

**United Nations Climate Change Conference
COP 30/CMP 20/CMA 7
19 November 2025
Belém, Brazil
Statement by
HE Haitham Al Ghais,
OPEC Secretary General**

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to congratulate our gracious hosts, **Brazil**, for their climate leadership.

OPEC and Brazil are currently enjoying a **golden era** in their relations across a broad range of fronts under our **‘Charter of Cooperation.’** We fully support Brazil’s COP Presidency.

President Lula has wisely described this as the **‘COP of truth.’**

This is timely and apt given the urgent need for truth about the **global energy system**; truth about **future energy pathways**; and truth about **realistic and just solutions for reducing greenhouse gas emissions**.

This includes being truthful about the **role of oil** in our energy future.

Petroleum and **petroleum-derived products** are essential for modern civilization, raising living standards and fuelling **sustainable development**. They are vital to health services, agriculture, trade, commerce, the distribution and administration of aid relief, and much more.

Living standards in developed countries have been underpinned by these products. **Every country should have this opportunity**.

The use of **oil-derived products** will be essential in enhancing **climate action** and empowering **poverty eradication efforts**.

For example, roughly a quarter of the world’s population, about **2.1 billion people**, depend on traditional fuels for cooking, which pose health risks.

Upscaling **liquefied petroleum gas or LPG** cannisters and stoves will be crucial in making progress in this regard.

For developing countries to address such challenges, it is more vital than ever that they are supported with **adequate levels of climate finance**.

For oil, the truth is that the current **record high level** of demand is forecast to continue rising, and oil will remain the largest source of energy by **2050**.

This underscores **how essential oil market stability** is, a key focus of OPEC. Market volatility, uncertain policy environments and underinvestment have serious ramifications.

We all want to see **global emissions reduced**. In fact, this is the **core objective of the UNFCCC**, rather than picking and choosing energy sources.

Effective emissions reduction can only be achieved through **cooperation, pragmatism** and **inclusivity**, with policy grounded in **energy realities**.

Only through **collective action** and **consensus-based collaboration** can progress be sustained, upholding **national sovereignty** while leveraging the **oil industry's expertise and resources** to drive solutions.

I think everyone here appreciates the truth that there is **no single energy source** that can lead the world to a low-emissions future. Rather, if we work together, in a spirit of **mutirão** and respect, conscious of the **diverse energy needs and circumstances** of all countries, we can build a **better world**.

Thank you.
