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UNITED ARAB BANK

Press Release

Under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Dr. Sultan Bin Muhammad Al Qassimi

United Arab Bank to participate in 17th National Career Exhibition at the Sharjah Expo as the UAE banking industry's leader in Emiratisation

Winner of the Human Resources Development Award in the Banking and Financial Sector in the Year 2014

Sharjah, 11 February 2015 – United Arab Bank ('UAB') is set to participate in the 2015 National Career Exhibition at the Sharjah Expo for the 17th consecutive year.

The Exhibition – an integral part of the UAE's drive to promote and support Emirati nationals in the labour market – will be held from February 11-13 at Expo Centre Sharjah.

UAB has distinguished itself as an industry leader in providing opportunities to talented Emiratis, achieving 45 per cent Emiratisation last year – a record among UAE banks. In addition, the bank has expanded to 31 branches to date across the country, whilst maintaining 100 per cent Emiratisation of the Branch Manager positions. UAB intends to increase its network of branches to 35 by the end of this year.

In recognition of its efforts for the development of the Emirati community, the Bank has won the prestigious Human Resources Development Award in the Banking and Financial Sector in the Year 2014, presented at the 17th National Career Fair Exhibition. The award was presented by H.H. Sheikh Dr. Sultan Bin Muhammad Al Qassimi, Member of the Supreme Council, and Ruler of Sharjah. This is the second time UAB has received this award, having been recognised in 2012.

The bank recently saw two talented members of its team – Deira Branch Manager, Nasser Marzouqi, and Al Quoz Branch Manager, Amal Ahmad – show remarkable hard work and perseverance to successfully complete a rigorous 18-month Leadership Development program. Beginning in May 2013 after a rigorous selection process and psychometric assessment, both candidates attended monthly modules in Doha and Oman, graduating from the Judge Business School at the University of Cambridge in October 2014.

As part of a long-term drive to develop its next generation of leaders, UAB has also expanded its programmes designed to support the development of talented Emiratis. Under a recently implemented initiative called 'Reyadah', the bank will assess, identify and develop UAE Nationals that exhibit outstanding talent, and provide them with the opportunities they need to meet their aspirations and thrive at the highest levels. The target is for Emirati nationals to comprise 25 per cent of UAB's most senior 50 employees by 2020.

Paul Trowbridge, Chief Executive Officer, United Arab Bank, said: "We are thrilled to once again participate in and support the National Career Exhibition, a valuable initiative to help and encourage young Emirati nationals to make the most of their talent. We particularly want to establish UAB as an employer of choice for Emiratis aspiring for a career in the banking industry. Ambitious and motivated candidates who are ready to take on new challenges are offered a diverse range of experiences, responsibilities and accountability, and excellent career progression prospects. We are very proud of the recent achievements



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of Nasser and Amal – they serve as just one illustration of what young Emirati nationals working at UAB can aspire towards.

Aside from the Reyadah program, other initiatives undertaken by UAB to support Emiratisation include an employee recognition scheme, the *UAB Employee Awards*, as well as a *Chairman's Award*, granted to the Emirati employee of the year. Under the bank's exclusive partnership in the UAE with Spain's FC Barcelona, several local staff have been awarded sponsored trips to the club's home ground, the Camp Nou.

In 2012, UAB won the prestigious Human Resources Development Award, awarded to the financial institution which has most excelled in the areas of Emiratisation, UAE National employment and training and development. The bank is also an active participant in the UAE Banks Federation Human Resources Committee, which discusses the major issues affecting Banks from a HR perspective, with a key focus on Emiratisation.

Last year, Yusra Abdul Ghaffar, Senior Vice President in Retail Branch Management, was named the "Distinguished Woman in the Banking and Finance Sector" by the Emirates Institute for Banking and Financial Studies. UAB is also the first bank in the UAE to have a female Emirati board member, Najla Al Midfa.

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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 31 December 2014, the bank is 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 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 AED605m for the year ended 31 December 2014, an increase of 10% over 2014 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 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.