

UAE announces 500 Mn dirhams boost for food purchases

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Mariam bint Mohammed Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and Environment, witnessed the signing of a deal facilitated by the National Farm Sustainability Initiative (NFSI) Task Force. The ministry team successfully secured the supply of food and agricultural products from national farms, amounting to AED 500 million over five years, to some of the largest public sector institutions in the UAE. The signing of the statement of intent between ADNHC Compass Group and Manbat, during an event held at the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment headquarters, marks the beginning of a new partnership that aims to strengthen the ties between Emirati farmers and local consumers and businesses.

Mariam Almheiri praised the efforts of the NFSI Task Force for achieving this significant deal and establishing new mechanisms and partnerships that connect major supply companies with national farms. She emphasised that this will help increase purchases of national farm products, expand local production, and improve the income of Emirati farmers without affecting the food trade. She also highlighted the importance of empowering the national food production sector to ensure food sustainability, which is a crucial local and global sustainability goal.

Prince Khaled bin Alwaleed bin Talal, Vice Chairman of Arada, expressed his delight at the partnership between Manbat and ADNHC Compass Group, stating that this is a major step towards future food security for some of the UAE's largest public entities.

Meanwhile, Peter Nichols, Chief Operating Officer of ADNHC Compass Group, emphasised the commitment to cultivating a sustainable and environmentally friendly ecosystem between Emirati farmers and the public sector in the UAE. He believes that this partnership is the first of many that will contribute to a sustainable and prosperous UAE.