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DUBAI TO BUILD WORLD'S LARGEST AIRPORT

Mohammad approves Dh128b Al Maktoum International project

DUBAI
BY KHITAM AL AMIR
Chief News Editor

Dubai has approved a new project to build a Dh128 billion passenger terminal at Al Maktoum International Airport.

His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, reviewed the strategic plan of the Dubai Aviation Engineering Projects and approved designs for the new passenger terminal at Al Maktoum International Airport, which will be the largest in the world when fully operational.

Set to be built at a cost of Dh128 billion, the new terminal will ultimately enable the airport to handle a passenger capacity of 260 million annually.

Shaikh Mohammad's visit to the Dubai Aviation Engineering Projects was accompanied by Shaikh Hamdan Bin Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of Dubai Executive Council, and Shaikh Maktoum Bin Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, First Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.

Shaikh Mohammad said: "Today, we approved the de-



Courtesy: Dubai Media Office

■ Shaikh Mohammad is briefed on the designs for the new terminal at Al Maktoum International Airport by Shaikh Ahmad. Top: A rendering of the airport.

signs for the new passenger terminal at Al Maktoum International Airport, and commencing construction of the building at a cost of Dh128 billion as part of Dubai Aviation Corporation's strategy.

World's largest capacity

"Al Maktoum International Airport will enjoy the world's

largest capacity, reaching up to 260 million passengers. It will be five times the size of the current Dubai International Airport, and all operations at Dubai International Airport will be transferred to it in the coming years. The airport will accommodate 400 aircraft gates and feature five parallel runways. New aviation technologies will be employed

for the first time in the aviation sector," Shaikh Mohammad said.

Global hub

"As we build an entire city around the airport in Dubai South, demand for housing for a million people will follow. It will host the world's leading companies in the logistics and

air transport sectors," Shaikh Mohammad added. "We are building a new project for future generations, ensuring continuous and stable development for our children and their children in turn. Dubai will be the world's airport, its port, its urban hub, and its new global centre."

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"We are building a new project for future generations, ensuring continuous and stable development for our children and their children in turn. Dubai will be the world's airport, its port, its urban hub, and its new global centre."

Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum

260million
annual passenger capacity of
Al Maktoum International Airport

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World has failed Gaza, Riyadh says

Only US can stop
Rafah assault, Abbas
tells Saudi-hosted
global summit

RIYADH

Saudi Arabia yesterday said the international community has failed Gaza and reiterated its call for a Palestinian state at a global economic summit attended by a host of mediators.

"The situation in Gaza obviously is a catastrophe by every measure - humanitarian, but also a complete failing of the existing political system to deal with that crisis," Foreign Minister Prince Faisal Bin Farhan said during the first day of a Saudi-hosted World Economic Forum special meeting.

Only "a credible, irreversible path to a Palestinian state" will prevent the world from confronting "this same situation two, three, four years down the line," he said.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Palestinian leaders and high-ranking officials from other countries trying to

broker a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas are attending the summit in Riyadh.

Speaking in Riyadh, Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas said the United States "is the only country capable" of preventing Israel's long-feared invasion of Rafah city in southern Gaza.

"We appeal to the United States of America to ask Israel to stop the Rafah operation," he said, warning it would harm and displace civilians, and be "the biggest disaster in the history of the Palestinian people".

Earlier, Saudi Finance Minister Mohammad Al Jadaan called for regional "stability", warning of the effects of the war on global economic sentiment.

—AFP

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**Antony Blinken,
Palestinian leaders
and officials from
other countries trying
to broker a ceasefire
between Israel and
Hamas are attending
the summit.**

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