



United Arab Emirates

## PROGRAMME

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# **NATO-UAE RELATIONS AND THE WAY FORWARD IN THE ISTANBUL COOPERATION INITIATIVE**

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***28-30 OCTOBER 2009  
ABU DHABI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES***

***CO-ORGANISED BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF  
THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES AND THE NATO PUBLIC DIPLOMACY DIVISION***

## Opening Session

- 10:00 Opening Address by **H.H. Sheikh Abdallah Bin Zayid Al-Nahyan**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates
- 10:15 Keynote Address by **H.E. Mr. Anders Fogh Rasmussen**, Secretary General of NATO
- 10:30 Coffee Break

## Signing of the Agreement on the Security of Information In Presence of *H.H. Sheikh Abdallah Bin Zayid Al-Nahyan & H.E. Mr. Anders Fogh Rasmussen*

## Session I The Istanbul Cooperation Initiative: Current Status and Future Prospects

- 10:45 *Chair:*  
**H.E. Ms. Reem Ibraheem Al Hashemy**, Minister of State of the United Arab Emirates
- Speakers:*  
**H.E. Amb. Claudio Bisogniero**, Deputy Secretary General of NATO  
**H.H. Sheikh Thamer Al-Sabah**, Vice President of the National Security Bureau, Kuwait  
**Dr. Abdullah Baabood**, Director, Gulf Research Centre-Cambridge, Center of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom
- 11:45 Discussion period
- 13:30 Lunch at L' Auberge Restaurant – Emirates Palace

## Session II Regional Security Challenges Affecting NATO and Gulf Countries

- 14:30 *Chair:*  
**H.E. Mr. Jean-François Bureau**, NATO Assistant Secretary General for Public Diplomacy
- Speakers:*  
**H.E. Dr. Anwar Gargash**, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates  
**H.E. Amb. Dr. Muhammad Abdul Ghaffar**, Advisor to His Majesty the King of Bahrain for Diplomatic Affairs  
**Dr. Abdulaziz Sager**, Chairman of the Gulf Research Center, Dubai
- 15:15 – 16:50 Discussion period

## Joint Press Conference

17:00 JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE by **H.H. Sheikh Abdallah Bin Zayid Al-Nahyan**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates, and **H.E. Mr. Anders Fogh Rasmussen**, Secretary General of NATO

### **EVENING PROGRAMME**

20:00 OFFICIAL DINNER hosted by **H.H. Sheikh Abdallah Bin Zayid Al-Nahyan**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates at Emirates Palace