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**UAE Enacts Federal Decree-Law No. 11
of 2024 to Combat Climate Change**

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has made a major advancement in environmental sustainability by passing Federal Decree-Law No. 11 of 2024 on the Reduction of Climate Change Effects. The UAE's commitment to combating climate change through international collaboration, strategic planning, and emission reductions is strengthened by this extensive legal framework, which is set to go into effect on May 30, 2025.

Key Objectives of the Law

The law outlines five main goals to improve the country's resilience and mitigate climate change:



Emission Reduction Strategies

Enactment of nationwide initiatives to decrease greenhouse gas emissions, improve carbon to support shift to a low carbon economy.



Decarbonization Pathway

Creating a plan that supports the United Arab Emirates' pledge to reach net-zero emissions in compliance with international climate accords like the Paris Agreement.



Climate Adaptability and Resilience Building

Creating and implementing plans for climate change adaptation to safeguard infrastructure, communities, and natural ecosystems against the negative impacts of global warming.



Improvement of Climate Monitoring and Analytics

Strengthening the gathering, evaluating, and sharing of climate-related data in order to facilitate well-informed policy and decision-making.



Regional and Global Collaboration

Pursuing regional and international collaborations to best address climate change challenges through knowledge transfer and technical innovation.



Implementation Framework

The UAE government has put in place a number of procedures to guarantee efficient execution:

Committees and Climate Action Boards

Regulatory organizations will supervise the implementation of climate-related projects and guarantee adherence to the law's provisions.

Emission Offset and Incentive Programs

Businesses and organizations will be urged to embrace sustainable business practices and take part in carbon offsetting and carbon credit purchasing programs.

Requirements for Monitoring and Reporting

To ensure accountability and transparency, entities must measure, report, and validate their greenhouse gas emissions using standardized frameworks.

Obligations for Entities

According to law, public and private entities that release greenhouse gases are required to:



Carbon Footprint Evaluation and Disclosure

Develop an emissions inventory and provide regular reports based on standards laid down by the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment.



Implement Reduction Measures

Implement measures to cut down emissions, such as enhancing energy efficiency, using clean energy, and promoting natural carbon sinks.



Maintain Records

For evaluation by the relevant competent authority, maintain records of measured emissions quantities for a period of five years following the date of each analysis.

Penalties for Non-Compliance

The Decree-Law contains particular clauses pertaining to enforcement and penalties:

Fines

Administrative fines for noncompliance can range from AED 50,000 to AED 2,000,000.

Repeat Offences

If non-compliance occurs twice in a two-year period, fines may be doubled.

Additional Measures

To guarantee compliance with the law, operational limitations and other corrective actions may be implemented.

Emphasis on ESG Principles

This law's passage emphasizes how Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) frameworks are becoming increasingly important in promoting sustainable development throughout the United Arab Emirates. This law reflects the UAE's commitment to incorporating ESG into its economic and regulatory frameworks by addressing environmental issues like emissions reduction and encouraging accountability and governance. The focus on carbon offsetting and incentives for technological innovation further emphasizes how ESG-focused strategies can help companies adjust to changing regulatory environments while building long-term resilience.



Conclusion

Federal Decree-Law No. 11 of 2024 is an important milestone for the UAE's path to sustainability. Through a systematic approach to greenhouse gas reduction, climate resilience, and global cooperation, the nation is taking a leading role in climate action. Local government in the UAE, including free zones, will implement rigorous standards for monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) of emissions. A single electronic system will monitor emissions information, ensuring transparency and accountability.

In order to adhere to the new directives, companies need to align themselves with national and local climate plans of action, especially in the aspects of emission counting, tracking, verification, and reporting, and abide by sectoral emission reduction requirements. Companies that have already adopted sustainability frameworks and decarbonization tactics will be well-prepared for an easy transition.