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## UAE's AD Ports Expands Pakistan Footprint

August 6, 2025

– Categories: Economics



UAE's AD Ports Group has expanded its presence in Pakistan by inaugurating a new office in Islamabad, further deepening maritime and economic ties between the two nations. The move signals the Abu Dhabi-based port operator's long-term commitment to Pakistan's trade and logistics sector, positioning both countries to benefit from enhanced regional connectivity and infrastructure collaboration.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Muhammad Junaid Anwar and senior UAE officials. Minister Anwar praised the UAE's investment, highlighting improvements in port efficiency, logistics, and shipping operations since AD Ports' involvement in Pakistan. "Vessel turnaround times have decreased, and port throughput has significantly increased, which directly benefits Pakistan's import-export competitiveness," he stated.

AD Ports has already contributed to several port modernization efforts in Pakistan, and the new Islamabad office will act as a coordination hub for future investments and strategic planning. This expansion comes as Pakistan looks to attract foreign direct investment to improve its outdated logistics network, crucial for trade growth and economic recovery.



Industry analysts see this development as part of the UAE's broader strategy to expand its global port portfolio, with Pakistan serving as a key maritime node in South Asia. AD Ports' expertise in advanced port management systems, digital supply chain platforms, and streamlined cargo handling could help Pakistan raise its operational standards to international levels.

The collaboration also aligns with Pakistan's vision to transform into a regional trade hub. The country's geographic location offers direct access to key trade routes linking the Middle East, Central Asia, and China. With proper policy support and consistent investment frameworks, Pakistan may leverage these advantages to attract additional maritime partnerships.

The Islamabad office represents more than a symbolic gesture; it sets the stage for deeper cooperation in areas like logistics innovation, port

workforce training, and digital infrastructure. As regional competition intensifies, such partnerships are essential for Pakistan to stay economically competitive.

Pakistan's long-standing bilateral relationship with the UAE continues to play a vital role in shaping its economic direction. The success of this maritime collaboration may serve as a model for future foreign investment in critical infrastructure.

