



Press Release

IHC, Sirius and FAB Receive Central Bank Approval to Launch UAE Dirham-Backed Stablecoin DDSC on ADI Chain

- Central Bank of the UAE approval enables DDSC to go live as a fully regulated, UAE Dirham-backed stablecoin
- DDSC enters operational deployment, building on the stablecoin initiative first announced by IHC and FAB in April 2025
- Designed for institutional use cases including payments, settlement, treasury management, and trade flows
- DDSC will operate on ADI Chain, providing scalable, compliant blockchain infrastructure for the UAE's digital economy

Abu Dhabi, UAE – 11 February 2026: IHC, Sirius International Holding, and First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB) today announced that the Central Bank of the UAE (CBUAE) has approved the UAE dirham-backed stablecoin DDSC to go live, marking a significant milestone in the UAE's regulated digital finance landscape. DDSC will operate on ADI Chain, an institutional Layer-2 blockchain developed by the Abu Dhabi-based ADI Foundation.

DDSC builds on the stablecoin initiative first announced in April 2025 by IHC and FAB, and now enters its operational phase with Sirius International Holding, IHC's technology-focused subsidiary, joining the project to support deployment, integration and institutional adoption.

Designed as a compliant digital financial instrument for institutional and government-led use cases, DDSC is positioned to support high-value applications with a trusted regulatory framework, including:

- Payments and collections
- High-value settlement and treasury operations
- Trade and supply-chain flows
- Programmable financial services for regulated entities

DDSC is expected to be made available to FAB customers through multiple approved platforms, supporting institutional and enterprise use cases while maintaining the highest standards of compliance, transparency, and operational integrity.

DDSC will operate on the ADI Chain, purpose-built for governance, scalability, and institutional performance. ADI Chain is designed to bridge traditional financial systems with blockchain-enabled digital asset ecosystems, enabling regulated entities to participate without compromising on oversight, security, or compliance.



The launch of DDSC reinforces the UAE's position at the forefront of regulated digital finance and reflects the growing maturity of stablecoins as a core component of modern financial infrastructure.

Syed Basar Shueb, CEO of IHC, said: "DDSC marks a defining milestone in the UAE's digital finance journey. With the Central Bank's approval and our transition into live operation, we are delivering trusted, institutional-grade infrastructure that strengthens resilience, accelerates innovation, and expands what is possible in regulated digital payments. As a UAE dirham-backed, programmable stablecoin, DDSC is designed to modernize payments, settlement, and treasury workflows, while enabling secure, automated value transfer, including future machine-to-machine transactions and trade between AI agents as the autonomous economy evolves."

Futoon Hamdan AlMazrouei, Group Head of Personal, Business, Wealth and Privileged Client Banking Group at First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB), added: "This milestone underscores that stablecoins can be integrated responsibly into the financial system when built to meet rigorous regulatory and risk requirements. As the UAE's global bank, FAB is enabling DDSC to seamlessly combine regulatory oversight with blockchain infrastructure, providing secure, scalable solutions that support institutional and government clients across the UAE's evolving digital economy."

Ajay Hans Raj Bhatia, Group CEO of Sirius International Holding, commented: "With DDSC now live, we are entering a new phase of regulated digital finance. Sirius is proud to support this national initiative by helping accelerate adoption and unlock real-world institutional applications, enabled by ADI's sovereign blockchain infrastructure and underpinned by the UAE's clear regulatory leadership."

With approval to go live, DDSC now enters its operational phase, representing a substantive step forward in aligning institutional finance with the evolving digital-asset economy.

-ENDS-

Notes to editors:

About IHC:

Established in 1999, IHC has become the most valuable holding company in the Middle East and one of the world's largest investment firms, with a market capitalization of AED 876.3 billion (USD 239 billion). Since then, it has transformed to represent a new generation of investors. IHC's commitment to sustainability, innovation, and economic diversification spans over 1,300



subsidiaries, driving growth across 4 key sectors: Technology, Infrastructure, Financial Services and Consumer.

IHC continually looks beyond the stand-alone value of its assets for opportunities, stepping outside of traditional approaches and artificial barriers to unlock opportunities across its portfolio, enabling sector-agnostic Dynamic Value Networks and creating results that are often much greater than the sum of their parts.

At IHC, we take our responsibility to shareholders, customers, and employees seriously. Our commitment to responsible investment ensures that we create sustainable value by staying connected to the communities we serve, making a positive difference with every investment.

www.ihcuae.com

About Sirius International Holding:

Sirius International Holding, a subsidiary of International Holding Company (IHC) headquartered in Abu Dhabi, stands at the forefront of the future of sustainability through technology and the digital transformation landscape. With a vision to drive profound change and ignite the possibilities of a better future, Sirius International Holding comprises of more than 20 subsidiaries globally, each contributing to shape today's health, climate and digital eco-system.

www.siriusholding.com

About First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB):

Headquartered in Abu Dhabi with a global footprint beyond 20 markets, FAB is the finance and trade gateway to the Middle East and North Africa region (MENA). With total assets of AED 1.40 trillion (USD 382 billion) as of December-end 2025, FAB is among the world's largest banking groups. The bank provides financial expertise to its wholesale and retail client franchise across three business units, including Investment Banking & Markets, Wholesale Banking, and Personal, Business, Wealth & Privileged Client Banking Group.

FAB is listed on the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange (ADX) and rated Aa3/AA-/AA- by Moody's, S&P, and Fitch, respectively, with a stable outlook. On sustainability, FAB holds an MSCI ESG rating of 'AA' and is also ranked among the top 6% of banks globally by Refinitiv's ESG Scores and ranked the Best diversified bank in MENA by Sustainalytics ESG Risk Rating.

For more information, please visit the website: www.bankfab.com



To view the bank's latest disclosures and announcements, please visit:

www.bankfab.com/en-ae/about-fab/investor-relations

For media-related queries, please contact the Communications team on

PRandmedia@bankfab.com

About the ADI Foundation

The ADI Foundation is an Abu Dhabi-based organization creating blockchain infrastructure that empowers governments and institutions to accelerate the growth of digital economies.

The Foundation was founded by Sirius International Holding, the technology-focused subsidiary of IHC. ADI Foundation is catalyzing large-scale social and economic inclusion by bringing 1 billion people globally into the digital economy by 2030, building on a strong foundation of the 500+ million people already within its project ecosystem.

For more information, please visit: www.adi.foundation

Media Contacts

Simon Hailes

Managing Director, Head of Edelman Smithfield Middle East

IHC@edelmansmithfield.com

+971 50 973 1173