Seminar Calls for UK to Follow Abu Dhabi’s Lead on Future Energy

Masdar invites UK government and industry to collaborate on future energy solutions.

Lord Browne: “Masdar is going to be one of the great motors of the world.”

London, July 8, 2008 – Dr. Sultan Al Jaber, CEO of Abu Dhabi's Masdar Initiative, today challenged the United Kingdom to follow Abu Dhabi's lead in developing an affordable and sustainable energy future for the world.

Hosted by HRH The Duke of York, Dr. Al Jaber was part of a wider Abu Dhabi delegation, which included HE Khaldoon Khalifa Al Mubarak, Chairman of the Executive Affairs Authority of Abu Dhabi, to address UK government, business and academic leaders on the issue of sustainable energy at a seminar at Buckingham Palace.

“Energy security, climate change and sustainable development require engaging, aligning and collectively committing to investing in and shaping a better, and more secure future”, Dr. Al Jaber told seminar attendees. “Through Masdar, we want to play a major role in developing solutions that answer present challenges – challenges which are made all the more important due to the limited time we have to solve them” he continued.

Commenting on Masdar’s impact on the United Kingdom's renewable energy agenda, Lord Browne, managing director of Riverstone Holdings, said, “Masdar is an essential activity that we require to investigate and determine a shared alternative energy future. Masdar is going to be one of the great motors of the world.”

Since its inception in 2006, the $15 billion Masdar Initiative has invested in a broad spectrum of renewable energy technologies, from multiple technologies in solar, to wind, geothermal, and carbon management. In February this year, ground was broken for Masdar City, the world's first zero-carbon, zero-waste, car-free city.

Masdar is already working closely with a number of UK companies but is aiming to extend its ties in the country and across Europe. Leading UK architects, Foster & Partners, have been working on the design of Masdar City, the world’s first zero-carbon, zero-waste, car-free city powered by renewable energy. Masdar is also working with BP and Rio Tinto to build what will be the world’s largest hydrogen-fired power plant producing around 500 MW of clean power.

“The United Kingdom has a proud tradition of technological innovation and an extraordinary industrial history - and we want to tap into that space,” Dr Al Jaber said. “Masdar is actively seeking British companies to invest in, and partner with, across a wide array of renewable and clean technologies.”

His Royal Highness said: “Masdar provides an extraordinary opportunity for British businesses to become involved in one of the world’s most exciting future energy projects. It’s a real pleasure to be able to facilitate this seminar at Buckingham Palace. I hope it'll provide a springboard from which the UK will be able to take advantage of the commercial and educational opportunities available.”

At the seminar, H.E. Al Mubarak discussed Abu Dhabi’s future growth and development plans. Also speaking at the event were RH John Hutton, MP Secretary of State for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform; Lord Foster, chairman of Foster and Partners; Sir John Rose CEO Rolls Royce who all discussed the opportunities for UK companies to engage with Masdar and Abu Dhabi.
Following the seminar, H.E. Al Mubarak and Dr Al Jaber met with her Majesty the Queen and also met with members of the royal family. Later, Dr. Sultan met with Members of Parliament in Westminster Parliament. The seminar was an opportunity for UK Parliamentarians to hear how the Abu Dhabi Government had taken the bold step to establish the Masdar Initiative. During the seminar, Dr. Al Jaber discussed the current eco-town agenda in the UK and pledged to share insights from Masdar City.

###

**About Masdar**
The Masdar Initiative is Abu Dhabi’s multi-faceted, multi-billion dollar investment in the development and commercialization of innovative technologies in renewable, alternative and sustainable energies as well as sustainable design. Masdar is driven by the Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company (ADFC), a wholly owned company of the government of Abu Dhabi through the Mubadala Development Company. In January 2008, Abu Dhabi announced it will invest $15 billion in Masdar, the largest single government investment of its kind. For more information about the Masdar Initiative, please visit [www.masdaruae.com](http://www.masdaruae.com).