

**Dr. Al Muhairi:**

**Categories Restructured,  
Rewards Increased,  
& 'Educator' & 'Educa-  
tional Administration'  
Launched**

# AIT News amayoz

Newsletter - October 2016 - issue 101



**MoU between Hamdan Award  
and ALECSO for Sharing  
Expertise and Specialized Staff**

On behalf of H. H. patron of Award  
**Al Owais Honors  
Winners of UNESCO-  
Hamdan bin Rashid Al  
Maktoum Prize**

# October 2016

Issue 101

## Issue and Correspondence:

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Performance

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## OUR VISION

To be pioneers in the management of excellence in educational performance and fostering talent

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AIT News  
**AIT amayoz**

Monthly Educational Magazine

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## Sustainable Development Goals

In the 70th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, presidents of states and governments, United Nations officials, and representatives of civil society adopted the new sustainable development goals, in which UNESCO contributed.

Based on its interest in educational affairs, 'Al Tamayoz News' will present in each issue an education-related aspect of the goals of this UN 2030 agenda, highlighting the UAE's efforts in promoting United Nations attempts to achieve sustainable development.



### Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

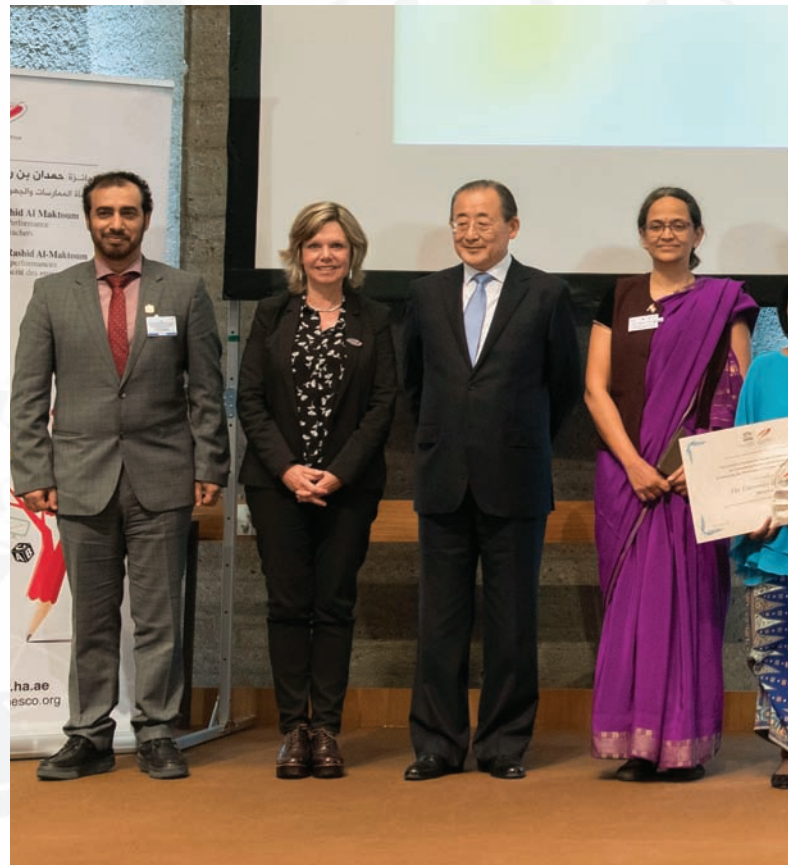
- Improving people's lives and achieving sustainable development is based on getting inclusive, equitable and quality education by all, as well as promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all. This is the 4th of the 17 goals of sustainable development to transform our world.
- The UAE is a role model in the region and the world due to its concern in education and investment in human. It is one of the first regional countries in smart education. The UAE has been keen to develop its education sector to match the highest international standards. It witnesses great development in terms of the establishment of public and private schools. Interest in education and investment and development in human have contributed to increasing the number of students in the country, along with the increase in the number of teachers in public and private schools. The UAE government has been keen to make education a priority on the budget, which is reflected in increasing the investment in public general, higher and university education in the UAE.
- Substantial progress has been made globally towards increasing access to education in all its stages, combined with the increase in enrollment rates, especially for women and girls. Reading and writing skills have been improved tremendously. However, there is a need to make more efforts to guarantee realizing leaps in achieving global targets set for education. For example, the world has achieved parity between girls and boys in primary education, but the number of countries that have managed to achieve that goal in all levels of education is still small.
- The number enrolled students in primary education in developing countries amounted to 90%. However, 58 million children remain out of school, and more than half of the children who are not in school live in sub-Saharan Africa. Furthermore, 50% of the children who are in primary school age and live in areas affected by conflicts do not attend school.
- There are 781 million adults and 126 million youth who are illiterate, +60% of them are women.
- One of the purposes of this development goal is to ensure that all girls, boys and youths get access to primary and secondary education, particularly free equitable and quality education. This would lead to the achievement of appropriate and effective educational outcomes by 2030. It would ensure that all girls and boys get access to good quality development and care in early childhood and pre-primary education, so that they would be ready for primary education by 2030.



## On behalf of H. H. patron of Award Al Owais Honors Winners of UNESCO- Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Prize

**'Al Tamayoz News' - Paris**

On behalf of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and UAE Minister of Finance, patron UNESCO-Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Prize for Outstanding Practice and Performance in Enhancing the Effectiveness of Teachers, His Excellency Abdul Rahman bin Mohammed Al Owais, Minister of Health & Protection of Society honored the winners of the 4th session of the Prize, during a ceremony held at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization «UNESCO» in Paris, France.



The ceremony was attended by Dr. Jamal Mohammed Al Muhairi, Vice President of the Board of Trustees, Secretary-General of Hamdan Award, Abdullah Misbah Al Nuaimi, Permanent Representative of the UAE to UNESCO, Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO, and a number of senior educational figures from the UAE and UNESCO Member States.

In his speech, H. E. Al Owais conveyed the greetings of H. H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum to the audience and winners, wishing them continuous success, and praising the joint work and harmonious visions between the Award and UNESCO for more than 8 years of work and effort to improve the international educational and cultural system, and to empower the teacher, who is one of the main pillars in UNESCO's ambitious plan to achieve sustainable human development.

H. E. talked about the proposal of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, being a partner of UNESCO to adopt a UN project to promote constructive and purposeful education based on the conveying science and knowledge, as well as raising ethical conduct away from extremist and violent ideas, in pursuit of uprooting evil, especially from the institutions of knowledge and culture, and modern means of communication.

### **Tireless Efforts**

Abdullah Misbah Al Nuaimi, Permanent Representative of the UAE to UNESCO expressed his overwhelming happiness with the tireless efforts made by the Award for more than 8 years, in collaboration with UNESCO in supporting the methods to improve teachers who are an essential source for the dissemination of science, ideas and

good behaviors, especially in remote and poor communities. He stressed the need for concerted efforts in the coming period in order to eliminate extremism and intolerance, and to establish societies based on dialogue and tolerance through quality education and human development.

### **Praise**

In her speech, Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO praised the unlimited generosity of H. H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, in addition to undertaking the mission of promoting education inside and outside the UAE for almost two decades.

She confirmed the success of the prolonged cooperation plans between UNESCO and the Award to highlight the efforts of educational institutions, bodies and organizations, and to give the chance for their activities to be seen around the world, and then to

**Minister of Health:  
The Award suggests  
the adoption of UN  
project to promote  
science-based  
education away from  
extremism**

**Global efforts to up-  
root evil, especially  
from institutions  
of knowledge and  
culture, and modern  
means of communi-  
cation**



evaluate and support them by all available means, on top of such means comes UNESCO-Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Prize for Outstanding Practice and Performance in Enhancing the Effectiveness of Teachers.

She stressed the need for continued fruitful cooperation in the coming years, along with developing the Prize mechanisms and increasing its effectiveness in the development of education and teachers, especially in poor and developing communities and countries.

At the end of the ceremony, it was honored award winners, namely: the 'See Beyond Borders' Organization for 'Teacher the Teacher' project, Cambodia which was launched in 2010 in order to develop primary school teachers' skills in rural areas.

The Organization continuously work in partnership with the local communities which to improve levels of education

through training teachers, enrolling children in schools, and development of a better environment for education.

'Teacher the Teacher' has begun in 2010. It benefits around 324 teachers in the Cambodian countryside, and more than 10,000 children from the first to the third grade in 62 schools all over Cambodia.

Training teachers and supervisors in rural areas indirectly contributed to passing the annual test of mathematics by nearly 80% of the students with low academic achievement.

The second honoree is the University of Malaya – Administration of Mathematical and Educational Sciences in the Faculty of Education for 'Environmental Citizenship Education' project in 2005-2015, Malaysia. The project was launched to increase awareness in the environmental and sustainable issues by the educational system elements.

The University of Malaya is the first local university in Malaysia. It was founded in 1905 to meet the needs of higher education in the country, and to manage mathematical and educational sciences in the Faculty of Education at the University. It aims to provide a multi-disciplinary training and research in the field of teaching mathematics and science, health and physical education and teaching sciences of mathematics with information and communication technologies.

The University of Malaya is the main researcher and one of the partners in the 2005-2015 Environmental Citizenship Program in Malaysia, where the project was designed through a codified process within the (LFA) system. This study was described as a significant practice towards achieving the goal of the project, which is to improve environmental citizenship in Malaysia.

**Abdullah Al Nuaimi:**  
The teacher is essential source for the dissemination of good ideas and behaviors, especially in poor communities

**Call for concerted efforts to eliminate intolerance and establish tolerance-based societies**





The project is intended to address teachers, students, supervisors, instructors, and all their surrounding elements all over Malaysia. The results of Citizenship Education project range between rise and fall in each session. The highest level reached was 42.5% in 2011 and 2012. Although the result is going slowly, the project is moving steadily towards the increase.

#### Support & Encouragement

H. H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy

Ruler of Dubai and UAE Minister of Finance launched the Prize for the first time in 2008 in order to support and encourage all those who work to enhance the performance and effectiveness of teachers all over the world. This goal is consistent with UNESCO visions and priorities.

Amounting to US \$ 300,000, the biennial Prize is awarded equally for three winners who have designed their projects to provide outstanding educational practice contributing

to improving the performance and effectiveness of teachers in various parts of the world. 381 participations have applied since the launch of the Prize, while the number increased 100% in the last two sessions.

As for the members of the international jury, they are nominated and selected by the Director-General of UNESCO. The jury is composed of 5 members representing all geographic regions of the world according to the International Classification.

**Irina Bokova:**  
the need for continued fruitful cooperation for the development of the Award mechanisms and increasing effectiveness

**Praising generosity of Hamdan bin Rashid and his mission of promoting educational system**

## Bokova: Hamdan Award Rehabilitated Education

Irina Bokova, Director-General the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization 'UNESCO' expressed her thanks to the United Arab Emirates for the effective role in supporting the efforts and activities of UNESCO.

She considered that UNESCO-Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Prize for Outstanding Practice and Performance rehabilitated the teacher and institutions working in the field of encouraging outstanding educational practices.

"When UNESCO decided to schedule a day to honor the winners of this valuable prize in conjunction with marking the celebrations of the World Teachers' Day, the organization intended to convey the message that this Prize which is offered by His Highness



Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and UAE Minister of Finance, has become today a major tool of rehabilitation for the teacher and institutions working in the field of encouraging outstanding educational practices," Bokova stated. "The Prize rewards the distinguished educational efforts

and practices, the thing which enabled it to update education in many regions across the world, through the integration of contemporary and modern technology in the educational system," she added. Bokova expressed her thanks and gratitude to His Highness the patron of the Prize, stating that all members of UNESCO

appreciate such efforts and commitment to the organization's values which we share, and the objectives that we believe in, as well as the wise vision of H. H. in bridging the gap between the different cultures and peoples, and promoting dialogue among civilizations.

The ceremony was attended by Irina Bokova, UNESCO Director-General, Najat Vallaud-Belkacem, French Minister of Education, Higher Education and Research, Dr. Jamal Mohammed Al Muhairi, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees and the Secretary-General of Hamdan Award, Abdullah Misbah Al Nuaimi, Permanent Representative of the UAE to UNESCO, and a number of senior educational figures from the UAE and Member States of UNESCO.



## Good Turnout Attracted to the Award Stand in Accompanying Exhibition of World Teachers' Day

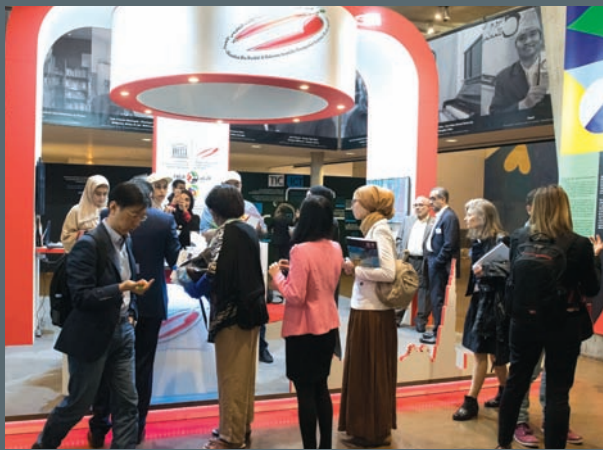
Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance participated in the exhibition accompanying the World Teachers' Day in the headquarters of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization 'UNESCO', France. The theme 'Valuing Teachers, Improving their Status' was chosen for the activities of World Teachers' Day organized by UNESCO in cooperation with the International Labor Organization (ILO), the United Nations Development Program, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and Education International (EI).

The Award stand attracted even more audience on the second day of the exhibition accompanying the ceremony, due to the unique design which helped attract visitors to the exhibition, and increased their desire to recognize the Award activities and its role in supporting talented and gifted segments.

UNESCO proclaimed 5 October to be World Teachers' Day in 1994, celebrating the great step made for teachers on 5 October 1966, when a special intergovernmental conference convened by UNESCO in Paris adopted the UNESCO/ILO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, in cooperation with the ILO.

This recommendation sets forth the rights and responsibilities of teachers as well as international standards for their initial preparation and further education, recruitment, employment, teaching and learning conditions. Since its adoption, the Recommendation has been considered an important set of guidelines to promote teachers' status in the interest of quality education.

5 October also celebrates the adoption by the UNESCO General Conference in 1997 of the UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel.







On the sidelines of honoring ceremony  
of UNESCO-Hamdan Prize in Paris

## **MoU between Hamdan Award and ALECSO for Sharing Expertise and Specialized Staff**

'Al Tamayoz News' - Paris

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance has entered into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO) on the sidelines of the honoring ceremony of the 4th session winners of UNESCO-Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Prize for Outstanding Practice and Performance in Enhancing the Effectiveness of Teachers, at the headquarters of UNESCO in Paris, France.





The agreement was signed by Dr. Jamal Mohammed Al Muhairi, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees and the Secretary-General of Hamdan Award, and Dr. Muhammad Abdul Bari Qudsi Assistant Director-General of ALECSO.

### Goals

The MoU aims at contributing to the achievement of the objectives and strategies of both institutions through sharing experiences and educational specialists including advisory personnel, as well as the joint cooperation in highlighting the importance of the education sector and its fundamental role in society, and strengthening education's status in developing countries.

The 3-year MoU will be a general framework for many future agreements targeting educational quality projects.

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi stated "the Award has tended to cover the geographical scope of the Arab world, based on the vision of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and UAE Minister of Finance, patron of Hamdan bin

Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, and out of his national and patriotic duty, and of the faith of H. H. in the Arab minds and capabilities, along with their right of re-assuming their enlightening role and contributions to human civilization, and building on the firm belief of H. H. in education tool, as the driving force for development and progress for the advancement of the Arab nation, and achieving sustainable development in their respective countries, to obtain peace, stability and prosperity. In this quest, the Award counted on spreading the culture of educational excellence, taking care of talented and innovators, and providing expertise in support of some institutions that have adopted this direction."

### New Shift

"Today the Award accomplishes a new shift in support of its existence, and the expansion of educational services, thanks to the generous response of ALECSO to sign a bilateral agreement that marks the start of partnership phase between both institutions, in order to achieve the

common aspiration to improve education and its outputs, and spread the culture of educational excellence, in order to develop education and scientific research throughout the Arab world. It is our mutual quest to support the efforts developing educational systems using the latest tools and technologies, in order to improve educational performance, which we deem the cornerstone to rescue the nation from failures, keep pace with global civilization and enable it to of keeping abreast of scientific developments and the tools of effect and addition," Al Muhairi elaborated.

### Partnerships & Agreements

For his part, Dr. Abdullah Hamad Mohareb, Director-General of ALECSO said "we seek to conclude agreements and partnerships with various agencies and organizations because we believe that progress can be achieved only within the framework of joint cooperation, distribution of responsibilities and success in the application of best agreed standards. All these factors are obvious in the performance of Hamdan

bin Rashid Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, due to its profound experience in laying the foundations for the development of education and improving all the elements and components of the educational system within the UAE and abroad."

"This MoU will open wide doors in front of 22 Arab countries in the fields of education and improving it. Through this MoU, we are looking for marketing and intruding programs, initiatives and services of the Award, in addition to the joint organization of conferences, seminars, forums, scientific exhibitions, training programs and specialized events, not to mention exchanging publications, informative materials and research. Moreover, we aspire to exchange as much information, data and statistics as possible with the Award to assist in the development of our own plans and strategies. This will certainly be crystallized by the launch of joint initiatives and strategies in all issues relevant to teaching, culture, science and educational systems," he added.





Confirming that amendments go along with the evolution of the Award and education developments in the UAE

## Dr. Al Muhairi: Categories Restructured, Rewards Increased, & 'Educator' & 'Educational Administration' Launched







## 'Al Tamayoz News' - Dubai

Under the guidance of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and UAE Minister of Finance, patron of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, to keep pace with educational developments in the UAE, the Award announced developmental actions which affected a number of categories and their standards, as well as the value of material rewards, in the framework of supporting the government educational efforts towards turning the UAE society to be the society of sustainable knowledge which is a leader in the application of the most innovative educational practices.

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees, the Secretary-General of the Award, stated that the amendments included increase in financial allocations to 6 categories out of 12 categories, at percentages ranging from 14% to 50%.

He explained that the financial allocation to each of the Distinguished Student (UAE an GCC) and the Best Scientific Innovation, has become AED 30,000 instead of AED 20,000, up by 50%. In addition, the allocation to each the Best Applied Project and the Distinguished Family has become AED 40,000 instead of AED 35,000, increasing 14%; while the reward for Distinguished Teacher increased to AED 40,000 instead of AED 30,000, up by 33%, and the reward value for Distinguished University Student rose to AED 30,000 from AED 25,000, with 20% increase.

Dr. Al Muhairi added that the financial allocations to 5 categories remained unchanged; namely, Highly Dis-

tinguished GCC Teacher, with AED 60,000, Distinguished School and School Administration, AED 100,000, Arab Educational Research, AED 74,000, whereas AED 35,000 is allocated to Distinguished Educator, and AED 50,000 to Distinguished Educational Administration.

### 2 New Categories

He pointed out that two new categories were launched in the 19th cycle: Distinguished Educator, having 5 allocations, each at AED 35,000, and Distinguished Educational Administration, having 3 allocations, each at AED 50,000. Standards

Al Muhairi stated that the Award has developed the main standards for the two categories of Distinguished Educational Administration and Distinguished Educator; where the former category included 5 criteria: leadership, strategy, personnel, partnerships and resources, and processes; while the latter included performance and achievement,

collaboration and professional commitment, professionalism and continuous improvement, initiative and creativity, participation and responsibility, and supervisory skills.

"The Best Educational Research has been removed from local competitions, whereas the category of Arab Research has remained unchanged, but the number of allocated prizes rose from 3 to 4. A special e-mail address has been devoted to the category, and simple additions has been made to the content of the manual, including reformulation and clarification," he added.

### Substantial Amendments

Al Muhairi clarified that there have been substantial amendments to Education-Supporting Institutions Award, in light of the directives of H. H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and UAE Minister of Finance, at the closing ceremony of the 18th session in relation to restructuring awards in a manner consistent with

**Removing local Educational Research and increasing Arab Research to 4 prizes**

**Substantial modifications to Education-Supporting Institutions Award**

**Increase of financial allocations for 6 categories ranging from 14 to 50%**



the Award evolution and its spread, and keeping pace with local and educational variables to achieve quality education. "The Award Board of Trustees, under the instruction of the Award administration, took the necessary measures to implement the directives of the Award patron. In response to this, the Educational Excellence Department in the Award took several actions, including studying the current status of all the categories, at both UAE and GCC levels, in public, private and university education, as well as the supporting bodies. A new vision for the Award categories was set, taking into account the historical evolution of the Award categories and their criteria, in addition to the gradual growth on the one hand, and the qualitative leap in excellence models in the UAE on the other hand, especially that it focuses on excellence and quality education programs to keep pace with the developments in the educational field, and reflects the sustainability of the Award leadership in excellence," Al Muhairi said.

### Structuring

He explained that the new structure included the devel-

opment of categories and widening the scope of participation, in order to keep abreast of local and educational variables and achieve quality education. Distinguished Educational Administration category, which represents institutional excellence, has been developed. The category covers the distinguished educational zone, central administration and any other groups interested in institutional excellence in education. The Distinguished Educator category has also been developed to cover the categories of Distinguished Mentor, Sociologist and Psychologist and any other groups representing individual excellence.

### 4 Pillars

He pointed out that the idea of introducing and modifying awards is built on four pillars. First, previous experiences, as standards are built on the cumulative experiences of the Award, which spanned nearly two decades in the areas of designing, preparing and managing excellence standards, through which it could lead the educational field towards development, innovation and excellence. Secondly, sustain-

ability, where standards have been introduced to support the march of excellence in the field of education in the UAE, to entrench the culture of educational performance at all levels, and to accommodate current and future developments in a way that contributes to the UAE's strategy achievement in the provision of quality education.

Third, originality and exclusivity, as the category standards in the Award were built on the best practices in excellence. The Award is the first that goes, locally and regionally, in line with the fourth generation (4G) of excellence pursued by the United Arab Emirates in providing its service and making its institutions distinguished. The 4G is regarded the first system designed to develop governmental performance in the UAE, taking into account differences and privacy in the nature of the agencies' work, and focuses on the results achieved by the body in accordance with the assigned tasks, beside its role in achieving the national agenda and stimulating it for future outlook, and keeping abreast of developments and the permanent development

**No change with financial allocations of 5 categories**

**Educator category includes Mentor, Sociologist and Psychologist**

**The Award turned into an accredited program for excellence that measures level of educational institutions by to accurate scientific standard**





of business systems to suit the requirements of future governments, which ensures a competitive advantage for the UAE and the adopting authority. This is what achieves the special identity of the Award and brings uniqueness on it.

The fourth pillar is integration. These awards are integrated with their counterparts of other awards in the general layout and evaluation mechanisms, despite the differences in the scope of application, the thing which achieves parallel growth in the educational institution and its members and the rest institutions.

Al Muhairi stressed that the Award standards keep pace with modernity and raise the performance level of the those who are ambitious to reach excellence, as they deem the continued development of the Award criteria contributes in promoting educational excellence, and dissemination of creativity and quality culture, in addition to highlighting the role of parties that support the culture of excellence.

He pointed out that Hamdan Award contributes to the development of educational process elements by penetrating creativity and the spirit of excellence among students and teachers in particular, and on the UAE level in general, to achieve its mission of reaching creativity potential wherever exists.

He added that the Award recently elevated at the local, regional, Arab and international levels in strict scientific style and methodology in the application of standards and principles by which categories and criteria succeeded. The Award remains in the development process to get to higher levels, which makes it one of the most accurate educational awards, where it turned into an accredited program for educational excellence that measures the level of educational institutions due to accurate scientific standards, adjusts their performance, helps them to achieve quality and believes that their positive impact are invaluable to the future generations.



## During 11th Best Practices Seminar

# Hamdan bin Rashid Awards Allocate AED 9 M to Support Education

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### Mohammed Ali

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees, the Secretary-General of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, confirmed that the efforts of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and UAE Minister of Finance to support education, has established excellence, talent and innovation methodologies. He noted that the total value of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum awards supporting education, has reached up to nine million dirhams, spread over 12 categories, through which distinguished people annually compete, so that the Award remains a favorite field for competition and excellence among the talents inside UAE and abroad.

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**Dr. Al Muhairi:**  
His Highness's patronage contributed to building real opportunities for talents and innovators











Dr. Sajid Al Abdali



Najeeb Al Ali



Shurouq Al Dhanhani

This statement was delivered during Dr. Al Muhairi opening speech in the activities of the 11th annual Seminar of Best Practices in Distinguished Academic Performance, organized by the Award at Al Bustan Rotana Hotel, Dubai, in the presence of an elite of experts and leading figures in the educational and social work, in addition to a number of students, faculty and administrative members of public and private education.

“The generous patronage of His Highness contributed to building real opportunities for talented students and innovators through both Hamdan Center for Talent and Creativity and Fab Lab UAE,” He added. Al Muhairi said that the success of the Seminar prompts greater partnership in order to develop this program, lead it to broader horizons and enable it to grant better services to the public of educational excellence.

This annual tradition aims at sharing ideas and opinions on the application and nomination techniques and documentation mechanisms presented by the Excellence Award winners of the previous session, by providing distinct experiences and models to the targeted groups, and achieving integration in the presentation of experience in various aspects of the academic performance.

The Seminar aims at increasing the awareness of academic community towards distinguished practices; spreading and conveying knowledge, expertise and distinguished experience; deepening excellence culture by means of displaying and documenting the best prac-

### The Award is favorite field for competition and excellence among talents inside UAE and abroad

#### Efforts of Deputy Ruler of Dubai, UAE Minister of Finance established excellence, talent and innovation methodologies



tices according to the standards of Academic Performance; and honoring distinguished academic achievements besides their authors. It is also intended to document and define distinguished academic practices; spread and disseminate excellence culture in the academic performance; and introduce the winners' efforts and their distinguished innovations; as well as crowning the winners' efforts and motivating them to proceed on the excellence way, encouraging distinguished people to apply for the Award, expanding the circle of targeted in the Seminar, and introducing the competitions and standards of higher education in the UAE. Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Member of the Board of Trustees of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, declared new amendments being made to the Award in its

19th session. The amendments included the development of standards, and increase of financial allocations for certain categories, as well as deleting, merging and creating new categories, in line with future trends and developments taking place in the UAE.

Dr. Al Suwaidi pointed out that the increase of financial allocations covered 6 categories in the Award out of 12. Two categories increased by 50%, another two by 14%, one by 33%, and the last one by 20%. He added that 5 categories remained unchanged in financial allocations, referring to the introduction of the two categories: Excellent Educator, and Excellent Educational Administration. Within the activities of the Seminar, Najeeb Al Ali, CEO of Expo 2020 Office, delivered a work paper entitled 'Expo 2020 agenda'. Two other key work papers were presented, wherein the speakers reviewed their experiences with excellence and the most prominent negative and positive effects in achieving creativity and quality.

Dr. Sajid Al Abdali, Kuwaiti lecturer and consultant, participated in a work paper entitled 'Reading and Discussion Groups - Educational and Cognitive Effects'. Shurouq Al Dhanhani, a winner of the Distinguished Student and Distinguished University Student categories, submitted the last paper under the title 'The Award Impact.'

At the conclusion of presentations, Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi honored the speakers who have helped to highlight the literary and scientific values in the Best Practices Seminar.







## Photo Gallery Documenting the Award History and Projects

'Al Tamayoz News' - Dubai  
Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Member of the Board of Trustees of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, Head of the Committee of UNESCO-Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Prize for Outstanding Practice and Performance in Enhancing the Effectiveness of

Teachers, inaugurated the Photography Gallery accompanying the 11th annual Seminar of Best Practices in Distinguished Academic Performance. The gallery contains historical pictures of the Award and its projects since launch in 1998. The exhibition also contains photographs belonging to Fab Lab UAE project and

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Center for Talent and Creativity. The audience were introduced to the new activities of the lab, which is the first of its kind, in addition to the center's various activities and events that are devoted to gifted students through the display of projects' pictures of the center and lab.





## General coordinator of committees highlighting key notes **11th Adjudication Forum Introduces Latest Developments of Hamdan Award**



Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi

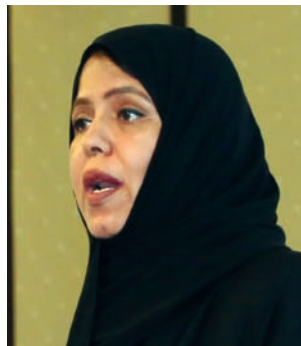
### Mohammed Ali

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance organized the 11th annual Adjudication Forum for the 19th session at Al Bustan Rotana Hotel, Dubai, in the presence of an elite of adjudicators and coordinators of the Award from the UAE educational zones and the GCC states. The forum included a meeting with Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, General Coordinator of the Adjudication Committees, Member of the Board of Trustees, and Head of Hamdan-UNESCO Prize.





Dr. Al Suwaidi made a presentation covering the updates of the 19th session, the most important of which was the development of the key criteria both Distinguished Educational Administration and Distinguished Educator categories, where the first included 5 criteria; namely, leadership, strategy, workers, partnerships and resources, and processes; while the second included performance and achievement, collaboration and professional commitment, professionalism and continuous improvement, initiative and creativity, participation and responsibility, and supervisory skills. Dr. Al Suwaidi highlighted removing the Best Educational Research category from local competitions, and keeping the category of Arab Research unchanged, noting that the number of allocated prizes rose from 3 to 4, while a special e-mail address has been devoted to the category,



**Hessa Al Zaabi**

ry, and simple additions has been made to the content of the manual, including reformulation and clarification. Furthermore, Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi provided general guidance on adjudication. The Forum included training workshops given by a number of adjudication experts. Hessa Al Zaabi, in a key session, delivered a presentation on the new categories.



**Hasan Abdullah Al Hammadi**

Hasan Abdullah Al Hammadi presented a workshop on Highly Distinguished Teacher, while Samia Mohammed Majan and Zamzam Al Najjar organized two workshops for Distinguished Teacher. Katham Ali Al Bawadi provided a workshop on conducting interviews in the category of Distinguished Student, and another workshop by Zamzam Al Najjar discussed

how to write an evaluation form.

### **Objectives**

The annual forum aims at upgrading the adjudication operations and improving the performance of central and regional adjudicators; it covers the local and GCC scopes, with the purpose of training subsidiary and central adjudicators at the local and Gulf levels.

The forum aspires to bring the views together and unify the concepts and adjudication practices among the members of adjudication committees, to convey the Award's notes and updates for the new session concerning competitions and adjudication, and any new developments. It is also intended to communicate directly and to create proper environment to support the relationship between the Award and its adjudicators at all levels.



## Within 1st stage in 7 schools 250 Students Take ‘Talented Discovery’ Tests

**‘Al Tamayoz News’ - Dubai**

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance applied the first stage of the talented students’ discovery portfolio tests on a number of the UAE schools. The portfolio has been prepared in cooperation with the Universities of Nuremberg and Regensburg in Germany, with the help of experts in gifted education.

According to Dr. Maryam Al Ghawi, Director of the Gifted Welfare Department, 250 students from grades 7 and 8 were examined in 7 schools nominated by the Ministry of Education, as a sample of students in the UAE. She explained “the portfolio

**The Portfolio is 1st of its kind regionally and corresponds with UAE character**

**The Award is counting on potential available in UAE educational institutions**

is the first of its kind in the Arab world. It was designed to correspond with the UAE character. Through research and interviews it identifies talented students’ characteristics. The project aims to

prepare tools especially designed to fit in with the UAE environment, in order to detect talented students and to provide appropriate care for them.”

### **New Horizons**

Director of the Gifted Welfare Department stressed that this joint project with the Ministry of Education opens new horizons for talents in the Arab world, as it has modern tools for discovery and care. These tools take into account the value components and the best outcomes scientists and researchers in the world have achieved.

She added that the Award is counting on the potentials available in educational institutions and employing them in fostering this group

of students.

Discovery Portfolio for Talented Students project was launched in 2015, and will last until 2018. In its first stage, it has completed the tools of talented discovery for the grades from 4 to 6, where this stage comes complementary to the precedent.

Discovery Portfolio is the first integrated and comprehensive battery for spotting talents at the UAE level. It provides internationally accredited discovery tools, based on research and scientific basis and codified to align with the UAE environment, add to this, it is an integrated portfolio that includes all the stages of discovery approved scientifically and internationally.





Welcoming a delegation headed by Director of Quality Assurance

## Hamdan Award Introduces Gifted Programs to Dubai Police

### 'Al Tamayoz News' - Dubai

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance welcomed a delegation from the General Headquarters of Dubai Police, headed by Major Salah Al Mazroui, Director of Quality Assurance, at the Award headquarters in Dubai.

During the meeting, which comes in line with sharing expertise in the field of educational excellence and sponsoring giftedness, a detailed explanation about the mechanism of discovering talented students and how to deal with them was presented, in addition to introducing gifted programs to the delegation.

The meeting was attended by Sulaiman Abdul Khaliq,

CEO of the Award, Khawla Bahloq, Assistant CEO for Excellence and Talent, and Dr. Maryam Al Ghawi, Director of the Gifted Welfare Department, and a number of the Award officials.

Sulaiman Abdul Khaliq said that the meeting is based on the directives of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Minister of Finance, patron of the Award, concerning the need to make the Award experience available to various specialized institutions interested in educational excellence and the sponsoring talents.

He added that the Award administration is keen to build relations of cooperation and exchange of experience with local and foreign institutions,

with a view of the advancement of this vital sector which is given a paramount importance by the UAE government, especially within the process of sustainable development.

He pointed out that the Award is proud of its partnership with the General Headquarters of Dubai Police, which has been supporting the Award since its inception in 1998, and was the best assistance and support in many activities.

### Pioneer Initiatives

He stated "the Award cooperates with various institutions involved in the talented affair. Hamdan Award has pioneer initiatives in relation to discovering and taking care of talents, and prioritize spotting the individual talents,

especially for young people, as well as developing them and turning them into strengths to reach the levels of prominent excellence and achievement," stressing that effective discovery of gifted students is represented by providing appropriate discovery tools, that identify these students, and measure their different abilities.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Dubai Police delegation commended the Award initiatives and efforts in supporting the educational performance development at the local level, confirming that enhancing cooperation and coordination between institutions will be reflected in the integration system, in order to serve the march of educational work and improve education.