



## WORLD SECURITY FORUM

**PRESS INFORMATION, 27 September 2008**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Abu Dhabi World Security Forum sells out four weeks ahead of event**

**Organisers: Additional tickets being made available to satisfy high demand**

Dubai, 27 September 2008 – Delegate tickets for the World Security Forum – Abu Dhabi 2008, have completely sold out some four weeks ahead of the conference, according to the organisers.

In response to the rapid sell-out, a limited number of additional delegate passes are being made available to satisfy the high demand for entry to the event, which is set to take place at the famous Emirates Palace Hotel in Abu Dhabi, capital of the United Arab Emirates (UAE). During the two-day event, from 21-22 October 2008, leading experts from international politics and business will deliver presentations on a broad spectrum of current global security concerns and review the implications of catastrophes and disasters on populations, businesses and financial markets.

The World Security Forum enjoys strong support from the UAE Minister of Interior, H.H. Sheikh Saif Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, who is also the patron of the conference. Commenting on the swift sell-out, Saif remarked: "The interest in the World Security Forum demonstrates the growing importance that global security leaders are attaching to crisis management. At the same time, it is an acknowledgement of the UAE's potential to become a centre of global significance for professionals and leaders in the security field."

This year's conference will focus on catastrophe and disaster management, a field in which the UAE enjoys a global reputation of excellence. "The UAE is aiming to establish some of the world's finest emergency assistance organisations that are very well prepared to participate at the forefront of cross-border relief efforts. We are continuing to develop our

disaster management infrastructure so that it remains amongst the most advanced in the world," the Minister added.

Among the Forum's speakers will be eminent politicians, heads of emergency response services and senior officials from international organisations such as the United Nations. Sir Ken Knight, Chief Adviser to the UK Government on Fire & Rescue, and former Commissioner of the London Fire Brigade, will hold a presentation on high-rise tower fire safety on the first conference day. "Both natural and man-made catastrophes and their economic consequences are some of the most critical matters concerning the world today. Major disasters can have serious, adverse effects on neighbouring countries that may exacerbate any existing tensions, so the importance of international co-operation and dialogue in crisis management is paramount," he commented.

Other conference topics to be addressed include earthquakes, the effect of global warming, traffic disaster management, emergency planning and training, and humanitarian aid.

The strong demand for pre-registered places at the Forum reflects a high level of interest particularly from the GCC region, Western Europe and Central Asia. Participants will comprise delegates from government ministries and a variety of sectors including finance, insurance, medicine, emergency evacuation, disaster management, and humanitarian aid.

In addition to providing a platform for sharing experiences and ideas in crisis management, the Forum will include networking lunches and a gala dinner, offering delegates an unparalleled opportunity to meet with other security industry representatives from all over the world.

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**NOTES TO EDITORS:**

**Issued on behalf of the World Security Forum by bridge:media FZ-LLC, Dubai Media City.  
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