**Abraham Accords Timeline: Key Events & Milestones**

### 2020

**June 12**
Writing in Yedioth Ahronoth, UAE Ambassador to the US Yousef Al Otaiba outlines the benefits to Israelis of pursuing peace and normalization with the UAE.

**August 13**
The UAE, Israel and US announce the historic normalization agreement. Direct telephone service between the two countries begins.

**August 16**
Direct telephone service between the two countries begins.

**August 31**
First direct commercial flight from Israel to the UAE (El Al) carries an American and Israeli delegation to Abu Dhabi.

**September 15**
Abraham Accords are signed at the White House.

**September 17**
First kosher-certified restaurant in the UAE opens.

**October 12**
First cargo shipment from the UAE enters the Israeli port of Haifa.

**October 20**
HE Obaid bin Humaid Al Tayer, Minister of State for Financial Affairs, HE Abdulla bin Touq Al Marri, Minister of Economy, and HE Omar Ghobash, Assistant Minister for Culture and Public Diplomacy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, visit Israel.

**November 8**
First direct commercial flight carrying Israeli tourists (flydubai) arrives in Dubai.

**September – December**
Bahrain, Sudan and Morocco enter into normalization agreements with Israel in September, October and December.

### 2021

**March 1**
HE Mohamed Al Khaja presents his credentials to Israel’s former President Reuvin Rivlin, becoming the first UAE Ambassador to Israel.

*Updated September 14, 2023*
April 6  First direct commercial flight from Abu Dhabi to Israel (Etihad) arrives in Tel Aviv.

June 14  First Emirati student arrives to study at a university in Israel.

June 29  HH Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan receives Israel’s Foreign Minister and Alternative Prime Minister Yair Lapid in his first official visit to the UAE.

            Israeli Embassy in Abu Dhabi formally opens.

June 30  Israeli Consulate General in Dubai formally opens.

July 13-16  HE Mariam Almheiri, Minister of State for Food and Water Security, visits Israel.

July 13  UAE Embassy in Tel Aviv formally opens.

July 14  Amir Hayek is appointed as Israel’s Ambassador to the UAE.

October 1  Expo 2020 Dubai opens with 192 country pavilions, including Israel.

October 14-18  HH Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan visits Washington, DC and meets with US Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken and Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid. They announce two trilateral working groups on religious coexistence and water and energy issues.

December 13  Prime Minister Naftali Bennet becomes first Israeli leader to officially visit the UAE.

2022

January 30  Israeli President Isaac Herzog makes his first visit to the UAE and meets with HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

March 27-28  HH Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan attends the Negev Summit in Israel with his counterparts from the US, Israel, Egypt, Morocco and Bahrain, reaffirming the importance of working together to enhance collaboration.

May 31  The UAE and Israel agreed upon a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (Cepa), seeking to expand bilateral trade to $10 billion by 2027.
June 9  HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan receives Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett during his second visit to the UAE.

June 28  First meeting of the Negev Forum Steering Committee convenes in Bahrain.

July 14  The UAE, Israel and US launch the inaugural I2U2 Summit, convening leaders from the three countries and India to collaborate on economic and trade matters.

July 27  Due to high demand, Emirates announces plans for a second daily flight to Tel Aviv starting in October 2022.

August 18  A record-setting $1.4 billion in bilateral trade is announced for the first half of 2022.

September 7  An estimated 450,000 Israeli tourists visited the UAE during the past two years.

September 14  Marking the second anniversary of the signing of the Abraham Accords, HH Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan becomes the first UAE foreign minister to visit Israel.

December 5  HH President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan meets with Israeli President Isaac Herzog.

December 31  35 business agreements were signed in 2022 between the UAE and Israel in areas as diverse as cooperation in the fields of health and the environment to collaboration in agriculture, security, and water.

December 31  The volume of trade with Arab countries that normalized relations with Israel under the Abraham Accords broke the $2.8 billion barrier in 2022.

2023

January 13  The UAE becomes the first Arab nation to teach the Holocaust in schools.

March 26  The UAE and Israel signed a free trade pact into effect, reducing or removing tariffs on about 96% of goods traded between the nations.

April 1  Israel is currently Dubai’s fastest growing tourism source market.

May 23  HH President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan sent a letter to President Isaac Herzog to officially invite Israel to attend the COP28 climate conference.