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HOPE Consortium kick starts World Immunisation & Logistics Summit in Dubai

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Global leaders in healthcare and philanthropy converged to accelerate the pace of COVID-19 vaccination globally and achieve full recovery



The HOPE Consortium's World Immunisation & Logistics Summit opened on March 30, 2021 by H.H. Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, UAE Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation with a call to enhance collaboration in the world's approach to tackle COVID-19 and ensure a healthier future for all.

The two-day virtual Summit, hosted in by Abu Dhabi, kicked off under the patronage of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, with the participation of acclaimed global healthcare and philanthropic leaders, decision-makers, experts and senior government officials, to explore a unified global approach to fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

Describing the Hope Consortium as a historic announcement that has added to the UAE's efforts to combat the pandemic globally, H.H. Sheikh Abdullah said that the UAE, being a leading global logistics hub, has played a major role in supplying many countries with the resources they need to overcome the pandemic.

"We are moving quickly, utilizing our infrastructure and logistics capabilities and the geographic proximity with Africa, Asia and Europe, to offer medical and food aid to many countries. Our HOPE Consortium has gathered its expertise to secure more vaccines for the world. The UAE will continue to work with partners and play a leading role to accelerate the pace of recovery from this crisis."

H.E. Mohamed Ali Al Shorafa Al Hammadi, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development highlighted the importance of building partnerships to mobilize global resources in the fight against COVID-19.

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organisation (WHO), emphasized on 'Coordinating a global response to mitigate the public health and economic impact of the pandemic'; by Henrietta Fore, Executive Director of UNICEF on 'Ensuring equitable access to the COVID-19 vaccines'; and an address by Mark Suzman, CEO of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation titled 'No one is safe until everyone is safe: Uniting to vaccinate the world.'

H.E. Falah Mohammed Al Ahbabi said: "In the midst of a pandemic and as countries mobilise to cope with new waves, Abu Dhabi Ports and HOPE Consortium are ready to shoulder the support for the region, and the entire world. Together with our partners, we are developing the capacity to safely deliver 18 billion vaccine doses anywhere in the world. Along the way, we

welcome new partners to join our efforts and our global goal, to turn the tide and stop the spread."

Capt. Mohamed Juma Al Shamisi said: "The infrastructure, technology, and capabilities of Abu Dhabi Ports and our partners are key to making our collective mission a success. Since the start of the pandemic, Abu Dhabi Ports has risen quickly to the challenge and has built its logistics capabilities in a short time to the world-class level it is at today – from our cold and ultra-cold storage centres to our specialised fleet of logistics vehicles enabling us to distribute large volumes of vaccines safely, transparently and effectively."

The session also highlighted the next phase of the global pandemic response, which includes delivering vaccines globally and how this challenge can be addressed through effective transportation and technology, including data-enabled supply chains and blockchain solutions.

A fully interactive, virtual 3D exhibition and networking zone took place alongside the Summit offering attendees the opportunity to meet and network with key local and international stakeholders. The recently released agenda provides a preview of the topics and delegates and can be viewed here. To register and secure your slot at the virtual Summit, please click here.