



➤ Afghan nationals walk with their belongings upon their arrival from Iran at the Islam Qala border crossing in Herat province.
Agence France-Presse

ISLAM QALA

'No good choice' for Afghans who were forced to leave Iran

Since the war began on Feb. 28, about 1,700 people have returned every day; UN warns that nearly half of Afghanistan will need humanitarian aid this year

Exhausted Afghans cross the border from Iran in a sandstorm, leaving behind a country in the grip of war to return to a homeland that is battered by conflict and humanitarian crisis.

At the Islam Qala crossing point in Herat province, western Afghanistan, Talibshah, who did not give his family name, said he had been working in agriculture northwest of Tehran. He was cheated by money changers at the border and was trying to figure out how to get back to Sar-e-Pol province in the north, hundreds of kilometres away on difficult, mountainous roads.

Talibshah's work in Qazvin in northern Iran helped support seven people — his mother, father, brothers and sisters — at a time when drought had made farming difficult, if not impossible, back home. "I don't know whether I will be able to find a job or not. We are left without prospects," he told AFP. "If I don't find a job here, I'll have to emigrate again.

We have no choice. We can't starve," he added. The United Nations has warned that nearly half of Afghanistan — 21.9 million people — will need humanitarian aid this year.

Since Feb. 26, the country has been hit by fresh clashes with neighbouring Pakistan to the east, which have killed at least 56 civilians and forced about 115,000 from their homes.

The UN refugee agency's representative in Afghanistan, Arafat Jamal, said there was "no good choice" for those coming back.

"They're fleeing war in Iran and coming to a country that is also itself at war," he said. "In other words, these people are coming into a country that is wracked by drought, that has unemployment, and that now has conflict inside it."

Since the war began in the Middle East on Feb. 28, about 1,700 people have returned every day. But the UNHCR is expecting bigger numbers

in the future if there is no let-up in the conflict.

The agency is ready in terms of staff and infrastructure to receive those leaving Iran but funding was lacking for the relief effort, said Jamal.

At the Islam Qala border post, more people arrived on Tuesday than the previous week, said an AFP correspondent on the ground.

Families crossed quickly, their faces expressionless, with one or two suitcases holding their meagre belongings.

Mohammad Kabir Nazari, 48, had been working for the last 11 months as a security guard in Tehran, and was in the country during the 12-day war last June. He described the latest strikes as "50 times greater."

"Missiles were coming from all sides, every day," he said. "For Afghans, there was no shelter. The situation was very bad."

Nazari, originally from Ghazni province in

eastern Afghanistan, said he had been travelling to Iran for the last 32 years.

Then, the markets were busy around the Persian new year, Nowruz, and for the end of Ramadan but were currently empty, he added.

The slowdown in Iran's economy has consequences for the many Afghan migrant workers: one friend of Nazari told him he had been sacked with other Afghans, and forced to return.

Naeemullah Rahimi, 24, was also working as a security guard, at a factory in the Tehran suburbs. He said he was forced to shelter from air strikes in the basement. "When we saw that the situation was very bad, we had to come back to Afghanistan," he said. Jobs are scarce in his home province of Wardak in central Afghanistan. "I don't know what to do," said Rahimi. "But if I find a job, I'll work."

Agence France-Presse



Invitation for Annual General Assembly Meeting Sharjah Cement & Industrial Development Co. (PJSC)

The Board of Directors of Sharjah Cement & Industrial Development Co. (PJSC) is pleased to invite all Shareholders to attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) through **Personal attendance** at the company's Headquarters located in the "Al Hisn Tower" building - Floor (14) - Banks Street - Rolla - Sharjah /or Remotely" (through the use of Remote Presence Technology - virtual meeting with visual communication and electronic voting, to be held on **Wednesday, 8/4/2026 at 11:00 am**, to consider the following Agenda.

Agenda for Annual General Meeting: -

- Review of the Board of Directors' Report in relation to the company's activities for the financial year ended **31/12/2025**
- Review and approval of External Auditors' Report for the year ended **31/12/2025**
- Review and approval of the Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Account of the company for the year ended **31/12/2025**
- To consider the proposal of the Board of Directors to distribute cash dividends to the shareholders amounting to **10 %** of the capital (at the rate of **10** fills per share), equivalent to AED: **"60,825,375"** (only Sixty Million, eight hundred twenty-five thousand & three hundred seventy-five dirhams) for the financial year ended **31.12.2025**.
- To consider the proposal of the Board of Directors to **remunerate** the Board members for the year **2025**
- To discharge the liability of the Board Members for the financial year **2025**.
- To discharge the liability of the Auditors for the financial year **2025**
- Appointment of Auditors for the Financial Year **2026** and fix their fees.
- Election of the board members for the term **(2026-2029)**.

Remarks:

- Shareholders registered in the Shareholders Register on **Tuesday 7/4/2026** who have the right to attend the AGM, may delegate any person, other than a member of the Board of Directors, employees of the company, or Brokerage Company or its employees to attend the meeting and vote on his behalf, under a specially written proxy. (in accordance with SCA's approved form). A proxy of several shareholders shall not hold in this capacity **over (5%)** of the company's share capital. Shareholders who are minors or legally incapacitated shall be represented by their legal representatives. Provided that the requirements set forth in Clauses (1) and (2) of Article No. (40) of the SCA's Board Chairman Decision No. (3 / RM) of 2020 concerning the approval of the Public Shareholding Company Governance Guide, are taken into consideration. You can read the disclosure published on the company's page and on the ADX's website regarding the procedures required for the approval of the power of attorney
- A corporate person may delegate one of its representatives or those in charge of its management under a resolution passed by its Board of Directors or any similar entity to represent such corporate person in the AGM of the company. The delegated person shall have the powers as determined under the delegation resolution.
- The shareholder's signature on the power of Attorney referred to in clause No. "1" above, shall be the signature approved by any of the following entities:
 - Notary Public.
 - Commercial Chamber or Economic Department in UAE.
 - A bank or company licensed in UAE provided that the agent shall have an account with any of them.
 - Financial markets licensed in UAE.
 - Any other entity licensed to perform attestation works.
- Shareholders registered in the Shareholders Register on **Tuesday, 7/4/2026** shall be entitled to vote in the AGM and registered on the electronic system. The AGM shall only be valid after the electronic registration of shareholders who own or represent by proxy not less than **50%** of the company's capital. If this quorum is not met at the first meeting, the Second Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 15/4/2026** at the same time and place above mentioned. The postponed meeting shall be valid regardless of the number of attendees. **The Powers of Attorney** for the first meeting shall be valid for representation at the second meeting.
- Shareholders registered in the Shareholders Register on **20/4/2026** shall be entitled to receive the Dividends at the event of the First Meeting, or on **27/4/2026** in the event of the Second Meeting.
- Electronic Registration will be opened on **Tuesday, at 11:00 am** and will be closed on **Wednesday, at 11 am**.
- For Electronic Registration, the shareholder has to visit the following link: www.smartagm.ae
- Any proxy holder must send e-mail to **FAB "The Organizer"** the proxies and any supporting documents to the e-mail: IS@bankfab.com and mention his personal mobile number so that the Arranger can do the verification and send by short message service (SMS) to complete the registration.
- To enquire about registration and voting procedures please visit the website: www.smartagm.ae or contact the company's Investor Relation by phone no: 06-5695666 / e-mail: scidcho@eim.ae
- Shareholders can view **Financial Statements** for the fiscal year ended **31/12/2025** Corporate **Governance Report, & Sustainability Report for 2025, Company's "Integrated Report"** and any documents related to the General Assembly Meeting on the websites: www.sharjahcement.com / www.adx.ae and the Guide on Investor rights in Securities, on SCA's official website on the following link: <https://www.sca.gov.ae/ar/services/minority-investor-protection.aspx>
For inquiries, please contact one of the following phones: 06/5695666- 5684681-5686102
Board of Directors

Explanatory disclosure on the approval of Powers of Attorney

According to Clauses 1 & 2 of Article 40 of the Corporate Governance Manual, we would like to inform the shareholders with the following:

- Each shareholder who has the right to attend the general assembly may delegate someone from other than the Board members or the staff of the company, or securities brokerage company, or its employees, to attend on his behalf as per a written delegation stating expressly that the agent has the right to attend the general assembly and vote on its decision. A delegated person for a number of shareholders shall not have more than (5%) of the Company issued capital after gaining that delegation. Persons lacking legal capacity and are incompetent must be represented by their legal representatives.
- The shareholder signature on the power of attorney referred to in clause No. "1" shall be the signature approved by any of the following entities:
 - Notary Public.
 - Chamber of Commercial or Economic Department in the country.
 - Bank or company licensed in the country, provided that the agent shall have an account with any of them.
 - Financial Markets licensed in the country.
 - Any other entity licensed to perform attestation works.
- The Proxy form shall include the name & contact number(s) of the shareholder and the brokerage firm who approved the proxy. This form / power of attorney / delegation / Proxy is a guiding form whereby the client has the power to issue the Proxy in accordance with the limits and powers he deems appropriate, all of this is with the obligation that the signature of the shareholder mentioned in the proxy be the signature approved by / with one of the above-mentioned authorities. For further inquiries or clarification please contact us at 06/5695666 & or email us at scidcho@eim.ae

Regulatory Notice:

Shareholders who have many questions or need a detailed clarification on any subject on the agenda should send their questions no later than 24 hours before the meeting. To prevent disruption of the meeting process, questions will only be addressed the following day.



Announcement of the opening of nominations for membership of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of Sharjah Cement and Industrial Development Company (PJSC) – Sharjah is pleased to inform shareholders that nominations for membership of the Board of Directors will open on **Thursday, 12 March 2026** and close on **Saturday, 21 March 2026**. Any shareholder who meets the requirements for nomination for membership of the Board of Directors may nominate himself by submitting an application to the company's management at its headquarters in ((Al Hosn Tower – 14th Floor – Banks Street – Al Ruwla – Al Marijah – Emirate of Sharjah)), or by submitting an electronic application to the company via email: scidcho@eim.ae. The application must be accompanied by a brief profile of the candidate, specifying the capacity in which they are being nominated (executive, non-executive, or independent).

General Conditions:

- The number of members to be elected and/or appointed to the Board of Directors is nine (9).**
- The nomination period shall remain open for ten (10) days from the date of the announcement, in accordance with Article (9) of the Chairman of the Board of Directors' Resolution No. (3/R.M) of 2020 regarding the adoption of the Corporate Governance Guide for Public Joint Stock Companies and its amendments.**
- Any shareholder who nominates himself for membership of the Board of Directors must meet the conditions set out in Federal Decree-Law No. (32) of 2021 on commercial companies and the Authority's Board of Directors Resolution No. (3/R.M) of 2020 on the adoption of the Public Joint Stock Companies Governance Manual and its amendments.**
- Each application must be accompanied by all the documents specified in Article (10) of the Authority's Resolution No. (3/R.M) of 2020 and its amendments regarding the adoption of the Governance Manual.**
- After the closing of nominations, a candidate may not withdraw his nomination or transfer it to another person.**
- The company shall publish the names of the candidates and relevant nomination information on the notice board at its headquarters and on its website www.sharjahcement.com (two days) before the general assembly meeting.**
- The Capital Market Authority and the market will be provided with a list of candidates after the closing of nominations.**