



UAE Launches Blockchain Strategy

Fifty percent of government transactions on the federal level will be conducted using blockchain technology by 2021. The adoption of blockchain will help the government prepare for future challenges and contribute to saving AED11 billion spent annually on document transactions and documents, 77 million hours of work, reduce government documents by 389 million, and save 1.6 billion kilometres spent driving.

Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum announced the goals during the launch of the UAE Blockchain Strategy 2021.

“The adoption of this technology will reflect on the quality of life in the UAE and will enhance happiness levels for citizens,” Sheikh Mohammed said. “This technology will save time, effort and resources and enable individuals to conduct most of their transactions in a timely manner that suits their lifestyle and work.”

The Deputy Ruler of Dubai, His Highness Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Minister of Cabinet Affairs and the Future, His Excellency Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Gergawi and a number of ministers also attended the launch.

The UAE plan includes four pillars focusing on citizen and resident happiness, government efficiency, advanced legislation and global entrepreneurship. The government will use training courses, events, workshops and reports to build its standing in blockchain and support university courses specialising in the field and related subjects like encryption. †



The Appliance of Science



Vice President, Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum said that enhancing the advanced sciences environment in the UAE is the best investment in building the future.

His remarks were made as he launched the National Advanced Science Agenda 2031, which is designed to utilize advanced sciences in the development and creation of solutions to future challenges and support the government's efforts to achieve the objectives of the UAE National Agenda 2021 and the UAE Centennial Plan 2071. His Highness launched the National Agenda along with the 2021 Advanced Science Strategy.

"We have all potential to transform the UAE into a source of scientific knowledge and innovation," he said. "We are waiting for our scientists, who we place high confidence in their minds and potential, to make the biggest contribution in this field."

The launch ceremony was attended by Dubai Crown Prince, HH Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammad bin Rashid Al Maktoum; Deputy Ruler of Dubai, HH Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum; and Minister of Cabinet Affairs and Future, Mohammad Abdullah Al Gergawi. †

Olympic Creativity Workshop Champions Sporting Excellence



Supporting the sports sector is a top priority of the government as part of its drive to be among the leading nations in the world. That was the message from Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum recently when he attended the Olympic Creativity Workshop.

The workshop was organised by the National Olympic Committee in collaboration with the General Sports Authority.

Sheikh Mohammed was accompanied by Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of Dubai Sports Council, HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum; Deputy Ruler of Dubai, HH

Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum; President of the UAE National Olympic Committee, HH Sheikh Ahmed bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum; and HH Sheikh Mansour bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum.

Sheikh Mohammed highlighted the high-quality sports infrastructure that exists across the country and the continuous training provided to athletes across various sporting disciplines to enable them to be champions.

Vice President of the NOC, Humaid Al Qatami briefed His Highness about the various topics discussed at the workshop, which included strategic planning, financial support, technical issues in sports, communication and sports marketing, external representation, sports and talent scouting, enterprises and sports infrastructure.

He also said that the NOC is keen to organise such workshop events to improve the skills and capabilities of national athletes.

The workshop, held at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Dubai, saw the participation of prominent sports figures and NOC members, as well as heads of sports federations.

Key recommendations of the Olympic Creativity Workshops included the participation of banks and corporate organisations, the establishment of an Olympic village, the design of a model for technical analysis of Olympic athletes, and the setting up of a national Olympic plan for 2021 – 2028. †

Inspiring Local and Global Awareness of Sheikh Zayed's Achievements



A series of literacy projects and initiatives aim to inspire greater awareness of the UAE founding father's many achievements. The projects were announced by the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation recently and form part of the Year of Zayed initiative.

The foundation's activities are in alignment with the ethos of the Year of Zayed celebrations announced by His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, which aim to raise awareness locally and globally about the late founding father Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan and his attributes as one of the world's greatest leaders.

The activities under the programme include Qesaty (launched above), Esteraht Sayedat and Bil Arabi, as well as the Dubai International Programme for Writing, Book in Minutes and several other initiatives.

"This year of celebration is an inspirational national activity that highlights the achievements of a great leader, spreading knowledge about his humanity, his courage and his lifetime of achievements," said His Excellency Jamal bin Huwairib, CEO of MBRF.

The Qesaty initiative in the MBRF programme is being launched in conjunction with the Ministry of Education and comprises a competition for students from primary, middle and high schools to compose stories about Sheikh Zayed, outlining his leadership and development role in the service of the UAE and the world.

The Esteraht Sayedat ladies' reading club initiative will organise monthly sessions to discuss books on Sheikh Zayed,

as well as invite writers who have authored publications about the founding father to discuss their works, while under the Bil Arabi initiative, the foundation will use Arabic social media platforms and the hashtag (#بالعربي) @BilArabi to publish and promote Sheikh Zayed's many inspiring quotes.

MBRF's Dubai International Writing Programme's translation workshop will translate two books about Sheikh Zayed from English into Arabic, while its children's writing workshop will result in two books on the founding father being selected from the participating young authors. The Foundation will print the four works and distribute them inside and outside the country. In addition, a number of books on Sheikh Zayed will be summarized and published under the Book in Minutes initiative.

Other activities being launched by MBRF in the Year of Zayed include the hosting of workshops from specialists, writers and analysts to highlight the character of the founding father. MBRF will also be participating in local and international book fairs and will be publishing and printing books on the life of Sheikh Zayed, in particular in the areas of leadership, development and sustainability. The foundation aims to print at least 12 such books this year.

Lastly, in cooperation with Dubai Electricity and Water Authority, the foundation will dedicate a special pavilion within the authority's Reading is Positive Energy Exhibition at Zabeel Park, Dubai. The section will display books on Sheikh Zayed and will be a permanent exhibition throughout the year. Purchase discounts will be offered to customers to encourage people to read about Sheikh Zayed. †

Experts Impart Wisdom During New Workshops

The Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation launched a series of workshops recently, in collaboration with LinkedIn, as part of the Arab Professionals Forum.

The two entities launched the forum last year to provide a platform for Arab professionals from all around the world, and foster stronger cooperation among them, as well as among entities looking to recruit professionals and experts in various fields.

The workshops are designed to harness the collective expertise of the participating professionals and benefit from their practical experiences. The sessions explored several topics, including secrets to career success, innovation, digitisation and crypto currencies.

MBRF's CEO, His Excellency Jamal bin Huwaireb (above left) said: "The workshops seek to benefit from the extensive expertise and knowledge that the participating Arab academics and professionals bring to the table, which spans to various economic, social and technological sectors. In collaboration with LinkedIn, the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation provides



ample opportunities for members to exchange ideas, integrate their visions, and work together to improve cultural, social and economic conditions across the entire region."

The workshops kicked off at the end of March and continued all through April, bringing together Arab professionals from various disciplines and backgrounds and from government agencies and universities in the UAE and abroad. The workshops took place in various locations, including Sharjah's Ministry of Health, the General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners Affairs in Dubai; the Municipality of Ras Al Khaimah; the Municipality of Ajman; and the Ministry of Culture and Knowledge Development in Abu Dhabi.

Rajai Al Khadem, LinkedIn's Head of Government Alliances for the Middle East and North Africa Region (above right), said: "By collaborating with the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation to launch these workshops, we seek to answer the questions posed by young Arabs, and to provide them with effective career and academic counselling. We are committed to playing our part in empowering the youth to contribute to the progress of their country." †



Making A Mark at the London Book Fair

For the tenth consecutive year, the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation has showcased its projects, initiatives and publications at the London Book Fair, held recently.

The Foundation hosted a series of events and activities, including workshops, symposia and meetings with international publishing houses, in addition to launching a range of publications by leading Arab authors.

MBRF's CEO, His Excellency Jamal bin Huwaireb said: "The Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation is committed to participating in the London Book Fair – and has done so continuously for the past decade – to bolster its global presence within the knowledge and development sectors, and to showcase its initiatives and projects that seek to build knowledge-centric societies and support human development across the globe."

The fair attracted more than 25,000 publishers, writers and translators from 118 countries, in addition to experts in copyright, content production and distribution, television, film and digital platforms. †

