Hi [Redacted],

Today COP President-Designate, Dr. Al Jaber, made his first public remarks since being appointed to lead the world’s leading climate conference in 2023, COP28, at the Atlantic Council Global Energy Forum in Abu Dhabi. Excerpts from his speech delivered today emphasize the need for an inclusive, action-oriented approach to transform systems and accelerate trajectories in the fight against climate change. Attached please find the press release that was distributed today, a full transcript of his speech, as well as excerpts below.

The CPD also delivered a second speech at the IRENA Assembly. The additional attached press release highlights the contents of that talk as well.

Please let me know if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Thank you,

[Redacted]

This material is being distributed by Daniel J. Edelman, Inc. on behalf of Masdar. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

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**Investment for the Future**

- Over the last 15 years, the UAE has invested a total of 50 billion US dollars in renewable energy and clean tech globally and plans to invest another 50 billion US dollars in the years ahead. And beyond investing in new energies, it was His Highness who said: “There will be a time when we load the last barrel of oil.” And he continued, “If our plans and investments today are right, it will be a moment for celebration.”

- This call to action by His Highness at the World Government Summit in 2015 clearly underscored his vision for sustainable development, delivered by economic diversification and **enabled by** a rapid transition of our energy systems. And today, **over 70 percent** of our economy is generated outside the oil and gas sector.

**Global Stocktake**

- COP 28 will have particular significance as it will mark the first Global Stock-take, a comprehensive assessment of progress against the goals of the Paris Agreement. We don’t
need to wait for the stock-take to know what it will say. We are way off track. The world is playing catchup when it comes to the key Paris goal of holding global temperatures down to 1.5 degrees. And the hard reality is that in order to achieve this goal, global emissions must fall 43 per cent by 2030.

Vulnerable communities:
- ...the number one priority is clear. We must do more to protect our most vulnerable communities and our most critical systems from extreme weather and biodiversity loss. We must protect our rainforests and invest in nature-based solutions like mangroves that act as powerful carbon sinks, while protecting coastlines and preserving natural ecosystems. We must ensure that our global food system is resilient to the changing weather patterns that threaten farmers around the world.

COP28 –Inclusivity & Action:
- Distinguished delegates, Dear Friends, As an ambitious young nation that continues to evolve, the UAE has grown through partnerships, opened up to new ideas and learned many lessons along the way. We don’t claim to have all the answers. But we believe we have something valuable to contribute. At the crossroads of North and South, East and West, we will listen, we will engage with all those who want to engage, we will build bridges and we will pursue global consensus in this collective effort.
- We want it to be a COP of Solidarity that bridges the global north and south, and includes public and private sectors, scientists and civil society, women and youth. And we want it to be a practical COP, a COP of Action, a COP for AI, a COP that raises ambitions and moves from goals to getting it done across mitigation, adaptation, finance and loss and damage.
- I urge all parties to help make COP 28 a COP of concrete outcomes and practical solutions. We are united by our common goal. We are united by our common humanity. And we look forward to hosting you in the United Arab Emirates, where together we can ensure sustainable development for this generation and all who follow.

Senior Vice President
Edelman
Media Release:

INCOMING COP28 PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE CALLS FOR COP OF ACTION, COP FOR ALL TO DELIVER TRANSFORMATIONAL PROGRESS

Environmental stewardship and climate action have driven UAE's economic diversification and energy transition says Dr. Al Jaber, citing HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan's long-term vision for sustainable development

COP President-Designate Al Jaber emphasizes inclusivity, inviting all to shape the agenda and shift from goals to concrete actions and tangible results

COP28 to be a COP of Action that raises ambition and moves from goals to implementation across mitigation, adaptation, finance and loss and damage

Al Jaber calls for tripling of renewable energy capacity by 2030 and doubling adaptation finance by 2025

Support for the Global South stressed with a call for more accessible, more affordable climate finance and inclusive reform of International Financial Institutions and MDBs

Dr. Al Jaber notes net zero emissions will deliver the biggest market transformation with the greatest economic and human promise since the first Industrial Revolution
Abu Dhabi, UAE – January 14, 2023: In his first speech since being appointed as COP President-Designate, Dr. Al Jaber emphasized the need for an inclusive, action-oriented approach to transform systems and accelerate trajectories in the fight against climate change.

Speaking at the Atlantic Council Global Energy Forum, Dr. Al Jaber said that the UAE had “a clear sense of responsibility and a great sense of urgency” when it came to hosting COP28 and helping to build global ambition and accelerate action on climate change. He underscored the critical need to make up progress to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement.

“We don’t need to wait for the Global Stocktake to know what it will say. We are way off track. The world is playing catchup when it comes to the key Paris goal of holding global temperatures down to 1.5 degrees. And the hard reality is that in order to achieve this goal, global emissions must fall 43 percent by 2030,” Dr. Al Jaber said.

While recognizing the threat of climate change, Dr. Al Jaber emphasized the immense economic benefits of investing in clean energy and climate action, pointing to the UAE as a success story in that regard.

He noted that the UAE is the host country of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the first in the region to commit to the Paris Agreement, the first in the region to submit a Nationally Determined Contribution, and the first to set out a roadmap to net zero.

“Today, over 70 percent of our economy is generated outside the oil and gas sector. And as the CEO of ADNOC and the founding CEO and Chairman of Masdar, I will continue to follow our leadership’s vision and guidance in making today’s energy cleaner, while advancing and investing in the clean energies of tomorrow. And we will use our experience, our ambition and deep network of partnerships to inform our approach to COP28,” Dr. Al Jaber said.

Dr. Al Jaber cited the vision of the UAE’s President as being instrumental to the country’s regional and global leadership in climate action and its role as a global advocate for clean energy.

“Over the last 15 years, the UAE has invested a total of $50 billion in renewable energy and clean tech globally and plans to invest another $50 billion in the years ahead.”

“We want COP28 to transform systems and accelerate 2030 trajectories through game-changing partnerships, solutions, and outcomes. We want it to be a COP of Solidarity that bridges the Global North and South, and includes public and private sectors, scientists and civil society, women and
youth. And we want it to be a practical COP, a COP of Action that raises ambitions and moves from goals to implementation across mitigation, adaptation, finance and loss and damage.”

On mitigation, Dr. Al Jaber called for scaling up of renewables, nuclear energy, hydrogen, carbon capture, energy efficiency, the least carbon intensive oil and gas as well as new technologies yet to be deployed.

“Wind and solar added record growth of 550 gigawatts between 2020 and 2022 and are on course to grow more over the next five years than over the last twenty combined. The market is telling us something. We are at a turning point in history. Low carbon growth is the future. But we must get there much faster.

“We must triple renewable energy generation from 8 to 23 terawatt hours by 2030. We must more than double low carbon hydrogen production to at least 180 million tons for hard to abate sectors. We also need to transform our food and agriculture systems because we know that agriculture accounts for one-third of global emissions.

“Much greater investment in agri-tech, smarter water use and food production is needed to transform this critical sector, alongside all others. And we need to do all this in an accelerated time frame against a fast-approaching deadline. Our world is on its way to being home to 9.7 billion people by 2050 and will have to produce 30 percent more energy than today. And as long as the world still uses hydrocarbons, we must ensure they are the least carbon intensive possible,” Dr. Al Jaber said, as he stressed the need to focus on holding back emissions, not progress.

On adaptation, Dr. Al Jaber said we must do more to protect our most vulnerable communities and our most critical systems from extreme weather and biodiversity loss. He also stressed the need to invest in nature-based solutions like mangroves that act as powerful carbon sinks, while protecting coastlines and preserving natural ecosystems. Furthermore, global food systems need to be resilient to the changing weather patterns that threaten farmers around the world.

Dr. Al Jaber called for adaptation finance for the Global South to be doubled to $40 billion annually by 2025, to enable this progress. He went on to say that climate finance needs to be more affordable and accessible.

“We need to ensure that every concessional dollar is matched by 2 or 3 dollars of private capital. To make this happen, we need to answer the call from the international community for inclusive reform of the multilateral development banks and international financial institutions. And to encourage this
process, the UAE, as chair of the World Bank-IMF development committee, intends to play a proactive, supportive and facilitating role,” Dr. Al Jaber said.

On loss and damage, Dr. Al Jaber urged the world to help the most vulnerable to rebuild after climate-related disasters, build on the progress made in Sharm-El Sheikh and fully operationalize the loss and damage fund.

Concluding his remarks, Dr. Al Jaber said that the UAE as hosts of COP28, and at the crossroads of North and South, East and West, will listen, engage with all those who want to engage, build bridges and pursue global consensus in this collective effort.

“Alongside the UN Climate Change High-Level Champion Her Excellency Razan al Mubarak, and Youth Climate Champion Her Excellency Shamma Al Mazrui, we will work very closely with the UNFCCC to move from ambition to action. And we will mobilize the private sector and all other sectors to deliver greater impact. So let me extend an open invitation to all parties across government, the private sector and civil society. Cooperate, collaborate, share your ideas and talk to us. Together, let’s create a paradigm shift for tangible progress. And let’s remember that reaching net zero emissions will deliver the biggest market transformation with the greatest economic and human promise since the first Industrial Revolution,” Dr. Al Jaber said.

The Atlantic Council Global Energy Forum convenes the world’s top energy and foreign policy decision makers annually to examine the longer-term geopolitical and geo-economic implications of the changing energy system. The forum is held as part of the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week (ADSW), in partnership with the UAE Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, ADNOC and Mubadala.

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For all media enquiries and requests for interviews, please contact comms@climateenvoy.gov.ae.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

COP28 UAE:
- COP28 UAE will take place at Expo City Dubai from November 30–December 12, 2023. The Conference is expected to convene over 70,000 participants, including heads of state, government officials, international industry leaders,
private sector representatives, academics, experts, youth, and non-state actors.

- As mandated by the Paris Climate Agreement, COP28 UAE will deliver the first ever Global Stocktake — a comprehensive evaluation of progress against climate goals.
- The UAE will lead a process for all parties to agree upon a clear roadmap to accelerate progress through a pragmatic global energy transition and a “leave no one behind” approach to inclusive climate action.

UAE’s Track Record of Climate Action:
The UAE’s selection as the host country for COP28 reinforces its long track record of ambitious action on climate change. The UAE supports this vision at home and globally.
- The UAE was the first in the region to sign and ratify the Paris Agreement, commit to an economy-wide reduction in emission as well as to announce a Net Zero by 2050 strategic initiative.
- In response to the challenge to all nations to accelerate progress at COP26 in Glasgow, the UAE was one of only two dozen countries to revise its climate targets, raising its 2030 reduction target from 23.5% to 31% by 2030.

At home:
- The UAE is diversifying its own energy mix:
  - It is the first to deploy peaceful nuclear power.
  - It has established three of the largest and lowest-cost solar plants in the world and has set new records for the most-cost competitive solar and wind in the UAE and worldwide.
  - It is the first country in the region to deploy industrial-scale carbon capture technology.
  - It is a pioneer and driver of hydrogen energy.
  - It is actively investing to lower the carbon impact of hydrocarbon fuels.

International Leadership:
- To date, the UAE has invested $50 billion in renewable energy in 70 countries and has pledged to invest over $50 billion in clean energy projects at home and abroad over the next decade.
- Since 2009, the UAE has hosted the Headquarters of the International Renewable Energy Agency.
- The UAE and the US launched the Partnership to Accelerate Transition to Clean Energy (PACE), a new clean energy framework in November 2022 to catalyze $100 billion in financing, investment, and other support to deploy 100GW of clean energy by 2035, especially in developing countries.
Media Release:

UAE ADDRESSES THE 13TH SESSION OF IRENA ASSEMBLY

Speaking on behalf of H.H. Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, H.E. Dr. Al Jaber reaffirms the UAE’s full support in advancing IRENA’s mission

UAE has seen the benefits of adopting renewable energy first-hand, and working with IRENA, it will champion innovation and ambition to transition global energy systems

Dr. Al Jaber notes that global renewable energy generating capacity needs to triple over the next seven years and IRENA has a critical role to play in leading that global acceleration

Abu Dhabi, UAE – January 14, 2023: On behalf of His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, His Excellency Dr. Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology and President-Designate of the 28th Session of the UN Climate Change Conference (COP 28), addressed the 13th session of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) Assembly.

Delivering his remarks, Dr. Al Jaber reaffirmed the UAE’s full support in advancing IRENA’s mission and said the UAE will continue to be its closest partner and strongest advocate. He noted that no sector offers as much potential as renewable energy and never has IRENA’s mission been more important than in the crucial years ahead of us.

"Since its foundation, IRENA has paved the way for the extraordinary growth in renewable energy capacity that we have seen worldwide. IRENA has been at the forefront of this growth, guiding supportive policies and encouraging new technologies that have led to lowered costs."
“Last year, renewables accounted for 81% of all new energy capacity. And the sector is now on course to expand more in the next five years, than over the last twenty years combined. With wind and solar now the most affordable new energy sources, the economic case has already been proven.”

“Over the next seven years, we will need to more than triple renewable generating capacity worldwide. The world must move much faster than ever before. And IRENA has a critical role to play in leading that global acceleration across all sectors, all regions and all communities,” Dr. Al Jaber said.

To meet the scale and pace of change, IRENA will need to adapt and innovate, according to Dr. Al Jaber. He cited the Energy Transition Accelerator Financing Platform (ETAF), which was launched on the sidelines of COP 26, as a good example of this and noted that the UAE has already committed to $400 million in initial funding to support the platform which is helping to target funding for emerging economies.

Dr. Al Jaber went on to share insights on how the UAE is reaping the benefits of being an early mover in renewable energy.

“Seventeen years ago, we launched a plan to explore its potential, and the benefits soon became clear. We have built the world’s largest and lowest cost solar arrays that are fundamental to our net zero development pathway. We have also invested $50 billion in renewable energy, on six continents around the world. Through these investments we have seen that you can be pro-climate and pro-growth.”

“Throughout this journey, IRENA has been a supportive guide and continues to show the way. We aim to leverage IRENA’s partnership and support for the benefit of the world at COP 28. Working hand-in-hand with IRENA, the UAE will champion innovation and ambition to transition global energy systems. We will propose transformative solutions that are based on science and fact, backed by policy, and endorsed by industry. In short, we will leave no stone unturned in the pursuit of inclusive climate progress,” Dr. Al Jaber said.

Concluding his remarks, Dr. Al Jaber extended an open invitation for partnership and collaboration to create a paradigm shift for tangible progress and help ensure that COP 28 UAE delivers the needed climate transformation.
The IRENA Assembly brings together Heads of State/Government, Ministers and energy decision-makers among its Membership and States-in-Accession, as well as multilateral organisations, global stakeholders and private actors to take stock of operational plans and policies and highlight the concerted action undertaken to implement the energy transition across countries, regions, and the world.

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Your Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen... welcome to the United Arab Emirates, to Abu Dhabi and to the Seventh Atlantic Council Global Energy Forum.

Thank you Fred for your leadership, for your partnership and for making sure that we always have the right mix of expertise participating in this forum.

As the opening event of Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week, this forum helps set the energy agenda for the year ahead. And, as the UAE prepares to host COP 28, the Emirates Climate Conference, this year carries a very special significance.

The UAE approaches this task with humility, a clear sense of
Like all countries around the world, the UAE is exposed to the
risks of climate change.

We have always considered environmental stewardship as an
integral part of our economy and view climate action as central to the successful development of our nation.

We are proud to be the host country of IRENA, the first country
in our region to commit to the Paris Agreement, the first in the region to submit a Nationally Determined Contribution, and the first to set out a roadmap to net zero.

And we will continue to focus on this journey.

More than 18 years ago, His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, had a long term vision of the future and took a bold step when he established Masdar.

This was our first major practical and proactive move into the energy transition.

Under His Highness’s guidance, Masdar has grown to become one of the largest renewable energy investors in the world, and is aiming for a 100 GW portfolio by 2030.

Over the last 15 years, the UAE has invested a total of 50 billion US dollars in renewable energy and clean tech globally and plans to invest another 50 billion US dollars in the years ahead.

And beyond investing in new energies, it was His Highness who said: “There will be a time when we load the last barrel of oil.” And he continued, “If our plans and investments today are right, it will be a moment for celebration”

This call to action by His Highness at the World Government Summit in 2015 clearly underscored his vision for sustainable development, delivered by economic diversification and enabled by a rapid transition of our energy systems.

And today, over 70 percent of our economy is generated outside the oil and gas sector.

And as the founding CEO and Chairman of Masdar, and the CEO of ADNOC, I will continue to follow our leadership’s vision and guidance in making today’s energy cleaner, while advancing and investing in the clean energies of tomorrow.

And we will use our experience, our ambition and deep network of partnerships to inform our approach to COP28.

During the course of the year ahead, we will work closely with the COP27 Egyptian Presidency, the UNFCCC Secretariat and all relevant parties to build on and accelerate the progress made before us.

Yet we must be honest with ourselves about how much progress we have actually achieved,
and how much further and faster we truly need to go.

Of course, we have collectively achieved major milestones along our journey. In Glasgow, 90 percent of the world’s economies committed to net zero by 2050.

Sharm el Sheikh elevated the voices of the Global South, put loss and damage firmly on the agenda and started to address reforming the climate finance system.

COP 28 will have particular significance as it will mark the first Global Stock-take, a comprehensive assessment of progress against the goals of the Paris Agreement.

We don’t need to wait for the stock-take to know what it will say.

We are way off track.

The world is playing catchup when it comes to the key Paris goal of holding global temperatures down to 1.5 degrees.

And the hard reality is that in order to achieve this goal, global emissions must fall 43 per cent by 2030.

To add to that challenge, we must decrease emissions at a time of continued economic uncertainty, heightened geopolitical tensions and increasing pressure on energy security.

Ladies and Gentlemen there is no other way to really address our climate challenge. We need to make transformational progress.

And for that to happen we must be prepared... to transform the process with the support of all parties.

We want COP28 to transform systems and accelerate 2030 trajectories through game-changing partnerships, solutions, and outcomes.

We want it to be a COP of Solidarity that bridges the global north and south, and includes public and private sectors, scientists and civil society, women and youth.

And we want it to be a practical COP, a COP of Action, a COP for All, a COP that raises ambitions and moves from goals to getting it done across mitigation, adaptation, finance and loss and damage.

And allow me to elaborate on those one by one:

On mitigation, we know what many of the solutions are. Scaling renewables and nuclear and hydrogen and carbon capture and energy efficiency and of course the least carbon intensive oil and gas as well as new technologies yet to be deployed.

Wind and solar added record growth of 550 GW between 2020 and 2022 and are on course to grow more over the next five years than over the last twenty combined.

The market is telling us something. We are at a turning point in history.

Low carbon growth is the future. But we must get there much
faster We must triple renewable energy generation from 8 to 23 terawatt hours by 2030.
We must more than double low carbon hydrogen production to at least 180 million tonnes for hard to abate sectors.
We also need to transform our food and agriculture systems because we know that agriculture accounts for one third of global emissions.
Much greater investment in agri-tech, smarter water use and food production is needed to transform this critical sector, alongside all others.
And we need to do all this in an accelerated time frame against a fast-approaching deadline.
And let me just add this.
Our world is on its way to being home to 9.7 billion people by 2050 and will have to produce 30 per cent more energy than today.
We need to ensure a just transition that leaves no-one behind.
And as long as the world still uses hydrocarbons, we must ensure they are the least carbon intensive possible.
We will work with the energy industry on accelerating decarbonization, reducing methane and expanding hydrogen.
Let’s keep our focus on holding back emissions, not progress.
On adaptation, the number one priority is clear.
We must do more to protect our most vulnerable communities and our most critical systems from extreme weather and biodiversity loss.
We must protect our rainforests and invest in nature-based solutions like mangroves that act as powerful carbon sinks, while protecting coastlines and preserving natural ecosystems.
We must ensure that our global food system is resilient to the changing weather patterns that threaten farmers around the world.
And to enable this progress, we must double adaptation finance for the Global South to 40 billion dollars annually, by 2025.
On climate finance, we need more, we need it to be more affordable and we need it to be much more accessible.
We need to ensure that every concessional dollar is matched by 2 or 3 dollars of private capital.
To make this happen, we need to answer the call from the international community for inclusive reform of the multilateral development banks and international financial institutions.
And to encourage this process, the UAE, as chair of the World Bank-IMF development committee, intends to play a proactive, supportive and facilitating role.
And on loss & damage, we need to help the most vulnerable to rebuild after climate-related disasters.
Together with the international community, we must build on the progress made in Sharm el Sheikh and fully operationalise the loss and damage fund.
Distinguished delegates, Dear Friends,
As an ambitious young nation that continues to evolve, the UAE has grown through partnerships, opened up to new ideas and learned many lessons along the way.
We don’t claim to have all the answers.
But we believe we have something valuable to contribute.
At the crossroads of North and South, East and West, we will listen, we will engage with all those who want to engage, we will build bridges and we will pursue global consensus in this collective effort.
Together with the High Level Champion Her Excellency Razan al Mubarak, and Youth Champion Her Excellency Shamma Al Mazrui, we will work very closely with the UNFCCC to move from ambition to action.
And we will mobilize the private sector and all other sectors to deliver greater impact.
So let me extend an open invitation to all parties across government, the private sector and civil society.
Cooperate, collaborate, share your ideas and talk to us.
I am here to listen and engage.
We can only succeed if we have open and constructive dialogue.
Let us, together, create a paradigm shift for tangible progress.
And let’s remember that reaching net zero emissions will deliver the biggest market transformation with the greatest economic and human promise since the first Industrial Revolution.
I urge all parties to help make COP 28 a COP of concrete outcomes and practical solutions.
We are united by our common goal.
We are united by our common humanity.
And we look forward to hosting you in the United Arab Emirates, where together we can ensure sustainable development for this generation and all generations to come.
Thank you.