the importer and the attached invoices mention the coordinated code of each item and the number and weight of consignments to facilitate easy customs clearance.

Required Documents

- Delivery Permit from the Forwarding Agent showing the name of the owner of goods or the clearing agent or delivery order from the shipping agent.
- Bill of Lading (by air or sea) which

includes the details of goods being imported.

- Packing List which includes details of the package contents.
- Original Certificate of Origin showing the country of production or manufacturing attested by the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (excluding goods imported from GCC countries).
- Original Invoice showing the total quantity and description of goods and preferential value of each item.
- Copy of trade licence.
- Statistical statement if the goods are meant to be moved to their final destination in one of the GCC countries.

Procedures

- Prior to customs clearance, get the importer number against a fee of AED 50 from the customs centre.
- Submit the required documents.
- Pay customs duties. Customs duties cover the value of goods, insurance on goods (1%) and the value of shipping.
- Collect the copy of customs declaration form.

Special Conditions

- All importers need to hold a valid residence permit in the UAE.
- The trade licence is mandatory in case of importing goods in large amounts.
- Individuals are allowed to import their personal belongings in limited quantity by paying 5% customs tariff.

Temporary Import into Abu Dhabi

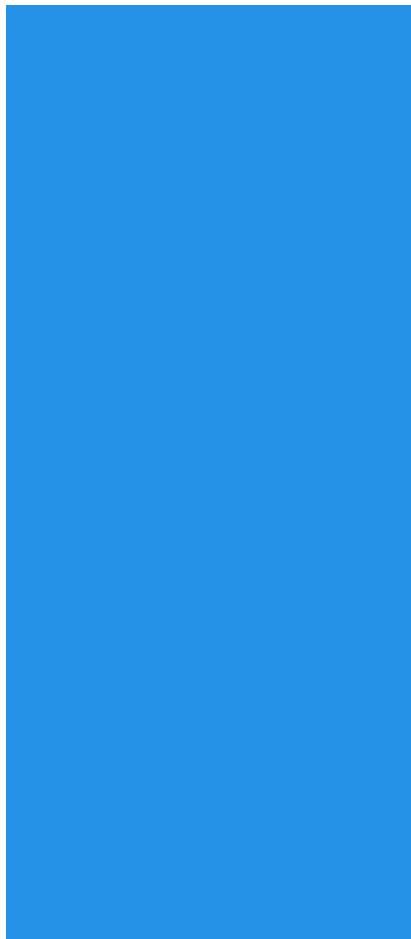
Temporary import (entry) means the entry of goods via customs checkpoints into the country on a temporary basis (against a deposit similar to customs duties levied on the total value of goods). The purpose of the temporary entry can be manufacturing, repairing, participation in an exhibition or show or implementing certain projects.

Required Documents

- Manifesto or original statement of border crossing stamped by the customs centre in the country of export or the neighboring country.
- A detailed statement on the incoming consignment (number, type, quantity, pictures of some consignments such as gold and jewellery).
- The original invoice showing items and quantities of goods being exported.
- Original Certificate of Origin showing the country of origin of the goods.
- Packing list.
- Letter from the exhibition organiser in certain cases.

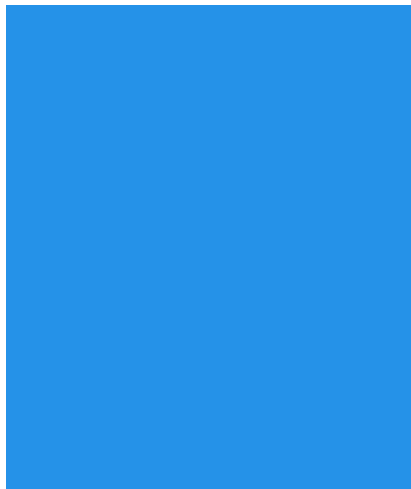
Procedures for Temporary Import

- The importer should notify customs about his intention of temporary import before clearing the shipment.
- In order to facilitate an easy customs clearance process, the attached invoices must include the serial number for each item in order to enable the customs to view and



cross check the contents against the invoice.

- After the cross checking process is over, the importer shall keep a copy of the invoices carrying customs stamp and remarks of the customs officer (the contents comply with re-export, exhibiting and return norms)
- Those who import for exhibitions should submit an application from the exhibition organiser addressed to the General Director of Customs requesting to facilitate the entry of the consignment before receiving goods. 6% of the value of goods should be paid (value of goods + value of shipping + insurance + 1%).
- The customs officer will approve the customs declaration, clear the consignment and refer the transaction with all documents to the Insurance Section until re-export.
- Goods will be given a temporary entry period of 6 months only, after that the deposit amount will not be refunded in case of re-export.
- If the importer wishes to extend the temporary entry period, he has to apply to the ADCA before the expiry of the insurance period and there will be a fee charged on extending the insurance period.
- To refund the deposit amount, the importer or the clearing agent should notify Customs to cross check the invoice against the contents upon export to obtain clearance on the imported shipment.
- After that the importer has to approach the Customs Administration and submit the clearance in order to refund the deposit amount.



Temporary entry is not applicable to the import of spare parts, tyres, batteries and other consumable materials that are used in projects.

Restricted Goods

To ensure a safe society and stable economy, the UAE restricts the entry or exit of certain goods. Restricted goods are the goods of which the import or export is restricted by the UAE under the provisions of the Common Customs

Law of the GCC countries or any other relevant law. The import of restricted goods is controlled by competent government agencies such as Ministry of Environment and Water, Ministry of Interior, Health Authority - Abu Dhabi and Telecommunication Regulatory Authority depending on the type of goods. Importers need to get necessary approvals from the concerned authority for their import.

Transit Procedures

Transit refers to the customs declarations that detail foreign goods passing through the territory of the UAE to another country or to one of the Free Zones in the UAE using mass transport modes by virtue of transit declaration.

Required Documents

- Delivery Order from the shipping agent.
- Original Invoices of goods showing the type of goods, quantity and value.
- Packing List which includes details of the package contents.
- Original Certificate of Origin (excluding foreign goods).
- Bill of Lading which contains the details of goods being imported.
- In case of transportation by land, attach the original manifest (transit declaration) signed and stamped by the customs centre of the country of export or the neighbouring country. It is also required to clearly mention the country of final destination of shipment.

Entry Procedures

- Before transporting goods to other destination, check if there are any restrictions that ban or restrict passage of certain items through the territory of the UAE.
- Make sure that the documents are complete with correct information before submitting to the customs officer who will verify them and hand them over to one of the inspectors.
- Customs will then confirm the type, numbers and mode of transport.
- Make sure that there are no discrepancies in the details of goods and all of the items and quantities are moved out of the country.
- Receive a copy of customs declaration.

Exit Procedures

- Make sure that the documents are complete with correct information before submitting to the customs officer who will verify them and hand them over to one of the inspectors.
- Make sure that the shipment meets the conditions and instructions regarding the mode of transport.
- The type and numbers of mode of transport will also be subject to customs verification.
- Customs will examine the authenticity of stamps, belts and customs lead.
- Receive a copy of customs declaration.

11

IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW ENTITIES

General Directorate of Residence and Foreigners Affairs - Abu Dhabi (GDRFA)

GDRFA provides services related to security, nationality, residence and passports. It is a mandatory requirement to register a new company's name with GDRFA and the Ministry of Labour.

Since most of the companies recruit their employees from abroad it needs to open a file at these authorities as soon as they received the trade licence. Upon registering, the company/entity shall be issued a registration card from the Ministry of Labour called 'Labour Establishment Card' and the card issued by GDRFA is called 'Immigration Establishment Card'.

Employment Permits/Visas

Employment Visa or Permit shall be issued by the GDRFA for a foreign national in order to work in a company in UAE after the approval from Ministry of Labour. Employment permit/visa allows the holder to enter UAE once for a period of 30 days and is valid for a period of 2 months. When the employee enters the country on the basis of the employment visa, the sponsoring company should arrange to complete the formalities of residence stamping. The employee must undergo a medical test and obtain a medical fitness certificate and a health card. Once the medical certificate is issued by the health department an application for Labour Card should be submitted to the Ministry of Labour within 30 days of the employee's entry into the country. The

next step is to submit the application to GDRFA for stamping the residency on employee's passport. All the above formalities should be completed within 60 days of the arrival of the employee in the UAE.

Investor Visa

An expatriate investor in a Limited Liability Company (LLC) who holds minimum shareholding of AED 70,000 in the share capital shall be issued with an investor visa. Such visas shall be issued directly from GDRFA and does not need the approval from the Ministry of Labour.

Residence Visa

A residence visa is required for those who intend to enter UAE for living indefinitely with a person who already is a resident of the country. This type of



visas are issued for spouse and children whose husband/parent is employed in the UAE. It should be noted if the person who is a resident of the UAE stays more than six months period at a time out of the country, his permit becomes invalid.

Visa Requirements and Regulations for Visitors to Abu Dhabi

GCC Citizens

Citizens of the Arab Gulf Co-operation Council member states (Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Saudi Arabia) do not need a visa.

GCC Residents

GCC expatriate residents who meet certain conditions may obtain a non-renewable 30-day visa upon arrival at the approved ports of entry.

Procedures for issuing Entry Permit for Visit

This permit is issued by either the GDRFA or Consulate institutions that represent UAE. This permit is given to the foreigner who wants to enter the country for the following reasons:

- Visit a relative or a friend residing in the country.
- Visit public or private moral identity.
- For tourism and under the sponsorship of companies working in tourism sector.
- Visit entry permit allows its holder to enter the country once during 2 months from issuing date and stay

for 30 days from entry date. It can be extended for 2 times to the same period for serious reason and not for tourists.

- Entry permit application forms are to be applied after preparing all data and required documents for each case, and the following procedures must be complied:

If the entry is to visit a relative or a friend who is a legal resident in the country, following are the conditions:

- Visitor must be husband or wife to the sponsor or relative from the first degree. Second degree relatives can be allowed to visit according to approval from the department.
- The sponsor must be a local if the visitor is a friend.
- Attach documents to prove marriage or kinship or reasons of the visit. Sponsor must apply enough guarantees that the sponsored will not violate the rules.

If the visitor is a foreign wife to a GCC national, the wife must have valid residency in the husband's country.

If the entry is to visit public or private moral identity, acceptable reason must be provided to the concerned authorities for the reasons of the visit.

If the entry is for tourism, the sponsor must be a company working in tourism sector and have enough guarantees. The application must be submitted to the department one week before arrival date

with a list of the visitors' names and their personal data. The group of visitors must be 10 persons or more and their tourism program must be attached with the dates of arrival and entry, places of residence and places they are going to visit in the country.

Entry Permit for Employment

- GDRFA after approval from the concerned authorities according to each case- can give the foreigner permission to enter the country for work. Consulate institutions that represent UAE outside can issue entry permits for foreigners to work in the government or public sector companies and organisations depending on approval from the place they are going to work in and after approval from GDRFA department.
- Work entry permit allows its holder to enter the country once during 2 months from date of issuing and stay for 30 days maximum from the date of entry.
- To obtain work entry permit the person must comply to all procedures and apply with the required documents.

Companies and Organisations operating in the Free Zones

Naturalization and residency department issues work permits to these bodies according to the following:

- These companies and organisations must be located inside the borders



of the Free Zones that have been established by decrees or federal or local laws.

- Work permits for employees in these companies or organisations are given according to the approval from the committee. This committee is formed by ministerial decree according to the regulations approved from the Ministry.

Sport Unions, Clubs and Associations:

GDRFA department issues work permits to these bodies and it must be approved from Ministry of Education and Youth.

Religious and Charity organisation:

Naturalization and Residency Department issues work permits to these bodies according to the following:

- Attach an approved copy from the federal or local decree to establish it and consider it as public benefit organisation.
- Approve the form from the concerned governmental body.

People working in the Police and Security forces:

To issue work permit for people working in police and security forces, the application must be approved from personal affairs in the concerned department.

People working in the Defense and Army:

To issue work permit to people working in the Defense and Army, the following must be done:



- Sign the form from the appointing place.
- Approve the form from military investigation in the department that submits the form.

Work Permit for Housemaid sponsored by expatriate:

To issue entry permit for servant to foreign person, the following must be done:

- A) Sponsor's monthly salary must be AED 6,000 or more.
- B) Sponsor should pay every year to the state treasury an amount equal to the servant's annual salary and servant's monthly salary must not be less than AED 400.

- Sponsor must not abdicate the servant's sponsorship during one year till the date of submitting the form.
- Sponsor and sponsored must not be relatives.
- Sponsor must be staying with his family in the country.
- Women can sponsor servants if they are working in rare specialization like medicine, teaching, engineering or similar specialisations.

UAE Labour Law

The Federal Law No. (8) of 1980, or the UAE Labour Law, is a comprehensive law that regulates all aspects of labour relations between employers and employees. It is an advanced and balanced law that clarifies the rights and duties of all parties concerned and brings numerous benefits to employees and workers.

The Labour Law was developed in 1980 and was amended by Federal Law No. (24) of 1981, Federal Law No. (15) of 1985 and Federal Law No. (12) of 1986. In its 193 articles, the law outlines everything from employee entitlements (working hours, holidays, leaves, end of service gratuity, workers' compensation, etc.) to employment contracts, labour dispute settlement, disciplinary rules, safety and protection and labour inspection, among others.

Wages Protection System

In line with the UAE government efforts and its development and modernisation plans which aim at improving government performance and providing better and faster services to the public, the Ministry of Labour has implemented a Wages Protection System. This system is an important step towards ensuring and protecting the rights of workers, and towards establishing trust between establishments and their employees.

Companies are now obliged to transfer the salaries of their employees through the new system within a period not exceeding nine months. Companies that fail to abide by the decision will be subject to punishments and fines, and will not be able to obtain work permits.

12 JUDICIAL SYSTEM IN ABU DHABI

The judicial system in the UAE is functioning in a two fold legal framework which includes local judiciary and the federal judiciary. The relationship between the two systems is regulated by articles of the UAE Constitution (Articles 94 to 109). All emirates have Courts of First Instance and Courts of Appeal, either federal or local, in addition to the Sharia Courts which mainly deal with the matters of personal status, such as marriage, divorce and inheritance, among others. The primary source of legislation is Sharia (Islamic Law), based on the Holy Qur'an and the traditions of the Prophet.

The judicial system in the country, both in its local and federal forms, has presented an excellent model for rule of law and separation of powers over years. The system has significantly contributed to the community safety, economic and social stability, public

accountability and administrative transparency and efficiency.

Laws and Decrees

The development of laws in the UAE started with the birth of the UAE Union in 1971. A series of federal and local laws were developed with the purpose of regulating relations and ensuring the stability of transactions and the safety of society.

Federal Laws

Federal laws are issued under the provisions of the UAE Constitution. Before becoming a law or a bill, a draft law is prepared by the Cabinet and submitted to the Federal National Council, the fourth authority in the hierarchy of federal authorities, for its review, recommendations and amendments, if any. The bill is then submitted to the President of the country for approval and presentation to the



Federal Supreme Council, the highest constitutional authority in the country, for ratification. After the ratification by the Council, the President signs it and issues the law.

Laws Issued by Decrees

The President, together with the Cabinet, issues urgent federal laws in between the sessions of the Supreme Council in the form of decrees, which have the force of laws, provided that they do not violate the Constitution.

Ordinary Decrees

Ordinary decrees are issued after approval by the Cabinet and the President, in accordance with their respective powers, and are published in the Official Gazette. Ordinary decrees are used for matters vested in the President under the Constitution, including international treaties and appointments of some public officials.

Cabinet Decisions

Cabinet decisions are used for matters which do not require a law or a decree, but which is beyond the authority of an individual minister or the head of an institution. They are issued to regulate the work of government and to ensure that ministries and other institutions perform their functions according to the mandate.

Local Laws

The process of issuing local laws in Abu Dhabi emirate begins with the Executive Council referring a draft law

to the National Consultative Council. As per Article No. 6 of Law No. (2) of 1971, the Executive Council should present all local draft laws to the Consultative Council during its gathering to discuss and make recommendations. The draft law is then submitted to the Ruler of the Emirate to sign it and issue as a law.

Local Judicial System

According to the UAE Constitution, each of the seven emirates has the right to either join the federal judicial system or to maintain its own judicial system. The local judicial authorities in each emirate can look into any judicial matters not assigned to the federal judiciary under the provisions of the Constitution. The jurisdiction of local judiciary covers 80 per cent of the country's area and nearly 75 per cent of the nation's entire population.

Abu Dhabi Courts

Abu Dhabi Courts were formed under the Law No (23) of 2006 which restructured Abu Dhabi Judicial Department (ADJD). Abu Dhabi Court System follows three stages of litigation, Court of First Instance, Court of Appeals and Court of Cassation. The Courts report to the Judicial Council. Each court is presided over by a President supported by a number of judges and administrative staff.

Federal Judiciary

The federal judiciary in the UAE began in 1973 with the issuance of the Federal Law No. (10) of 1973 establishing the

Federal Supreme Court. The federal judiciary comprises the Federal Supreme Court, Federal First Instance Courts and Federal Appeal Courts.

Federal Supreme Court

The Federal Supreme Court is the highest federal judicial authority in the country and Abu Dhabi is the seat of the Federal Supreme Court (Court of Cassation). The Federal Supreme Court consists of a President and a maximum number of five judges appointed by a decree issued by the President of the UAE, after approval by the Supreme Council. The rulings of the Federal Supreme Court are final and binding on all.



13 REAL ESTATE

In Abu Dhabi property rights are divided into the following categories:

UAE nationals are entitled to freehold ownership anywhere in the Emirate. GCC nationals are entitled to freehold ownership, Musataha rights and Usufruct rights only in investment zones.

Foreign nationals are entitled to own leasehold apartments or floors, without any ownership of underlying

land (surface rights or airspace) and Musataha and Usufruct rights only in investment zones.

Law No.3 of 2005, the Registration Law, and its implementation regulations deal with the Registration of Real Estate and the Land Registration Department in Abu Dhabi, Al Ain and the Western Region. Abu Dhabi has also introduced laws which make provision for ownership of real estate by other nationalities and

which differentiate between the rights of UAE nationals, GCC nationals (or companies wholly owned by them) and Foreign nationals (Law No. 19 of 2007, and Law No. 2 of 2007).

To reiterate, non-GCC foreigners cannot own freehold land, although GCC citizens can, provided the land is within a designated investment area. Long leases will be the only option available for non-GCC nationals as they will not be able to own land upon which properties are built.

KEY REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENTS IN ABU DHABI

Al Reem Island

This is a very large construction and property development project comprising residential, commercial and mixed-use properties. It is based on a natural island located off the north eastern coast of Abu Dhabi island. Upon completion the project will be well-equipped with



facilities such as schools, parks, golf courses, art galleries, hotels and beach resorts, shopping malls, healthcare centres, restaurants and other recreational attractions. Residents will be able to enjoy a modern lifestyle in a high quality and relatively calm environment that should rank well on a global basis.

Saadiyat Island

Saadiyat is Arabic for 'happiness'. It is a large natural island approximately 500 meters off the north eastern coastline of Abu Dhabi. The planning authorities have made Saadiyat Island the cultural district of Abu Dhabi, which will be home to branches of world famous museums (see later section), for openings before the end of 2017. Part of the plan is to provide residential accommodation for about 145,000 people.

Al Raha Beach

This is a development district located to the south of Yas Island, and stretching westwards towards the Eastern Mangroves on the north east coast of Abu Dhabi island. Al Raha Beach is just 20 minutes from the city centre of Abu Dhabi, and 10 minutes from Abu Dhabi International Airport. Home to Aldar headquarters, the world's largest spherical skyscraper, as well as quality residential developments such as Al Bandar and Al Muneera, Al Raha Beach covers 11 km of coastline and six million square meters and has great potential for further development.

Yas Island

This island has a total area of 2,500 hectares, of which almost 1,700 hectares has been allocated to development projects. Existing major attractions include the Yas Marina Circuit (Formula One), home to the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, Ferrari World, and Yas Arena, a concert venue that has been graced by world class performers. The iconic Yas Hotel (the Viceroy) is located inside the race track. Soon to open is the nearby Yas Water Park, followed by Yas Mall. Yas island also has two world-class golf courses and a polo club.

Desert Islands

These consist of eight major natural islands (amongst a few hundred in total), and include Sir Bani Yas Island and the historic Delma Island. These lie some 30 and 10 kilometres respectively from the coast of Al Gharbia at Jebel Dhanna. Sir Bani Yas Island is a destination for environmental and conservation tourism, with its own wildlife park, hotel resort, and nature-based adventure activities.

KEY PROPERTY DEVELOPERS IN ABU DHABI

Tourism Development and Investment Company (TDIC)

TDIC, set up in 2006, is a government-owned master developer of real estate and major tourist destinations in Abu

Dhabi. TDIC is behind some of Abu Dhabi's most prestigious projects:

Saadiyat Island

The Saadiyat Island project, mentioned earlier, has been divided into seven parts, each offering unique facilities.

The projects include: The Residences at the St. Regis Resort, the Cultural District, Saadiyat Beach, Saadiyat Marina, Island Lagoons, South Beach, Eco Point, and the Wetlands. Saadiyat will house the world's largest single concentration of premier cultural institutions, including the Louvre Abu Dhabi, the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi Museum, the Zayed National Museum, the Performing Arts Centre, and a maritime museum.

Major projects at Sir Bani Yas Island:

- Desert Islands Resort & Spa by Anantara
- Desert islands Conference Centre
- Desert Islands Water Sports Centre
- Al Yamm Lodge
- Sir Bani Yas Stables

Sorouh Real Estate PJSC (Sorouh)

Sorouh is one of the largest real estate developers based in Abu Dhabi with up to AED 70 billion (\$ 19 billion) worth of projects at various stages of development. Sorouh was established in June, 2005, with capital of AED 2.5 billion, and has established itself as one of the largest companies in the property sector on the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange.

Major projects:

- Golf Gardens
- Shams Abu Dhabi
- The Gate District
- Towers on Reem Island
- Alghadeer
- Sarya
- Lulu Island

Aldar Properties PJSC (Aldar)

Aldar is undertaking multi-billion dirham projects to help develop Abu Dhabi. Since becoming established in 2005, the company has announced projects worth more than \$ 75 billion. The company is owned by leading (mainly government-related) Abu Dhabi institutions, and other investors.

Major projects:

- Various projects on Yas island
- Projects at Al Raha Beach
- Central Market Re-development (Khalifa Street)
- Al Gurm Resort
- Al Raha Gardens
- Motor World

Note: As we go to print, Sorouh and Aldar are exploring possible plans to merge.

14 MISCELLANEOUS

PORT TARIFF

Discharging/Loading of Containers

Upto 20 ft	Discharging AED	Loading AED
Full	365	365
Full Transshipment	330	365
Empty	180	180
Empty Transshipment	265	-
Over 20ft		
Full	485	485
Full Transshipment	440	-
Empty	275	275
Empty Transshipment	330	-

Container Storage Rates – Rates apply per day and after free time expires



Import of Full Containers

Import	Up to 20ft	Over 20ft
First 5 days	Free	Free
Next 10 days	AED 50	AED 100
Thereafter	AED 130	AED 185

For individual shipments of 30 containers or more, additional 5 days free time will apply

Export - Full Containers

Export	Up to 20ft	Over 20ft
First 5 days	Free	Free
Next 10 days	AED 22	AED 34
Next 10 days	AED 28	AED 40
Next 30 days	AED 33	AED 45
Thereafter	AED 66	AED 88

Transshipment Containers

Export	Up to 20ft	Over 20ft
First 30 days	Free	Free
Next 30 days	AED 10	AED 20
Thereafter	AED 15	AED 25

Empty Containers

Export	Up to 20ft	Over 20ft
First 14 days	Free	Free
Next 30 days	AED 10	AED 20
Thereafter	AED 15	AED 25

Un-stuffing or Stuffing FCL Containers at CFS or Other Port Facility

20ft	AED 225	For Palletised Cargo
20ft	AED 350	For Non- Palletised Cargo

Un-stuffing or Stuffing LCL Containers at CFS or Other Port Facility

20ft	AED 400	For Palletised Cargo
20ft	AED 500	For Non- Palletised Cargo

Partial Stuffing or Un-Stuffing

20ft	Upto 3 cbm	AED 100
	Upto 10 cbm	AED 150
	Over 10 cbm	AED 300
40ft	Upto 3 cbm	AED 100
	Upto 10 cbm	AED 150
	Over 10 cbm	AED 300
	Over 20 cbm	AED 450

Storage Charges – Rates per Freight ton

Import/Export - Covered

First 7 days	Free
Next 15 days	AED 5 per 5 days
Thereafter	AED 10 per day

Import/Export - Open

First 15 days	Free
Next 15 days	AED 5 per 5 days
Thereafter	AED 10 per day

Transshipment - Covered

First 30 days	Free
Next 30 days	AED 3 per 10 days
Thereafter	AED 4 per 10 days

Transshipment - Open

First 30 days	Free
Next 30 days	AED 3 per 10 days
Thereafter	AED 4 per 10 days

Cargo stored in the Port but not handled over the quay will not be entitled to any free storage period.

Cold/Cool Storage

Cool Storage	AED 4 per freight ton per day
Cold Storage	AED 5 per freight ton per day

OTHER INITIATIVES OF ABU DHABI GOVERNMENT

Office of the Brand of Abu Dhabi

The Office of the Brand of Abu Dhabi (OBAD) is a government entity, established by the Executive Council resolution number 48 in 2007. OBAD is responsible for delivering a compelling and consistent brand for Abu Dhabi, which embraces the Emirate's vision for the future and which respects the culture, heritage and traditions of its past. OBAD acts as the guardian and patron of the brand, providing guidance to the public and private sectors on its application in all activities that may have an impact on the reputation of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi - from tourism, to inward investment to the service industry.

Nibras - Al Ain Aerospace Park

Nibras is a 37 billion Dirham project involving construction of an aviation city in the eastern oasis town of Al Ain. It would be one of the biggest and most important aviation ventures in the region. The project is a joint venture of Mubadala Aerospace (Strata) and Abu Dhabi Airports Company.

The Abu Dhabi Government considers aerospace to be one of the key industries necessary to achieve the vision. Nibras will serve as a catalyst for Abu Dhabi's further economic diversification, employment generation, and economic development, and should attract world class aerospace manufacturers, suppliers, research and knowledge institutions, and educational facilities to contribute significantly towards the development of the global aerospace industry. The cluster spread across an area of 25 sq. kilometers and part of Al Ain Airport, offers Free Zone

status to investors such as 100% foreign ownership, zero taxation and much more.

Partners of Nibras:

- Mubadala Aerospace (Strata)
- Abu Dhabi Airports Company
- Horizon Flight Academy
- AMMROC
- Al Ain International Aviation Academy

Abu Dhabi Film Commission

Abu Dhabi Film Commission was launched in 2009 with a mandate to support the development of Abu Dhabi's growing film & TV industry and promote the Emirate as a production and filming location.

This forms part of a wider approach to support the development of a sustainable media industry and establish Abu Dhabi as a regional centre of excellence for media and entertainment content creation.

Backed by Abu Dhabi Media Free Zone Authority and institutional support from National Media Council, Abu Dhabi Film Festival and Image National, the Commission offers various incentives to the ardent film and TV producers of the region.

The commission offers competitive international production incentives of 30% cash rebate on production spent in Abu Dhabi. Also, the Film Commission



provides support in finding unique locations, advice on script clearance and permits, equipment, experienced crew, studios and high-end post production facilities.

Productions of feature film, television drama series, TV and feature documentaries, factual and national history, comedy, commercials, music videos, life style etc. are qualified for the rebate.

Al Gharbia – Development of Western Region of Abu Dhabi

The Western Region is one of the key economic and investment regions in the United Arab Emirates, and represents 60% of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi's total area and includes seven main cities: Liwa, Zayed City, Ghiyathi, Ruwais, Mirfa, Sila, and Delma Island. The GDP of the region represents 45% of Abu Dhabi's total GDP.

The region's industry clusters are mainly in diverse fields such as energy, oil and gas, chemicals, infrastructure development, construction, in addition to the tourism facilities that made the region a perfect destination to attract visitors from the country and outside. Based on independent analysis and numerous stakeholder interviews and working sessions, five priority sectors were defined to drive economic growth, job creation, investment, and knowledge transfer in the region for the next 20 years.

The five anchor sectors, chosen based on a set of criteria defining their attractiveness and Al Gharbia's ability to win them are:

Energy

Oil and gas equipment and services and alternative (predominantly nuclear and solar) energy production and services.

Chemicals

Midstream petrochemicals production and downstream end products manufacturing.

Water

Equipment and technology, manufacture of meters, pumps and valves designed to monitor and reduce water consumption.

Tourism

Leisure, tradition and business segments.

Food

Growing of dates and vegetables using modern, sustainable technologies, fish farming and food processing.

Education Sector in Abu Dhabi – Abu Dhabi Education Council (ADEC)

ADEC was established in 2005 with an aim to develop education and educational institutions in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, implement innovative educational policies, plans and programs that aim to improve education, and

support educational institutions and staffs to achieve the objectives of national development in accordance with the highest international standards.

Abu Dhabi Education Council offers interested companies the opportunity for leasing and developing vacant government land plots for the purpose of constructing and operating private schools on specified land plots at various locations. However, there are restrictions to the curriculum which the schools can follow.

SEA PORTS IN ABU DHABI

Port Zayed (Mina Zayed)

Port Zayed (Mina Zayed) is the main seaport of Abu Dhabi. Operated by Abu Dhabi Ports Company, and has 21 berths with individual depths varying between 9.5 and 15 meters, allowing the arrival of all types of commercial trans-ocean ships.

In addition to the normal port services, Port Zayed offers the facility of Fresh Water, Towage, Launch Services, Provisions, Repatriation, Gyco/Radio Repairs, Fumigation, Bunkering, Medical, Surveys, Rubbish Collection, Container repairs and temperature controlled warehouses. It has 13 berths dedicated for cargo services. The port's commercial traffic (excluding cruise ship business) will be transferred to Khalifa Port by end of 2012.



Khalifa Port

Khalifa Port is a key enabler for the Khalifa Industrial Zone Abu Dhabi (Kizad). The role of Khalifa Port is to accommodate Mina Zayed's traffic as well as the new cargo generated by Kizad, set to become one of the world's biggest industrial zones. Khalifa Port will become one of the biggest ports in the world when all phases are completed. Khalifa Port features the latest technology and is designed to accommodate largest ships.

Apart from the EMAL (Emirates Aluminium) berth which became operational on November 3rd 2010, infrastructure for Phase 1 of the port will be completed in Q4, 2012 with an initial capacity to handle 2 million TEUs container traffic and 12 million tons of general cargo annually. Through phased development up to 2030, Khalifa Port will grow to a capacity of 15 million TEUs and 35 million tons of general cargo.

Musaffah Port (Musaffah Channel)

Works are progressing to modify the Musaffah Port which shall support to the logistics movement in and out of Industrial Cities of Abu Dhabi. The 53kms long Musaffah Channel, the second longest channel in the region after the Suez Canal, upon completion of the dredging will help larger ships to access Musaffah Port.



ABU DHABI GOVERNMENT ENTITIES

1.	Abu Dhabi Authority for Tourism and Culture	Central Government
2.	Abu Dhabi Council for Economic Development (ADCED)	Central Government
3.	Abu Dhabi Customs Administration (ADCA)	Central Government
4.	Abu Dhabi Education Council (ADEC)	Central Government
5.	Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority (ADFCA)	Central Government
6.	Abu Dhabi Quality and Conformity Council (QCC)	Central Government
7.	Abu Dhabi Sports Council (ADSC)	Central Government
8.	Abu Dhabi Systems & Information Centre (ADSIC)	Central Government
9.	Abu Dhabi Tawteen Council (ADTC)	Central Government
10.	Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council (UPC)	Central Government
11.	Critical National Infrastructure Authority (CNIA)	Central Government
12.	Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development (ADED)	Central Government
13.	Department of Finance (DOF)	Central Government
14.	Department of Municipal Affairs (DMA)	Central Government
15.	Department of Transport (DoT)	Central Government
16.	Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi (EAD)	Central Government
17.	Executive Affairs Authority (EAA)	Central Government
18.	General Directorate of Abu Dhabi Police (ADP)	Central Government
19.	General Directorate of Residence and Foreigners Affairs - Abu Dhabi (GDRFA)	Central Government
20.	Health Authority - Abu Dhabi (HAAD)	Central Government

21.	Higher Corporation for Specialized Economic Zones (ZonesCorp)	Central Government
22.	Media Zone Authority (twofour54)	Central Government
23.	Regulation and Supervision Bureau (The Bureau)	Central Government
24.	Supreme Petroleum Council (SPC)	Central Government
25.	Technology Development Committee (TDC)	Central Government
26.	General Directorate of Civil Defence Abu Dhabi	Central Government
27.	The General Secretariat of the Executive Council (GSEC)	Central Government
28.	Western Region Development Council (WRDC)	Central Government
29.	Abu Dhabi Accountability Authority (ADAA)	Court
30.	Abu Dhabi Judicial Department (ADJD)	Court
31.	Ruler's Representative Court of the Western Region (RRCWR)	Court
32.	The Court of the Crown Prince (CPC)	Court
33.	Central Bank of the UAE (CBUAE)	Federal Entity
34.	Emirates Authority for Standardization & Metrology (ESMA)	Federal Entity
35.	Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research (ECSSR)	Federal Entity
36.	Emirates Identity Authority (EIDA)	Federal Entity
37.	Emirates Integrated Telecommunications Company (du)	Federal Entity
38.	Emirates Telecommunications Corporation (Etisalat)	Federal Entity
39.	Emirates eGovernment (EG)	Federal Entity
40.	General Authority of Islamic Affairs & Endowment (GAIAE)	Federal Entity
41.	General Authority of Youth and Sports Welfare (YSW)	Federal Entity

42.	General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA)	Federal Entity
43.	Marriage Fund	Federal Entity
44.	Military Survey Department (MSD)	Federal Entity
45.	Ministry of Culture, Youth and Community Development (MCYCD)	Federal Entity
46.	Ministry of Labour (MOL)	Federal Entity
47.	Ministry of Presidential Affairs (MOPA)	Federal Entity
48.	National Center for Documentation and Research (NCDR)	Federal Entity
49.	National Center of Meteorology & Seismology (NCMS)	Federal Entity
50.	National Crisis and Emergency Management Authority (NCEMA)	Federal Entity
51.	National Media Council (NMC)	Federal Entity
52.	Red Crescent Authority (RCA)	Federal Entity
53.	Securities and Commodities Authority (SCA)	Federal Entity
54.	Space Reconnaissance Center (SRC)	Federal Entity
55.	Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA)	Federal Entity
56.	The Federal National Council (FNC)	Federal Entity
57.	Zakat Fund (ZF)	Federal Entity
58.	Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ADCCI)	Government Agency
59.	Abu Dhabi General Services (Musanada)	Government Agency
60.	Abu Dhabi Retirement Pensions & Benefits Fund (ADRPBF)	Government Agency
61.	Department of Municipal Affairs - Al Ain City Municipality (AACM)	Government Agency
62.	Department of Municipal Affairs - Municipality of Abu Dhabi City (ADM)	Government Agency

63.	Department of Municipal Affairs - Western Region Municipality (WRM)	Government Agency
64.	Abu Dhabi Vocational Education and Training Insituite (ADVETI)	Government Agency
65.	National Consultative Council (NCC)	Government Agency
66.	Emirates Foundation for Youth Development (EF)	Government Agency
67.	Family Development Foundation (FDF)	Government Agency
68.	National Rehabilitation Center (NRC)	Government Agency
69.	Emirates Heritage Club (EHC)	Government Agency
70.	The Center of Waste Management - Abu Dhabi (CWM - AD)	Government Agency
71.	The Centre for Regulation of Transport by Hire Cars (TransAD)	Government Agency
72.	Khaleefa Fund for Enterprise Development (KFED)	Government Agency
73.	The Office of the Brand of Abu Dhabi (OBAD)	Government Agency
74.	Zayed Higher Organization for Humanitarian Care and Special Needs (ZHO)	Government Agency
75.	Zayed House for Islamic Culture (ZHIC)	Government Agency
76.	Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi (SCAD)	Government Agency
77.	Abu Dhabi Motors Club (Motors Club)	Other Entity
78.	Emirates Driving Company (EDC)	Other Entity
79.	Sultan bin Zayed's Cultural and Media Centre (CMC)	Other Entity
80.	Abu Dhabi Airports Company (ADAC)	State-owned Enterprise
81.	Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD)	State-owned Enterprise
82.	Abu Dhabi Health Services Company (SEHA)	State-owned Enterprise
83.	Abu Dhabi Investment Council (The Council)	State-owned Enterprise
84.	Abu Dhabi Media (AD Media)	State-owned Enterprise

85.	Abu Dhabi National Exhibitions Company (ADNEC)	State-owned Enterprise
86.	Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange (ADX)	State-owned Enterprise
87.	Abu Dhabi Sewerage Services Company (ADSSC)	State-owned Enterprise
88.	Abu Dhabi Water & Electricity Authority (ADWEA)	State-owned Enterprise
89.	Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC)	State-owned Enterprise
90.	Abu Dhabi Ports Company (ADPC)	State-owned Enterprise
91.	Advanced Technology Investment Company (ATIC)	State-owned Enterprise
92.	Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation (ENEC)	State-owned Enterprise
93.	Mubadala Development Company (Mubadala)	State-owned Enterprise
94.	The International Petroleum Investment Company (IPIC)	State-owned Enterprise
95.	General Holding Corporation (Senaat)	State-owned Enterprise
96.	Tourism Development & Investment Company (TDIC)	State-owned Enterprise
97.	Abu Dhabi Distribution Company (ADDC)	State-owned Enterprise Subsidiary
98.	Al Ain Distribution Company (AADC)	State-owned Enterprise Subsidiary
99.	Masdar (Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company)	State-owned Enterprise Subsidiary



SECTION - 2
ABU DHABI
FREE ZONES



Establishing a business entity in specialized economic zones (Free Zones) can be an attractive option for foreign investors and businesses. Free Zones contribute to stimulating the economy by attracting foreign direct investment, generating thousands of jobs, increasing non-oil exports, encouraging the setting up of ancillary industries, and helping in the transfer of knowledge, expertise and technology to the country.

Salient features:

- 100 per cent foreign ownership
- 100 per cent import and export tax exemptions
- 100 per cent repatriation of capital and profits
- No corporate taxes, no personal income taxes
- No employee recruitment restrictions



KIZAD



KIZAD

The Khalifa Industrial Zone Abu Dhabi (Kizad), is one of the world's largest industrial zones. This mega project, which is a part of Abu Dhabi Ports Company (ADPC), will span 417 sq km and prove to be an integral part in the Abu Dhabi Government's Economic Vision of diversifying its economy away from its dependency on oil, contributing 15% of Abu Dhabi's non-oil GDP by 2030. Kizad, through its unique characteristics, offers industries a new way of conducting their business.

Phase 1 of the industrial zone, which covers 51sq km, is set to be ready in Q4 of 2012 and includes an investment of AED 26.5 billion (\$7.2 billion). Kizad, which is located at Taweelah, midway between Abu Dhabi and Dubai, contains eight industry clusters which are set to attract world-class companies.

The clusters include: Aluminium, Steel, Engineered Metal Products, Petrochemicals & Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals & Healthcare equipment, Food, Paper, and Printing & Packaging.

Why Kizad?

Kizad has outstanding access to global markets and a low cost operating environment. It offers both Free Zone and Non-Free Zone options for companies. Potential tenants have access to world-class transport infrastructure and an unmatched network of connectivity via air, road, sea and rail. The industrial zone is adjacent to Khalifa Port; the region's most advanced sea port, which is set for completion by Q4 2012. It will benefit from an integrated rail network that will link all tenant plots to the GCC and Europe and has three international airports within 45 minutes.



Kizad's strategic location provides businesses with access to approximately 2.4 billion consumers within four time zones.

Through its vertically-integrated clusters, Kizad will bring together upstream, midstream, and downstream producers, offering businesses' efficiencies of scale. Industries will further benefit from Kizad's low cost power, water and gas along with no custom duties to pay and being in a tax haven location. In addition, potential tenants will be subject to competitive leasing costs.

Facilities offered:

Plots of land:

Kizad offers plots of land at various sizes. There is no standard minimum to be leased; however, below 10,000 m² may qualify the application for pre-built space rental. Rental ranges between AED 15 – 30 / m² / year depending on industry, location and utilization of added value services.

Pre-Built warehouse facility

- Size of unit - 2,362 m² in Free Zone area and 1,133 m² in Non- Free Zone area.
- Base Rent:
 - Free Zone: AED 400 per m²
 - Non - Free Zone : AED 350 per m²
- Lease Term: Minimum 3 years.
- Units with offices and loading to the front or offices to front and loading to the rear.
- 7m clear internal height to eaves.



- Have 1.3m raised floors for ease of loading.
- Provide up to 10% office content.
- Have either two or three loading doors plus a separate ramp and loading door for fork-lifts.
- Fitted WCs and Kitchenette.
- Fire sprinkler system.
- Integrated fire alarm system.
- Ample parking.
- Power capacity for full comfort cooling and the option to boost power for cold storage.

Process of setting up - preliminary

- Fill up and submit the Industrial Project Application
- Review of the project by KIZAD technical team
- Payment of registration fee - AED 5,000
- Fill up a Non- disclosure agreement
- KIZAD shall send a confirmed offer on the plot of land with exact area and location along with terms of lease, regulations, compliance requirements etc.
- Formal lease agreement to be signed within 90 days
- Formation of entity (free zone or non-free zone)

Process of setting up – Registration of legal entity

An entity in KIZAD can either be a wholly owned subsidiary or branch of a foreign company in the Free Zone area or a Limited Liability Company registered as per UAE Commercial Companies Act

1984. The entity in Free Zone area shall be treated as a foreign company and shall not qualify for duty exemption on final products while exporting to GCC countries.

Should the GCC countries (Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain, Kuwait and UAE) be the major market for the products and the investor prefers to take advantage of duty exemption, then the entity can be formed as a local company. In such an entity (a Limited Liability Company – LLC) 51% of the shares must be held by a UAE national.





MASDAR



MASDAR

Masdar is a multi-faceted company advancing the development, commercialization and deployment of renewable energy solutions and clean technologies.

MASDAR CITY

Masdar City, a six-square-kilometre special economic zone, is a place where businesses can thrive and innovation can flourish. A low-carbon, renewable energy-powered development, Masdar City not only embodies Abu Dhabi's commitment to a sustainable future but is also pioneering best practices in sustainable urban planning, design and development.

While construction continues, Masdar City is already creating a community of renewable energy and cleantech companies by offering temporary office facilities in an existing building in Abu Dhabi. The unique environment of Masdar City has already attracted leading companies like General Electric, Schneider Electric, Bayer Material Science, BASF, SENER and many more. The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), an intergovernmental organisation dedicated to promoting the adoption of renewable energy solutions worldwide, will also locate its secretariat at Masdar City.



In the fast-evolving renewable energy and cleantech industry, keeping abreast of changing requirements and emerging technologies is crucial. As an emerging hub in this global industry and a magnet for talent, financial capital and entrepreneurship in the field, Masdar City provides a unique competitive advantage to companies, other organisations and ancillary service providers operating in the city. As an industry cluster, the city creates a dynamic, international and entrepreneurial community that offers numerous benefits, including potential access to capital, a critical mass of sector knowledge, a large pool of high-quality talent, and a launching point into local, regional and international markets.

Masdar City itself represents a major market and customer for cleantech products and solutions across a wide range of sectors. The city offers companies the opportunity to test technologies and, through the building of the city, provides the only large-scale platform of its kind anywhere in the world for testing cutting-edge cleantech technologies.

As a special economic zone, Masdar City offers, amongst other benefits, a rapid set-up process, reduced tax footprint and pro-business environment.

Economic benefits include:

- 100% foreign ownership
- Quick and easy set up
- No corporate or personal taxes
- Unrestricted repatriation of both capital and profits



- No recruitment restrictions
- No currency restrictions
- Visa processing and Government services

For most companies, whatever their size or stage of development, there are three main ways to benefit from engaging with Masdar City:

- as a pilot-study partner exploring technology solutions for the city,
- as a supplier that provides the products and solutions used to develop and operate the city, or
- as a partner that operates from the city, thereby benefiting from its one-of-a-kind cleantech cluster environment and from providing the city with products and solutions.

Real Estate Offerings - Masdar City from 2012

The first commercial building, The Courtyard Building, at Masdar City will be ready by Q4 2012. Companies registering with Masdar either now or in the future can take advantage of the most advanced buildings, in the most modern and exciting city currently under construction. Demand for these buildings has been so great that they are already planning on the fast track development of additional phases of the city. Companies moving to these offices will be able to fit out their facilities to their own specifications.

In the interim, Masdar recognizes the importance of allowing businesses to start operations as quickly as possible, to that end; whilst Masdar City is being



built they have secured offices in one of Abu Dhabi's most advanced buildings and with a number of options therein for those looking for immediate office space and registration. Facilities are available in an interim building facility at Abu Dhabi down town offering semi-fitted out office units of 60 sq. meters onwards.

Business Licensing Services

Masdar City facilitates quick and straightforward incorporation services to businesses, allowing them the legal structure required to establish their businesses. Companies operating in Masdar City do so in accordance with the Masdar City Companies Registration Regulations.

Options to set up entities:

- **Limited Liability Company (LLC)**

Companies incorporated in Masdar City benefit from the unique business environment offered here, which includes: 100% foreign ownership, exemption from personal income and corporate taxes. The minimum required paid-up capital for incorporation of an LLC in Masdar City is AED 150,000.

- **Branch of Foreign / Offshore Company**

Investors can register a branch office of a Foreign/Offshore company in Masdar City.



- **Branch of a UAE Company**

Investors can register a branch office of a UAE company in Masdar City.

Licensing Segments

Companies from the following segments are accepted in Masdar (engaging in manufacturing, service, distribution etc).

- Energy Generation
- Energy Storage
- Energy Transmission and Distribution
- Energy Efficient Equipment
- Air & Environment
- Water and Waste Water
- Waste Recycling
- Transportation
- Green Building
- Organic Products
- NGOs
- System Applications
- Network & Infrastructure
- Marketing
- Media
- Service Providers
- Regional Head Quarters

Licence Fee

Exact figure of Licence fee can be determined according to the activity and project specifications. However, the fee starts from AED 20,000 and goes up to AED 50,000 (manufacturing).





twofour54

twofour54

twofour54, is the brand name of the Media Zone Authority of Abu Dhabi, focused on developing world class Arabic media and entertainment content. twofour54 aims to position Abu Dhabi as a regional centre of excellence in content creation across all media platforms including film, broadcast, music, digital media, events, gaming and publishing. The Media Free Zone has been established as per the decree No. 12 of 2007. The Authority has full independence and administrative capacity and is responsible for setting and implementing the regulations, policies and strategies for the operation of the Free Zone which also include licensing of business units within twofour54. Similar to other Media Free Zones in UAE, twofour54 is also offering attractive fiscal benefits for companies, 100% foreign ownership and an efficient and clear regulatory framework. The Media Zone Authority regulates and

licences the companies, and offers sponsorship of employees.

Setting up in twofour54

Investor can set up a company either as a Free Zone Limited Liability Company (FZ-LLC) or as branch of an existing company presently operating in UAE or overseas. An FZ-LLC is a brand new entity formed as per the Media Zone Authority Regulations.

It is also allowed to function as sole proprietor or freelancer subject to the Free Zone Regulations.

Regulatory requirements for incorporation of FZ-LLC

- FZ-LLC may be incorporated with natural persons or corporate as shareholders



- Minimum two directors
- General Manager and Secretary
- No minimum amount of paid-up share capital; however, the FZ-LLC can be capitalized with any amount depending on the project
- FZ-LLC must have a registered office within the Media Zone

Regulatory requirements for registering Branch

- Parent Company must be validly in existence either in UAE or overseas
- Appoint a General Manager
- Branch must have a registered office within the Media Zone

Dissemination Licence

Dissemination licence is required if the proposed entity intends to publish a print book, print magazine, print newspaper or broadcast a satellite or terrestrial television channel or radio station.

Other Business Initiatives of twofour54

The overall objective of twofour54 is to create a collaborative and supportive campus community; stimulating creative and professional partnerships through three key business pillars: tadreeb -the training academy; ibtikar - innovation & support; intaj - state of the art production facilities.

twofour54 tadreeb

twofour54 tadreeb offers world-class courses and training solutions in all aspects of media from its state-of-the-art

academy located in Abu Dhabi. twofour54 tadreeb has a library of over 200 courses designed by highly experienced instructors. All training programmes are developed in conjunction with global media organisations, to ensure the skills learnt are translated into tangible results in the workplace. twofour54 tadreeb is recognised by employers throughout MENA as the leading provider of media related training ranging from digital audio techniques and video journalism to writing for radio and social media skills.

twofour54 tadreeb offers training services across the following areas:

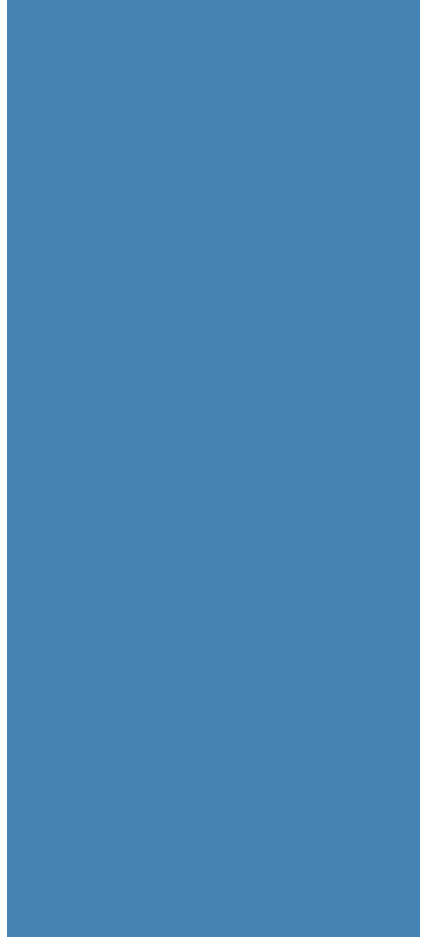
- Television
- Digital Media
- Animation
- Journalism
- Radio
- Broadcast Technology
- PR and Communications
- Media Business
- Visual and Web Design
- AudioVisual

twofour54 ibtikar

twofour54 ibtikar provides financing and support for businesses and individuals targeting the Arab media and entertainment industry. ibtikar offers funding and support to young Arabs with great ideas which includes seed funding, investment in content development guidance and planning. Further, ibtikar venture offers early stage or growth capital supporting media and content businesses which aim to become regional leaders.

twofour54 intaj

twofour54 intaj is the media technologies arm of twofour54. Targeting content creators across the region and worldwide, intaj offers state-of-the-art high definition (HD) and 3D stereoscopic (3DS) production, post-production facilities, media asset management, digital archiving, playout and broadcasting services.



AIRPORT FREE ZONES IN ABU DHABI

(Abu Dhabi Airport Free Zone, Al Bateen Airport Free Zone, Al Ain International Airport Free Zone)

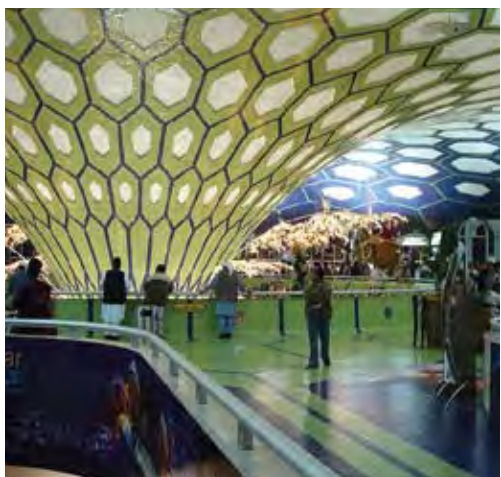
SKYCITY LLC

Skycity LLC, the recently-formed subsidiary under Abu Dhabi Airports Company (ADAC) has been assigned to establish and operate Airport Free Zones, Business Parks and “one-stop-shop” Services in Abu Dhabi. The Abu Dhabi Executive Council Resolution No. 61 for the year 2010 announced ADAC’s Abu Dhabi International Airport,

Al Ain International Airport and Al Bateen Executive Airport as Free Zones. Skycity is mandated to set up Free Zones and provide all required Free Zone services to these airports. Skycity’s jurisdiction spreads across more than 12 km² around Abu Dhabi International Airport, covering five commercial districts: Logistics Park, T3 Business Park, Southside Mixed Use Development, Al Falah District and Airport City.

These Free Zones aim to attract local and international organisations in aviation, aerospace and airport services, as well as in the logistics, cargo and freight sectors. Other target sectors cover all aviation-friendly and light industrial activities seeking to gain advantage from close proximity to the airport for import and export requirements. Skycity provides a wide range of facilities and infrastructure such as logistics and warehousing units, commercial offices, land for development, and a full range of

essential amenities to serve everyday business needs. Skycity also delivers the full spectrum of Free Zone services such as company registration, licensing, leasing and rapid visa processing for investors in a “one-stop-shop” environment. Companies choosing to set up at any of Skycity’s projects essentially enjoy Free Zone benefits like 100% duties and tax exemptions, foreign ownership, repatriation of capital and profits, and other benefits traditionally offered at most Free Zones.



Abu Dhabi Airport Free Zone and Al Bateen Airport Free Zone have already commenced operations and investors have started establishing companies.

ABU DHABI AIRPORT FREE ZONE

Abu Dhabi Airport Free Zone (ADAFZ) has been set up adjacent to Abu Dhabi Airport. Being a business park the free zone encourages multiple business segments to adhere to the environment, health and safety requirements. Supporting Abu Dhabi Govt's economic diversification program, the Abu Dhabi Airports Company has almost completed the First Phase of Abu Dhabi Airport Free Zone (ADAF) and companies who have been registered with the Authority have commenced operations. Being a logistics park next to Abu Dhabi Airport, it takes the advantage of the proximity to it. Similar to various free zones currently operating in UAE, ADAF also offers an investor friendly business environment and other advantages like 100% foreign ownership, 100% duty exemption etc. The logistics park's first phase, currently has 100 warehouses and so far 22 companies have leased the facilities. The Zone offers storage, warehousing and light industrial units as well as plots of land for development. Companies are allowed to lease multiple facilities. The Free Zone targets companies from broad range of business sectors, which include Aviation and Aerospace, Logistics,

Cargo and Freight, Electronics and Electrical, Consultancy and Business Development, IT and ICT, Foodstuff, Pharma and medical equipments, Cosmetics and perfumes, Media and related services. To set up operation in this new initiative, companies are issued with Trading, Service and Industrial Licences.

AL BATEEN AIRPORT FREE ZONE

Al Bateen Executive Airport is the first dedicated private jet airport in the Middle East and North Africa regions (MENA). The airport originally came into use in the 1960's as the first main airport in the capital city, until Abu Dhabi International Airport was opened in 1982.

Al Bateen Executive Airport has recently been awarded Free Zone status by the Executive Council, as part of the Emirate's strategic plan to promote foreign direct investments and host more international organisations looking to set up businesses in Abu Dhabi.

In a further demonstration of its strategy to partner with the private sector, Abu Dhabi Airports Company is in an arrangement with R-Offices to provide grade A serviced offices to prospective investors.

AL AIN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FREE ZONE

Al Ain International Airport Free Zone will be home to an Aerospace Cluster jointly developed by Mubadala and Abu Dhabi Airport Company.



Facilities Offered:

Following facilities are offered at the Abu Dhabi International Airport Free Zone, Al Bateen Airport Free Zone and Al Ain International Airport Free Zone:

Operation Since	2012
Legislation	Amiri Decree No. 5 of 2006
Managed by	Abu Dhabi Airports Company
Water Tariff	As per the service provider (ADDC)
Power Tariff	As per the service provider (ADDC)
Facilities Offered	Furnished Office, Unfurnished Office, Land and Warehouse
Size of Facilities	Office: 15 to 3000 sq. meters Land: 2500 to 45000 sq. meters Warehouse: 360 sq. meters to 2880 sq. meters
Lease Period	Office : 1 year to 5 years Land: 10 years to 25 years Warehouse: 1 year to 5 years
Rental (AED per sqm)	Office: 1,200 to 2,700 Land: 20 to 200 Warehouse: 1,000

Fees: Licence (Annual)	AED 15,000 – AED 50,000 depends upon commercial activity
No. of Visas	Depends upon size of facility leased
Legal Entities	For business setup, companies or individuals will be able to choose from the following legal entities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Free Zone Limited Liability Company FZ-LLC (Corporate)• Free Zone Limited Liability Company FZ-LLC (Natural)• Branch of a Local or Foreign Company
Business Set Up	Indicative range of fees are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One time Registration Fee:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- AED 7,500 for New Company- AED 5,000 for Branch of Existing Company• Capital Requirement:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. FZ-LLC (Corporate) – AED 500,0002. FZ-LLC (Natural) – AED 1,000,0003. Branch– Not Required

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