



Date: 17 May 2023
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Dear Ms. Shekhar and Mr. Xuan,

I would like to thank you and the Children and Youth Constituency to the UNFCCC (YOUNGO) for the growing engagement with the COP28 Presidency, including at the recent Petersberg Climate Dialogue in Berlin. Moreover, I appreciate your letter dated 22 April on ensuring inclusive and sustainable food offerings at COP28 later this year.

Inclusivity is at the core of COP28 – including operations – and we recognize the urgency of the challenges you have outlined in your letter. The COP28 Presidency also has a firm focus on transformational action on food systems within the wider global climate change agenda. As part of this, we intend to demonstrate sustainable food systems in action at COP28 itself. My team has been working to ensure the availability of plant-based food options that are affordable, nutritious, and locally and regionally sourced, with clear emissions labelling.

I appreciate the guidelines you have shared – rest assured, these have been shared within our teams and will be taken under serious consideration as we finalize our Food and Beverage policy, which we hope to share with you in the coming months.

My team will continue to gather feedback around the planned outcomes across each of the Presidency's pillars. We would welcome the insights of the YOUNGO Food and Agriculture Working Group to ensure our work on food systems transformation is reflective of youth perspectives and priorities in this critical action area. Please continue to share these through your focal point from my team, Asif Nawaz Shah (ashah@climateenvoy.gov.ae).

I look forward to close collaboration on these issues, among others, going forward.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sultan Al Jaber
UAE Special Envoy for Climate Change
COP28 President-Designate