

# 2003 JOINT PRESS STATEMENT OF THE 21ST ASEAN MINISTERS ON ENERGY MEETING

*Issued in Langkawi Island, Malaysia on 3 July 2003*

1. The 21st ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM) was convened on 3 July 2003, preceded by the Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME) on 30 June – 1 July 2003 and the 4th SOME-METI (Japan) Consultations and the 2nd SOME + 3 Consultations on 2 July 2003.
2. H.E. Datuk Amar Leo Moggie, Minister of Energy, Communications and Multimedia of Malaysia, chaired the 21st AMEM, with H.E. Mr. Vincent S. Perez, Jr., Secretary of Energy of the Philippines, as Vice-Chairman.

## **Moving Forward the Trans-ASEAN Energy Network**

3. The ASEAN Energy Ministers welcomed the progress made in the Trans-ASEAN Gas Pipeline (TAGP) and the ASEAN Power Grid Projects and looked forward to working collectively for these projects to provide greater stability and security of energy supply in the ASEAN region. The Ministers agreed that an enabling framework is needed to stimulate strong private sector participation in the ASEAN Member Countries to conduct business on the TAGP and ASEAN Power Grid on a commercial basis. The Ministers have also agreed to enhance the ASEAN Energy Business Forum (AEBF) as an important platform for facilitating business interaction, technology exchange and project financing opportunities between ASEAN energy authorities and the private sector.
4. The Ministers also welcomed the establishment of the ASEAN Gas Consultative Council (AGCC) which will serve as the advisory body to the ASEAN Council on Petroleum (ASCOPE) in the facilitation and implementation of the Trans-ASEAN Gas Pipeline (TAGP) Project. The Ministers endorsed the selection of Malaysia as the host country for the ASCOPE Gas Centre (AGC). The AGC will serve as the strategic technical and information resource and capacity building center in the facilitation and implementation of the TAGP and gas development programs in ASEAN.
5. The Ministers agreed that the Final Report of the ASEAN Interconnection Master Plan Study (AIMS) to be the reference document for the implementation of the electricity interconnection projects in the ASEAN region.
6. The Ministers noted the significant progress in the updating/review of the 1986 ASEAN Petroleum Security Agreement (APSA) and they called on their senior officials to expeditiously conclude a new APSA.

## **Expanding External Relations**

7. Recognizing East Asia's growing demand for energy and the depletion of fossil fuels, the Ministers agreed to strengthen partnership with China, Japan and Republic of Korea to address mutual issues and concerns in energy security, natural gas development, oil market studies, oil stockpiling and renewable energy. The SOME+3 Energy Policy Governing Group has been established to provide overall policy direction and program management for the ASEAN+3 energy cooperation.

8. The Ministers commended the four-year fruitful partnership between ASEAN and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) of Japan in energy cooperation through the "Promotion of Energy Efficiency and Conservation (PROMEEEC)" and "Energy Supply Security Planning for ASEAN (ESSPA)" Projects. The Ministers thanked Japan for co-organizing the ASEAN + 3 / International Energy Agency (IEA) Joint Workshop in December 2002 in Tokyo, the Japan-ASEAN Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) Seminar in January 2003 in Jakarta and the ASEAN + 3 Petroleum Security Workshop in June 2003 in Kuala Lumpur.
9. The Ministers acknowledged the selection of the first set of 17 projects under the EC-ASEAN Energy Facility (EAEF), with total co-financing support of Euro 3.5 million. In 2004, additional 27 projects involving a co-financing support of Euro 5.5 million are expected to be in the pipeline. The facility covers mainly electricity, natural gas, clean coal technology, energy efficiency and conservation and renewable energy.
10. The Ministers appreciated the briefing of the Secretary-General of the Brussels-based Energy Charter Secretariat to SOME on the experience gained by the Energy Charter process and on the useful lessons to promote such important cooperation projects as the Trans-ASEAN Gas Pipeline and the ASEAN Power Grid Projects. To foster more active dialogue and regular exchange of information between the Energy Charter Secretariat, ASEAN will seek for observer status at the Energy Charter Conference with the ASEAN Centre for Energy as the coordinating entity.

#### **Progress on the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation**

11. The Ministers lauded the notable achievements and developments in ASEAN cooperation in the electricity, oil and gas, energy efficiency and conservation, new and renewable energy resources, and in coal sectors. A new plan of action for 2004-2009 will be developed to ensure policy and technical continuity and sustainable cooperation in the ASEAN energy sector towards closer regional economic integration.
12. The Ministers commended the ASEAN Centre for Energy as a technical and information hub of international cooperation in energy in ASEAN, through its effective coordination and facilitation of regional energy programs and activities in the region.
13. The Ministers acknowledged with deep appreciation the technical assistance and support provided by various countries and institutions such as from the European Union, Australia, Japan, Switzerland, Germany, Sweden, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, International Energy Agency and the Asia Pacific Energy Research Centre in the implementation of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation 1999-2004.
14. The Ministers congratulated the Winners and Runners-Up of the 2003 ASEAN Best Practices Competition for Energy Efficient Buildings and for Renewable Energy Projects. This annual event is to promote excellence in the energy field by giving recognition to the efforts of both the private and public sectors in adopting good practices in energy efficiency and conservation and renewable energy.

#### **22nd AMEM Meeting and Associated Meetings**

15. The ASEAN Ministers on Energy will meet for the 22nd AMEM in the Philippines in May 2004. The Ministers will also meet their counterparts from China, Japan and the Republic of Korea during the 22nd AMEM in the Philippines. The Fifth ASEAN Energy Business Forum (AEBF) will also be held in conjunction with the 22nd AMEM.

**The following Ministers attended the 21st AMEM in Langkawi:**

**H.E. PEHIN DATO ABDUL RAHMAN TAIB**

Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei Darussalam

**H.E. DR. ITH PRAING**

Secretary of State, Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy, Cambodia

**H.E. DR. PURNOMO YUSGANTORO**

Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources, Indonesia

**H.E. MR. ONNEUA PHOMMACHANH**

Minister of Industry and Handicrafts, Lao PDR

**H.E. DATUK AMAR LEO MOGGIE**

Minister of Energy, Communications and Multimedia, Malaysia

**H.E. BRIG. GEN. LUN THI**

Minister of Energy, Myanmar

**H.E. MR. VINCENT S. PEREZ, JR.**

Secretary of Energy, Philippines

**H.E. MR. RAYMOND LIM SIANG KEAT**

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Trade & Industry, Singapore

**H.E. MR. PROMMIN LERTSURIDEJ**

Minister of Energy, Thailand

**H.E. DR. NGUYEN XUAN CHUAN**

Vice-Minister of Industry, Viet Nam

**H.E. MR. ONG KENG YONG**

Secretary-General of ASEAN