

UAE, Bahrain dismantle cross-border drug trafficking network

The United Arab Emirates announced that, in a joint operation with Dubai Police, Sharjah Police and Bahraini authorities, it dismantled a transnational drug trafficking network, resulting in the arrest of 13 suspects of Asian and African nationalities.

The UAE National Anti-Narcotics Agency said the month-long operation targeted an organised criminal group led by an Asian trafficker operating from outside the country, who was responsible for directing the distribution of narcotics inside the UAE.

In coordination with Bahraini security services, author-

ities said they had arrested the group's leader outside the UAE and transferred him to Emirati custody to face legal proceedings.

The operation followed extensive surveillance and field monitoring, during which investigators tracked suspects' movements and communications. Authorities said evidence showed the network was receiving instructions from abroad to distribute drugs across multiple locations in the UAE.

Officials said the seizure included 56.6 kilograms of narcotics, 8,159 psychotropic tablets, and a large quantity of electronic cigarettes containing hashish oil. The total

“Joint efforts dismantled a cross-border drug network, reinforcing our commitment to public safety.”

estimated value of the confiscated substances was around 3.3 million dirhams (approximately \$900,000).

The agency said the operation reflected the UAE's strategy to dismantle trafficking networks by targeting not only local distributors but also key external figures directing criminal operations.



Talks in Muscat focus on trade, education, stability



Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Oman's foreign minister, met on Wednesday with Scott Gilmore, a special envoy and senior adviser to the Canadian prime minister, to discuss ways to strengthen bilateral relations.

The talks focused on expanding cooperation between Oman and Canada across economic and commercial sectors, as well as in education, academic exchange and diplomatic engagement, according to a statement.

Both sides reaf-

firmed their commitment to deepening partnership ties and enhancing collaboration in areas of mutual interest.

They also reviewed regional and international developments, stressing the need to intensify consultations and coordinate efforts in response to emerging global challenges.

The discussions underscored the importance of strengthening multi-lateral mechanisms and promoting dialogue and diplomacy to support stability, peaceful coexistence and balanced international relations.

Qatar, Greece vow closer ties

Qatar's Emir Shaikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani and Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis held formal talks in Athens, focusing on strengthening bilateral ties and discussing regional developments, including Middle East tensions.

The meeting took place at Maximos Mansion, where Mitsotakis welcomed the Qatari emir, praising the steady growth in relations between the two countries and expressing Greece's interest in expanding co-operation, particularly in the economic and investment sectors.

The Greek prime minister also reiterated Ath-



ens' support and solidarity with Qatar following recent Iranian attacks, while commending Doha's continued efforts to promote diplomacy and de-escalation.

Emir Shaikh Tamim expressed satisfaction with his visit to Greece, highlighting the long-standing ties between the two nations and thanking Athens for its supportive stance. He reaffirmed Qatar's commitment to diplomatic engagement and reducing regional tensions.

Both sides discussed ways to deepen cooperation in defence, trade, investment, energy, information technology, culture and education.

Kuwait pushes 2040 plan



Kuwait's cabinet expressed concern over regional tensions and reaffirmed its security and diplomatic coordination with allies, while approving measures to restore normal government operations and school attendance, according to an official statement.

Chaired by Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, the cabinet was briefed at the outset on a phone call held on Monday between Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and US Vice President JD Vance.

During the call, the Crown Prince conveyed condolences

and solidarity with US President Donald Trump following what was described as a "terror attack" targeting him and his deputy during an event in Washington on Saturday. Kuwait condemned the incident and expressed support for US authorities, reiterating its rejection of all forms of violence.

The cabinet reviewed progress on Kuwait's Fourth Structural Plan 2040, a long-term development strategy covering urban planning, environment, economy, energy, transport, tourism, and technology. It tasked the relevant committee with continuing coordination to implement the plan.

UAE stresses East Jerusalem capital plan

The United Arab Emirates reiterated its support for efforts to end the conflict in Gaza and advance a political solution based on the two-state framework, during a United Nations Security Council debate on the Middle East.



Speaking before the Council's open session, Minister of State Khalifa Shaheen Al Marar said the UAE has been "engaging constructively" since the adoption of Security Council Resolution 2803, including through its participation in international mechanisms aimed at addressing the situation in Gaza.

He said the UAE is working within both the Peace Council and the Executive Council for Gaza to support initiatives intended to halt the fighting and promote stability in the enclave.

Reaffirming Abu Dhabi's po-

sition, Al Marar stressed the need for a comprehensive settlement that would lead to the establishment of an independent and sovereign Palestinian state, with East Jerusalem as its capital, living alongside Israel in peace and security in line with relevant UN resolutions.

The statement comes as diplomatic efforts continue at the UN to contain the spillover of the Gaza conflict and revive long-term political negotiations.

Saudi-India Business Council Names New Vice Chair

The Embassy congratulated Turfa Al-Mutairi on her appointment as Vice-Chair of the Saudi-India Business Council.

Her appointment follows a joint venture between Sondos Advanced Industry and India's MKU Limited to establish Tuwaiq Armour Industrial Corporation.

The initiative marks a key step in defence and industrial cooperation between the two countries. First Secretary Vipul Bawa met Al-Mutairi to



review the venture's progress. They also discussed opportunities to strengthen bilateral business ties.

Both sides noted growing momentum in strategic and economic collaboration.



UAE PRESIDENT MOHAMED BIN ZAYED AL NAHYAN HOSTS DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AT QASR AL BAHAR IN ABU DHABI.