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**Permanent Mission of the
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
to the United Nations
New York**



البعثة الدائمة
لدولة الامارات العربية المتحدة
لدى الأمم المتحدة
نيويورك

Statement by

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Head of Delegation

**Before the high level segment of
The 15th session of the Committee on Sustainable Development**

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Mr. Chairman,

It gives me great pleasure to express to you and the distinguished members of the bureau, on behalf of the delegation of United Arab Emirates, our gratitude and appreciation for your efforts in directing the work of this committee. We are confident that your long expertise in the field of environment and energy will lead our debates to the anticipated outcomes.

I also would like to thank the Secretary General for his valuable reports on the items of its agenda.

Mr. Chairman,

The United Arab Emirates continues its efforts, on the local, regional and international levels to implement the commitments, to which the international community committed itself, to protect the global environment and advance Sustainable Development in all its aspects. From its conviction of the importance of the international cooperation in this field, the UAE has joined all international and regional treaties on environment and Sustainable Development. It has entered a number of regional and International partnerships in order to push forward the plans and programs related to environment and development, such as launching Zayed International Prize for Environment and Abu Dhabi Declaration on Environment Data. It also signed an agreement to establish a permanent regional office on its lands for the Arab Organization for Industrial Development and Mining. In addition UAE ratified a law on unified industrial system for GCC countries to develop and promote industry in the Gulf countries.

In February 2007, the UAE hosted the world summit on sustainable Energy Resources in Arid regions and it is preparing to host the first World Summit on Energy for the Future in January 2008, in a demonstration of its keen interest and ability to bring together local and international efforts in the area of future energy and advanced technology for energy.

Mr. Chairman,

Through its commitment to protect the environment and achieve sustainable development, the UAE has adopted the National Environment Strategy and its plan of action which succeeded in achieving substantial progress in related areas. In the fields of energy, the country succeeded in applying zero emission policies on all oil related activities, mainstreaming the use of unleaded fuel, and replacing Diesel and heavy fuel with natural gas in the transportation sectors. We also succeeded in expanding the green areas inside the urban cities as well as the desert areas, which consequently will contribute significantly to the reduction of Carbon Dioxide in the air.

Parallel to its efforts in developing the oil industries and energy generation sectors, the UAE, during recent years, paid serious attention to renewable energy resources. It has established a number of experimental projects to generate energy from renewable resources. The optimum of these efforts was reached in March 2006 by announcing the initiative of establishing Abu Dhabi for Future Energy (MASDAR); a complete multifaceted initiative to adopt technologies for sun energy in the UAE.

And in last April the UAE announced, for the first time, the government's strategy, aiming to achieve sustainable development in all sectors. The infra structure sector plays an essential role in such strategy where it focuses on increasing energy efficiency in business projects and defines the most effective ways for energy consumption. The strategy emphasizes the importance of adherence to the laws and requirements of construction with a view to reduce electricity consumption and setting environmental standards in all activities that impact the environment. More over, it advocates the use of technologies for renewable energy in houses, especially big apartments/ houses compounds. Like wise, it underscores the importance of setting measures and specifications for environment friendly equipments and machineries, such as the means of transportations and house appliances, which are required to provide high energy usage efficiency.

Mr. Chairman,

Energy has, still does, played an essential role in the industrial and agricultural development which contributes to the achievement of the strategic goals aiming to meet the needs of the peoples of the world, such as the eradication of poverty, so that higher level of prosperity can be reached. No doubt that to continue the process of development

requires increased resources for energy. Therefore it is important to ensure sufficient resources of energy and secure its flow in order to meet the requirements necessary for economic development in different parts of the world, and to prevent any shortage that would harm the global development efforts.

In the mean time, it is imperative to emphasize that the growing future demand for energy, will not affect the peoples plans for development around the world.

From here we call upon the international community to follow an inclusive, non selective, vision while setting policies and measures related to energy, preservation of environment and development needs. We specifically point to the importance of developing and promoting the use of technologies for efficient energy; developing a system to support researches on clean fissile energy and creating new effective technologies to reduce the green house gases through the use of reabsorbing and injecting techniques. It is important to facilitate the transfer of technology, train and develop environment monitoring networks; support and develop high energy usage industries, as all that plays a major role in achieving the required efficiency energy use, emission reduction and monitoring any unwanted effects.

In conclusion Mr. Chairman, We call for further efforts and support to the international partnership in order to confront the environment and development challenges in the world, and to deal with the underlying causes to their aggravation in the developing countries, such as poverty, armed conflicts, foreign occupation and arms race, in peaceful ways and according to the Charter and the international laws.

Thank you.