Press Release

Ahmad Bin Shafar Participates in COP31 in Türkiye as part of the World Green Economy Organization Delegation

Dubai, UAE, 18 November 2026: H.E. Ahmad Bin Shafar, CEO of Empower, Special Advisor on District Cooling to the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) 'District Energy in Cities' global initiative, and Board Member of the International District Energy Association (IDEA), participated in the 31st Conference of the Parties (COP31) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), hosted by the Republic of Türkiye, as part of the World Green Economy Organization (WGEO) delegation, headed by **H.E. Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, Chairman of WGEO.**

His participation reflects ongoing efforts to accelerate the global transition towards a green economy and advance sustainability initiatives worldwide, amid growing climate challenges, including rising temperatures and the increasing frequency of extreme weather events.

The conference brings together world leaders, policymakers, experts and representatives of international organisations to explore ways to accelerate the implementation of climate commitments and translate them into measurable actions with tangible results. Discussions focus on strengthening international cooperation to reduce emissions, expanding the adoption of renewable energy sources, advancing sustainable infrastructure, and harnessing innovation, technology and artificial intelligence to address pressing environmental challenges and support climate resilience.

"Thanks to the forward-looking vision of our wise leadership, the UAE has consolidated its position as a global leader in climate action and sustainable development, and has set an inspiring example of turning environmental challenges into opportunities for innovation and sustainable economic growth. Dubai embodies this approach through its pioneering projects and initiatives, which have made it a global hub for the green economy and sustainable technologies, and a leading destination for developing the solutions of the future. At Empower, we are proud to contribute to this ambitious journey through our global leadership in the district cooling sector and by developing innovative solutions that support energy efficiency and lower carbon emissions. Our participation as part of the UAE delegation at COP31 reflects our commitment to showcasing the UAE's pioneering experience and contributing to international efforts to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy," said **H.E. Ahmad Bin Shafar**.

"The progress Dubai has made in developing advanced and sustainable infrastructure, guided by the vision and directives of **His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai**, confirms that cities can achieve economic and urban growth while improving resource efficiency and protecting the environment. At Empower, we continue to support this vision by expanding the adoption of sustainable district cooling solutions and deploying the latest technologies to raise operational efficiency and reduce energy

consumption. As global demand for cooling grows, the expertise and solutions Dubai has developed in this sector are becoming increasingly important. We are keen to share our experience with international partners and to broaden cooperation and knowledge exchange. This strengthens the position of the UAE and Dubai in leading the global shift towards more sustainable and resilient cities, supports carbon neutrality goals and helps build a better future for generations to come," **Bin Shafar** added.

Empower continues to strengthen its role in advancing sustainable urban development through district cooling solutions that help reduce energy consumption, lower carbon emissions and improve the infrastructure efficiency of buildings and urban developments. The company also draws on its operational and technical expertise, and works to broaden cooperation and knowledge exchange with relevant entities and organisations, in support of efforts to establish district cooling as an effective solution for achieving sustainability and climate action objectives.

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