

Nato stresses defence cooperation with UAE

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Brussels: Chairman of the Military Committee of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) General Raymond Henault reiterated the importance of defence cooperation between the UAE and NATO within the framework of Euro-Mediterranean and Istanbul Cooperation initiative (ICI).

Addressing a group of Arab media persons at the NATO headquarters in Brussels, General Raymond said that the UAE plays a major role in protecting peace and security in the Gulf region and the Middle East by adopting a balanced and prudent policy.

General Raymond noted that intensive consultations are going on with Qatar and Bahrain in an effort to pen a security agreement, close on the heels of a similar agreement signed with Kuwait last year.

He pointed out that the agreements are aimed at combating terrorism in tune with the Euro-Mediterranean and Istanbul Cooperation Initiative.

General Raymond revealed that a plan is in the pipeline to open NATO military training institute in the Gulf region but did not give any details when and where it will be set up, but added that discussions are going on with high ranking officials in the region.