

Joint Statement
on the Strengthening of the Comprehensive Partnership
between Japan and the United Arab Emirates
towards Stability and Prosperity

H.E. Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan, visited the United Arab Emirates from 1 to 2 May, 2013, and met with H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, and H.H. General Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces.

Both sides welcomed the strength and vitality of the bilateral relationship, and exchanged views on how to further deepen cooperation to their mutual benefit.

Both sides highly valued the close partnership in the political and economic fields, as well as in cultural and people-to-people exchanges, and their shared vision on the preservation of peace, stability and prosperity. This includes their commitment to nuclear non-proliferation, anti-terrorism, and the promotion of a rules-based international system. In this regard, both sides expressed their intention to hold a Comprehensive Security Dialogue between the relevant agencies of the two countries to discuss regional situations, maritime security including the safety of the sea lanes of communications, counter-piracy, non-proliferation, anti-terrorism, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, among others.

Both sides emphasized the importance of holding the Japan-UAE Joint Economic Committee, the Abu Dhabi Japan Economic Council and exchanging business missions including the Japanese business mission on the occasion of this visit, while welcoming the close collaboration between the governments and the private sectors of the two countries.

Both sides noted with satisfaction the robust commercial ties between the two countries, as well as the growing number of partnerships which were further strengthened by the signing of the Convention between the Government of Japan and the Government of the UAE for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income, as well as Memoranda of Cooperation by both the private and public sectors of the two countries during the visit.

Both sides expressed their intention to build on more than four decades of partnership and trade in energy between two of the world's most dynamically growing regions. This partnership continues to develop in the areas of oil and gas exploration and production, as well as cooperation in research and development, in refining, and in a recently renewed strategic joint storage project between the two sides.

Both sides emphasized the importance of a long-term partnership between Japan and the UAE regarding oil development cooperation, and welcomed that Abu Dhabi Oil Company (ADOC) has successfully extended its concessional agreement with an additional concession area.

Both sides welcomed that a mutually complementary relationship in oil development has advanced through such measures as technological collaboration, training programs, financial cooperation and cooperation for the establishment of the refining research center.

Both sides welcomed the signing of the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the United Arab Emirates for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy on the occasion of this visit and noted with satisfaction that this Agreement will further expand nuclear energy cooperation between the two countries.

Both sides emphasized the importance of their growing cooperation in the field of clean and renewable energy, and in developing options to enhance action to combat climate change. They reiterated the importance that both countries place on the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and committed to further cooperation to support the development of the Agency.

Both sides welcomed the close cooperation and institutional partnerships in areas such as education, science, technology, health care, infrastructure, agriculture, cultural and people-to-people exchanges, and the arts.

Both sides emphasized the importance of medical cooperation between the two countries and welcomed increased cooperation among the parties concerned in this field.

Both sides emphasized further cooperation between the governments and the private sectors of the two countries regarding infrastructure development.

Both sides emphasized the importance of improving school education and welcomed Japan's new educational cooperation policy of receiving 500 UAE students over the next five years.

Both sides pledged to continue to deepen their partnership through close and regular consultations between the two countries.