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WAM

■ His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum yesterday met with Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq, Sultan of Oman, at Qasr Al Watan in Abu Dhabi.

UAE and Oman sign deals worth Dh129b

RAILWAY CONNECTIVITY AMONG KEY AGREEMENTS

ABU DHABI

The UAE and Oman yesterday announced the signing of multiple agreements worth Dh129 billion during a business forum held in Abu Dhabi on the sidelines of the visit of Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq, Sultan of Oman, to the country.

The agreements span renewable energy; green metals; railway connectivity; and investments in digital infrastructure and technology, in line with the agreements signed between the UAE's Ministry of Investment and Oman's Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Investment Promotion.

The UAE-Oman business forum was held to reaffirm

Dh51b
value of non-oil
trade between UAE
and Oman in 2023

the strong commitment of both countries to investment partnerships, and represents a major stride towards economic cooperation to drive growth and development through strategic investments between the two countries.

Strong historical relations

Mohammad Hassan Al Suwaidi, Minister of Investment of the UAE, said, "The UAE

and Oman have strong historical relations that are founded on shared values, goals and principles. The agreements represent a major milestone in our bilateral ties, as they pave the way for us to leverage our collective strength to realise our shared vision of advancement and prosperity.

"The UAE distinguishes itself as one of the foremost nations globally in terms of investment and trade with the Sultanate of Oman, with non-oil trade volumes reaching approximately Dh51 billion in 2023. The agreements signed today will serve to bolster relations across key sectors and foster socio-economic benefits, contributing towards a stable and prosperous future for both countries." — WAM

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Dubai airports back to normal operations

2,155 flights were cancelled and 115 diverted due to recent heavy rains

DUBAI

BY DHANUSHA GOKULAN
Chief Reporter

Following the UAE's heaviest rainfall in 75 years, Dubai airports — both DXB and DWC — have resumed full operations. Roads around the airports are now cleared, and flight schedules have returned to normal, with 1,400 flights per day.

Paul Griffiths, CEO of Dubai Airports, said since Monday, ahead of its recovery schedule, Dubai International Airport (DXB) returned to its normal flight schedule.

No small feat

"With roads in and around the airport 100 per cent clear of water accumulation, our manpower, logistics and facilities are operating as usual again. To have the airport back up and running is no small feat. 2,155 flights were cancelled and 115 were diverted. We had to work closely with our airline partners and service providers to rework schedules, boost manpower and look after all those who had been disrupted.

"I'm continuously amazed with the unwavering dedication of our Dubai Airports

employees, airline partners, government agencies, commercial partners and service partners. It has been the most challenging adverse weather event we've had to navigate, and our people and partners worked tirelessly to keep the operation running and to assist our guests," he said

Baggage backlog

"While certain challenges remain, including processing the baggage backlog, we're working closely with our service partners but know there's still more work to be done and once again thank guests for their patience while we work through this," added Griffiths.

As normal operations resume, guests should arrive at their terminal only three hours ahead of their flight departure time to avoid unnecessary congestion and facilitate smoother operations.

It has been the most challenging adverse weather event we've had to navigate, and our people and partners worked tirelessly to keep the operation running and to assist our guests."

Paul Griffiths
| CEO of Dubai Airports

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