Hi [Name],

Earlier today, COP28 President-Designate Dr. Sultan Al Jaber convened a Changemakers Majlis comprised of leaders from heavy emitting sectors, HH Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Secretary John Kerry, and S&P Vice Chairman Daniel Yergin to discuss how heavy emitting industries can rapidly decarbonize their operations. CEOs in attendance included NOC CEOs and others like the CEO of Baker Hughes, Lorenzo Simonelli, who convened a day ahead of ADIPEC.

The production of oil & gas, cement, steel and aluminum account for around a quarter of all global carbon emissions, and discussions were focused on the following: commercializing the hydrogen value chain; scaling carbon capture technologies; eliminating methane from energy; increasing renewables in grids; and biofuels as an enabler of decarbonization.

A Majlis is a place where people come together to discuss shared interests; it serves an important role both in the home and for business meetings in the UAE and the Arab world.

During the meeting, Dr. Al Jaber told the assembled gathering, “For years, the energy industry has been without a seat at the climate change table. But you can’t just ask for it. You need to earn it. And candidly, I don’t think the industry has yet done enough to earn that seat.”

Further details are contained in the press release attached. Let me know if you have any questions.

Many thanks,

[Name]

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PRESS RELEASE

COP28 President-Designate Calls on Energy and Hard-to-Abate Industries to Work Together to Drive Decarbonization

- COP28 President-Designate, Dr. Sultan Al Jaber, convenes CEO-level gathering, with representatives from energy, cement, heavy transportation, steel and aluminium sectors to develop and drive actionable solutions to the energy transition.
- “Changemakers’ Majlis” occurs day before ADIPEC energy conference and brings together biggest industries, energy producers, technology, finance and investment for the first time to collaborate across both the supply and demand of energy.
- Majlis attended by HH Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Member of the Abu Dhabi Executive Council, John Kerry, US Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, and was moderated by Dr. Daniel Yergin, Vice Chairman, S&P Global.
- Responding to the Global Stocktake, Dr. Al Jaber states “we know that we are not on track; we need to deliver a 43% emission reduction by 2030. I believe we can only keep 1.5 within reach if we are willing to collaborate.”
- Fast-tracking a just and orderly energy transition by rapidly building the energy system of the future while decarbonizing the system of today is a key priority of the COP28 Presidential Action Agenda.
- “The world is watching and waiting for real, actionable progress across all sectors – and the energy and hard-to-abate industries have a critical role to play.”
- These sectors “can collaborate to accelerate decarbonization by working on infrastructure, technology, policy and finance together.”
- Changemakers’ Majlis features five breakout sessions focused on fast-tracking the energy transition through providing actionable solutions.
- The five breakout sessions covered commercializing the hydrogen value chain, scaling carbon capture technologies, eliminating methane from energy, increasing renewables in grids, and biofuels as an enabler of decarbonization.
- “Technology and finance are the key to getting us from where we are to where we need to be.”
- COP28 Presidency preparing further announcements on its Agenda to fast-track the energy transition in weeks ahead.
Abu Dhabi, 1 October, 2023: COP28 President-Designate, Dr. Sultan Al Jaber, today convened a special meeting of industry leaders from the oil & gas, cement, steel, aluminum sectors, and heavy transportation to work together to drive global decarbonization efforts.

“The energy transition is underway – but decarbonization will be faster if we all work together,” Dr. Al Jaber told participants in Abu Dhabi at the COP28 Changemakers’ Majlis: Fast-Tracking the Energy Transition. “Cross-sector collaboration will be indispensable.”

The Majlis was a pioneering gathering bringing together the biggest industries, energy producers, technology, finance and investment for the first time to collaborate on fast-tracking a just and orderly energy transition across both the supply and demand of energy.

As Dr. Al Jaber described to attendees, a “Majlis” is an Arabic term that means sitting room, or a place where people come together to discuss shared interests. A Majlis serves an important role both in the home and for business meetings in the UAE and the Arab world.

The event was also attended by HH Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Member of the Abu Dhabi Executive Council, John Kerry, US Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, and was moderated by Dr. Daniel Yergin, Vice Chairman, S&P Global, and took place the day before the start of the Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition Conference (ADIPEC).

U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry addressed the attendees, calling for action to eliminate methane pollution from the energy sector by the end of this decisive decade and urging additional ambition that recognizes the urgency of the challenge and meets the moment.

Responding to the Global Stocktake, Dr. Al Jaber states “we know that we are not on track; we need to deliver a 43% emission reduction by 2030. I believe we can only keep 1.5 within reach if we are willing to collaborate.”

Dr. Al Jaber highlighted that the production of oil & gas, cement, steel and aluminum account for around a quarter of all global carbon emissions. These sectors “can collaborate to accelerate decarbonization by working on infrastructure, technology, policy and finance together,” he said. “The world is watching and waiting for real, actionable progress across all sectors — and the energy and hard-to-abate industries have a critical role to play.”

The Majlis event included dedicated breakout sessions to develop and drive actionable solutions to the energy transition, focused on the themes of: commercializing the hydrogen value chain; scaling carbon capture technologies; eliminating methane from energy; increasing renewables in grids; and biofuels as an enabler of decarbonization.

Participants discussed how hydrogen holds the greatest promise for a fuel that will enable steel, cement and aluminum plants around the world to eliminate their greenhouse gas emissions but needs support to dramatically scale up.

On carbon capture and storage (CCS), they noted the growing consensus on the necessity of CCS to meet net zero targets and discussed necessary steps to create viable commercial models.
Discussing eliminating methane, there was an acknowledgement that 20% of anthropogenic methane emissions come from the oil and gas sector and determined action would form a significant contribution to global climate action.

To increase renewables in grids, participants spoke of how the ambitious growth targeted faced major challenges from finance, supply chain stresses, and the importance of grids, all of which would require concerted action.

On biofuels as an enabler of decarbonization, they noted the importance of establishing biofuels as cost-competitive alternatives for air and road transit, particularly to hedge against disruptions in electrification.

Speaking at the Majlis, Dr. Al Jaber said, “Technology and finance are the key to getting us from where we are to where we need to be. And the people who can provide that technology are right here in this room.” Dr. Al Jaber continued, “We can find ways of commercializing hydrogen, increasing the efficiency of the electrical grid, speeding the elimination of methane, and increasing the availability of biofuels.”

The President-Designate concluded by calling on the energy industry to play a more active role in the energy transition.

“For years, the energy industry has been without a seat at the climate change table,” he told delegates. “But you can’t just ask for it. You need to earn it. And candidly, I don’t think the industry has yet done enough to earn that seat.”

The Changemakers Majlis was a part of the wider COP28 Presidential Action Agenda to fast-track a just and orderly energy transition by rapidly building the energy system of the future while decarbonizing the system of today.

The COP28 Presidency is preparing further announcements on its Action Agenda to fast track the energy transition in the weeks ahead.

Moderating the session Dr. Daniel Yergin, Vice Chairman, S&P Global, said “This has proved to be a very significant dialogue. It demonstrates the oil and gas industry’s important and wide-ranging contribution to the climate table. Its span includes its depth of knowledge, engineering and scientific capabilities, technology and execution, mastery of global supply chains, as well as its ability to scale and deploy technology, including, crucially, in emerging markets.”

Commenting on the roundtable, the CEO of Uganda National Oil Company, Proscovia Nabbanja said, “In an era where sustainability is paramount, hard-to-abate industries are uniquely positioned. Grounded in strong research, technological advancements, and innovation, we can ride on this capability to deploy decarbonization solutions at scale while meeting the customers’ needs. As we gather at the Changemakers’ Majlis, we must recognize that together we have the potential to adapt and take charge in accelerating decarbonization. Our collective efforts can pave the way for a greener, more sustainable future, showcasing the transformative power of collaboration and determination”.

The Chairman and CEO of Baker Hughes, Lorenzo Simonelli, said “As an energy technology company, Baker Hughes is committed to taking energy forward, making it safer, cleaner, and more efficient for people and the planet. Our participation at COP28 as an Associate Pathways Partner reflects our commitment to address climate change and build partnerships that drive energy security, sustainability and affordability. In 2019, we became one of the first companies in our industry to make a public commitment to...
reduce our operational emissions by 50% by 2030 and achieve net-zero by 2050. We strongly believe that solutions and technologies, in areas such as CCUS, hydrogen, emissions abatement, and digital, can play a significant role in driving a more sustainable future across industries, enabling us to reach our collective targets to tackle climate change.”

The CEO of Emirates Global Aluminium, Abdulnasser Bin Kalban said, “Aluminum is an essential material for decarbonization economy-wide, as part of everything from electricity distribution infrastructure to mass transit systems to solar panels. To decarbonize aluminum production itself, we must work with other industries as many of the technical and commercial challenges are shared. COP28 is playing an important role in bringing industries together to collaborate in the interest of humanity’s future.”

ADIPEC is taking place from 2-5 October at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre and is being held under the theme of “Decarbonizing. Faster. Together.”

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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.”