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Dubai Municipality inaugurates the activities of the second educational forum for the Geographical Information Systems

Dubai Municipality inaugurates the activities of the second educational forum for the Geographical Information Systems for the academic year 2006 -2007 and which includes setting up researches and studies to develop the society and the environment surrounding the schools according to the Geographical Information Systems.

This was discussed during a workshop organized by the division in Child's City on the last Thursday morning with the presence of a big number of consultants and educational directors as well as representatives of the strategic partners in the forum.

Manal Chemlan, president of the Geographical Information Systems in the Geographical Information Systems Centre related to Dubai Municipality, said that schools from all over the country including students of Zayed Institution for Human Care of the second level shall participate in the forum organised by the division in cooperation with each of the Ministry of Teaching and Education and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Zayed Institution for Human Care.

The activities include a competition for maps design organised for the first time in cooperation with the Universal Institution for Maps Sciences **(ICACI)**; the competition is addressed for all children in the Gulf

Cooperation Council from the age of 3 till the age of 15. Maps will be show during the Middle East Maps Show and Conference where winners will be selected of each country in order to participate in the Universal Competition to be held in 2007.

Chemlan has clarified that the vision of the educational forum is to reach to climax in publishing the latest sciences and techniques related to geographical information to educate tomorrow's generations noting that the forum's message is to provide geographical information and its latest techniques as a base to teach and give the best to the future generations.

The forum aims at promoting the knowledge in geographical information systems techniques and remote controlling as well as benefiting from maps owned by students, also to develop the student's personality by encouraging him to analyse rationally and positive thinking towards the surrounding environment challenges, also developing the ability to discuss and dialogue and improve the writing, presentation and speech skills, as well as providing educational resources to teachers through practical practice of geographical information systems and remote controlling.

Each of Iman Swaidi, Manal Abdallah and Aaecha Abdallah from the Geographical Information Systems has lectured in the workshop where they stressed upon the different competitions organised among the forum's activities.

Representatives of the forum strategic partners have attended the workshop gathering the municipality and agriculture division (Abu Dhabi and Al Ain), Emirates University, International Ports of Dubai, Ajman Municipality, Fujeirah Daba Municipality, Kuwait University, onstructional Development Company (Saudi Arabia), Central Apparatus (Bahrein), the Geographical Information Systems in Qatar, Beyond the Seas Group (Amman).

Chemlan has clarified that the future plans of the forum include publishing and circulate the small projects experience so all the Arab countries benefit thereof through the geographical encyclopaedia site, and making the children in Arab countries participate during the coming years, and to continue providing the resources for the teacher, and giving opportunity for all Arab countries to participate in the coming years.

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Words and Photos:

- **Part of the Workshop**
- **Public**