

## **Ban Ki-moon, 8th United Nations Secretary, Commends UAE's Leadership for Climate Action and Calls for International Collaboration Leading up to COP28**

Ahead of COP27 and COP28, during a mission trip, Ban Ki-moon congratulates the government of the United Arab Emirates on their climate action efforts and calls for an increase in climate adaptation finance.

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Meeting with Climate Minister

VIENNA, SEOUL, South Korea, and DUBAI, United Arab Emirates, March 3, 2022 /3BL Media/ - Former United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon commended the leadership of UAE on climate action and sustainability and underlined the importance of ever stronger global cooperation for COP27 in 2022 in Egypt and COP28 hosted by UAE in 2023 with bold net zero targets by 2050. Former SG Ban put an emphasis on agricultural adaptation for climate change during consultations with H.E. Dr. Sultan bin Ahmed Al Jaber, UAE Special Envoy for Climate and Minister of Trade and Advanced Industry and H.E. Mariam bint Mohammed Saeed Hareb Almheiri, UAE Minister of Climate Change and Environment.

Addressing H.E. Mariam Almheiri, Ban Ki-moon said; "It is promising to see the advances UAE has made and the ambition with which it will lead the COP28 in 2023. More than 40

countries have joined the UAE and the USA's Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM4C) initiative launched at COP26 and 40 billion dollars have been pledged. I fully support the call for investing in agricultural research and innovation to accelerate adaptation in agriculture and commend the goal of doubling investment in climate smart agriculture by the COP27."

In return the Minister of Climate Change and Environment shared her appreciation for Ban Ki-moon's keynote speech broadcasted on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, at the Food for Future Summit at EXPO 2020 in Dubai. H.E. Almheiri also emphasized the importance of high-level cooperation and investment. The UAE has invested in renewable energy ventures with a total value of around US\$16.8 billion across 70 countries.

Highlighting that the UAE was the first country in the MENA region to promise net zero by 2050, at COP26, H.E. Dr. Sultan bin Ahmed Al Jaber, Special Envoy for Climate also pointed out that the UAE is the first country in the region to commit to an economy-wide reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

UAE is playing a key role in the region and globally as a bridge-builder and trendsetter in cooperation with UNFCCC on adaptation, mitigation and finance. UAE's active engagement on sustainability and climate action also manifests in the continuing developments in Masdar City, the work of IRENA and at recently with EXPO 2020. SG Ban visited all these venues as well as the Global Green Growth Institute UAE office in his function as President and Chairman of the Board of GGGI.

"Only if we all work together a just and fair climate transition can become a reality." SG Ban underlined. Declaring the meetings a success, and calling for further collaboration, Ban Ki-moon mentioned that it's hopeful to see the UAE continue the momentum by hosting the 28th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP28) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2023.

The Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens looks forward to working closely with the United Arab Emirates government for its Elevating Agricultural Adaptation program which calls for financial and political commitments to tackle agricultural adaptation and build resilience of smallholder farmers in the Global South.

### **About Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens**

The Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens' mission is to foster leadership for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Climate Agreement by inspiring current decision makers and empowering the next generation of leaders. Working with governments, civil society, academia, and international organizations the BKMC reaches more than 730,000 people around the world. Located in Vienna, Austria,

the BKMC is co-chaired by the 8th Secretary-General of the UN, Ban Ki-moon and 11th President of the Republic of Austria, Heinz Fischer

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