# 🇦🇪 Feb 5: Soaking up the future

**In this edition:**

* Precision meets neurology
* Reviving the past
* Camel milk benchmark

## Spotlight

### Built to absorb

**Summary: Dubai adopts the sponge city model in partnership with Shenzhen to boost water resilience and sustainability.**

Dubai is formally moving toward adopting the [“sponge city” model](https://link.dubaisummary.com/ds-05-feb-26-spotlight-h1-1-sponge-city-model). It is an urban-planning approach pioneered in China that rethinks how cities handle rainwater, flooding, and water reuse. In this system, instead of runoff overwhelming the drainage system, the city absorbs and reuses water through permeable surfaces, greenery, and underground storage. This reduces flooding and eases pressure on infrastructure.

Dubai Municipality has signed an MoU with the Urban Planning and Design Institute of Shenzhen (UPDIS) during the World Governments Summit 2026. The MoU establishes a cooperation framework focused on smart, low-carbon urban planning, knowledge transfer from Shenzhen’s sponge city experience, and the joint development of planning tools tailored to Dubai.

The sponge city initiative is part of a broader urban transformation. Under the MoU, Dubai will collaborate on transit-oriented and compact urbanism, AI-driven planning, big-data-enabled smart water management, 5G-enabled infrastructure, and low-carbon city design. Together, these efforts aim to improve climate resilience, water efficiency, and long-term urban sustainability.

### Precision meets neurology

**Summary: UAE records first robotic-assisted epilepsy procedure, advancing precision, safety, and personalised neurological care.**

Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi has carried out the UAE’s first [robotic-assisted stereoelectroencephalography](https://link.dubaisummary.com/ds-05-feb-26-spotlight-h2-2-robotic-assisted-stereoelectroencephalography) (SEEG) procedure. Building on its earlier national first with non-robotic SEEG, the hospital has integrated robotic guidance to place intracranial electrodes with precision. This method reduces patient discomfort, accelerates recovery, and enables more precise surgical decision-making.

Hospital leadership emphasised that the milestone reflects a broader commitment to patient-centred neurological innovation. The procedure, led by Dr. Roser and comprising a team of specialists, including Dr. Tanmoy Maiti, Dr. Mohamad Ayman Haykal, and Dr. Eugene Achi, reinforces Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi as the first Level 4 Epilepsy Centre in the UAE and a leader in advanced neurodiagnostics.

**What is SEEG?** Stereoelectroencephalography (SEEG) is a minimally invasive procedure used to identify where epileptic seizures originate in the brain. Thin electrodes are precisely implanted into targeted deep brain areas to record electrical activity over time. SEEG is especially used in drug-resistant epilepsy when non-invasive tests cannot clearly localise the seizure focus.

## Event



### Where to eat?

[Royal China](https://link.dubaisummary.com/ds-05-feb-26-event-h1-3-royal-china) → Located in DIFC, Royal China provides Cantonese and Chinese food, specialising in dim sum, Peking duck, seafood, and other traditional dishes in a modern interior with oriental touch and comfortable seating. The place also has a bar and outdoor dining. It is an ideal spot for business lunches, family dinners, and even casual meals.

***Pro tip:*** *Taste their signature dim sum platter to get the most value.*

## Career

### Conversion Sales Agent

**On-site**

**Full-time**

**AED 8,000-11,999 /month**

Summary → Georges Daoud Marketing Management is looking to hire a conversion sales agent. The job involves calling out prospects, developing relationships with clients, and working leads into live accounts. Graduation and fluency in Malay are required. The job promises a good salary, commissions, training, and visa and relocation benefits.

**[Register here](https://link.dubaisummary.com/ds-05-feb-26-career-h1-4-register-here)**

## Meanwhile

### Reviving the past

Dubai is launching a [Life and Biodiversity Laboratory](https://link.dubaisummary.com/ds-05-feb-26-meanwhile-h1-5-life-and-biodiversity-laboratory) at the Museum of the Future. The laboratory will be designed in partnership with the US-based Colossal Foundation and will feature biodiversity and de-extinction research, including a Tasmanian tiger skeleton, woolly mammoth bones, and other extinct species, to raise global conservation awareness.

### Slower, safer roads

As a part of a traffic safety project that was approved by the Joint Traffic Safety Committee in collaboration with Abu Dhabi Mobility, Abu Dhabi will [lower speed limits](https://link.dubaisummary.com/ds-05-feb-26-meanwhile-h2-6-lower-speed-limits) on some of its major roads beginning February 9. Under the changes, the maximum speed on Abu Dhabi–Al Ain Road (E22) will drop from 160 km/h to 140 km/h between Al Nahda Interchange and Bani Yas Interchange, and from 140 km/h to 120 km/h between Bani Yas Interchange and the Bridge Complex, in both directions. On Al Rawdah Road (E30), limits will be reduced from 120 km/h to 100 km/h.

### Camel milk benchmark

The UAE will be the first to establish the international [standard of pasteurised camel milk](https://link.dubaisummary.com/ds-05-feb-26-meanwhile-h3-7-standard-of-pasteurised-camel-milk) after approval at its 48th meeting with the Codex Alimentarius Commission in Rome. The standard will define safety, quality, and authenticity requirements, protecting consumers and enabling fair trade. The move is expected to unlock new markets, accelerate industry growth, and reinforce its leadership in global food standards for high-value products.

***Fact:*** *The UAE produces over 7,000 tonnes of camel milk annually and exports to markets including the EU, China, and the US.*

## Did you know?

Dubai’s Jumeirah Lakes Towers has appointed its first-ever Chief Dog Officer. Chase, a one-year-old English Cocker Spaniel, will champion pet-friendly living and help make the neighbourhood even more welcoming for pets and their owners.

## Day

Wednesday

## Date

Feb 06

## Temperature

24°C

## Preview text

Plus camel milk benchmark