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RENOWNED ARCHITECTS, Joakim de Rham of Swiss Bureau Interior Design and Siavosh Adeli of Adeli Interior Architecture & Partners have designed the award-winning Room of the Emirates of the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. One of the largest rooms of the Palais des Nations, it required a complete refurbishment to comply with current technical standards for conference rooms. Interpretation, fire safety and accessibility for disabled persons were among the project's key objectives.

Represented by the Ministry of Presidential Affairs, the client brief requested that the architects integrated strong symbols of their country into the design. The brief also sought to combine functionality and cutting-edge technology, with an aim to merge innovation and cultural heritage in line with architectural

trends apparent in the UAE over a number of past years.

The project's concept was born from the idea of creating a sensation of openness and natural luminosity as the existing Room had no natural light. By allying themselves with the latest technology, the architects developed a 'living' ceiling whose geometry draws its sources from the United Arab Emirates' emblem. The ceiling includes LED technology, enabling the 'sky' to transform from dawn into dusk in real time. The entire Room was also designed in the colours and scenery of the Emirates. A woodwork of sand-coloured blades with undulating effects on the periphery subtly suggest windblown sand dunes, while the back of the presidential zone has a deep blue marble wall with sparse greyish slits, signifying the foam of the Persian Gulf.

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Room of the Emirates - United Nations by Swiss Bureau Interior Design & Adeli Interior Architecture & Partners Ltd

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