



البنك العربي المتحد  
UNITED ARAB BANK

## Press Release

### **United Arab Bank Extends Support to Al Thiqah Club for the Handicapped**

**Sharjah, UAE (March 26, 2014)** – United Arab Bank ('UAB'), the fastest growing bank in the Middle East, continues to grow at an unparalleled rate in the UAE and giving back to the local community remains a top priority. As part of its corporate social responsibility, UAB has established a strong partnership with Al Thiqah Club for the Handicapped, an organisation that provides invaluable support for people with special needs in the UAE.

Recently UAB provided a contribution of AED 250,000 to the club to support its activities related to the welfare and development of the handicapped. This was followed by a visit to UAB's corporate headquarters by a delegation from Al Thiqah Club for the Handicapped to show their appreciation for the bank's support. The delegation included HE Tariq Sultan Bin Khadim, Chairman of Al Thiqah Club for the Handicapped, Humaid Al Abar, Vice-Chairman of the club and Haider Talib Erabeh, GM of Al Thiqah Projects.

Over the years, the Bank has developed a long-standing relationship with the Al Thiqah Club for the Handicapped and has been supporting and recruiting citizens with special needs for many years and providing cash contributions since 2003. UAB is also the exclusive sponsor of all the Program Training sessions, with the sole objective of inducting special-needs citizens into the local community. UAB furthermore supports the club by employing some of their special needs students with the bank.

Speaking on the occasion, Paul Trowbridge, CEO of United Arab Bank said: "UAB is firmly committed to giving back to the community as social responsibility has always been an integral part of UAB's corporate policy. Whilst the bank performs exceptionally well year after year, we wish to give something back to the community that we operate in and support its citizens. By helping those who have special needs, it gives us great

satisfaction to be able to play a role in their integration into the workforce as well as help provide the necessary training to make this possible.”

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**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.

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