

**Hamdan bin Rashid:
Efforts to nurture
talented people
are modest compared
to our ambitious goals**

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to inaugurate the Grand Hall
of UNESCO on 25 October**

AIT Akhbar Tamayoz

Newsletter - October 2017 - issue 108



**Bahraini Minister of Education:
Hamdan Award
elevates performance
towards creativity**



**Azoulay elected UNESCO Director-
General, and Hamdan Award thanks
Bokova for supporting its programs**

4 educational initiatives
to raise the graduation of
Emirates School

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Issue 108

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OUR VISION

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

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Monthly Educational Magazine



Cover Story



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Introduction

20th Session



- We come back to you, dear readers, after we have practically started the 20th session of the Award, with its 6 coming issues of 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz' magazine, to be published consecutively until the end of April 2018. We will work hard, with the help of Allah, so that this magazine becomes a gateway to introduce the Award, its activities and programs, as well as becoming a window for information and knowledge on academic excellence, nurturing talents and innovation. The magazine will cover topics and issues of education occupying the community generally, and the field of education in particular. We will not forget the global developments in education, including the discoveries, experiences, reports and abstracts that enrich your knowledge and culture, and promote the opportunities of knowledge and analysis for more realistic attitudes towards issues of education, and decisions on the personal level that are characterized by more sound judgment and profound effect.

- Dear readers, in this session, the Award completes its second decade, having its clear methods in supporting education locally, regionally and internationally, thanks to the application of the vision of its founder and patron His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and UAE Minister of Finance. These methods are concentrated on many topics, including encouraging, rewarding and disseminating the culture of excellence; discovering and raising talented people; as well as consolidating innovative thinking in society, without neglecting the role of research and studies. The Award also focuses on supporting the international efforts in spreading education and raising its efficiency through strategic partnerships with international and regional organizations.

- The 20th session of the Award started with three major events, including organizing the Forum of Excellence and Talent, hosting the 5th Arab Robot and Artificial Intelligence Conference in cooperation with Emirates Scientific Club, and the partnership with the International Research Association for Talent Development and Excellence (IRATDE) in sponsoring the organization of the IRATDE Conference for Talent and Research 2017. The Award is about to launch a set of local and international projects and programs directly related to the support of education, and most notably the visit of the Award patron to UNESCO later this month. Among the said projects is the forthcoming announcement of a new global initiative, in addition to the launch of Hamdan-ISESCO Prize in partnership with the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), as well as a joint venture with a prestigious institution in the United States of America for the benefit of teachers. Some local projects with quality services will be also launched, most importantly, in Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Center for Talent and Innovation.

- On the occasion of the 20th session, the Award announced its new theme, 'We Innovate Future', to be its mission in the coming stage.

Abdul Noor Ahmed Al Hashimi
Chief Editor

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We welcome your contributions and inquiries as to pursue communication with you.
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Including general framework for discovering and developing talented students

4 educational initiatives to raise the graduation of Emirates School

Dubai - Akhbar Al Tamayoz

Education is a priority in the vision of the wise leadership, that is why it is placed at the forefront of the leadership's concerns leading to raising the citizen who is armed with science and knowledge, and able to cope with global changes. This was reflected in the annual meetings of the Government of the UAE, held on 26 and 27 of last month in the presence of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces. In the meetings, four initiatives were discussed to generalize the Emirates School. The initiatives' objective is to develop a set of criteria that determine the requirements to graduate from schools, and the most important components for the success of education in the UAE through providing the needs of labor market, in addition to looking ahead to the future in the field of education, with the consolidation and organization of these efforts.



The first initiative:

Developing a general framework for discovering and developing talented students in the UAE

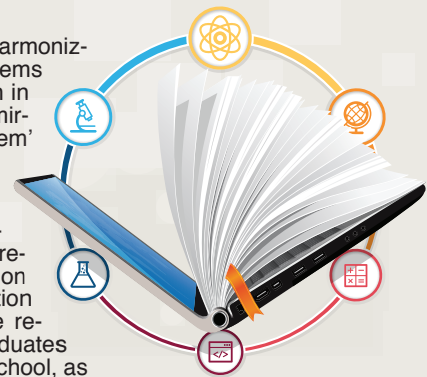
The 'Developing a general framework for discovering and developing talented students in the UAE' initiative aims to organize all efforts and resources to discover and support talents, find mechanisms to make the best use of them and measure their effect on the development of students' skills. The UAE has set a high policy for science, technology and innovation, and most government agencies have incorporated a key objective for the national innovation strategy into their indicators, in the sense that many initiatives dedicated to support talents target students within the educational system supervised by the Ministry of Education.



The second initiative:

Harmonizing educational systems for private education in the UAE with the Emirates School system

The initiative of 'Harmonizing educational systems for private education in the UAE with the Emirates School system' is represented by the development of mechanisms and criteria that determine the requirements of graduation from special education schools to meet the requirements of graduates from the Emirates School, as well as the development of licensing standards for educational institutions and employees therein, for the sake of raising the quality of educational services. The initiative also focuses on approving the graduates' features



in the UAE from the National Qualifications Commission to standardize the expectations and the quality of educational outputs that enhance the competitiveness of the UAE globally.



The third initiative:

Keeping the educational system up to the requirements of future labor market

Through the initiative of 'keeping the educational system up to the requirements of future labor market', a mechanism will be developed to cooperate with different bodies in identifying the required disciplines, along with developing a framework that demonstrates the integration between professional and academic tracks. The said mechanism will develop the academic guidance system to help students and parents choose the appropriate courses according to the needs of the labor market. Planning for the workforce is deemed one of the most important components for the success of education system

in the UAE to provide the needs of labor market within knowledge economy. This helps the Ministry of Education determine the number of graduates in different disciplines and majors, side by side with their required skills.



The fourth initiative:

Integrated education data center

Strengthening the highly effective data center in the Ministry of Education is to be accomplished through the initiative of 'integrated education data center'. The initiative will link the most important data relating to education and learners from different authorities. Here, mechanisms will be developed to identify, collect and analyze data aimed at identifying important information that supports decision makers, along with contributing to looking ahead to the future, and developing future plans and various scenarios.



In a speech at IRATDE Conference in Dubai

Hamdan bin Rashid: Efforts to nurture talented people are modest compared to our ambitious goals



His Highness: We seek to model a sophisticated project for talented people to meet the requirements of development plans

Proud of choosing Dubai as the first city in the region to host the Conference of the International Research for Talent Development and Excellence

We are confident in the Conference's ability to find solutions to embrace and nurture talents

Establishing the ABCs of discovering talents among all segments of society is necessity

His Highness calls for unifying global efforts to achieve a pioneering project for talent sector



Dubai - Akhbar Al Tamayoz

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and UAE Minister of Finance, patron of Hamdan bin Rashid Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, stressed the real need to enhance the values of talent, improve our understanding of gifted people and the best ways to invest them in the benefit of mankind. The statement was delivered on HH behalf by Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Secretary-General of the Award, at the opening of the 2017 Biennial Conference of the International Research Association for Talent Development and Excellence (IRATDE), held in Dubai from

7 to 9 October. The conference recommended long-term research studies, aimed at developing talented programs, along with a comprehensive approach to talent development, and providing clear learning paths for gifted and talented students suiting their needs and develop their talents, as well as organized plans for gifted and talented students. HH Sheikh Hamdan added: "The growth of knowledge and culture in today's world is matched by tremendous development in communication. However, the resources and sources of information remain in the hands of specialists; so, we trust in your ability to utilize this scientific demonstration in finding solutions that facilitate

the relationship of mothers, teachers, members of community and institutions, not to mention understanding the appropriate manner to embrace, take care and deal with talents."

Model

HH stressed the need to unify global efforts to achieve a pioneering project for talent sector, and to develop a model for discovering and nurturing talented people that will be implemented on a wide scale. "The interest in talented people began with the establishment of the UAE in 1971, but these efforts remained modest compared to the ambitious goals of the country, where a comprehensive plan for discovery and care was not formed until

2008, when the National Plan for Nurturing Giftedness was launched under our initiative, and in partnership with the Ministry of Education." "This ambitious initiative, as much as it concentrates on preparing and empowering talented generations, also seeks to model a sophisticated project for talents that meets the requirements of long-term development plans, and should be, at the same time, applicable on a wide range of educational environments." "Building and strengthening a common database of expertise directly related to the subject of nurturing gifted students, participating in advanced solutions and ideas, and expanding the culture of talent will only be available



through international scientific conferences.”

Discovery

His Highness stressed the importance of promoting the culture of talent and spreading it within the community with all its components, including teachers and parents, as well as establishing the ABCs of discovering talent among all segments of society so that the child’s giftedness is identified, to communicate with the concerned institutions to adopt it.

“In the UAE, we are proud that Dubai has been chosen as the first city in the Middle East to host this prestigious scientific conference under the sponsorship of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for



Distinguished Academic Performance. The Award, in turn, enjoys valuable partnerships with regional and international organizations. With the strategic partner, the Ministry of Education, the Award is aware of the challenges that prevent

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi:
The Conference achieved its objectives in improving the education of talents



equal opportunities for discovering and nurturing talented people around the world. It also shares with the IRATDE its vision and belief in the importance of promoting and disseminating the science and applications of discovering

and nurturing talents, in addition to improving the programs directed to this sector, with the objective of developing the opportunities to benefit from the optimized intellectual capacity and skills of these talented people.”

Quantum Leap

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Secretary-General of the Award said that the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, under the guidance of HH Sheikh Hamdan, is committed to supporting the qualitative scientific projects and conferences that boost educational development plans and make the desired

change in the process of improving educational service, in line with the aspirations of educational systems in the Arab World.

He added that the IRATDE Conference, with its expertise, topics, themes and participations, is a good opportunity for educational systems to enrich their plans, reconsider their projects and qualify their programs for talented individuals.

Experimental Research

Al-Muhairi pointed out that the Conference has achieved its objectives in enabling creative dialogue among educators and researchers to improve education of gifted people, and how to help experimental research to make all forms of gifted education more effective.

“The Award has many programs in the field of talent, including the discovery of talented students, providing the discovery of gifted students kit for grades 4 to 9, in addition to providing 13 capacity tests and carrying out 17 campaigns to identify and discover students at the level of the UAE. It also trained 150 staff on spotting talents, and discovered 230 talents. As well, Hamdan Award launched 18 enrichment programs for gifted students, distributed in 6 summer programs, 5 spring programs, 4 winter camps and 3 gifted programs for the weekend. These programs targeted 767 talented students in the areas of programming, 3D design, engineering, aviation, robot and artificial intelligence. Moreover, the Award implemented qualification program for international Olympics and competitions, resulting in 10 advanced centers and winning 8 cups in 5 participations in local, Arab and international competitions in robotics.”

Meeting and Dialogue

The fourth edition of the Conference has been marked by the participation of a group of scholars, experts, thinkers and stakeholders in the field of giftedness from all over the world. They are aware of the importance and responsibility of meeting and dialogue, discussing the policies of talented



Dr. Abdullah Al Jughaiman



Dr. Mariam Al Ghawi



people, and the need to enhance cooperation and sharing experiences on developments in the science of talent. The Conference discussed many scientific topics aimed at the talented and creative category, in addition to discussions and dialogues in the field of talent development, and a range of research areas aimed at helping individuals to develop their talents, both within and outside formal education. Professor Claude Steele spoke about the ‘threat to stereotypes and identity: the science of a diverse society’, while Professor Albert Ziegler focused on gifted students identification in the 21st century.

The Saudi expert, Dr. Abdullah Al Jughaiman lecture was entitled ‘Road Map Towards Effectiveness: Finding Learning Paths for Talent Development.’

The Conference also focused on the latest research on talent development, how to use advanced research to promote and develop talent, and empowerment of creative dialogue among educators and researchers to improve talent education.

Case Study

Dr. Mariam Al Ghawi, Director of the Gifted Welfare Department in the Award presented a lecture entitled ‘Assessment of Needs for Gifted Education Programs in Dubai: Case Study of Government Primary Schools’. She said that the Award has been keen to create a database of talents and document all their programs and achievements through the electronic system for the care of giftedness, which included 230 students from different stages of study.

“Hamdan Award has a lot of efforts in the area of talent, in the sense that it developed guidance programs for gifted students and their parents, schools and the community through group and individual sessions and awareness lectures. Furthermore, it implemented programs to spread the culture of talent and creativity through the translation of a number of specialized scientific publications from and into Arabic and English in 4 versions. The Award prepared a study on the reality of giftedness in the UAE, and implemented seminars for the is-

The Conference recommends long-term research, comprehensive approach, educational courses and organized plans for talents

talent database include 230 students

Distinguished participation by scientists, experts, thinkers and stakeholders in talent from around the world

Call for enhancing cooperation and sharing experiences on developments in the science of talent

suance of talent and creativity, along with hosting the authors. Annual forum for talent is held, not to mention specialized publications in talent and creativity, as well as sponsoring a special issue in a specialized scientific journal and publishing 10 scientific articles.”

Accuracy and Flexibility

She explained that the project is represented by designing an electronic system for the care of talented, which is accurate, flexible and easy to use. Its follow-up and update are regular. The program is dedicated for the discovery of talented under principals and bases, including the discovery of gifted children at the beginning of their education, and the necessity to know and meet the educational needs of gifted students. Such principles cover the use of formal and informal standards, and the consistency of discovery tools and procedures with programs for gifted and talented children. “The electronic system aims at creating a comprehensive system for the nurturing talents, providing a database of their teachers and schools, and applying the standards and tools of discovering talented

student electronically. The system's objectives also comprise providing all the data related to gifted students in different educational stages, and reducing the time required to apply and mark various tests and measurements. Moreover, it suggests the appropriate care programs for each candidate, according to the results of their tests, in addition to obtaining comprehensive reports on the candidate students, and comprehensive statistics on the gifted students, their schools and applied programs."

Documenting Data

Al Ghawi stressed that the system can be used when any data is needed on any gifted student when applying the discovery criteria and designing programs for the gifted student. As well, it may be used to extract statistics for talented people at the UAE level, document the data of talents' teachers and their schools, and measure the effectiveness of various gifted programs.

She emphasized finding a program of discovery aims at preparing, developing and codifying the tools of discovering talented people in the country, training teachers and mentors on the methods of discovering gifted and excellent students, and discovering about 5-10% of gifted students.

"Every child can be a talent project if adequate care is found from childhood. For this reason, the Award forecasted its responsibility towards this group through the initiative of HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum to implement a national plan for the giftedness in cooperation with the Ministry of Education." She concluded, "The areas of talent that the Award sponsors are identified by mental abilities, academic achievement and creative abilities. These areas have been identified based on the concerted efforts. There are several institutions in the community that sponsor other talents, such as artistic talents, sports talents and others, while the areas adopted by the Award are rarely sponsored. Thus, the Award works on joining forces with other institutions to nurture talented people from all sides.

Discussed with Hamdan Award the future of cooperation in talent sector

Secretary-General of MAWHIBA: Hamdan bin Rashid's efforts upgrade education system in the region

Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Dr. Saud bin Saeed Al Mutahami, Secretary-General and Chairman of the Board of Directors of King Abdul-Aziz & His Companions Foundation for Giftedness and Creativity (MAWHIBA), praised the role 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. He commended HH's contribution to the development of the education system in the region through the leading projects implemented by the Award in the field of educational excellence, talent and innovation, which support the development movement seen in the field of education.

The statement was delivered during the visit of Al Mutahami to the headquarters of the Award in Dubai, accompanied by Dr. Amal Abdullah Al Hazza, Deputy Secretary-General for the Women's Section in MAWHIBA, and Dr. Abdulrahman bin Saad Al Qwaizan General Supervisor of the Department of Competitions in MAWHIBA. Al Mutahami added that the Award initiatives in support of education have moved from the UAE to the brethren countries and the various regions of the world through a forward-looking vision for the future. The Award has achieved development in the industry of educational excellence,



modeling quality education practices and building real opportunities for gifted and innovative students through Hamdan Center for Talent and Fab Lab UAE. Thus, the Award has become one of the world's leading institutions in rewarding and spreading best educational practices that are effective in the development of education.

Al Mutahami met with Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Trustees and the Secretary-General of the Award, and a number of officials. They discussed the future of cooperation between the Award and MAWHIBA to serve the talent sector in Saudi Arabia and the UAE, especially that both institutions have quality and advanced initiatives in the discovery and care of talented. They both also enjoy international partnerships that can be effectively employed to build an integrated system for this vital sector.

Al Mutahami and the accompanying delegation inspected the various work fields of the Award, its

achievements and facilities. The officials were briefed on the projects, programs and services provided to the education sector, especially in the field of academic excellence, giftedness and innovation.

He called for more cooperation between both sides, as well as sharing experiences in order to enrich the existing projects, in a manner to contribute to improving educational service, in light of the memorandum of understanding signed between both parties.

In this context, Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi praised the efforts of MAWHIBA in developing an advanced system for talent sector in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, especially the specific programs directed to schools, which made important decisions that reflect the success of these projects and programs. As well, he expressed happiness in the cooperation and strategic partnership with MAWHIBA in carrying out joint programs and projects that will benefit the plans for nurturing giftedness in the Arab World.

Visited the Award HQ and praised the support of both country's leaderships

Bahraini Minister of Education: Hamdan Award elevates performance towards creativity



The outstanding services offered by the Award strongly support the continuous education development movement

The successful strategic plans designed for educational institutions and school are imitation-worthy

Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

His Excellency Dr. Majid bin Ali Al Nuaimi, Minister of Education of the Kingdom of Bahrain, praised the deep and strong historical relations between the UAE and the Kingdom of Bahrain and the continuous close cooperation in various fields, especially in the educational sector. Education gains great interest and care by His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE and His Majesty Hamad bin Salman Al Khalifa King of Bahrain, which has greatly contributed to empowering the education field to meet its national and developmental goals and objectives. HE also referred to the contributions of His Highness

Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and UAE Minister of Finance, in supporting education, and in launching the Award for distinguished academic performance as one of the prestigious initiatives in the service of education. The Award has played a vital role in elevating the elements of the educational system to the levels of mastery and creativity. This statement came during the visit of the Minister and his accompanying delegation to Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance at its headquarters in Dubai, where HE was welcomed by Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, member of the Board of Trustees and Technical Advisor of the Award,

and many other officials.

Success

Dr. Al Nuaimi added that the outstanding services offered by the Award strongly support the continuous education development movement, and enhance the success chances of strategic plans designed for educational institutions and school, which are worth to be adopted and imitated.

He also stressed that the Award's competitions on the Gulf Cooperation Council countries level have contributed significantly to the quality of performance as well as discovering outstanding and creative people, including students, teachers and even school departments, especially in the Kingdom of Bah-





The Award GCC competitions contributed to the quality of performance and discovering outstanding people

The Bahraini educational sector has benefited from the Award's criteria in seeking quality



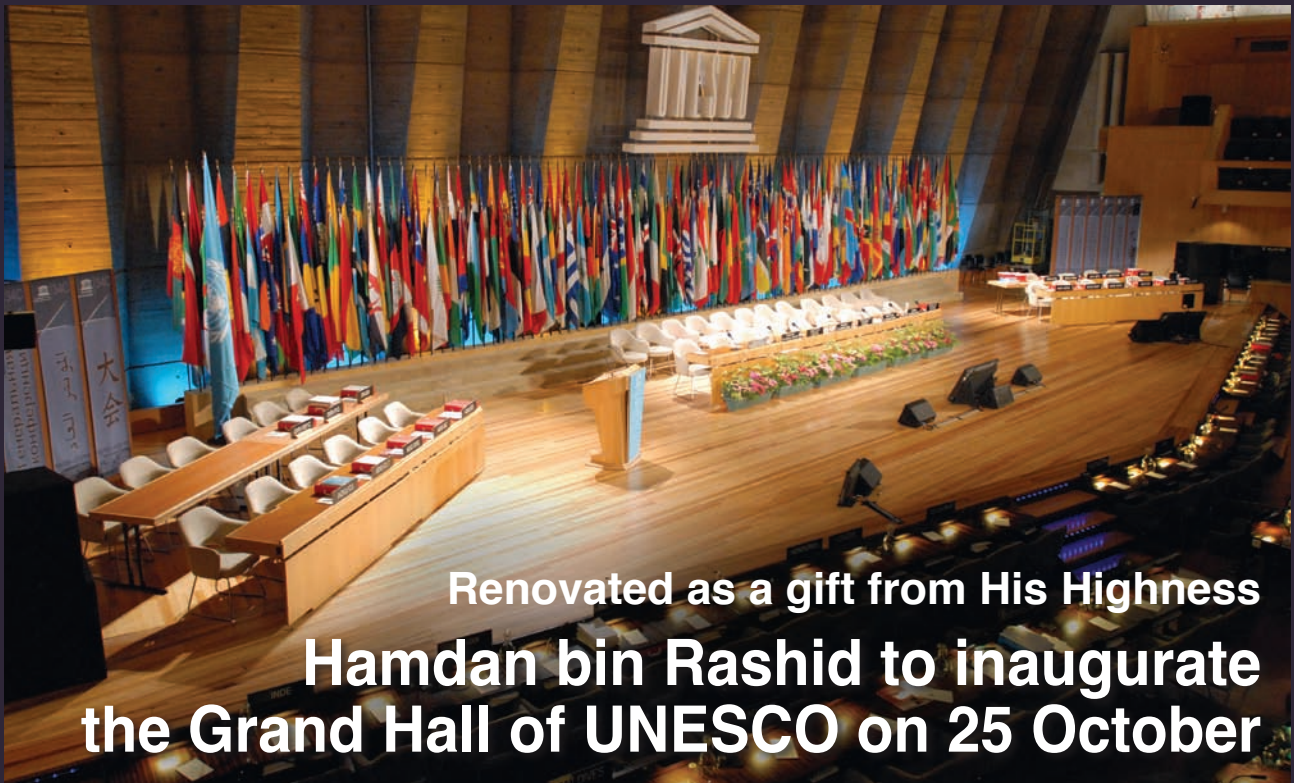
rain, where the educational sector has benefited from the application of the Award's criteria, marking a breakthrough to achieve educational quality.

Detailed Explanation

The Bahraini Minister and the accompanying delegation inspected the various fields of the Award's works and achievements. HE also attended a detailed explanation of the projects, programs and services provided to the educational sector, especially in the field of distinguished performance, and taking care of talents and innovation. His Excellency called for greater cooperation between both countries, and sharing experiences in order to enhance and enrich the exist-

ing projects, in a manner that accelerates the movement towards deepening national sense and belonging, and improving educational service. Furthermore, Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi welcomed the Bahraini delegation, headed by the Minister of Education, and praised the cooperation of the Ministry of Education in Bahrain with the Award, and the continuous response to support the Award through participation in competitions, in addition to the Ministry's utilization of its educational credit and human capabilities in applying the standards of excellence, as well as its investment in enhancing the quality of education. Al Suwaidi stated that the Award, based on the directives of its patron His High-

ness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, is dedicated to providing expertise in the field of excellence, talent and innovation, especially to the GCC countries. He added that the Award's capabilities and models of its development projects are available to all, in order to raise the efficiency of education in the GCC and enable it to achieve sustainable development. His Excellency the Minister was accompanied by Moamer Issa Al Manaai, Cultural Counselor at the Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain, Dr. Farzana Al Maraghi, Director of Scientific Research at the General Secretariat of the Higher Education Council in Bahrain, and Yousef Al Alawi, Head of Public Relations at the Embassy of Bahrain.



Renovated as a gift from His Highness Hamdan bin Rashid to inaugurate the Grand Hall of UNESCO on 25 October

Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and UAE Minister of Finance, will inaugurate the Grand Hall at UNESCO headquarters in Paris, France, on 25th of October. The Hall is renovated in the framework of the partnership between UNESCO and Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance.

On the occasion of this ceremony, a joint project between both parties is expected to be announced to support education in developing countries, in addition to a joint meeting to discuss the partnership form between the parties in the project of the Global Center for Talents to be established online, that is funded and supervised by the Award and managed by a group of international scientists and specialists.

HH Sheikh Hamdan received a formal invitation



Announcement of joint project supporting education in developing countries

from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, while welcoming the Director-General of UNESCO in HH's palace in Zabeel, last March. His Highness discussed with Irina Bokova the ways of developing cooperation between UNESCO and Hamdan Award in the edu-

cational programs that the two parties aspire to in order to achieve their common objectives in promoting educational projects in the developing countries, as well as the promotion and dissemination of best educational practices that contribute to quality education industry in poor societies.

Hamdan Award thanks Irina Bokova and appreciates her support for the Award programs

Audrey Azoulay wins the position of UNESCO Director-General

Dubai - Akhbar Al Tamayoz

The Executive Council of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) elected on 13 October, by majority, the former French Minister of Culture Audrey Azoulay for the position Director-General of the Organization. Born in 1972, Azoulay succeeds the outgoing Director-General Irina Bokova. The nomination will be presented on 10 November for election by the General Conference, which is held every two years in the presence of all 195 member states of UNESCO.

Bulgarian Irina Bokova leaves the office after having served since 15 November 2009, and re-elected for a second term in 2013. Bokova is the first woman to be elected a UNESCO Director-General, and the first Eastern European to run the Organization. Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance praised Bokova's efforts, expressing thanks for supporting the Award and its programs. Her efforts has resulted in constructive cooperation between both parties; namely, UNESCO-Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Prize for Outstanding Practice and Performance in Enhancing the Effectiveness of Teachers. The Prize is deemed the ripe fruit of cooperation between Hamdan Award and UNESCO to support teachers, who are the engine in the process of reform and development towards better education for mankind happiness.

Since Resolution 54 of Session 188 of the Executive Council, whereby UNESCO-Hamdan Prize was approved, the Prize has made unprecedented progress in making the concept of education for



Audrey Azoulay

all a reality. During the office of Irina Bokova, the cooperation between the Hamdan Award and UNESCO resulted in the concluding two mutual agreements in 2010. The first is related to the restoration and renovation of Hall No. 1 at UNESCO headquarters in Paris by the Award, while the second targeted launching the diploma program for curriculum reform and development in the Arab countries. On 25 October, His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and UAE Minister of Finance, will inaugurate the Grand Hall at the UNESCO

headquarters in Paris, which was restored as a gift from His Highness in the framework of the partnership between both sides. A new initiative is also about to be launched to support specific programs aimed at disseminating and improving education.

Irina Bokova graduated from the Moscow State Institute of International Relations. Then, she received a scholarship to study at the University of Maryland (Washington) and joined the Executive Program in Leadership and Economic Development at Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government. She started her career at the Department for Relations with the United Nations in the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

As the Director-General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova has been actively involved in international efforts to provide quality education for all, promote gender equality and protect the world cultural heritage, being a humanitarian responsibility and security issue, that contributes to the consolidation of lasting peace.

The new Director-General in Brief

Audrey Azoulay graduated from the 'Ecole nationale d'administration (ENA)' and received a certificate from Paris Institute of Political Studies (Sciences Po) (1996), and an MBA (Lancaster University, UK, 1993), and holds a Master of Business Administration (Lancaster University, Great Britain -1993). She joined the French National Centre of Cinematography and the Moving Image (CNC), successively holding the positions of Deputy Director for Multimedia Affairs, Chief Financial and Legal Officer and Deputy Director-General.

Between February 2016 and May 2017, Azoulay had been Minister of Culture and Communication in France. At the beginning of her career, she held a number of leadership positions in the audiovisual sector. She also worked as rapporteur for the French Court of Auditors, and legislation expert for the European Commission in the fields of culture and communication.

Merging the Award forums into one educational event

Hamdan Forum for Excellence and Talent .. Experiences and models for sharing ideas and opinions

Dubai - Akhbar Al Tamayoz

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance began its 20th session by merging its forums and seminars into one educational event under the title 'Hamdan Forum for Excellence and Talent'. The procedure is taken to bring together the work areas and to gather modern development trends under one roof, in order to enrich the programs directed to this vital sector in all its components. Hamdan Forum for Excellence and Talent, which was hosted in Dubai, gathered a group of experts and specialists in the field of talent, along with leading figures in educational and social work, and administrative and teaching bodies of public and private education.

This educational program aims at conveying ideas and opinions about the techniques of application and nomination, and the documentation mechanisms presented by the winners of the previous session of the

Award, by providing unique experiences and models for the targeted audience. The Forum integrated the presentation of experiences in various aspects of educational performance. It also introduced the latest updates in adjudication practices for the various categories of the Award, and informed the community on the ways to spot talents and how to provide the appropriate care for them.

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Trustees, praised the efforts of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and UAE Minister of Finance to support education and establish methodologies for excellence, talent and innovation.

Dr. Khalid bin Ibrahim Al Awwad, President of Dar Masarat for Studies and Development, presented a paper entitled 'Customer [student] Service from the Service Provider [school].. As Model for Measuring the Customer Experience.'

The Forum brings together experts and specialists in talent with leading educational and social figures

Presenting the latest developments in adjudication practices for different categories of the Award





Under an MoU with Emirates Science Club

Hamdan Award as strategic partner for Arab Robotics Conference



Jamal Al Muhairi: Emirates Science Club embraced many talented and creative people

Issa Al Bastaki: His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid's efforts have established the concept of quality education

Huda Al Hamadi: Hamdan Award raises the quality of practical applications for the talented





Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance has concluded a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Emirates Science Club (ESC), which aims to initiate cooperation in the field of robotics and artificial intelligence. This MoU has resulted in a strategic partnership in the sponsorship of the 5th Arab Robotics Conference, which was held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohamed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Executive Council. The Conference was organized by the ESC, in cooperation with Arab Robotics Association in the Cultural and Scientific Association in Dubai, from the 3rd to the 5th of October.

The cooperation between both parties aims at implementing knowledge and cultural programs that promote awareness of the role of robotics and artificial intelligence in the community, especially in the education, as well as its impact on scientific and technological progress. The MoU was signed by Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Hamdan Award, and Dr. Issa Al Bastaki, Chairman of ESC.

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi said that the Award endeavors to build a partnership with the ESC, which is one of the most im-



Huda Al Hammadi

portant scientific and educational institutions that leads the scientific field, especially in the areas related to robotics and artificial intelligence. In its bright history, it has embraced many talented and creative people, and it is characterized by a great deal of knowledge capacity, management experience and international corporate relations. He also explained that since the Award is an initiative that support education, it considers these components as supporting elements, in addition to the fact that this partnership will certainly be a good investment opportunity to boost its talent and innovation projects.

Practices

Similarly, Dr. Issa Al Bastaki praised the efforts of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and UAE Minister of Finance in supporting

the development of education, consolidating the concept of quality and excellence in educational practices, and HH's sponsorship of the projects aimed at discovering and taking care of talented people and innovation as a whole.

He stressed that Hamdan Award is one of the most prestigious educational initiatives that could become universal due to the quality services it provides for education. He added that the Award has been able to develop and spread the concept of excellence and quality in educational performance in the UAE and abroad, in addition to creating quality projects in the field of talent and innovation, thus contributing to the developmental shift of education in the country.

Opportunities

He pointed out that the MoU with the Award will help cre-

ate good opportunities to invest the experiences and potentials of both parties, and create plans dedicated to the development of education and students capacities in the scientific and cognitive field.

He then explained that both parties would discuss the nature of joint projects, which will have great advantages for talented and innovative students, not to mention the common vision that focuses on expanding the scope of services in this aspect through best practices applied internationally.

Dr. Al Bastaki said that the talent and innovation system is expected to witness a remarkable leap during the next phase thanks to government support and supporting initiatives.

Keeping Pace

Furthermore, Huda Al Hammadi, Director of Enrichment Activities at the Award, said that Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance is moving rapidly to keep pace with the process of development in the world, and the UAE in the fields of robotics and applications of artificial intelligence. In order to achieve this, the Award aims to improve the quality of the programs and practical applications offered to talented students, and to provide them with opportunities that enable them to train using modern technologies and learn about the latest developments in this field.

10262

Beneficiaries from Fab Lab UAE Project

Visits to the
Lab to know its
equipment, tools
and mechanism
of work

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The number of beneficiaries of the Fab Lab UAE project since its inception until now has reached about 10262 beneficiaries, from different age groups.

Khawla Bahloq, Assistant CEO for Excellence and Talent Department, said that Fab Lab UAE offers various services to the community, such as training services by experts and specialists in this field for different age groups, as well as visits to introduce the lab and give a chance to recognize its equipment, tools and work mechanism. The lab also provides the service of implementing projects and research under the follow-up and supervision of specialized engineers.

She pointed out that the three summer camps were organized by Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance under the theme 'Our Summer is Fab Lab' at its headquarters in Al Hudaiba Awards Building, Dubai and at Omar bin Al Khattab School, attracting 68 students of all ages.

"The camps are part of a series of activities organized by Fab Lab UAE to promote the culture of creativity, innovation and fabrication in the UAE society. During the summer camps, students moved through various digital fabrication stations, from robotics and programming to 2D and 3D design, and electronics. Each workshop contains

Camp for talented people

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance organized the 'Summer Camp for Sponsoring Talents' at Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Center for Talent and Creativity, as part of a set of activities and events organized by the Award to enhance the skills of gifted students and develop their creative, scientific and personal abilities. The program included 56 students from different emirates. The gifted students were subject to training and scientific activities. The program was divided into two parts: the 'Scientific Program' and the 'Leadership Program .. Happiness Makers'.



Workshops and training labs to provide students with the latest digital fabrication technologies

presentation, practical applications and projects of its own."

Programs

Bahloq added that based on its keenness to provide recreational, educational and educational programs to its targeted segments, Hamdan Award contributes to the development of their intellectual and creative skills. The Award organizes annual workshops and training labs that provide the participants with the latest scientific technologies in the field of fabrication. It also prepares innovation-friendly environments and encourages students to strengthen research, investigation and exploration methodologies, not to mention qualifying them to dig deep into fabrication using technology, thereby enhancing the potential of raising national staff to be capable of leading innovation in the future.

"The Award held 'Made in Fab Lab' for five days at the Fab Lab UAE inside Al Hudaiba Awards Building, Dubai, as part of a series of activities organized by the Fab Lab to spread the culture of creativity, innovation and fabrication in the UAE community."

15 students participated in the program. They were trained by Dr. Fiori Bassil, an expert in digital fabrication. The trainees learned about the latest scientific techniques in fabrication and were qualified to master this field using technology.