

Country Statement

Attributed to: His Excellency Dr Abdullah Belhaif Al Nuaimi
Minister of Climate Change and Environment

Event: High-level Dialogue on Energy 2021: A Year of Energy Action

Venue: N/A (pre-recorded)

Date: Friday, September 24, 2021

Brief: The event is the first global gathering on energy under the auspices of the UN General Assembly since the UN Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy in Nairobi in 1981. The forum will convene country representatives to present their energy compacts.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I thank Mr António Guterres and the relevant UN entities, especially Ms Damilola Ogunbiyi, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All and Co-Chair of UN-Energy, for bringing us all here together to accelerate our efforts towards real action. As one of the Global Theme Champions, the United Arab Emirates is honored to be part of the process.

In its national energy compact, the country has reinforced its pathway to a sustainable and affordable energy diversification based on its Energy Strategy 2050 that targets a 50 percent clean energy share by 2050.

Within 10 years, we have grown our renewable energy capacity from mere 100 megawatts in 2013 to 2.8 gigawatts currently. Today, the United Arab Emirates is home to three of the largest-in-capacity and lowest-in-cost solar plants in the world.

To date, we have invested over 40 billion US dollars in clean energy projects locally, and our capacity is on track to reach 14 gigawatts by 2030. Globally, we are proud to have provided over one billion US dollars in aid for renewable energy.

Among the most important factors in achieving our targets are our private sector entities and their own energy compacts.

Masdar – our renewable energy pioneer – continues to lead the sector at home and abroad.

Bee'ah, one of our key players in the waste management industry, is spearheading the use of waste for energy generation and hydrogen production.

Cooperation is an integral part of our work. As a member of the UN Security Council in 2022/23, the UAE promotes the use of renewable energy in peacekeeping missions together with the other member countries, IRENA, and relevant UN entities.

We all know how important access to energy is to achieve all Sustainable Development Goals, so let's use the High-Level Dialogue on Energy as a springboard to a continuing discussion.

Thank you very much.