

“Invest in Peace”

UAE backs training and gender inclusion in peacekeeping missions

● Over 50,000 Peacekeepers Serve Worldwide Amid Growing Challenges Over 40 panel discussions

On the International Day of UN Peacekeepers, the United Arab Emirates paid tribute to nearly 50,000 peacekeepers serving under the United Nations flag in some of the world's most difficult and dangerous environments.

The UAE reaffirmed its strong and lasting commitment to UN peacekeeping operations, highlighting its ongoing contributions through capacity-building initiatives. These include Arabic language training programmes and efforts to advance the Women, Peace and Security agenda, aimed at making peacekeeping missions more effective and inclusive.

The commemoration comes



as the United Nations marks 80 years since its founding on the principle that peace is achievable. The organisation noted that while UN peacekeeping remains one of the most cost-effective tools for maintaining global stability, its success depends heavily on sustained political support and reliable financial backing.

Under this year's theme, “Invest in Peace,” the UN has called for urgent global action, stressing that peace does not occur by chance but requires political will, consistent funding, and collective international commitment.

UN officials emphasised that investment in peacekeeping saves lives, helps prevent wider conflicts, reduces long-term humanitarian crises, and lowers global financial costs. Peacekeeping missions continue to protect civilians, reduce violence, monitor ceasefires, support political dialogue, enable humanitarian access, and address threats such as explosive hazards.

Currently, more than 50,000 civilian, military, and police personnel are deployed in complex missions worldwide. However, the organisation warned that decreasing re-

sources are already affecting operational capacity, with direct consequences for both local populations and the safety of peacekeepers.

The International Day of UN Peacekeepers, observed annually on May 29, honours their service and sacrifice. This year, tribute was paid to more than 4,500 peacekeepers who lost their lives in the line of duty. Among them, 68 will be awarded the Dag Hammarskjöld Medal, including 59 who died in 2025 and nine from previous years.

The UN also recognised the contributions of women in peacekeeping through the Women Police of the Year Award and the Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award, underscoring the importance of gender-responsive operations in modern peace missions.

As the global security landscape grows more complex, the message from this year's observance remains clear: the world must invest in peace to sustain it.

UAE and Eswatini Sign Mutual Visa Exemption Agreement



The United Arab Emirates and Eswatini have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the mutual exemption of visa requirements for entry between the two countries.

The agreement was signed as part of ongoing efforts to enhance diplomatic relations and facilitate smoother travel for citizens of both nations.

On behalf of the United Arab Emirates, the MoU was signed by His Excellency Sheikh Shakhboot bin Nahyan Al Nahyan, Minister

of State.

Her Royal Highness Princess Lindiwe, Minister of Home Affairs, signed the agreement on behalf of the Kingdom of Eswatini.

Both sides emphasized that the agreement reflects their shared commitment to advancing bilateral relations and expanding cooperation across various sectors.

Officials noted that easing travel restrictions will encourage greater exchange, improve coordination, and open new avenues for partnership between the two friendly nations.

UAE urges citizens to avoid travel to Ebola-affected countries



In response to recent health developments linked to the Ebola virus (EVD), the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a travel advisory urging citizens and residents to avoid non-essential travel to several affected African countries.

The advisory specifically recommends refraining from travel unless absolutely necessary to Republic of Uganda, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Republic of South Sudan.

The Ministry also called on UAE nationals currently in these countries to exercise the highest levels of

caution and vigilance and to strictly follow all health and safety guidelines issued by local authorities.

In addition, citizens were urged to register their presence through the “I'm Here” service to ensure better communication and assistance when needed. The Ministry further advised individuals to remain in contact with authorities and seek immediate support in case of emergencies.

The advisory is part of precautionary measures aimed at safeguarding the health and safety of citizens and residents amid ongoing regional health concerns.

Suspicious Object Triggers Warning



The Maritime Security Centre of the Sultanate of Oman issued a maritime safety alert after sighting a suspected floating mine west of the Inshore Traffic Zone in the Strait of Hormuz within Omani territorial waters.

The centre warned that the unidentified floating object poses a potential risk to maritime navigation in one of the world's most strategically important shipping corridors.

In an official advisory, the authority urged all seafarers, fishermen, and vessels operating in the area to exercise extreme caution and remain

vigilant while transiting the



waters.

Maritime users were also instructed to maintain a safe distance from any suspicious objects and immediately report such sightings to the relevant authorities to ensure swift response and risk mitigation.

Kuwait Army Reaffirms Commitment to National Security



His Excellency the Deputy Chief of General Staff of the Kuwaiti Army, Major General Pilot Sabah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, conducted an inspection tour of several military sites on the occasion of Eid Al-Adha.

During the visit, he reviewed operational readiness and field conditions across multiple locations. His Excellency praised the high level of discipline and preparedness demonstrated by personnel, noting that their continued performance reflects a strong sense of duty and responsibility.

He emphasized that the commitment shown by members of the Kuwaiti Army

underscores their dedication to safeguarding the nation's security and stability.

At the conclusion of his tour, the Deputy Chief of General Staff extended Eid Al-Adha greetings, praying that the blessed occasion brings continued prosperity, goodness, and blessings to Kuwait, its leadership, and its people.

He also prayed for the preservation of Kuwait's security and stability under the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, and His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, wishing the nation continued safety and protection from all harm.

Young Pilgrim Airlifted to Jeddah in Critical Condition

A young woman pilgrim in her 20s was urgently airlifted from Mina Emergency Hospital to a specialist hospital in eastern Jeddah after falling into a critical diabetic coma, authorities confirmed.

An air medical evacuation aircraft operated by the Ministry of Defence carried out the emergency transfer following an urgent medical report. Specialised medical and aviation teams swiftly executed the

mission to ensure the patient's stabilisation and rapid transport for advanced care.

Medical personnel at Mina Emergency Hospital provided immediate emergency treatment before transferring the patient by air due to the severity of her condition.

Officials said the operation reflects the high level of readiness and coordination between the health and defence sectors during the Hajj season, which includes rapid-re-

sponse systems designed to handle critical medical emergencies involving pilgrims. The integrated emergency framework continues to play a key role in ensuring timely medical intervention and en-



hancing healthcare services for pilgrims throughout the holy sites.

Stealth Landing



U.S. Sailors observe as a Marine Corps F-35B stealth fighter lands on the flight deck of USS Tripoli (LHA 7) while transiting the Arabian Sea. The F-35B is designed to perform short takeoffs and vertical landings.