

Abu Dhabi's standing as a major global education hub gets a boost: Mohammed

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General Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, has said that the opening of the Centre for Executive Education and Research of INSEAD in Abu Dhabi will enhance the emirate's standing as a major global centre for culture and education.

Inaugurating the centre on Wednesday, Shaikh Mohammed said that the new educational centre went well with the vision of the President, His Highness Shaikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, to develop a best-in-class education system.

"Our aspiration to enhance Abu Dhabi's standing as a major global centre for culture and education has been boosted with the addition of INSEAD centre for executive education and research to the emirate's fast expanding portfolio of world class educational and cultural institutions," Shaikh Mohammed added.

Speaking on the occasion, Dean of INSEAD, Frank Brown said, "Our new Centre marks a crucial strategic milestone for INSEAD as the institute continues to expand its global presence into regions with significant pools of professional talent, an appetite for high profile academic research and great leadership potential. We are grateful to the Abu Dhabi Education Council, whose generous contribution made the centre a reality. INSEAD looks forward to an enriching experience in academic and cultural exchanges with the community in the Middle East."

INSEAD's first open enrolment programme for the region, 'Managing People in the Middle East', is scheduled to start in April 2008. Its two other campuses are located in Fontainebleau, France, and in Singapore.

The programme will give participants an opportunity to gain practical insights into corporate strategy in enterprises in the Middle East and North Africa.

Its research will focus on Middle East issues and cover areas such as women and leadership, humanitarian logistics, human resources management, innovation, and information and communication technology.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by Shaikh Sultan bin Tahnoon Al Nahyan, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Tourism Authority, Dr Hanif Hassan, Minister of Education, Khaldoun Al Mubarak, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Executive Affairs Authority, Mubarak Al Shamsi, Director-General of Abu Dhabi Education Council and the INSEAD delegation.