

## Business

# SCCI vows support for members across all economic sectors



The Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) affirmed its commitment to mobilising all its capabilities and intensifying efforts to support its members across all economic sectors.

The Chamber seeks to provide integrated services and facilities that enable private sector representatives in Sharjah to expand and develop their businesses. It also aims to strengthen coordination with relevant government entities to introduce strategic initiatives that drive economic growth, enhance the efficiency and competitiveness of the industrial sector, address evolving market challenges, and ensure long-term business sustainability.

The statement was made during a meeting held by the Sharjah Chamber with the Industries Sector Business Group operating under its umbrella. The meeting was chaired by Abdallah Sultan Al Owais, Chairman of SCCI, and attended Mohammed Ahmed Amin Al Awadi, Director-General of SCCI.

Also present were Abdul Aziz Al Shamsi, Assistant Director-General for Communication and Business Sector; Dr Fatema Khalifa Al Muqarrab, Director of International Relations; and Lalu Samuel, Chairman of the Representative Committee of the Industries Sector Business Group; along with several members representing major companies and manufacturing facilities operating in Sharjah.

The meeting reviewed the operational landscape of the industrial sector in the emirate of

Top officials during the meeting in Sharjah.

Sharjah, focusing on the performance of industrial establishments and the latest operational developments shaping the sector. Discussions also addressed the key challenges and requirements facing this vital sector.

Participants explored several proposals and recommendations aimed at aligning industrial performance with emerging economic trends and current market conditions, with the objective of enhancing operational sustainability, enhancing production efficiency, and strengthening competitiveness across local and regional markets.

The meeting underscored the readiness and resilience of Sharjah's business ecosystem, which serves as a fundamental pillar in enabling the private sector to respond effectively to evolving economic dynamics. Participants highlighted the importance of the strategic efforts undertaken by the UAE to ensure the sustainability and efficiency of supply chains.

They noted that these efforts are supported by an advanced system of economic and logistical enablers that strengthen the competitiveness of the business environment according to leading global standards.

The country's diversified network of land and maritime gateways, strategically distributed across key geographic locations, was highlighted as a

## SHARJAH

### Sharjah Chamber, Industries Sector Business Group discuss strengthening resilience and sustainability of industrial facilities

critical asset for sustaining industrial operations and providing greater flexibility in supply and export logistics, thereby facilitating trade flows and meeting the evolving demands of local and regional markets.

H.E. Abdallah Sultan Al Owais stated that the Sharjah Chamber continues to reinforce its role as a central bridge between the private sector and government entities. He noted that the Chamber is advancing an integrated operational framework based on flexibility and innovation in designing initiatives that support multiple economic sectors, particularly the industrial sector.

He explained that these initiatives aim to enhance the efficiency and adaptability of the business environment in response to rapidly evolving economic dynamics, while supporting the sustainable growth of the private sector and enabling companies to expand their operations and strengthen their competitiveness at both local and regional levels.

Al Owais added that the emirate of Sharjah possesses advanced economic and logistical capabilities, supported by a resilient business environment, modern infrastructure, and a strategic geographic location connecting it to regional and global markets.

The Chairman and members of the Industries Sector Business Group praised the prompt response of SCCI's officials in convening the meeting, describing it as a clear demonstration of the Chamber's ongoing commitment to

supporting the industrial sector and reinforcing its role in the emirate's economic development.

They highlighted the importance of strengthening direct communication channels with sector representatives, which contributes to identifying challenges and operational needs. They also stressed the need to facilitate the development of targeted solutions and initiatives that enhance the efficiency and competitiveness of the industrial business environment.

Last month, the Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) logged a surge in new memberships in 2025, registering 8,385 new companies. The Chamber now boasts 76,110 active members, a growth of over 14 per cent compared to 2024.

SCCI also reported 67,725 renewals and 2,288 free zone memberships, issuing 90,983 certificates of origin with exports and re-exports valued at approximately Dh\$21 billion.

These achievements were unveiled during the first 2026 board meeting, chaired by Abdallah Sultan Al Owais. He affirmed that Sharjah remains an attractive destination for investment, fostering growth and innovation.

Director-General Mohammed Ahmed Amin Al Awadi noted that the Chamber conducted trade missions to over seven countries, including a debut mission to Mauritius, and signed eight memoranda of understanding with international partners.

Staff Reporter, Gulf Today

## Khalifa Fund, Keeta sign MoU to empower Emirati entrepreneurs

**ABU DHABI:** Khalifa Fund for Enterprise Development (KFED) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Keeta, the food delivery platform backed by global technology leader Meituan, to empower Emirati entrepreneurs in Abu Dhabi's food and beverage (F&B) sector and accelerate their integration into the digital economy.

Through this collaboration, both parties aim to strengthen the presence of homegrown businesses, startups and SMEs across modern sales channels, while providing a comprehensive support ecosystem to expand their customer reach and drive sustainable growth.

The agreement was signed by Khalifa Saeed Al Kuwaiti, Executive Director of the Entrepreneurship Sector at KFED, and Lucas Xie, General Manager of Keeta UAE, in the presence of Mouza Obaid Al Nasri, CEO of KFED.

Specialised development programmes will also be introduced to enhance the operational and commercial readiness of enterprises and strengthen their competitiveness in a rapidly evolving market.

The collaboration further supports local businesses by equipping entrepreneurs with practical tools and knowledge to drive sustainability, elevate service quality, and showcase their brands in a way that reflects their national identity and builds consumer trust.

"The collaboration with Keeta represents

an important step in our ongoing efforts to empower Emirati entrepreneurs and enhance the capabilities of start-ups and SMEs in the food and beverage sector by providing advanced digital solutions," said Al Kuwaiti.

"We are committed to ensuring that every promising idea finds its way to the market, and that every Emirati entrepreneur has the tools and capabilities to turn their ambition into a competitive business, as digital transformation has become essential for sustainable growth." He said that Al Ain is a key hub for innovation and entrepreneurship, with efforts focused on strengthening local enterprises, linking them to regional and international opportunities, and enabling access to broader markets to support Abu Dhabi's diversified and sustainable economy.

Xie said, "At Keeta, our role extends beyond providing delivery services to enabling the growth of national SMEs and homegrown concepts, while accelerating their integration into the digital economy. Through this MoU, we aim to foster a supportive environment that empowers entrepreneurs to scale with confidence and build sustainable businesses aligned with the evolving needs of the local market." The collaboration between Khalifa Fund and Keeta represents a forward-looking approach for advancing Emirati entrepreneurship.

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## Drake & Scull

### Invitation to attend the Annual General Assembly Meeting of Drake & Scull International PJSC (Public Joint-stock Company)

The Board of Directors of Drake & Scull International (PJSC) is honored to invite the Shareholders to attend the Annual General Assembly Meeting of the Company, which will be conducted either in person at Fairmont Hotel - Sheikh Zayed Road, Dubai, or remotely via electronic means, at 3:00 PM on Tuesday, 21/04/2026 to consider the following agenda:

1. Authorizing the Chairman of the Annual General Assembly Meeting to appoint the meeting's Secretary and the vote collector.
2. Consider and approve the Board of Director's Report in respect of the activity and financial position of the Company for the financial year ending on 31/12/2025.
3. Consider and approve the Auditor's Report for the financial year ending on 31/12/2025.
4. Discuss and approve the Company's balance sheet and profit and loss account for the financial year ending on 31/12/2025.
5. Approve the Board of Directors' proposals concerning not distributing dividends, whether cash dividends or bonus shares.
6. Approval of the Board of Directors' proposal regarding the distribution and determination of remuneration for the Board members for the financial year ended 31 December 2025.
7. Absolve the members of the Board of Directors from any liability for the financial year ending 31/12/2025 or dismiss them and file a liability lawsuit against them as the case may be.
8. Absolve the auditors from any liability for the year ending on 31/12/2025 or dismiss them and file a liability lawsuit against them as the case may be.
9. Considering the Auditors' offers submitted to audit the Company's fiscal year ending 31/12/2026 and agreeing to appoint one of them, and to approve their fees.
10. Ratification of the appointment of Mr. Khaled Owaidat as a member of the Company's Board of Directors, succeeding Mr. Ahmad Al Kilani, for the remainder of Mr. Al Kilani's term.

#### Notes:

1. As directed by the Capital Market Authority, the Company's Shareholders have to register electronically to be able to attend and vote on the items of the General Assembly. Registration will open on Monday, 20 April 2026 at 12:00 pm and close on Tuesday, 21 April 2026 at 12:00 pm. For electronic registration, kindly visit the following link: <https://www.smartagm.ae>
2. The Annual General Assembly Meeting shall be held in person or virtually /remotely at the date and time set in the Shareholder's invitation. The Board of Directors, Auditors, Registrar, Meeting Secretary, and the Vote Collector will attend either in person or virtually, and the Shareholders will have the option to participate virtually or in person. (SMS messages will be sent to each registered Shareholder containing the username and a password to complete logging into the meeting).
3. Any Shareholder who has the right to attend the Annual General Assembly Meeting may delegate any person other than a member of the Board of Directors under the proxy. In such capacity, no proxy may present more than (5%) of the shares in the capital of the Company. Shareholders who lack capacity or competency shall be represented by their legal representatives. "Provided that the requirements set in Clauses 1 and 2 of Article No. (40) of the Chairman of the Authority's Board of Directors Decision No. (3 / RM) of 2020 regarding the approval of the Governance Guide for Public Joint Stock Companies are complied with." (Shareholders can view explanatory disclosures regarding the approved proxy through the Company's official website).
4. A corporate person may delegate one of his representatives or those in charge of his management under a decision from his Board of Directors or his authorized deputy to represent such corporate person in the General Assembly of the Company. The delegated person shall have the powers as determined under the delegation decision.
5. Individual and corporate proxies can register through (<https://www.smartagm.ae>), fill out the proxy form and upload it with the supporting documents once the online registration is open.
6. The Shareholder of the share registered on Friday 17/4/2026 shall be entitled to vote at the Annual General Assembly Meeting.
7. Shareholders can access and view the Company's financial statements and the Corporate Governance Report for the year 2025 on the company's website ([www.drakescull.com](http://www.drakescull.com)) and the Dubai Financial Market website ([www.dfm.ae](http://www.dfm.ae)).
8. The Meeting of the Annual General Assembly shall not be valid unless attended by Shareholders who hold or represent by proxy no less than (50%) of the Company's capital. If this quorum for the meeting is not available in the first meeting, the second meeting shall be convened on 28/4/2026 in the same manner and timing and at the same place. The postponed meeting shall be deemed valid irrespective of the number of Shareholders present.
9. You can view the Investors' Rights Guide available on the main page in the Capital Market Authority official website, as per the following link: <https://www.sca.gov.ae/ar/services/minority-investor-protection.aspx>