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UAE to offer citizenship to 'talented' foreigners – 3rd February, 2021

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The UAE will give citizenship to foreign residents who "add value" to the nation. It is a bold change of the UAE's immigration policy. The UAE Vice-President Sheikh Mohammed wants people with "specialised talents" to "contribute to our development journey". Artists, engineers, entrepreneurs, intellectuals, inventors and scientists could be eligible for a UAE passport. Successful people and their families would be allowed to hold dual nationality.

The citizenship procedure depends on recommendations from members of the UAE royal family or government officials. The UAE cabinet will then approve or reject these. There are "clear criteria" in the selection process. Doctors must be specialised in high-priority fields and have done significant research. Scientists must be active researchers and have an international award or research grant. Inventors need patented inventions.

Level 5

The UAE has announced it will give citizenship to foreign residents who "add value" to the nation. It is rare for a Gulf state to bestow citizenship on foreign nationals and is a bold revision of the UAE's immigration policy. UAE Vice-President and ruler of Dubai Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum wants people with "specialised talents" to "contribute to our development journey". He said artists, engineers, entrepreneurs, intellectuals, inventors and scientists could be eligible for a UAE passport. All successful people and their families would be allowed to hold dual nationality.

The procedure for citizenship depends on recommendations and nominations from members of the UAE royal family or government officials. The UAE cabinet will then approve or reject the nomination. Sheikh Mohammed said there are "clear criteria" in the selection process. Doctors must be specialised in high-priority scientific fields. They must have conducted significant research. Scientists must be active researchers and have an international award or research grant. Inventors need patented inventions registered by an internationally recognised organisation.

Level 6

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has announced it will grant citizenship to foreign residents who "add value" to the nation. It is very rare for a Gulf state to bestow citizenship on foreign nationals and represents a bold revision of the UAE's immigration policy. UAE Vice-President and ruler of Dubai Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum explained that people with "specialised talents" who "contribute to our development journey" could fall under the new policy. He said artists, doctors, engineers, entrepreneurs, intellectuals, inventors, investors and scientists could be eligible to be given a UAE passport. All successful people and their families would be permitted to hold dual nationality.

The procedure to be given citizenship is dependent on recommendations and nominations from members of the UAE royal family and high-ranking government officials. It will then be the decision of the UAE cabinet to approve or reject the nomination. Sheikh Mohammed said there are "clear criteria" in the selection process. Doctors must be specialised in scientific fields that are deemed high-priority by the UAE. They must have conducted significant studies and research. Scientists must be active researchers and have made contributions to their field by attaining an international award or research grant. Inventors need patented inventions registered by an internationally recognised organisation.