Dubai—United Arab Emirates, February 24th, 2009. Under the patronage of HH Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, President of the Dubai Health Authority, the 15th UAE International Dental Conference and Arab Dental Exhibition AEEDC Dubai, is scheduled to be held from March 10th -12th, 2009 at the Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Dr. Amer AlSharif, Director of Continuous Education Department, Dubai Health Authority, said, "The AEEDC Dubai conference and exhibition is the result of joint efforts between the Dubai Health Authority and the Dubai Dental Association to provide the best opportunities for dental education and health awareness in the region. It is a major event for dental professionals, students, and dentistry enthusiasts, offering a platform to exchange ideas, knowledge, and experiences."

Dubai Health Authority (DHA) thanked the Executive Chairperson of AEEDC Dubai, H.E. Dr. Nasser Malik, for his efforts in organizing the conference and welcoming everyone to participate in the AEEDC 2009 edition.

Mr. Abdal Salam Al Madani, the Executive Chairman of AEEDC Dubai added that “every year we strive to add new records to AEEDC conference and exhibition, this year the number of specialists speakers, and exhibitors participating in AEEDC are bigger than last year. 2009 are bigger than last year. The exhibition space is 20% bigger compared to last year, with an increase of 25% in number of exhibitors. We are also expecting more than 20,000 specialists, from 113 countries to attend and participate in AEEDC 2009”.

Moreover, a number of Country representatives, chairmen and presidents of international associations and cooperations will participate in AEEDC 2009.

Editorial Board
Dr. Abdal Salam Al Askary, Implantology, Egypt
Dr. Talal Al-Harbi, Orthodontist, Qatar
Dr. Mohammed H. Al-Hafi, Radiology

Abu Dhabi set to revise health insurance scheme

Abu Dhabi: The full medical insurance scheme for Emiratis working in the private sector will be withdrawn by the Health Authority Abu Dhabi (HAAD) effective from February 3.

A circular issued by the HAAD on February 5 states that Emiratis working in the private sector will henceforth have to bear 50 per cent of the cost of pharmaceutical products and dental care services. A circular issued by the HAAD on February 5 states that Emiratis working in the private sector will henceforth have to bear 50 per cent of the cost of pharmaceutical products and dental care services. The new rules come into effect from February 3. Emiratis currently working in the private sector are technically prepared to implement the change and are currently in discussions with our providers to make sure the implementation process moves smoothly," said Dr Michael Litizer, chief executive officer at Daman.

Bitzer acknowledged that people alarmed by the decision had been keeping the call centre busy with their phone calls. When contacted for clarification, the official at the HAAD concerned with health insurance policies refused to comment on the decision. However, in earlier meetings, some of the HAAD’s top officials had sought to tell the media that all Thiqah card holders would be entitled to full medical treatment free of charge. Dr. Nasser Malik – The Conference Chairman said at the press conference, "In 2009, AEEDC will take a major shift in its focus, as we are including topics usually not covered in our previous conferences, topics such as Para-dentals, and business aspects of dentistry. We are also showing our support to the dental education community by starting for the first time, the AEEDC dental knowledge competition, for the undergraduate dental students of the Middle East region. With the honorary title of AEEDC Champion awarded to the winning school ."