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UAE approves 10-year Blue Residency Visa

MOVE AIMS TO MOTIVATE INDIVIDUALS CHAMPIONING SUSTAINABILITY

ABU DHABI
BY KHITAM AL AMIR
Chief News Editor

The UAE yesterday announced a 10-year Blue Residency Visa for individuals who have made exceptional efforts and contributions to protecting the environment. This was approved by His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, as he chaired the Cabinet meeting at Qasr Al Watan in Abu Dhabi. He said the move comes in line with implementing the directives of President His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, who had announced 2024 as the Year of Sustainability. The Blue Visa will be granted to individuals championing sustainability and the use of modern technologies in promoting the circular economy, and other relevant fields. Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid said, "The sustainability of our economy has become linked to the sustainability of our environment, and our na-

CEO OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

The Cabinet approved the introduction of the post of CEO of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in all major federal entities. "Today, we approved the introduction of the CEO of Artificial Intelligence role in all major federal entities, as part of the UAE's strategy to solidify its position in the field of artificial intelligence," the Vice-President said.

tional directions in this area are clear and consistent."

Youth agenda

He also approved the National Youth Agenda, among several initiatives, instructing the Minister of Youth to prioritise five key areas: empowering youth economically, developing their scientific skills, reinforcing their national identity, enhancing their community contributions, and activating their role in representing their country on the international stage.

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Reuters

SLOVAKIA'S PM ROBERT FICO INJURED IN SHOOTING

Security officers move Slovak PM Robert Fico in a car after a shooting incident, after a Slovak government meeting in Handlova, Slovakia, yesterday. Fico was battling life-threatening wounds after he was shot multiple times in an assassination attempt. **SEE ALSO P9**

Gaza to top Bahrain summit agenda

Arab League to map out ways to support Palestinians post-war

MANAMA

As Israel keeps up its campaign against Hamas, Arab leaders are mapping out ways to support post-war Gaza, placing one major condition on their involvement: a pathway to Palestinian statehood. Gaza will be the top of the agenda when leaders from the

22-strong Arab League meet in Bahrain today.

It is not the first time Arab leaders have come together to chart a path towards a two-state solution, the cherished goal that they believe could defuse Middle East tensions and help usher in a period of prosperity.

But with the Israel-Hamas war hobbling regional economies and spilling over into neighbouring countries, there is both urgency and opportunity. Arab countries are "pres-

suring the United States to achieve two things: establish a Palestinian state and recognising it in the United Nations", said an Arab diplomat who is familiar with the talks.

Arab leaders "have been trying to work with the Biden administration to mutually support the so-called day after" plan, said Sanam Vakil, director of the Middle East and North Africa programme at Britain's Chatham House think tank.

—AFP

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