



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
MINISTRY OF CLIMATE CHANGE
& ENVIRONMENT

Regulating Falconry in the UAE: Registration, Permits & Conservation

October 2026



Introduction

This presentation demonstrates the UAE's commitment to raptor conservation through international agreements, national legislation, and a regulatory framework that directly supports the objectives of the Saker Falcon Global Action Plan (SakerGAP)

(SakerGAP) key objectives:

Protect habitats
and prey for Saker
Falcons

Apply ex situ
conservation to
reduce pressure on
wild populations

Enforce science-
based regulations
on sustainable use

Engage
stakeholders and
raise awareness

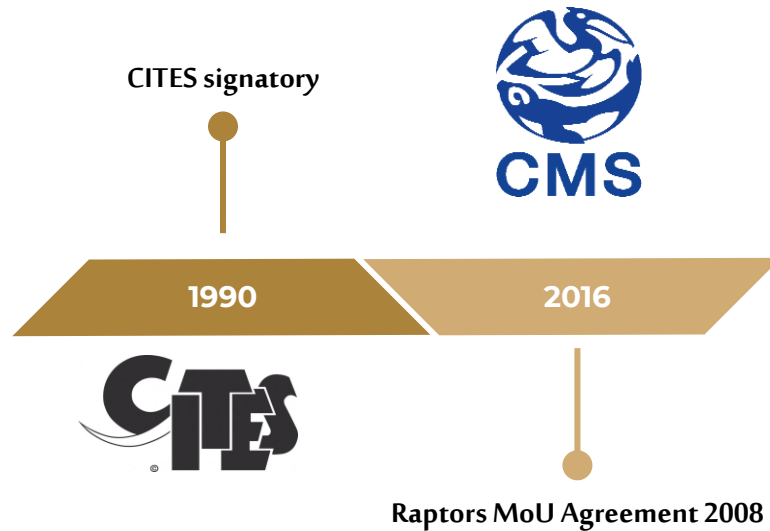


Falconry :A Symbol of Heritage and Identity

- Falcons hold a special place in Emirati culture and history.
- A deep-rooted tradition symbolizing pride, bravery, and the bond between humans and nature.
- Falconry is a UNESCO-recognized intangible cultural heritage.
- The late Sheikh Zayed laid the foundation for sustainable falconry practices.

UAE Commitments to International Falcon Conservation

- The UAE upholds its international conservation role through active enforcement of CITES, CMS, and the Raptors MoU, ensuring the regulation of falcon trade and the protection of migratory raptors.



UAE Legislations

1990

Federal Law No. 24

- Bans hunting, possession, or trade of falcons without a permit.

2002

Federal Law No. 11

- Regulates international trade in endangered species; includes penalties.



UAE Legislations

2025

Federal Law No. 5

- Strict penalties of up to 15 years imprisonment and AED 2 million for importing, re-exporting, or introducing from the sea any CITES-listed species without a valid permit from the national administrative authority.



Regulatory Framework

The UAE has developed one of the world's most comprehensive regulatory systems for falcon trade and ownership, fully aligned with CITES and national laws.



CITES Regulations



Ownership Regulations



Falcon Passport



Identification Rings



1. CITES Certificates

Aligned with CITES and Federal Law No. 11 of 2002

MOCCAIE issues digital CITES permits (Appendices I, II & III)

Import: 1 year | Export/Re-export: 6 months

Recognized by 184 CITES member countries

Fully digital with secure QR code verification

 اتفاقية التجارة الدولي بالحيوانات والنباتات المهددة بالانقراض Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora		رقم التصريح / الشهادة PERMIT / CERTIFICATE No. 20AE1256		Original	
3. Importer (Name & Address) Mohamed Ali Ali Egypt		4. Exporter / Re-exporter (name, address & country) ABDULLA ABDULLA ALALI Dubai United Arab Emirates		2. Valid Until 14-12-2021	
1a. Country of Import Egypt		5. Name, address, national seal/stamp and country of Management Authority وزارة البيئة Ministry of Environment P.O. Box 1509 Dubai - P.O. Box: 1509 TEL: +9734 2148444, FAX: +9734 2855822		1b. Total Exported Quota XX	
5. Special Conditions حالات خاصة		6. Description of specimens, including quantity, sex, age and source (see reverse) 10. Appendix (no. and source) (see reverse)		11. Quantity (including units) (50) KG	
7a. Scientific Name (genus and species) and common name of animal or plant Caloenas nicobarica Nicobar Pigeon		7b. Country of Origin* Jordan		7c. Date of Issuance 01-12-2020	
7d. Country of Origin* Jordan		7e. Date of Issuance 01-12-2020		7f. Date of Expiry 02-12-2020	
7g. Country of Origin* Jordan		7h. Date of Issuance 01-12-2020		7i. Date of Expiry 02-12-2020	
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7ef. Country of Origin* Jordan		7ef. Date of Issuance 			

2. Falcon Ownership Regulation

The UAE regulates falcon ownership by requiring registration of captive-bred birds with Ministry-issued closed rings, and provides services for ownership transfer and cancellation when needed.



**Ownership
Regulation**



**Transfer of
Ownership**



**Ownership
Cancellation**



3. Falcon Passports

The UAE was the first country in the world to launch the Falcon Passport to set a global standard for regulating falcon ownership and international movement under CITES.



Introduced in 2002



CITES-compliant document



Permit-free movement



Includes falcon and owner details



Requires closed leg ring

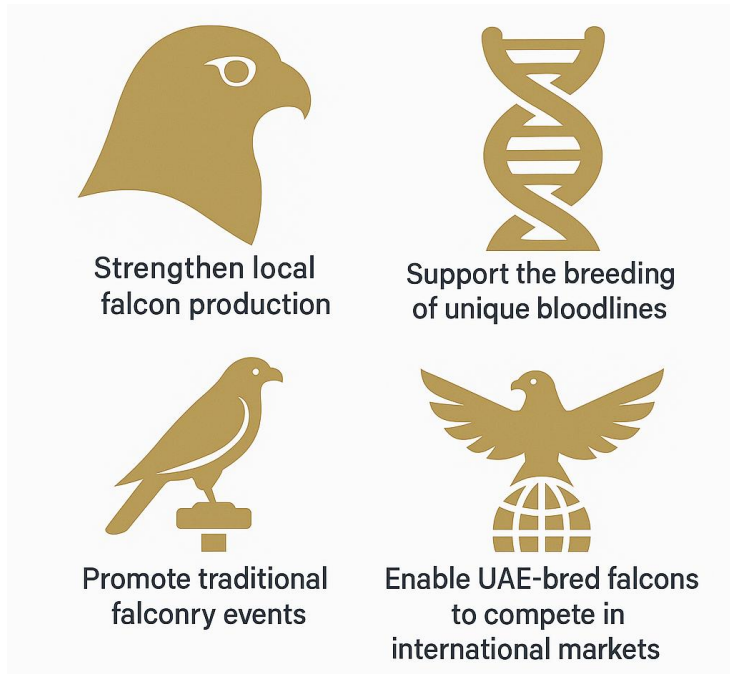


Valid for 3 years



4. Falcon Identification rings

The UAE provides rings to falconers and licensed breeding centers to regulate falcon production and registration, in line with national laws and CITES provisions. These rings—especially closed rings—ensure that falcons used in trade and sports are captive-bred.



Please scan for mor information about UAE falconry Regulation, Conservation and Wildlife Protection



UAE FALCONRY: REGULATION, CONSERVATION & WILDLIFE PROTECTION

UAE Commitments to International Falcon Conservation

The UAE upholds its international conservation role through active enforcement of CITES, CMS, and the Raptors MoU, ensuring the regulation of falcon trade and the protection of migratory raptors.

UAE LEGISLATIONS

1990	MINISTERIAL DECREE NO. 229 Concerning the Issuance of the Falcon's Document	2025
FEDERAL LAW NO. 24 Bans hunting, possession, or trade of falcons without a permit	2019	FEDERAL LAW NO. 5 Strengthens controls on the trade, import, and export of protected species and introduces tougher penalties for violations (by at least 4 years in prison and/or a fine from AED 200,000 up to AED 2,000,000)

REGULATED CAPTIVE BREEDING

Only captive-bred falcons are permitted for use in falconry, trade, and international movement, in accordance with national legislation and CITES regulations

Captive breeding is conducted exclusively by licensed breeding centers, ensuring genetic traceability, animal welfare, and compliance with conservation objectives

The use of official closed identification rings confirms captive origin and prevents the laundering of wild-caught falcons into legal markets

NATIONAL FALCON REGISTRATION SYSTEM



Thank you!

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