

COVID-19 Update – United Arab Emirates

Wednesday June 3, 2020

Category	Recent Developments
Economic Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Dubai Future Foundation has released its latest report titled “Life After COVID-19: Retail”, which showcases online retailers and e-commerce platforms experiencing dramatic growth as consumers avoid shopping malls in response to the coronavirus. (Link)• The Sharjah Finance Department recently established a framework worth AED 4 billion to enhance liquidity for the banking system in the emirate. (Link)• Abu Dhabi’s fund for development has pledged AED 1 billion in concessionary loans for Emirati-owned business to help them weather the negative economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic. (Link)• Sharjah has hired banks to raise as much as USD 1 billion from international debt markets to shore up its finances against the fallout of the coronavirus pandemic. Proceeds will be used for general budgetary needs. (Link)
Health & Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On June 2, the UAE saw 596 new cases (-6.14% from the previous day) of the coronavirus, bringing the total to 37,788 total confirmed cases. (Link)• The Dubai Health Authority announced that it has established a new medical isolation facility for positive and suspected coronavirus cases. (Link)
Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emirates Group has stated that it will be forced to cut jobs as the airline operator seeks to reduce costs after the coronavirus has grounded air travel. (Link)• Emirates Airline’s outgoing president, Tim Clark, stated that it could take up to four years to resume flying its entire network again. (Link)
Daily Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ras Al Khaimah’s Department of Economic Development has issued two circulars that outline a series of requirements and procedures for reopening cafes and gyms in the emirate. (Link)• Travel into and out of Abu Dhabi has been banned for one week starting June 1 and ending on June 8. The ban was imposed to reduce the spread of the coronavirus and ensure that its large testing drive succeeds. (Link)• Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed stated that Dubai is ready to take off again after reviewing plans to revive tourism and continue the emirate’s economic growth amid the coronavirus outbreak. (Link)