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nsuring reliable and affordable energy supplies to support human progress, safely and with minimal environmental impact, is one of the greatest challenges facing the world today. Leaders across the energy I industry and in government, business and civil society are working to meet this challenge with new sources of energy and new levels of energy efficiency. At ExxonMobil, we believe that innovation is fundamental to satisfying the world's growing and evolving energy needs. This is why we place the utmost importance on developing our high-quality,

motivated and diverse workforce – our greatest asset - to drive our company and industry forward.

It begins with empowering our young employees. We aim to provide fulfilling career opportunities for our young employees – we believe the most fulfilling of any company, in any industry. From the start, we offer intellectual challenge, personal responsibility and opportunities for innovative thinking.

We take a disciplined, structured approach to developing all of our employees to their fullest potential. This includes everything from technical and non-technical training, to robust mentorship programmes, to exposure to cutting-edge technology and tools. We constantly strive to cultivate diverse and accomplished employees who bring passion and initiative to their jobs.

We also foster the next generation of scientists and engineers. Globally, the demand for science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) professionals is rapidly expanding, yet fewer and fewer students choose these important career tracks. For many years, ExxonMobil has encouraged students to study math and science through programmes such as the National Math and Science Initiative.

As ExxonMobil Production Company Vice President for the Middle East and Russia, I am reminded every day that the company's success is driven by the achievements and ingenuity of our employees – like young engineers Yine de la Cruz and Ali Al-Mana. We know that you are the future leaders of the energy industry and the source of future scientific and technological breakthroughs.

Together, we can take on the world's toughest energy challenges.

ExxonMobil is proud to support the World Petroleum Council in its efforts to highlight the importance of young professionals in the energy industry.