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ABU DHABI / WAM

Abu Dhabi Tourism & Culture Authority (TCA Abu Dhabi) announced its programme for the 27th edition of the Abu Dhabi International Book Fair (ADIBF) at a press conference at Manarat Al Saadiyat, Saadiyat Island, on Monday.

ADIBF, which is held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, will be held at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibitions Centre (ADNEC) from April 26 until May 2.

Saif Saeed Ghobash, Director-General of TCA Abu Dhabi, said, "We meet again at Manarat Al Saadiyat, which recently hosted the Global Cultural Leadership Summit organised by TCA Abu Dhabi, to underscore our promise to establish Abu Dhabi as a beacon of culture and knowledge."

"I am pleased to share with you today our success in achieving an increase in reserved space at ADIBF, to reach 35,148 square metres, with

a total of 1,320 exhibitors, an increase of 60 exhibitors from last year, representing 65 countries from around the world, and the publication of more than 500,000 titles from more than 30 languages. This year's programme will also feature over 800 activities, discussion sessions and seminars."

"We will also be celebrating China and the relaunch of the Silk Road project from Abu Dhabi to highlight the emirate's ability in encouraging cultural giving and continued demonstration of cultural and scientific openness," continued Ghobash.

"I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, for his great and unlimited support for the growing cultural movement in the UAE, and his efforts in supporting the Sheikh Zayed Book Award. The award was launched by the UAE President in 2006 in recognition of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan and to celebrate Arab culture, human intellect creativity worldwide," he said.