

Distinguished Co-Chairs, Excellencies, Ladies and gentlemen,

- First and foremost, I extend our gratitude to the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Office of the High Representative for Small Island Developing States, and the Steering Committee on Partnerships for SIDS, for their tireless efforts in addressing SIDS' unique challenges in achieving sustainable development and promoting transformative change.
- It is an honor to receive the UN SIDS Partnerships Award on behalf of Abu Dhabi Fund for Development, representing the United Arab Emirates, and we share this recognition with our esteemed partners and contributors who have been key players in this success.
- Since its inception over 50 years ago, ADFD has been committed to achieving the sustainable development goals globally through cooperation. Climate change, being one of the problems confronted by SIDS, was our driving force to develop climate adaptation and mitigation solutions for SIDS in the Pacific and Caribbean.
- Today, we celebrate the impact of a Partnership; the UAE-Pacific Partnership Fund and the UAE-Caribbean Renewable Energy Fund, a strategic collaboration between the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company (Masdar), and ADFD, along with 26 SIDS governments.
- This Partnership aims to accelerate the transition to renewable energy, reduce reliance on fossil fuels, enhance energy security, and mitigate the impacts of climate change in the Caribbean and Pacific regions.
- Our collective efforts to-date have helped to install 6.4 MW of clean energy across 11 islands in the Pacific, saving 3.7 million dollars of diesel and more than 8 thousand tons of carbon dioxide annually. Additionally, it is expected that a minimum of 15 MW will be installed in the Caribbean islands, saving 7 million dollars of diesel and 14 thousand tons of carbon dioxide annually.
- In doing so, the partnership has brought transformative benefits including innovative solutions, economic prosperity, and women's empowerment.

- Looking ahead, we at ADFD reaffirm our commitment to advancing the sustainable development agenda of small island nations to ensure a brighter and more secure future for their communities.
- Through multi-stakeholder coalitions we forge a renewed sense of cohesiveness, rooted in partnership, and we invite the international community to stand shoulder-to-shoulder in our efforts to build a more sustainable global economy.

Thank you.