



16 May 2000 Dubai International Airport Voted Best Airport Middle East

The first Libyan Airlines flight LN 272 from Tripoli landed in Dubai at 02:15 hours on 16th May. Libyan Airlines will be operating 3 flights a week between Tripoli and Dubai.

HH Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of the Department of Civil Aviation and Chairman of Emirates, commented: "We welcome the first Libyan Airlines flight to Dubai. With the commissioning of the new Sheikh Rashid Terminal we now offer much more in terms of facilities and service. We are hoping to attract more new airlines to Dubai and expect to consolidate our position as the aviation hub in the Middle East."

HH Sheikh Ahmed, on behalf of the Government of Dubai, signed the first ever bilateral agreement on air service with the Government of Libya on 22nd February, 1999. On behalf of the Libyan government Mr Mohammad Abu Gharies, Secretary General of the Department of Civil Aviation, Libya, signed the agreement.

The agreement allows Emirates and Arab Libyan Airlines an unlimited number of cargo, mail and passenger flights between Dubai and Libya. Under the 5th Freedom Rights Act, Emirates has been granted an unlimited number of operations for between and beyond points.

The agreement also allows for a flow of information and training programmes between the two civil aviation authorities. A special clause has recommended a study on removal of double air taxation between Dubai and Libya. The agreement came into effect as soon as sanctions on Libya were lifted.

Dubai International Airport has witnessed 17% growth in the first quarter of 2000. International passenger movement has gone up to 3,032,140 in the first three months of 2000 as compared to 2,588,646 during the same period in 1999.