

Singapore and Vietnam support UAE's Irena bid

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Abu Dhabi: If the UAE's bid to home headquarters of Irena (International Renewable Energy Agency) succeeds, it will be helpful for developing countries to build up renewable energy sources, the Vietnamese Ambassador told Gulf News.

When many countries are giving subsidies for fossil fuels which pollute the environment, the UAE is building solar energy sources to protect the environment - a credential for its bid, Nguyen Quang Khai said. "Vietnam is not a member of Irena, but I am confident that the UAE will get the support from other [Irena] member countries," he said.

Environmental protection and awareness being global issues, the UAE's initiatives like Masdar are internationally relevant, according to Khai. "Masdar shows the UAE's facilities and capabilities to home the Irena headquarters. More over it has enough financial capabilities," the envoy pointed out.

Meanwhile, Singapore commended the UAE for actively seeking to promote the use of renewable energy with the initiatives like Masdar. Its keenness to collaborate with other countries to promote the use of solar energy, wind energy and other renewable sources add credibility and strength to the bid for hosting the Irena headquarters, Low Pit Chen, Charge d' Affaires at the Singapore Embassy in Abu Dhabi told Gulf News.

Singapore is not a signatory state to Irena, but is broadly supportive of the promotion of renewable energy, he said.

(zawya)