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AUTOMOBILE & TOURING CLUB OF THE UAE

PRESS RELEASE

Sulayem holds talks with FIVA member from Lebanon

DUBAI, 1 MARCH 2009: The Automobile & Touring Club of the UAE (ATCUAE), the official representative of the Fédération Internationale des Véhicules Anciens (FIVA) in the Emirates, and its counterpart in Lebanon decided to enhance cooperation between the two in a wide range of activities.

FIA President for Sport and President of the ATCUAE Mohammed Ben Sulayem held wide-ranging talks with FIVA Committee Member from Lebanon Rony Karam on the sidelines of the just-concluded first-ever Burj Dubai Classic Car Show, parade and competition held at Downtown Burj Dubai, where over 100 cars dating back from the 1920s drew huge crowds over a two-day period.

The Automobile and Touring Club of Lebanon is the official FIVA representative in Beirut where Mr. Karam is based.

Mr. Sulayem impressed upon Mr. Karam the need for closer cooperation between the two FIVA affiliates in order to promote the interests of and protect the rights of owners of vintage vehicles such as cars and bikes.

Both agreed that there was a need for greater collaboration between them, not only to promote events in their respective countries, but the Middle East and the region as a whole.

During their talks, Mr. Sulayem briefly referred to concerns raised by vintage car owners following a proposal to ban vehicles 20 years and over from the Emirates' roads. Allaying vintage car owners' fears, Mr. Sulayem said: "The new regulations haven't been finalized yet but, basically, they're designed to take old cars which are no longer roadworthy off the roads," adding: "Well-maintained classic cars won't be affected, so enthusiasts don't need to worry."

-ENDS-

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