



Statement By  
**Mr. AbdulKhaleq Bin- Dhaer Al- Yafei**  
Deputy Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates  
To the United Nations  
Before the General Assembly  
At the fifth High Level Meeting on  
**Follow- up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International  
Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review**

New York-7 December 2011

**Mr. President,**

The UAE reaffirms the importance of implementing the recommendations of the Conference on Financing for Development in 2002 and the Doha Declaration of 2008 as they constitute the international integrated mechanism for financing development and the eradication of poverty in the world, and they provide a comprehensive method to confront the growing challenges facing the world in those areas, especially in the light of the current global economic and financial crisis which left its impact on most countries of the world. Therefore, we stress the necessity of strengthening the international cooperation for development including cooperation between North and South, South-South cooperation and trilateral cooperation to overcome the barriers that impede the full implementation of the recommendations of the two conferences. The United Arab Emirates will continue its cooperation with the international community to achieve that goal.

**Mr. President,**

The United Arab Emirates was able to deal with the global economic crisis through precautionary financial policies and measures that enabled us to contain its aftermath as quickly as possible and to continue mobilizing the national resources to implement the development strategies aimed at

developing human resources, implementing economic diversification strategies, expanding the production base and exploiting oil revenues to establish the infrastructure necessary to launch development in other economic sectors. All of which contributed to a continued economic growth despite the global economic slowdown.

In the area of foreign investments, the government's guided initiative and policies on completion of the legal structure and combating corruption, helped in creating an attractive and motivating work and investment environment and enhanced the UAE status as a safe haven for investment in the region. This resulted in a high rate of investment flow to the UAE. According to the international Trade Report for 2010, UAE ranked on top of the Middle East and North Africa, and number 16 globally. In the mean time, there has been a significant increase in the number of national companies and capital investing outside the UAE in various business sectors such as sea ports, tourism, real estate, construction, agriculture, hospitality, communication, finance, and renewable energy.

The UAE presents 0, 33% of its GDP for foreign development assistance, exceeding the (0, 07%) percentage recommended by Monterey, most of which is paid as grants for about 100 developing countries around the world.

**Mr. President,**

The UAE continues to seek new and innovative ways to finance development in the developing countries such as providing education and health care for children and poverty eradication. For instance we have established Partnership with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation with a 50 million dollar donation to provide vaccination for 35 million children in Afghanistan and Pakistan, while a number of organizations in the UAE, such as Dubai care, Noor Dubai, and the UAE Red Crescent, work in partnership with other international organizations to provide education and health care for millions of children in more than 20 developing countries in Africa and Asia.

In the mean time, the UAE is a major member and contributor in a number of international partnerships for long term development assistance to poor countries and countries emerging from conflicts, such as the Group of "Friends of Yemen", "Friends of a democratic Pakistan", the international efforts to rebuild Afghanistan and the Contact group on Piracy off the coasts of Somalia

The UAE has currently been focusing on two vital areas in relation to financing for development locally and internationally: Sustainable energy and food security. Since the UAE has established its strategic role as a major provider of energy from oil and natural gas, it is striving to consolidate this status through playing a leading role in developing solutions for renewable energy and clean technology in a view to prolong investments in natural resources and securing energy to meet the continuing increase in demand resulting from the increase in the world population. The most important investment in this field locally has been the establishment of Masdar City in Abu Dhabi, which is planned to be a global center for research and the development of renewable and sustainable energy technologies. Furthermore, the UAE is one of the major investors in sustainable energy in some of the European countries. It has pledged to provide support to renewable energy projects in small Island development states, and looks forward to further cooperation with those countries in areas of renewable energy.

In regard to food security, the UAE Government is making steady efforts to confront the challenges of water scarcity and arid lands in the country. In addition to investing in water desalination projects locally, the government has been leading national initiatives on natural water resources preservation and storage while encouraging and supporting farmers to make choices that promote saving water and using sustainable farming technologies. On the other hand, the UAE investment in agriculture and irrigation has doubled in Arab countries and developing countries in Africa and Asia to help them deal with food shortage and rising food prices as well as providing additional job opportunities.

In the area of foreign trade, the UAE has entered trade agreements with many of developed and developing countries especially in Africa. Our trade with Africa constitutes 4% of the total foreign trade of UAE. In 2011, our foreign trade achieved a 14% growth.

As for foreign debts, we support debt reduction and debt relief strategies, especially for conflict emerging countries to help them rebuild their economies and envelopment.

**Mr. President,**

The UAE will continue implementing the recommendations of Monterrey and the Doha conference in fulfilling our national commitments and implementing development programs in the country while fulfilling our international commitments in helping developing countries to achieve the internationally agreed development goals.