

## US-UAE Security Relationship

The UAE and the United States share a common resolve to preserve security and counter aggression in the Arabian Gulf and throughout the Middle East. The two countries work closely together to meet collective security challenges, such as fighting ISIS, Al Qaeda and other extremists; confronting Iranian aggression; increasing regional stability; and protecting critical shipping lanes.

### Military Assistance and Cooperation

The UAE is only one of three countries and the only Arab nation to participate with the US in six military coalition actions over the last 25 years. The UAE has deployed forces and/or provided assistance in:

**1990 Gulf War:** The UAE was one of the first countries to support the United States at the advent of the war.

**Somalia:** In 1992 the UAE joined other countries, led by the US Central Command, to secure the environment and provide humanitarian relief. The UAE continues to fight piracy and help to stabilize Somalia.

**Bosnia-Kosovo:** The UAE was among the first non-NATO states to express support for NATO's air operations. The UAE participated in peacekeeping operations, and provided humanitarian assistance during and after the conflict.

**Afghanistan:** UAE special forces fought alongside US soldiers for more than 12 years.

**Libya:** The UAE has coordinated with US and international partner forces on countering extremists and has provided humanitarian assistance to the Libyan people.

**Fight Against ISIS:** Committed to combating Islamic extremism in all of its forms, the UAE is participating in a multinational mission with the US and other partners to confront ISIS in Syria and Iraq. In addition, since 2011, the UAE has provided more than \$750 million in aid to Syrian refugees.

### UAE Counterterrorism Operations in Yemen

As part of its efforts to counter extremism and ensure stability throughout the region, the UAE is working to counter Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) and prevent extremist control of territory in Yemen.

In Spring 2016, the UAE led a Coalition operation to drive Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula out of the Yemeni port city of Mukalla, where AQAP was making \$2 million a day through taxes, smuggling, and extortion. The operation put AQAP on the run and killed more than 450 AQAP fighters.

The UAE military is also undertaking operations and training Yemeni forces to counter ISIS activity in Yemen and prevent the group from further extending its reach.

In addition to military operations, the UAE and the Coalition have given humanitarian aid to provide for the basic needs of the Yemeni people and reestablish critical infrastructure. To date, the UAE has provided more than \$2 billion in humanitarian assistance to Yemen, including a new commitment of \$100 million to UN-led efforts in the country.

In support of the two countries' cooperation on regional security, the UAE and US militaries are aligned at the tactical level, and regularly collaborate on joint-training missions.

The UAE provides critical logistics support for US Navy fleet operations and supports US Air Force operations by assisting with logistics at facilities in the UAE.

The UAE is home to the Joint Air Warfare Center and hosts joint training exercises with US forces.

Each spring, the UAE stages the Advanced Tactical Leadership Course (ATLC), a multinational training exercise for air-to-air combat training.

UAE pilots participate annually in the Red/Green Flag exercises at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada. The UAE Air Force's first ever participation in Red Flag was captured in a documentary called Desert Falcons, which tracked a squadron of Emirati F-16 pilots and support crew as they prepared for the challenging exercise.

The UAE also participates in the Nimble Titan global exercises, an unclassified experiment to examine potential scenarios involving ballistic missile threats.

The Center for Integrated Air and Missile Defense provides trainings that enhance capabilities and improve cooperation between UAE and US pilots.

In addition, the UAE is the world's second largest purchaser of US arms and defense equipment. Military equipment sales support American jobs and contribute to US national security interests by strengthening an important alliance.

The UAE has received Patriot Systems from the US, and is receiving THAAD (Terminal High Altitude Area Defense) Systems. Corresponding trainings are underway to prepare UAE personnel for using these systems.

The UAE Air Force is the first export customer for the General Atomics Predator XP surveillance and reconnaissance drone.

In February 2015, Raytheon announced that it had agreed to provide the UAE with Talon laser-guided rockets for its armored vehicles.

US-based IOMAX is providing the UAE with 24 Archangel Border Patrol Aircraft; deliveries began in June 2015 and the planes are being delivered steadily on a monthly basis until the order is filled. The aircraft offer strike, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capabilities.

In December 2015, Lockheed Martin was awarded a \$28.6 million contract to provide 12 High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems to the UAE. And in May 2015, Lockheed received a \$174 million foreign military sales contract for Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS) for both the US Army and the UAE.

In July 2016, the US Department of State approved a possible \$785 million foreign military sale to the UAE for precision-guided munitions, sustainment, and support to assist in ongoing operations in the fight against ISIS.

### **Countering Violent Extremism**

Beyond the battlefield, the UAE and US are committed partners in stopping terrorist activities and countering extremist ideologies. Working together, the two countries have taken forceful action to block the flow of funds and foreign fighters. Under the UAE government's cybercrime law, the UAE

criminalizes the use of the internet by terrorist groups to “promote their ideologies and finance their activities.”

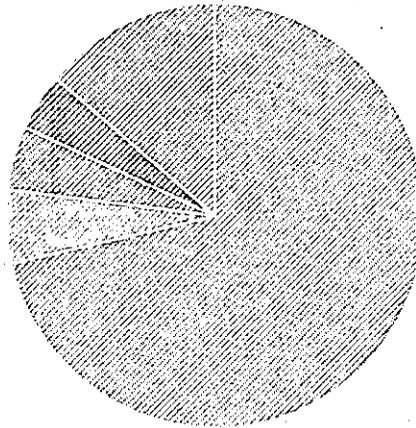
The UAE has taken the lead in setting up the Hedayah Center in Abu Dhabi. Hedayah was created in response to the growing desire from Global Counter-Terrorism Forum members and the wider international community for the establishment of an independent, multilateral center devoted to training, dialogue, collaboration, and research. It is a center for excellence in countering violent extremism that equips communities and governments with the tools to counter violent extremism and terrorist recruitment. It recently announced the establishment of a Washington, DC office to expand bilateral efforts.

Another initiative is the Sawab Center, established by the UAE and the US in July 2015. Since its launch in July 2015, the Sawab Center has contested Daesh's online presence by responding directly to its propaganda through immediate reactive messaging as well as proactive campaigns and other content that exposes Daesh's true nature, highlights the successes of the Global Coalition, amplifies regional voices of moderation, and offers an alternative, positive vision that underscores the true values and diversity of Islam.



## 2017 TOTAL ALL MERCHANDISE EXPORTS FROM MICHIGAN TO UNITED ARAB EMIRATES \$480,248,004

- Transportation Equipment
- Computer and Electronic Products
- Chemicals
- Machinery (except electrical)
- All Others



Exports from Michigan to the United Arab Emirates supported an estimated 2,866 jobs in Michigan in 2017\*



\*Calculated using US Government Jobs Multiplier (5,967 jobs per \$1 billion in exports)

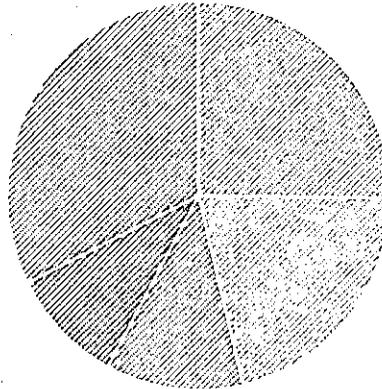
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## 2017 TOTAL ALL MERCHANDISE EXPORTS FROM CALIFORNIA TO UNITED ARAB EMIRATES \$1,516,263,799

- < Agricultural Products
- < Computer and Electronic Products
- < Transportation Equipment
- < Miscellaneous Manufactured Commodities
- < All Others

Exports from California to the United Arab Emirates supported an estimated 9,048 jobs in California in 2017\*



Catalytic impact of direct flights to Los Angeles and San Francisco :

- New travelers
- Direct/Indirect/Induced Jobs
- Tourism Spending
- Tax Revenues

\* Calculated using US Government jobs Multiplier (5,967 jobs per \$1 billion in exports)

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## UAE Continues to Lead Yemen Humanitarian Efforts and Contributes to OHCHR

1 message

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Hagir Elawad <Hagir@uaestrategies.com>  
Reply-To: Hagir Elawad <Hagir@uaestrategies.com>

Thu, Feb 28, 2019 at 2:21 PM

Good afternoon Colleagues,

As many of you continue to follow the developments in Yemen, I would like to emphasize the UAE's steadfast commitment to providing humanitarian assistance to the Yemeni people.

On Tuesday, February 26, 2019, the UAE and Saudi Arabia pledged an additional \$1 billion in aid to Yemen. The \$500 million pledged by the UAE will be in addition to the \$930 million to Yemen and the \$70 million to UNICEF it had previously donated in 2018.

Separately, today, the UAE announced it will contribute \$1.5 million to support the important work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

Please see the articles below that provide further details on the UAE's vital assistance to the people of Yemen and its generous contribution to OHCHR.

As always, please reach out if you have questions or would like to further discuss.

~Hagir

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## UAE and Saudi Arabia announce \$1 billion in humanitarian aid for Yemen

The National  
Feb 26, 2019

The UAE and Saudi Arabia promised to contribute \$500 million (Dh1.83 billion) each in humanitarian aid for Yemen at a UN pledging conference in Geneva on Tuesday, as aid officials reached the Red Sea Mills in Yemen's Hodeidah port for the first time in six months.

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said on Tuesday that pledges of donations for humanitarian work in Yemen at the conference reached \$2.6bn, a 30 per cent increase on the amount pledged at a similar donor conference last year.

It was the third pledging conference for Yemen in hopes of drumming up some \$4bn this year for the war torn country facing the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

"There will be impartiality, neutrality and independence in the way the distribution is made, which means that the distribution will impact both areas controlled by the government and areas controlled by the Houthis," he said.

The conference highlighted that 80 per cent of the Yemeni population needs urgent humanitarian assistance and protection.

Both the UAE and Saudi Arabia's contribution was largely responsible for "the possibility to have an increase of thirty per cent in the response to the humanitarian needs in the country," Mr Guterres said.

"An additional \$500m will be allocated to support humanitarian action in Yemen," Reem Al Hashimy, the UAE's Minister of State for International Co-operation said during the opening of the conference.

Ms Al Hashimy said the UAE had previously pledged \$930m to Yemen and provided an additional \$70m to Unicef.

The \$500m announced on Tuesday will be in addition to this.

Kuwait pledged \$250m at the event, while the European Union promised \$162m.

More than \$4 billion is needed to support Yemenis suffering from years of conflict and food insecurity, the UN said ahead of the conference.

But aid agencies say funding alone will not suffice and that action is needed to prevent air strikes on civilian areas.

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, the conference's host, lamented "an overwhelming humanitarian catastrophe" where some 24 million people, or four-fifths of Yemen's total population, require aid and protection.

"Twenty million people cannot reliably feed themselves or their families," he said, adding that "almost 10 million are just one step away from famine."

The World Food Programme (WFP) Yemen's Country Director, Stephen Anderson, told *The National*, that 70 per cent of the Yemeni population is considered hungry and about half of them require monthly food assistance for survival.

"WFP has been extending assistance in the last year to about 7-8 million people a month and now we are in the process of scaling up to about 12 million, which makes around 40 per cent of the population," Mr Anderson said.

A team from WFP on Tuesday visited a grain facility caught on a frontline where the organisation has enough wheat to feed 3.7 million Yemenis for a month.

"I'm very pleased with what has been accomplished so far today," Mr Anderson said.

WFP will now assess how much food and how much wheat remains, as well as the condition of the Red Sea Mills facility.

"Today will be the preliminary assessment, we will then draw up a plan of exactly what we need to do to extract the grain, the milling facility itself is working and it can be restarted," he said.

The organisation has previously warned the food is at risk of rotting.

UN officials have constantly warned that they are running out of money in a country also facing a devastated health care system.

The International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) told *The National* that almost 70 per cent of the country's health care is on the verge of collapse.

"Currently there is a permanent shortage of important medication and the ICRC are bridging the gap for this," ICRC's head of delegation in Yemen, Franz Rauchenstein said.

Yemen's health situation is incapable of responding to many civilians that are fighting on the front lines, Mr Rauchenstein said.

"What will help is finding a political solution to the conflict, it is dire," he said, adding that while response to emergency crises is vital, what is needed are strong state institutions that will address the country's long term needs.

As many as two million Yemeni children are suffering from acute malnutrition and have a very limited opportunity to an education, Unicef's Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa, Geert Cappelaere told *The National*.

"Every ten minutes in Yemen a child is dying from preventable diseases simply because the child doesn't have access to life saving vaccines or a child suffering from acute malnutrition," Mr Cappelaere said.

Schools have been destroyed, used for displaced, or used for military purposes, he said.

Mr Cappelaere expressed great gratitude towards the UAE and other donor countries for the amounts that were pledged, however, he stressed that the war must come to an end.

"Generosity alone will not save this issue, generosity is a plaster on a very deep big wound and that plaster alone will not heal the wounds and for that to heal a political solution is needed," Mr Cappelaere said.

The development comes as UN Envoy to Yemen Martin Griffiths arrived in Sanaa to salvage a peace deal reached during talks in Sweden last December.

A deal that was meant to witness the withdrawal of Houthi and governmental troops from the vital port city appears to have stalled.

Mr Griffiths will discuss the implementation of the deal with Houthi rebel leader Abdul-Malek Al Houthi, a UN source told *The National*.

The war in Yemen, which has killed tens of thousands of people, and ensuing economic collapse have left millions facing severe hunger.

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## **UAE announces voluntary contribution of US\$1.5 million to OHCHR**

Feb 28, 2019

GENEVA, 27th February, 2019 (WAM) -- As part of its commitment to achieving peace and prosperity in Yemen, the UAE has pledged US\$500 million for Yemen in 2019. The funding includes grants for United Nations agencies to support Yemen as well as commitments on a bilateral basis, to finance ambitious stabilisation programmes, working with many Yemeni and international partners.

The United Arab Emirates has also called for full respect of the Stockholm peace accords and has pledged significant support for the long-term rebuilding of Yemen.

Speaking at the UN pledging conference for Yemen, UAE Minister of State for International Cooperation Reem bint Ibrahim Al Hashemy said that there are reasons for optimism that peace and hope can be achieved for Yemen and its people.

"As close neighbours to the brotherly people of Yemen, we, Emiratis, are committed to taking a lead in the restoration of Yemen's economy and society. This is especially critical for the Yemeni people and their youth, for living in dignity and hope," Minister Al Hashemy added.

She hoped that the UAE's pledge would serve to inspire generosity across the international community. Minister Al Hashemy added that UAE's leadership would go beyond funding to bring expertise, partnerships, and determination to rebuild Yemen.

"With the prospect of long-term peace, let us continue to work together to provide prosperity," she stated.

The most recent pledge follows the contribution of close to \$1 billion that the UAE and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia made jointly to support UN humanitarian relief in Yemen in 2018. Despite conflict and extreme difficulties with access, that block grant served to alleviate famine, curb the spread of cholera and prevent polio, support women and students, as well as providing healthcare and psycho-social treatment across many parts of the country.

The effective humanitarian operation, working with the UN and other partners in Yemen, provides a model for the next phase of help.

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As humanitarian needs are reduced, future funding will be allocated to the long-term reconstruction of Yemen, focusing on trade and supporting a thriving economy, as well as health, education, women's programmes, and restoring the structures of government that will help to re-establish a strong, stable society.

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