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● The local **Sabancı Holding** is considering the purchase of poultry products firm **Entas Tavukculuk**.

● Tourism concern **Lapis Holding** is to set up a bank, **Turkiye Turizm Yatirim & dis Finansman Bankasi**, with capital of TL 8,000 million (\$5.5 million). It will be the second private bank established specifically for the tourism industry. Its general director will be Sami Uslu.

● The Turkish Electricity Board (TEK) plans to build four large thermal power stations in the next five years. Three natural gas plants will be constructed in the Mugla region, and a coal-fired scheme near Amasya. TEK's construction programme also entails adding six power units to four stations.

● State-owned **Turk Hava Yollari (THY — Turkish Airways)** will run flights hourly between Istanbul and Ankara, Transport & Communications Ministry undersecretary Ertan Yulek says.

● Ithalat & Ihracat (Import-Export Bank of Turkey — Eximbank) is in financial difficulties, the Istanbul economic daily *Dunya* says. The daily says Eximbank — formed last year from another state-owned development bank — is owed TL 800,000 million (\$571 million) by state economic enterprises, while its own debts to other bodies, including the World Bank, amount to TL 700,000 million (\$500 million).

● Banks and other financial institutions are now allowed to export and import gold, according to a decree published in the Official Gazette on 29 July.

UAE

Germans lead bids for substations

Four international firms have bid for a contract to equip and modify three substations in the Al-Ain region. West Germany's **Siemens** submitted a low offer of about Dh 16 million (\$31.6 million). The three other bids were very closely priced.

They are:

□ **ABB Asea Brown Boveri** (Switzerland/Sweden) — Dh 125 million (\$34 million)

□ **Toshiba Corporation** (Japan) — Dh 125.5 million (\$34.2 million)

□ **Cogalex/Alstom** (France) — Dh 126 million (\$34.3 million).

The bulk of the contract covers supply and installation of equipment for a 220/33/11-kV substation at Al-Wajen in Al-Ain. The substation will be connected to the Zakher district by a 220-kV double-circuit overhead line. The contractor will also undertake extension work on the Zakher substation and at Al-Wathba. The contract is for completion in two years.

Upgrading the substations paves the way for later improvements to the transmission network. Installation of new lines will eventually boost the network to 400-kV, local observers say. The three substations will act as terminals for the expansion.

The main cable contract has been let separately to Italy's **Societa Anonima Elettrificazione (SAE)** at Dh 40.7 million (\$11.1 million). The firm's alternative offer narrowly undercut the main offer of Dh 40.8 million (\$11.1 million) submitted by Hungary's **Transelektro** in a rebid last March (MEED 9:4:88). SAE is to supply and install 80 kilometres of 220-kV double-circuit cable between Al-Wajen and Zakher. The contract is for completion in 18 months.

Consultant for the scheme is West Germany's **Lahmeyer**; client is Abu Dhabi's water and electricity department.

IN BRIEF

● Abu Dhabi-based **Emirates Property Investment Company** is suspending plans to build a 190-room hotel on Dubai's Maktoum Street, as the proposed site is unsuitable. The hotel will feature banqueting facilities for 1,000 people and could be larger than originally proposed. Emirates Property will launch a design competition once a new location is identified. The hotel would be managed by the US' **Holiday Inn**. Emirates Property is part of the **Al-Fahim Group**, which owns the Abu Dhabi Holiday Inn.

● Tenders are due on 26 September for the Unit 3 pumping station, part of the Taweelah power and water scheme. The station is being retendered after a decision was taken to use concrete rather than steel reservoirs, which were specified in the original tender. The previous low bidder was the US' **Pittsburgh-Des Moines** at Dh 75.6 million (\$20.6 million — MEED 7:11:87). The new tender is open to special and first category contractors as specified by the client, Abu Dhabi's water and electricity department. Consultant is the UK's **Pencol International** with **Pencol International Engineering Consultants**.

● The local **Abdul Rahman Abdulla al-Habaishie Contractors** says it will undertake a water tank project at Umm al-Nar without its former joint-venture partner, the US' **Pittsburgh-Des Moines**. Al-Habaishie placed the winning bid for the Dh 85 million (\$23.1 million) contract with the US firm but secured the final contract award independently. The order calls for the supply and installation of four 10 million-gallon water storage tanks to provide additional capacity for the Umm al-Nar expansion project. Consultant is Egypt's **Dr Ali al-Saie**; client is Abu Dhabi's water and electricity department (MEED 3:6:88).

● Work on the second phase of the Sila border and customs post started on 1 August. The next phase is to provide accommodation blocks. Work on the residences, for completion within 20 months, is being undertaken by the main contractor, the local **Bin Brook General Contracting**. The firm's original Dh 53 million (\$14.4 million) contract is understood to have increased in value due to extra works undertaken. Observers expect the final contract to exceed Dh 60 million (\$16.3 million).

● The local **Al-Salmeen General Transport & Contracting** is buying microtunnelling equipment from the UK-based **Euro Iseki**. The equipment is for sewer installation work in Abu Dhabi. Deliveries are due in mid-August, Euro Iseki says.

● Sharjah is planning construction of an industrial exhibition space. Reports in the

Dubai-based daily *Khaleej Times* say work on the new centre is to start by September. A 15,000-square-metre site has been selected and initial spending of Dh 10 million (\$2.72 million) is planned. The project is being promoted by the local chamber of commerce and industry.

● Dubai municipality is to invite bids in December or January for two new park and landscaping projects. Final designs for a creek-side park between the Maktoum and Garhoud bridges and the landscaping of the Deira corniche are being prepared by the UK's **Rice Perry Ellis & Partners**. The corniche scheme will include a landmark park and repair to sea walls. It will be tendered in two phases; the second phase will cover the area up to Hamriya port.

● **Abu Dhabi National Tankers Company (Adnatco)** has a new board of directors, headed by Khalaf Rashid al-Otaibah. The board was appointed by the new Supreme Council for Petroleum, set up in June to oversee the affairs of **Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC)** and the oil sector in general (MEED 17:6:88). Adnatco transports crude oil and refined products and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of ADNOC.

● The UK's **W S Atkins & Partners** is preparing final designs for Dubai's Shindagha market, which will provide about 170 shop units on a 65,000-square-metre site. No tender date has been set by the client, Dubai municipality, but observers expect bids to be invited before the end of 1988.

● The local **Ibrahim Lootah Enterprises**, in partnership with **Orient Irrigation Services**, also local, is completing work on the Jumeirah beach park. Dubai municipality will soon take over the area. Outstanding additional works will be completed by the end of 1988. The UK's **Rice Perry Ellis & Partners** is consultant.

● The UK's **Kent Process Control** has opened a regional office in Dubai. The firm supplies instrumentation and control products.

● OPEC Secretary-General Dr Subroto met President Zayed and Petroleum & Mineral Resources Minister Manaa Bin Said al-Otaibah during a visit to Abu Dhabi from 28-29 July. Subroto told the local press that the UAE "would support all OPEC actions aimed at stabilising the oil market and strengthening prices." Oil industry observers do not expect the emirates to reduce current output of about 1.5 million barrels a day (b/d). The OPEC quota for the UAE is 948,000 b/d.

YEMEN (ADEN)

Mukalla water supply gets green light

An implementation schedule has been announced for the Mukalla water supply project following the approval of a \$12 million loan by the International Development Association (IDA) on 19 July.

The IDA is providing the largest of three international loans to the \$34.7 million project. The Kuwait-based Arab Fund for Economic & Social Development (AFESD)