



## DP WORLD CHAIRMAN MEETS WITH ALBANIAN PRIME MINISTER

**Dubai, UAE, 23 September 2014:-** DP World Chairman, HE Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem has met the Prime Minister of Albania, Edi Rama, to discuss areas of future cooperation and to strengthen the existing warm relations between Albania and the UAE.

The Albanian Prime Minister welcomed the delegation from DP World and Dubai Customs, praising DP World's expertise in developing and managing ports and marine terminals around the world and the role it plays in developing the communities in which it operates. He said this was a model to follow in the maritime sector.

The two day visit by HE bin Sulayem and the delegation included meetings with Albanian Minister of Economic Development, Trade and Enterprises Arben Ahmetaj, Minister of Transport and Infrastructure Edmond Haxhinasto and Ms. Elisa Spiropali, Director of Albanian Customs Administration, to explore ways of encouraging trade and to share the UAE's experience in rapid infrastructure development. The delegation noted that Dubai's seamless integration of customs, logistics, free zones and ports, which are key to its successful economy, were an example of the successful implementation of the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Vice President and Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai.

**DP World Chairman, HE Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem, said:** "It was an honour to have the opportunity to discuss areas of mutual interest with the Government of Albania. The country has been launching major reforms to encourage growth with foreign investors, provide employment for a young workforce and is promoting specific industries. It was a pleasure to share our experiences in these areas.

Countries seeking to develop their economies look at the UAE's pioneering experience which is characterised by economic diversity, stimulating trade and investment and the expansion of the services sector."

He praised the strong development in trade relations between Dubai and Albania, highlighting the fact that trade between Dubai and Albania grew 130% in the first half of 2014 compared with 39% in the same period of 2013.



The visit came in the wake of a recent call by the Albanian President to UAE businessmen and investors to explore investment opportunities in his country. The delegation also received guided tours of Albania's key ports, including the Port of Durres and Port of Shen Gjin.

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