

1991 JOINT PRESS STATEMENT FOR THE TENTH MEETING OF THE ASEAN ECONOMIC MINISTERS ON ENERGY COOPERATION (AEMEC)

Issued in Singapore on 22 August 1991

1. The Tenth Meeting of the ASEAN Economic Ministers on Energy Cooperation was held in Singapore on 22 August 1991. The Meeting was preceded by a preparatory meeting of ASEAN Senior Officials on Energy Cooperation on 19 and 20 August 1991.
2. The Meeting was opened by HE Brigadier-General (Res) Lee Hsien Loong, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry of Singapore.
3. The Meeting was attended by HE Pengiran Dato Seri Paduka Dr Hj Ismail bin Pengiran Haji Damit, Minister of Development of Brunei Darussalam; HE Mr Ginandjar Kartasasmita, Minister of Mines and Energy of the Republic of Indonesia; HE Dato' Seri S Samy Vellu, Minister of Energy, Telecommunications and Posts of Malaysia; HE Mr Wenceslao R de la Paz, Presidential Assistant on Energy and Executive Director, Office of Energy Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines; HE Mr Mah Bow Tan, Acting Minister for Communications and Minister of State of Trade & Industry of the Republic of Singapore; HE Dr Phaichitr Uathavikul, Minister attached to the Office of the Prime Minister of Thailand and their respective delegations.
4. HE Mr Rusli Noor, Secretary-General of the ASEAN Secretariat, was also present.
5. HE Mr Mah Bow Tan, Leader of the Singapore Delegation, and HE Dr Phaichitr Uathavikul, Leader of the Thai Delegation, were unanimously elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Meeting.
6. The Ministers were briefed by HE Mr Ginandjar Kartasasmita on developments within OPEC.
7. The Ministers noted the progress of the activities of the ASEAN Council on Petroleum (ASCOPE).
8. The Ministers reviewed the energy situation in the ASEAN member countries and noted the accomplishments in the member countries particularly in regard to meeting rising demand and energy conservation.
9. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the progress made under the Programme of Action for the Enhancement of ASEAN Cooperation on Energy. The Programme of Action identified nine energy sectors for closer and enhanced cooperation in ASEAN, namely Coal, Electricity, Petroleum and Natural Gas, Geothermal Resources, New and Renewable Sources of Energy, Energy Conservation, Energy and Environment, Research Development and Demonstration and Energy Policy and Planning.
10. The Ministers reviewed the progress of cooperation activities currently being implemented in the areas of Coal, New and Renewable Sources of Energy and among the Power Utilities/Authorities.
11. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the significant expansion in intra-ASEAN coal trade following the second Intra-ASEAN Coal Workshop held in Kuching, Malaysia in September 1990 which brought together coal users and coal producers in the ASEAN region and as a result of the establishment of the Indonesia, Philippines and Indonesia-Thailand coal cooperation committees.

12. The Ministers noted the progress achieved in the Interconnection Project where the feasibility studies of four interconnection projects namely, Sarawak-West Kalimantan; Sarawak-Brunei Darussalam-Sabah; Sumatra-Peninsular Malaysia; and Batam-Singapore, have been completed and compiled in one document and is ready for submission to potential sources for technical assistance.
13. The Ministers reviewed the progress on energy projects in cooperation with dialogue partners of ASEAN and expressed satisfaction that the feasibility study for the Trans-ASEAN Natural Gas Pipeline would soon be embarked upon.
14. The Ministers agreed to hold the next Meeting of the ASEAN Economic Ministers on Energy Cooperation in Thailand in 1992.
15. The delegations of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and people of Singapore for the warm hospitality accorded to them and the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.
16. The Meeting was held in the traditional ASEAN spirit of solidarity and cordiality.