

UAE cabinet okays Dh16m for FNC elections in December

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The UAE cabinet was briefed yesterday on the electronic voting system to guarantee accuracy of the results of the FNC elections scheduled to be held on December 16, 18 and 20, this year.

The cabinet, which met at the presidential palace here yesterday, approved Dh16 million in the public budget to fund the FNC electoral process.

The meeting was presided over by His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai.

The meeting, which was attended by Shaikh Sultan bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister, reviewed a report submitted by Dr Mohammed Anwar Gargash, Minister of State for FNC Affairs, on the preparations for FNC elections and issues pertaining to electoral bodies. These electoral bodies comprise 6,700 UAE citizens, including 1,190 women.

The report updated the cabinet on the mechanism of implementing the planned media and awareness campaign which is yet to be launched by the Ministry of State for FNC Affairs.

The campaign aims to promote awareness of the objectives of the national elections and establish the culture of political and democratic participation in the country.

It also approved the National Committee for Elections which will be headed by Ahmed Humaid Al Mazroui. Other members of the new committee are Hilal Saeed Al Merri, Awadhi Hadher Al Muhairi and Mohammed Matar Al Ka'abi.

The meeting also approved a memorandum submitted by the Minister of Interior, Lt. Gen. Shaikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, on the pensioning off a number of the ministry's officers.

An agreement signed by the ministries of health in the UAE and Morocco to promote health and medical cooperation was also approved.

The cabinet also reviewed ministerial memorandums and reports and took necessary decisions.