

IAF HUMAN SPACEFLIGHT SYMPOSIUM (B3)
Governmental Human Spaceflight Programmes (Overview) (1)

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UAE ASTRONAUTS PROGRAMME ZAYED AMBITION MISSION ONE TO THE INTERNATIONAL
SPACE STATION

Abstract

The first UAE Astronaut Programme, to select the first UAE astronaut to represent the Arab region in the International Space Station (ISS) and conduct science experiments in microgravity environment, then apply it on earth and compare the results aiming to create a knowledge based economy for manned space missions. The selection process of the first Emirati astronauts was well planned and implemented with the support of the international space agencies to achieve the programme objectives and make a successful mission. Taking candidates in different steps starting by online application submission, basic and advanced medical and psychometric tests, initial and final interviews, and then announcing the first two Emirati astronauts Hazzaa AlMansoori and Sultan AlNeyadi to raise the UAE flag in the ISS. Making the vision of the late Sheikh Zayed comes true, spending 7d 21h 01m 38s onboard ISS, completed 128 orbits around earth, and conducting Emirati night to highlight UAE's history and achievements and sharing three dishes of Emirati space food with the other astronauts.