



البنك العربي المتحد
UNITED ARAB BANK

Press Release

United Arab Bank AGA and EGA Approve the Distribution of Cash and Scrip Dividends

2013 Financial Statements and Amendments of the Bank's Articles of Association Approved at Assembly of the Shareholders

Sharjah, UAE (March 3, 2014) – United Arab Bank P.J.S.C. (“UAB”), successfully held its 40th Annual General Assembly (AGA) and an Extraordinary General Assembly (EGA) on Monday, 3 March 2014, at the Coral Beach Resort in Sharjah. Chaired by H.E. Sheikh Faisal Bin Sultan Bin Salem Al Qassimi, Chairman of the Board of Directors, the AGA adopted the consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2013, the distribution of cash dividend and bonus shares, and re-appointed KPMG as the external auditors of the Bank for 2014. The AGA was followed by an EGA meeting which approved the amendment of the Articles of Association of the Bank, subject to the approval of the Central Bank.

The AGA approved a cash dividend of AED 149.5 million (being 15% of the paid up share capital) and a scrip dividend of AED 149.5 million (being 15% of the paid up share capital). This was considered to be in the best interests of the Bank and its shareholders but is subject to obtaining the final approval of the Central Bank, by no later than Sunday, 9 March 2014. Should the Central Bank approval not be obtained, then a lower distribution of 15.06% of the Bank's paid up capital as cash dividend amounting to AED 150 million, and 10% of the Bank's paid-up capital as bonus shares, amounting to AED 99.6 million, will be paid according to a pre-approved amount by the Central Bank. The final dividend proposal and the full set of the financial statements will be disclosed following the Central Bank's approval.

The record date for the entitlement to the dividend was set as Thursday, 13 March 2014. The dividend cheques will be sent to shareholders by registered post within 30 days from the AGA date, in accordance with the local applicable laws.

The Board of Directors Report addressed by Sheikh Faisal Bin Sultan Bin Salem Al Qassimi, Chairman of the Board, highlighted the Bank's activities and financial position in 2013. The report comprised a summary of the strategic directions of the Bank as well as the financial outcome of the full year 2013.

During the meeting, the shareholders considered and adopted the External Auditors' Report on the Bank's balance sheet and financial position for the year ended 31 December 2013. The results showed a full year operating profit of AED 721 million before provisions, a 36% increase over 2012 operating profits of AED 531 million.

Shareholders who attended UAB's Extraordinary General Assembly approved the proposed amendments of the Articles of Association of the Bank, subject to the prior regulatory approval of the Central Bank; and authorized the Board of Directors to implement EGA resolutions after obtaining all regulatory approvals, after which the amended Articles of Association will be published in the official gazette.

The meeting was attended by the Chairman, members of the Board of Directors and Paul Trowbridge, CEO of UAB, as well as other senior Bank officials. The External Auditors and representatives of the Emirates Securities and Commodities Authority and the Economic Development Department of the Government of Sharjah were also present at the meeting.

Commenting on the 2013 results, **Sheikh Faisal Bin Sultan Bin Salem Al Qassimi, Chairman of the Board of Directors** said: *"with net profits reaching AED 552 million, the Bank continued its upward trajectory and further capitalized on the solid platform laid down in recent years. UAB's customer-centric strategy delivered growth across all business units and increased the Bank's market share".* He added: *"Commercial Bank of Qatar's ("CBQ") continued partnership and strategic guidance, and the professionalism and commitment of the management team and staff, helped make 2013 a truly outstanding year for the Bank."*

The Chairman thanked the Bank's valued shareholders and customers. He also extended his thanks to the Government of the United Arab Emirates, the Central Bank and the Bank's regulators for their continuous and beneficial support.

The Bank's Chief Executive Officer, Paul Trowbridge, commented on the meeting and the year's performance, saying: *"The meeting was successful and we took a number of decisions against the backdrop of 2013, which proved to be another landmark year for UAB. All key Income Statement and Balance Sheet metrics recorded growth in excess of 30% versus 2012, an excellent achievement and one the Bank can be extremely proud of. The Bank continues to benefit from a range of synergies and business opportunities, in light of its strategic alliance with CBQ, and the growing alliance that now includes Turkey's Alternatifbank and National Bank of Oman. Our success in 2013 clearly demonstrates we possess and are benefitting from a growing franchise, a diversified asset portfolio, a robust risk and control framework and an optimal customer-centric strategy. As we progress into 2014 and beyond, I am confident we will continue to deliver true value for our shareholders and wider stakeholders."*

ENDS

About UAB:

United Arab Bank (UAB) was established in 1975 as a joint venture between UAE investors and Societe Generale. By the end of 2013, the bank will be operating with a network of 30 branches and offices spread across the UAE with its headquarters in Sharjah. UAB offers a range of financial services in both Corporate and Retail and is acknowledged as a leading solutions provider to the growing commercial and industrial base across the seven emirates.

Through the provision of a comprehensive range of Corporate Banking, Retail Banking, Trade Finance, SME Banking and Treasury services, UAB is the Bank of choice among major corporate clientele segments in the UAE. With the launch of its 'Sadara' premium banking service, Islamic Banking Services and 'UAB Rewards' loyalty programme, the Bank has grown its retail customer base, aiming to expand further. All these initiatives and a consistent year on year performance has positioned UAB as one of the fastest growing banks in the region.

The bank is ranked 23rd amongst the top listed companies in the UAE and is one of the top 50 banks in the GCC in terms of market capitalization. UAB announced a record net profit of AED552m for the year ended 31 December 2013, an increase of 35% over 2012 and the highest annual net profit ever reported by UAB.

In December 2007, UAB became part of a GCC regional banking alliance upon the acquisition of 40% interest by The Commercial Bank of Qatar (CBQ), Qatar's largest private sector bank. United Arab Bank's strong financial performance in 2013 is also indicative of the benefits gleaned from its strategic alliance with the Qatari Bank.

The Commercial Bank of Qatar has a similar alliance with National Bank of Oman (NBO), which has positioned all three banks more strongly for future growth. Most recently, the Commercial Bank of Qatar acquired a 74.24% stake in Alternatifbank in Turkey, enabling all four banks involved in these strategic alliances to offer integrated services across the GCC and Turkey, including cross border services for corporate banking and capital markets; support on trade services; private banking services; and syndicated loans.

For further information, please contact:

Jehad Saleh
Direct Line: +971 6 5075481
Mobile: +971 50 6314507
jehad.saleh@uab.ae

SAHARA Communications
Maria Tayem
Tel: +971 4 3298996
Mobile: +971 50 1714347
maria@saharagcc.com