

**Press Release** 

## United Arab Bank makes AED 250,000 contribution to Al Thiqah Club for the Handicapped

Annual contribution helps club provide invaluable support to people with special needs in the UAE

**Sharjah, UAE (19 January 2015)** - United Arab Bank (UAB) has made a contribution of AED 250,000 to AI Thiqah Club for the Handicapped, another milestone in the Bank's long-standing relationship with an organisation that provides invaluable support for people with special needs in the UAE.

At a ceremony held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2015, UAB's Chief Executive Officer, Paul Trowbridge, and Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Awni Al Alami, presented a cheque to a delegation from the Al Thiqah Club for the Handicapped, led by the organisation's Chairman, HE Tariq Sultan Bin Khadim.

UAB has been making an annual contribution to the AI Thiqah Club for the Handicapped since 2003, as well as supporting and recruiting citizens with special needs. The Bank is the exclusive sponsor of the Club's program training sessions – with the sole objective of inducting special-needs citizens into the local community – and also employs a number of its special needs students.

Speaking on this occasion, Paul Trowbridge, CEO of United Arab Bank said: "Social responsibility has always been a pillar of UAB's activities. Alongside the Bank's continued growth, we see it as an absolute priority to build upon our initiatives to give back to the community we are a part of – the community in which our customers live and work. Supporting people with special needs – and providing the assistance they need to integrate fully into society and the workforce – is an invaluable cause. The efforts of Al Thiqah Club for the Handicapped and their dedication to providing effective rehabilitation are truly remarkable. We are proud to once again build upon our partnership, and look forward to supporting the Club in their efforts over the year ahead."



Over recent years, UAB has prioritised recruiting handicapped citizens and worked closely with organisations that champion their contribution to the community. As well as continuing to strengthen its relationship with AI Thiqah Club, the Bank recently supported the Sharjah City for Humanitarian Services, which focuses on the rehabilitation of special-needs children from across the community.

## END

## About UAB:

United Arab Bank P.J.S.C ("UAB" or "the bank") was established in 1975 as a joint venture between UAE investors and Societe Generale. As at 30 September 2014, the bank is operating with a network of 27 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 have 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. For the first half of 2014, UAB announced half-yearly net profits of AED328m, an increase of 26% over the same period in 2013.

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 subsequent years is indicative of the benefits gleaned from its strategic alliance with the Qatari Bank.

The Commercial Bank of Qatar has similar alliances with National Bank of Oman (NBO) and Alternatifbank in Turkey, thus providing a solid platform for all three banks to grow strongly as we move forward.