



Leading Abu Dhabi and global entities mark the launch of the Hope Consortium which will address global vaccine distribution.

Full global vaccine distribution

Abu Dhabi launches Hope Consortium

ABU DHABI, Nov 28: Amid an anticipated surge in vaccine logistics demand, Abu Dhabi is poised to cement its position as the global logistics hub to facilitate COVID-19 vaccine distribution across the world, after spearheading the launch of the Hope Consortium.

Comprising leading Abu Dhabi and global entities, the Hope Consortium represents a complete supply chain solution to address vaccine transport, demand planning, sourcing, training, and digital technology infrastructure, and facilitate vaccine availability across the world.

The news follows Hope Consortium member Etihad Cargo and the consortium transporting five million vaccines in November on behalf of the Department of Health – Abu Dhabi, which is spearheading the consortium and will oversee regulatory compliance, full chain expertise and scientific insight. The consortium also includes Abu Dhabi Ports Group, Rafed, the healthcare purchasing arm of Abu Dhabi-based ADQ, and Switzerland's award-winning SkyCell, which develops next-generation, temperature-controlled logistics containers for the pharmaceutical industry. As part of the Hope Consortium, SkyCell will establish a regional service and manufacturing centre in Abu Dhabi.

The Hope Consortium has pooled its collective expertise to garner a multi-faceted capability to provide logistics services to handle over six billion doses from the vaccines being developed and manufactured around the world – whether in single or multi doses – in cold and ultra-cold conditions in 2021, rising to over three times more doses by the end of next year – the largest capacity and logistics capability regionally and one of the largest globally.

"The Hope Consortium is a prime example of how Abu Dhabi is leading in providing solutions, capabilities and capacities to help the world get through this global pandemic. It is a continuation of all players' collaboration of a UAE-based public-private partnership that spans the globe. While assuring vaccine supply to the domestic market, the Hope

Consortium will offer international governments, non-governmental organisations, and vaccine suppliers a cohesive solution across every supply chain step – from air freight, regional storage and temperature monitoring, to inventory management, cold and ultra-cold container solution, regulatory clearance, and healthcare and pharma quality assurance," explained HE Sheikh Abdullah bin Mohammed Al Hamed, Chairman of the Department of Health – Abu Dhabi.

"Developing a vaccine is only the first step in getting to a solution, getting that vaccine to the whole globe, while maintaining a robust integrity of temperature is an equal challenge by itself, the Hope Consortium will provide that solution on the highest level of quality.

"Consortium partners already have extensive expertise in the global delivery of millions of COVID-19 related items, such as personal protective equipment, diagnostics consumables, vaccines and pharmaceuticals. As we progress talks with vaccine manufacturers to apprise them of our global distribution capabilities, the Hope Consortium will harness the united expertise of various Abu Dhabi and UAE stakeholders to provide a fully-fledged, end-to-end solution specifically for COVID vaccine distribution needs."

Distribution of the vaccines, which will be stored in Abu Dhabi Ports Company facilities, will be carried out by Etihad Cargo, the first Middle Eastern carrier to gain IATA's Centre of Excellence for Independent Validators (CEIV) certification for pharmaceutical logistics. The UAE's national carrier will leverage its extensive intercontinental network, fleet and charter flights to supply vaccines globally.

Global logistical hub

"With two thirds of the world's human footprint within a four-hour flight of Abu Dhabi, the UAE capital's investment in technological expertise and world-class infrastructure facilities means we can serve as a global logistical hub to, and for, the world," explained Tony Douglas, Group Chief Executive Officer, Etihad Aviation Group. "Etihad Cargo's role in the consortium will leverage our outstanding pharmaceutical logistics expertise and specialised pharma and healthcare service, PharmaLife, the IATA CEIV Pharma certified product capable of facilitating temperature-sensitive cargo between +25°C and -80°C. Our network reach across key destinations will be supported by the utilisation of our charter operations to meet global demand for swift and secure COVID-19 vaccine shipments.

"We are already managing all anticipated shipment elements through our dedicated COVID-19 vaccines workforce," Douglas added. "A dedicated pharmaceutical handling facility to accommodate increased capacity at our Abu Dhabi hub is also currently under review, as well as additional thermal covers and enhanced capabilities at origin stations based on established pharma trade lanes and specific requests."

As part of the Hope Consortium, Abu Dhabi Ports, which has the Middle East's largest capacities for cold chain and ultra-cold storage, will leverage its capabilities as an innovation epicentre serving the Middle East and wider world through Abu Dhabi as a supply chain gateway connecting East and West.

"This collaboration is in line with our ethos of creating innovative ideas, concepts, solutions and opportunities," said Captain Mohamed Juma Al Shamisi, Group CEO of Abu Dhabi Ports. "Abu Dhabi Ports plays a key role in supporting the Abu Dhabi vision in advancing logistic services in the emirate and leading the post-COVID-19 revival and economic recovery through robust partnerships. Our expansive operations at KIZAD are among the largest cold chain and ultra-cold storing in the region and enable us to support the emirate's drive to spearhead global immunisation efforts that will positively impact millions of lives.

Al Monaifi seeks to boost Kuwait's national identity

Kuwaiti artist cites imbalance in society

By Chaitali B. Roy
Special to the Arab Times

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: To Hanouf Al Monaifi, an electoral candidate from the Third Constituency culture is a catalyst of change in the progression of civilised society, and Kuwait which used to be a centre of cultural excellence at one time has slipped down the culture index due to gross bureaucratic negligence and mismanagement.

Hanouf Al Monaifi, a graduate from the Sorbonne, is an art and cultural management professional. Trained in a wide array of artistic mediums, she has spent more than a decade as an innovative and passionate Fine Arts designer and instructor. Troubled by the apathy and neglect of culture as a tool of diplomacy, and also as a means of empowering and enriching social development in Kuwait, Hanouf Al Monaifi decided to take up the cause herself and is running for elections.

Arab Times: What made you interested in politics?

Hanouf Al Monaifi: Politics and Art are inseparable. From ancient times, it is the perpetuation of everything that has gone past, and it is an indirect expression of the condition of society.

AT: You studied Art at the Sorbonne, and professionally you are a Fine Arts designer. Did you find the transition to politics difficult?

Hanouf Al Monaifi: My studies in Abu Dhabi and my work at the Louvre Paris had a significant impact on me. I learned to express myself freely and without restrictions. Through studying the history of Art and museums, I found that politics is inseparable from Art. Throughout history, all immortal works have had a political effect in one way or another. This got me interested in law and politics.

AT: Why are you the first Kuwaiti artist to run in the election? Why have artists and other creatives in Kuwait



Hanouf Al Monaifi

kept away from politics?

Hanouf Al Monaifi: Frankly, as an artist, I have maintained my distance from politics, but while studying for my masters, many creative ideas became clear to me. As a historian of Art, and later while working as a marketer for international museums in the Arab world, I found that Art and museums are not just for entertainment, they serve a greater purpose. They have a strong influence on the economy, politics, and standing of a country. Powerful countries boast of their museums instead of their defence arsenal. With an increase in corruption in public life, artists, creatives and reformers moved away and this, in turn, damaged the tourism and entertainment industry in Kuwait. This led to an imbalance in society. It isn't easy to imagine that a wealthy country like Kuwait does not have a place like an Entertainment City. One can only blame this on the reluctance of the government to engage with culture. And it is here that the role of the artist or the creative becomes important. He or she can bring about a balance in society.

AT: Do you remember a specific moment or experience that motivated you to run and solidified your resolve?

Hanouf Al Monaifi: My mom is my biggest supporter. She believes that women are strong and can face anything in this world.

AT: Promoting culture in Kuwait is one of your foremost agendas. Before the seventies, Kuwait was the centre of cultural awakening in the Gulf. What happened to change matters? Why did Kuwait fall so far behind in the culture index?

Hanouf Al Monaifi: Frankly speaking, culture is an integral part of human existence. Because of corruption in bu-

reaucratic circles, and theft of public money, cultural matters have been delayed. Culture has never been a priority in Kuwait, and citizens are looking at members of Parliament to redress this wrong. Ordinary residents of Kuwait are suffering low standards of education, health, housing and infrastructure. The roads and streets are in a bad state, and their repair will be a burden on the citizens. Just think about it, there are about 20 museums in Kuwait. But I regret to say that they are dead due to poor management and poor marketing. Culture is one of Kuwait's last priorities. Therefore, it is my duty to run to defend the cause of culture which has been marginalised.

AT: Women candidates in Kuwait have not fared well in elections in Kuwait. What is the reason for this? What are the obstacles that women face while standing for elections?

Hanouf Al Monaifi: Society in Kuwait is patriarchal. Some people still see women only as homemakers. Moreover, voters in Kuwait, in general, are in a state of despair. They see politicians buying votes. They see corruption. Also, women voters are influenced by issues like tribes and sects. Women need to be more aware and vote in the interest of the country. Citizens must be free to vote and must understand that his/her vote matters. They must realise that their vote for the right person is a real investment that he/she will not lose.

AT: Can the government step in to help matters?

Hanouf Al Monaifi: Yes, the government must cooperate for the sake of the country. They have to take steps to ensure the quality of the applicant so that the outcome of the election is better.

AT: What has your campaigning experience been like this year? This year, with the pandemic and restrictions in place, everything is different. How are you dealing with the limitations?

Hanouf Al Monaifi: I have relied on small meetings with four people and maintaining spacing and putting on masks. I have done the rest of my campaigning on the phone and through social media. As a candidate, I want to ensure my safety and that of my people.

AT: What is your agenda as a candidate?

Hanouf Al Monaifi: My agenda includes enhancing the national identity, activating scientific research and empowering women.

Saad Al-Abdullah Academy for Security Sciences open for admissions

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 26: The Directorate-General of Public Relations and Security Media Department of the Interior Ministry said the Education and Training Affairs Sector of the Ministry of Interior, in coordination with the General Administration for Information Systems, announced the opening of registration to receive applications for those wishing to join the 47th batch of officers' students' course at the Saad Al-Abdullah Academy for Security Sciences, reports Al-Rai daily.

The registration begins on Sunday, Nov 29 and will continue until Saturday, Dec 12, 2020. The registration can be done via the link https://eservices5.moi.gov.kw/reg/saa_academy.nsf and must be submitted to the Registration and Admission Department at Saad Al-Abdullah Academy for Security Sciences through Gate No. (4), opposite the General Traffic Department according to the dates specified by the system after registration.

The applicants must be Kuwaitis born of Kuwaiti parents and must fulfill the following conditions – must of good conduct and have good reputation; he should not have been previously convicted of a felony or honor crime or trust unless he has been rehabilitated; should not have been dismissed from government service due

to disciplinary action; must have not been dismissed for disciplinary measures by any academic educational bodies or any other educational authority; should not be more than 23 years old as of on Aug 1, of the year in which he is applying to enroll.

Moreover, his height should not be less than (170 cm), and the minimum weight of the applicant should be (55 kilos); medically fit for the regular service; pass personal interview; must have a high school diploma or its equivalent; should have secured more 75 percent in the science stream and 80 percent for the literary section; he should be a bachelor.

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Interested applicants please apply through website at the following link: <https://aiu.edu.kw/careers/jobs>

Briefs

DOHA: The number of confirmed coronavirus infections in Qatar rose by 227 on Saturday to up the Gulf state's caseload to 138,477, health ministry data showed.

Some 281 more people recovered from the virus over the past 24 hours, raising the total to 135,651, according to government figures. (KUNA)

MANAMA: The number of coronavirus infections in Bahrain rose by 168 over the past 24 hours, as compared to 143 others who recovered from the disease in the same period, health ministry data showed on Saturday.

In a press release, Bahrain's Health Ministry said the total number of fatalities reached 341 people, adding the 143 recoveries are added to total recoveries in the country, which reached 84,653.

The ministry noted the number of people needing hospital care stands at 1,521, adding 14 patients are in the intensive care unit. (KUNA)

ABU DHABI: UAE reported Friday three deaths and 1,283 new infections along with 838 recoveries in the past 24 hours.

The death toll rose to 567 as well as confirmed cases to 165,250, while the recovery number also increased to 152,708 cases, said UAE health ministry. (KUNA)

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TENDER ADVERTISEMENT

Aramco Gulf Operations Company Limited ("AGOC") and Kuwait Gulf Oil Company (K.S.C.) ("KGOC"), (Al Khafji Joint Operations) Invites intending bidders to participate for the **Tender No.: HT676PC20- Construction of New Industrial Security Forces Building.**

Each intending bidder may purchase the tender documents upon payment of **Saudi Riyals Six Hundred (SR 600) or Kuwaiti Dinars Forty-Eight (KD 48) only** which is non-refundable by visiting our Contracts Department at Al- Khafji, Saudi Arabia, or KGOC's Kuwait Office located in Al- Ahmadi, Tender & Contracts Section. The bidder may visit our KJO website: www.kio.com.sa and follows the path; E- Services □ Tendering □ Contractors □ Ongoing Tenders to review part of tender documents, before purchasing.

The sale of Tender Documents will be effective from **November 29, 2020, until 12:00 Noon, December 20, 2020.**

Attending the Pre- Tender Meeting is Mandatory

A Pre-Tender meeting will be held for interested bidders at **the Auditorium Hall, Office Park Building, Al-Khafji Joint Operations, Saudi Arabia, at 10:00 A.M. local time on, December 20, 2020.** A site Visit shall be held soon after.

The bidder shall note that he shall be required to provide an irrevocable bank guarantee from a bank in Saudi Arabia or Kuwait, in the sum of **United States Dollars Twenty-Four Thousand (US\$ 24,000.00/-) only**, to warrant the bid proposal. Such bank guarantee shall be on behalf of the bidder himself and valid for (120) days from the closing date the tender, any bid proposal received without the said bank guarantee will be rejected.

The bid proposal shall be delivered by hand- delivery or thru courier service to the Contracts Department in Al- Khafji Joint Operations, Al- Khafji, Saudi Arabia on or before the closing date **14:00 Hours, Monday, January 18, 2021** of the time stipulated in the tender document.

For more Information, You May Contact The Following Nos

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