

# DUBAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## ACTIVITIES

### EEC TRADE DELEGATION

A trade delegation from the European Economic Community (EEC) visited the country in April to assess the prospects for enlarging the trade relations between the two business communities. The delegation consisted of members representing twenty one establishments in the EEC.

The Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry arranged a meeting between the members of the visiting team and the members and officials of the Chamber on 13th April, 1985. In his welcome address, Mr. Abdul Rahman G. Al Mutaiwee, Director General of the Chamber, told the delegates that Dubai is the leading centre for imports and re-exports in the Arabian Gulf region. For instance, in 1984, Dubai imported goods worth about \$5.5 billion, constituting 64 per cent of the total value of imports into the U.A.E. Besides, Dubai re-exported around 70 per cent of the imports to different countries in the region. For the benefit of the delegation, which is specialised in farm products and related industries, it was told that imports of these products averaged some \$600 million per annum.

Dubai has built the requisite infrastructural facilities to handle the increasing volume of trade. The keen competition among the foreign suppliers of goods is strongly felt in Dubai. As many as 26 countries have so far established trade centres and six other countries have set up commercial attache offices in Dubai. These apart, 41 international establishments have opened regional representative offices here.



- EEC Trade Delegation

Further, Dubai imported from 115 countries and re-exported to 87 countries in 1984, Mr. Abdul Rahman added.

The Director General also told the delegation about the attractiveness of setting up joint ventures here. Aside from the various incentives and facilities available in Dubai, the formation of the AGCC is an added impetus as the locally manufactured goods are allowed duty-free movement among the member-countries.

Dr. U. Daldrup, the leader of the delegation, stated that the AGCC countries form the third largest trading bloc for the EEC countries, accounting for 20 per cent of their exports annually. Adverting to the 13.5 per cent tariff imposed by the EEC on imports of petro-chemical products from the Arab Gulf countries, Dr. Daldrup said that the levy will be charged only when imports exceed a certain ceiling. More-over,

the tariff will be imposed on imports of petro-chemicals from all countries, it was indicated.

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### TRADE DELEGATION FROM NETHERLANDS

A 19-member trade delegation from Netherlands, sponsored by the Netherlands Trade Promotion Council, visited the U.A.E. in April in order to boost exports of the country's products into the local markets and also to explore the prospects for setting up joint ventures.

The Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry arranged a meeting between the members of the team and the members and officials of the Chamber on 20th April, 1985. Mr. Hassan Mohd. Bin Al-Sheikh, Second Vice President of the Chamber, who presided over the