

09 June 2026

# CEO Roundtable

Energy Security Takes  
Centre Stage: What  
It Means for Climate  
Ambition



The Al-Attiyah Foundation is proudly supported by:



# AGENDA

Tuesday, 09<sup>th</sup>  
June 2026

**10:00 AM** Coffee and Networking

**10:30 AM** Opening Remarks

**10:40 AM** Moderated Discussion

**12:15 PM** Closing Comments

**12:35 PM** Lunch



## CEO Roundtable Series

His Excellency Abdullah Bin Hamad Al-Attiyah, Chairman of the Al-Attiyah Foundation, launched the CEO Roundtable Series and Dialogues to provide a platform for knowledge exchange and support for the global community in the quest towards a sustainable energy future. All guests have the opportunity to share their opinions and insights in what is always a lively and thought-provoking discussion.

*\*The meeting takes place under the Chatham House Rule whereby participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.*



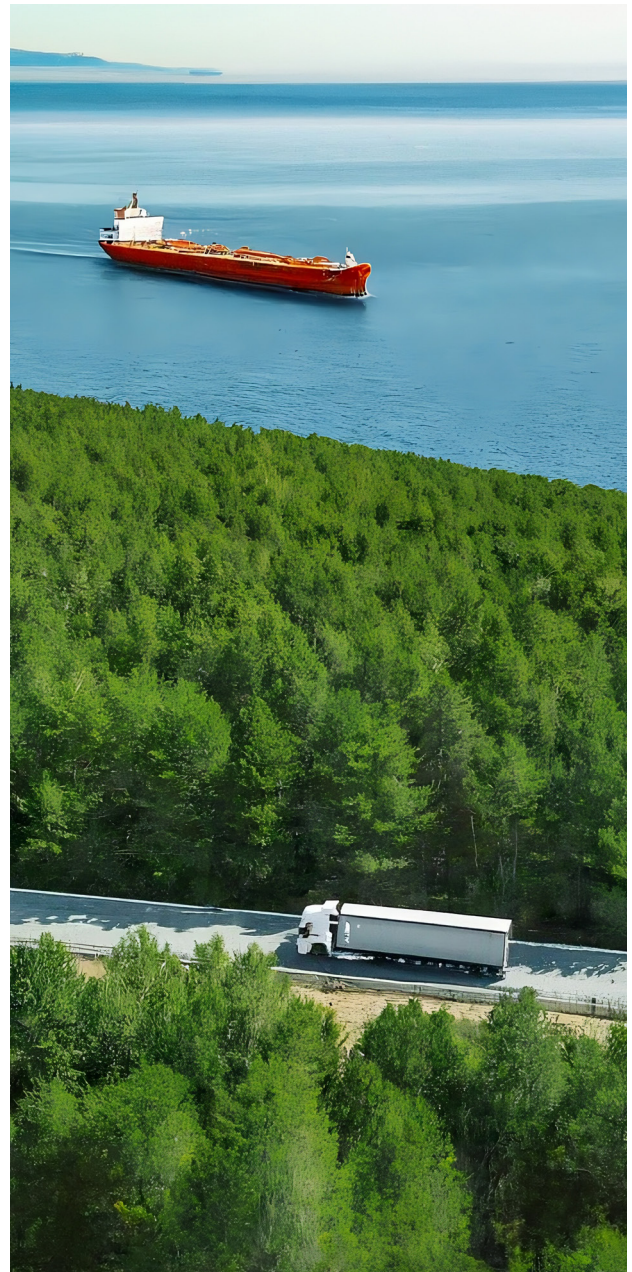
## EVENT OUTLINE

In this second CEO Roundtable of 2026, AI-Attiyah Foundation members and expert guest speakers will examine how energy security has re-emerged as the dominant priority, overtaking climate change and the transition away from fossil fuels. Once largely viewed as a technical issue, energy security has rapidly become a defining strategic priority for governments, industries, and societies worldwide. In recent years, a convergence of geopolitical tensions, supply chain disruptions, volatile fuel markets, and extreme weather events have exposed the fragility of global energy systems. Gas shortages and price shocks across key markets have underscored that reliable and affordable energy can no longer be taken for granted.

At the same time, the urgency of addressing climate change has not diminished—if anything, it has intensified. Commitments under the Paris Agreement, alongside the growing momentum behind net-zero targets, demand a rapid transformation of energy systems. Yet this transformation must now unfold in a context where security of supply, resilience, and affordability are increasingly prioritised.

This event, Energy Security Takes Centre Stage: What It Means for Climate Ambition, sits at the intersection of these challenges. It brings together policymakers, industry leaders, and experts to explore key questions: how can the immediate need for energy security be reconciled with long-term climate goals? Do short-term responses—such as increased reliance on fossil fuels or delayed phase-outs—risk undermining progress in the energy transition? Or could the drive for energy security, in fact, accelerate the shift towards cleaner, more resilient systems?

Rather than treating energy security and climate ambition as competing priorities, the discussion will seek to identify areas of alignment, as well as the trade-offs that must be managed. The roundtable provides an opportunity to examine these issues in depth, drawing on diverse perspectives to consider how energy systems can be transformed in ways that are secure, sustainable, and aligned with global climate objectives.





The concept of energy security has evolved significantly over the past five decades. Initially focused on ensuring stable oil supplies in response to shocks such as the 1970s oil crises, it now encompasses:

- a)** Diversity of supply sources (oil, gas, renewables, nuclear);
- b)** Infrastructure resilience (grids, pipelines, LNG terminals);
- c)** Supply chain robustness, particularly for critical minerals;
- d)** Affordability and price stability; and
- e)** System flexibility and reliability.

Energy security has re-emerged as a central pillar of global policy, reshaping how governments, markets, and institutions approach the energy transition. Historically associated with oil supply disruptions and the provision of strategic reserves, energy security today encompasses a broader set of risks, including geopolitical tensions,

vulnerabilities in critical mineral supply chains, cyber threats, extreme weather, and infrastructure resilience. At the same time, climate ambition, anchored in global commitments such as the Paris Agreement, requires a rapid and sustained reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, with net-zero targets increasingly embedded in national policy frameworks. However, the convergence of these agendas has created both synergies and tensions. Recent global energy developments suggest that energy security is no longer a parallel concern to climate policy; it is now a primary driver shaping the pace, direction, and political feasibility of the energy transition.

Modern energy systems are increasingly complex and interconnected. As the International Energy Agency (IEA) notes, risks now extend beyond traditional supply disruptions to include cyberattacks, extreme weather events, and geopolitical fragmentation.

## Expanding Risk Landscape

The global energy system is experiencing broader risks, such as:

- a) Geopolitical tensions affecting fuel supply routes and trade flows;
- b) Climate-induced disruptions such as heatwaves, storms, and flooding;
- c) Market volatility, particularly in gas and electricity markets;
- d) Technological dependencies, including batteries and semiconductors.

Recent analysis highlights that disruptions to critical energy infrastructure have already affected hundreds of millions of households globally, underscoring the urgency of strengthening resilience.

## Climate Change as a Driver of Energy Insecurity

Climate change is not only a long-term environmental challenge, but also an immediate and growing threat to energy security. Rising temperatures, extreme weather events, and shifting climate patterns are already impacting energy systems worldwide. Heatwaves increase electricity demand while reducing generation efficiency; storms and flooding damage transmission and distribution infrastructure; water scarcity affects hydropower and thermal generation; and high temperatures reduce solar PV efficiency.

IEA research found that climate hazards are expected to intensify significantly throughout the 21st century, posing systemic risks to energy infrastructure.

This creates a reinforcing cycle between climate change and energy insecurity: fossil fuel dependence contributes to emissions; emissions exacerbate climate impacts; climate impacts disrupt energy systems; and these disruptions, in turn, drive short-term reliance on fossil fuels. Breaking this cycle requires integrating climate resilience into energy planning, rather than treating it as a separate policy domain.





One of the most important shifts in recent years is the recognition that clean energy can enhance energy security. Investments in renewables, energy efficiency, and electrification reduce dependence on imported fuels and exposure to price volatility.

Energy efficiency improvements have reduced fossil fuel import needs significantly in many economies. Distributed renewable systems increase resilience and reduce centralised vulnerabilities. Electrification reduces reliance on oil and gas in transport and heating. Energy efficiency alone has acted as a "buffer" against supply shocks by lowering demand and improving system reliability.

Global investment patterns reflect this shift. Clean energy investment is increasingly driven not only by climate goals but also by energy security considerations. Recent trends show that clean energy investment is outpacing fossil fuel investment. Solar and wind are the fastest-growing sources of electricity generation while grid infrastructure and storage are also becoming critical priorities.

The growth of clean energy is therefore not only a climate imperative but also a strategic response to energy insecurity.

## TENSIONS BETWEEN SHORT-TERM SECURITY AND LONG-TERM CLIMATE GOALS

Despite growing alignment, tensions remain between short-term energy security and long-term climate goals. In periods of crisis, governments often prioritise immediate energy security over long-term climate objectives. This can result in increased investment in fossil fuel supply, delayed phase-outs of coal or gas, the adoption of subsidies to shield consumers from high energy prices, and the expansion of LNG infrastructure. Such measures may be necessary in the short term but risk locking in high-emissions pathways if not carefully managed.

Countries are adopting different approaches to balancing energy security and climate ambition. Some are accelerating renewables and electrification, whilst others are expanding domestic fossil fuel production. The IEA notes that governments are reaching "different conclusions" on how to balance security, affordability, and sustainability, reflecting diverse national circumstances.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

Energy security is inherently global. Supply chains, markets, and emissions transcend national borders. Initiatives such as international energy summits and multilateral cooperation platforms play a critical role in aligning strategies and sharing best practices. The IEA's Clean Energy Transitions Programme, along with similar initiatives, demonstrates how international collaboration can accelerate secure and sustainable energy transitions.



- To define how energy security is reshaping the pace and priorities of the global energy transition.
- To identify actionable strategies to balance immediate energy reliability with long-term net-zero commitments.
- To assess whether current investment flows are aligned with delivering both secure and sustainable energy systems.
- To evaluate how clean energy deployment can enhance resilience, affordability, and system stability.
- To clarify the strategic role of oil and gas in supporting a secure and orderly transition.
- To understand how geopolitical dynamics and systemic risks are redefining global energy markets and cooperation.





### Security vs. Transition

1. There still a trade-off to be made between energy security and the energy transition?
2. Has energy security permanently redefined the pace and sequencing of the energy transition?
3. Are we entering a "dual system" era, where fossil fuels and clean energy must both expand?
4. How should policymakers balance short-term resilience with long-term decarbonisation goals?
5. Is an "orderly transition" still a realistic objective?

### Investment Signals

1. Are we funding the right system?
2. Is global capital allocation aligned with both security and net-zero goals, or is it diverging?
3. Is underinvestment in oil and gas increasing the risk of future price volatility and supply insecurity?

### Geopolitics of Energy

1. Is the global energy system moving toward fragmentation or greater cooperation?
2. Are we moving toward regionalised energy systems and supply chains?
3. How will geopolitical tensions reshape LNG, pipeline gas, and electricity interconnections?

## Role of Oil & Gas in a Secure Transition

1. What is the long-term role of LNG—balancing intermittent renewables or contributing to baseload supply?
2. Can oil and gas companies credibly lead in low-carbon solutions such as Carbon Capture, Utilisation, and Storage (CCUS) and hydrogen?
3. How can methane emissions be addressed without undermining supply security?

## Climate Ambition

1. Are net-zero targets at risk of being diluted or delayed due to energy security concerns?
2. How can climate ambition be reframed as a driver of energy security rather than a cost?



# MODERATOR & SPEAKERS

## Moderator:



Stephen Cole,  
Journalist, and  
International Broadcaster

## Speaker



Janos Pasztor,  
former UN Assistant  
Secretary-General for  
Climate Change and Senior  
Advisor to UN Secretary-  
General (UNSG)

## Speaker



Amal Al Dababseh,  
UNDP Regional Technical  
Advisor for Climate Change  
Mitigation and Energy for  
the Arab States Region

## Speaker

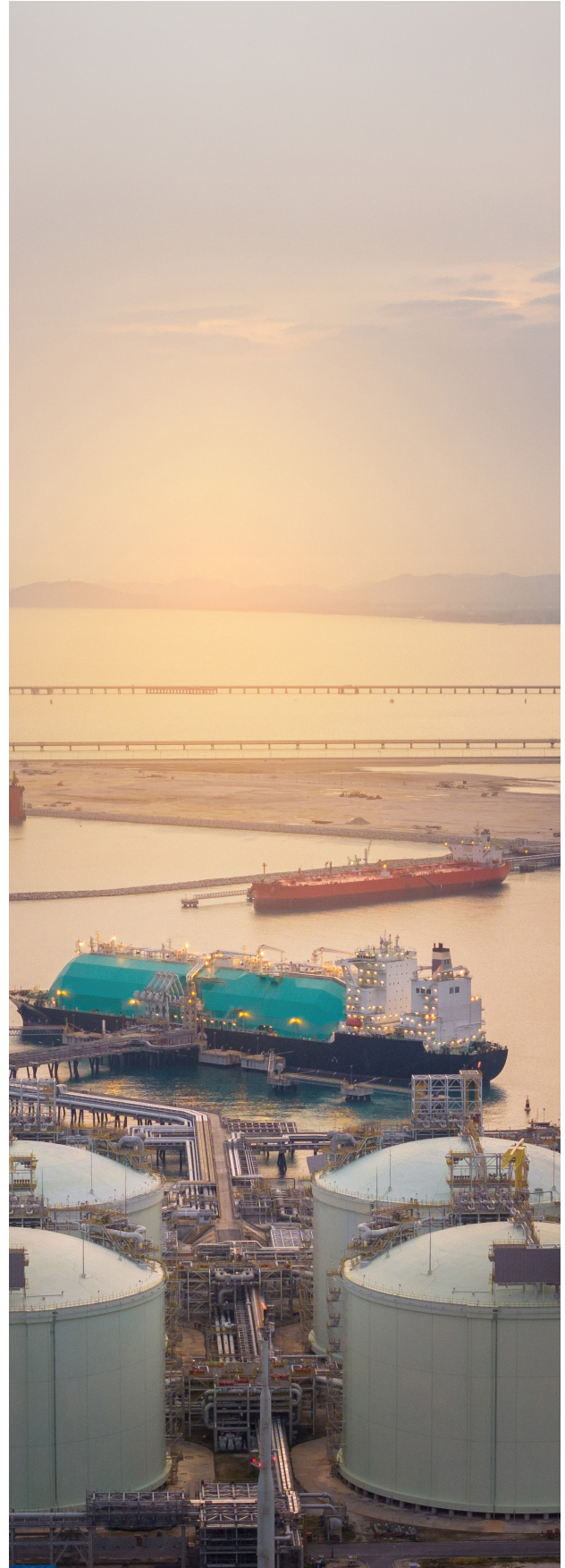


Aldo Flores-Quiroga,  
former Deputy  
Secretary of Energy for  
Hydrocarbons at Mexico's  
Ministry of Energy

## Speaker



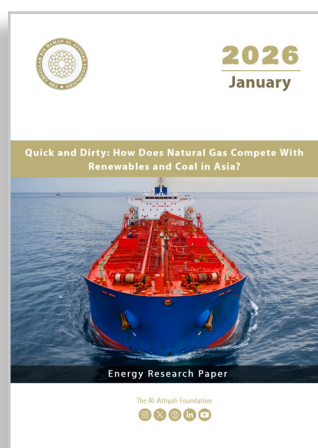
Erik Solheim,  
former UN Environment  
Executive Director and  
Under-Secretary-General of  
the United Nations



## FURTHER BACKGROUND READING MATERIALS

1. [International Energy Agency \(2025\), World Energy Outlook 2025.](#)
2. [International Energy Agency \(2024\), World Energy Outlook 2024.](#)
3. [International Energy Agency \(2025\), Energy Security – Analysis.](#)
4. [International Energy Agency \(2024\), Climate Resilience for Energy Security in Southeast Asia.](#)
5. [International Energy Agency \(2025\), Clean Energy Transitions Programme 2024.](#)
6. [International Energy Agency \(2024\), Renewables 2024.](#)
7. [International Energy Agency \(2025\), Energy Security Topic Overview.](#)

## ENERGY PAPERS



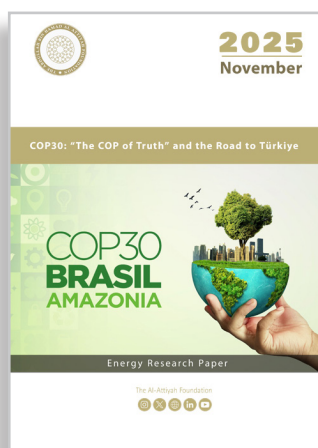
January – 2026

### Quick and Dirty: How Does Natural Gas Compete With Renewables and Coal in Asia?

Faced with relatively expensive natural gas imports, many Asian countries have turned to a combination of renewables and coal. This delivers reliable electricity at reasonable costs with some reduction in greenhouse gases and other pollutants.



(QR CODE)



November – 2025

### COP30: "The COP of Truth" and the Road to Türkiye

The COP30 conference in Brazil was the first after a series of wider Middle East-hosted COPs, but still the fifth in a row to occur in a significant oil and gas producer. Labelled "the COP of Truth" by Brazil's President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, it concluded with significant discussions, commitments, and implementation of important policies, but also with political controversies, with some stating that it would go down as among the most divisive in three decades of meetings aimed at forging global consensus on how to prevent and deal with climate change.



(QR CODE)

## ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The Abdullah Bin Hamad Al-Attiyah International Foundation for Energy and Sustainable Development is a non-profit think tank inaugurated by His Highness the Father Emir, Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani in 2015. The Foundation works closely with its members, academia, and a wide network of international experts, to provide independent insights, in-depth research and informed debate on critical energy and sustainable development topics.

**Mission:** To provide robust and practical knowledge and insights on global energy and sustainable development topics and communicate these for the benefit of the Foundation's members and the community.

**Vision:** To be an internationally respected independent think tank that is a thought leader focused on global energy and sustainable development topics.

### Research Reports & Publications

- Daily News Flash
- Weekly Energy Market Review
- Energy Research Paper
- Sustainability Research Paper
- Sustainability Bulletin (twice a month)
- Special Industry Reports
- Webinar Whitepapers
- CEO Roundtable Whitepapers
- Annual Academic Contribution






### Podcasts, Webinars & Videos

- Podcast Interviews (twice a month)
- 60-Second Energy Education Video
- 60-Second Sustainability Education Video
- Quarterly Webinars

### Events & Activities

- The Al-Attiyah International Energy Awards
- Quarterly CEO Roundtable
- The Qatar National Dialogue on Climate Change (QNDC)

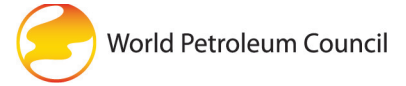
### Connect With Us Online:

-  [www.abhafoundation.org](http://www.abhafoundation.org)
-  The Al-Attiyah Foundation
-  AlAttiyahFndn
-  AlAttiyahFoundation
-  alattiyahfndn



## OUR PARTNERS

The Al-Attiyah Foundation collaborates with its partners on various projects and research within the themes of energy and sustainable development.





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