

2013 JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT OF THE 31ST ASEAN MINISTERS OF ENERGY MEETING (AMEM): “ENERGY SUSTAINABILITY FOR ASEAN PROSPERITY”

Issued in Bali, Indonesia on 25 September 2013

1. The 31st ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM) was held on 25 September 2013 in Bali, Indonesia. H.E. Mr. Jero Wacik, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia, chaired the Meeting, and H.E. Mr. Viraphonh Viravong, Vice Minister of Energy and Mines of Lao PDR was the Vice-Chairperson. The 10th Meeting of Energy Ministers of the ASEAN Plus Three Countries (China, Japan and the Republic of Korea), the 7th East Asian Summit Energy Ministers Meeting, and a dialogue with the International Energy Agency (IEA) were also held on this occasion.
2. The 31st AMEM and related meetings were officiated by H.E. Prof. Boediono, Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia. In his Opening Remarks, H.E. Prof Boediono cited that geographical location binds the people of Southeast Asia together and necessitates the establishment of economic, political, social and cultural networks amongst the Southeast Asian Nations. In recognising ASEAN cooperation as the core network, he underscored the need for ASEAN to establish multilayer networks through mutually beneficial relationship and long term cooperation in order to weather the impact of globalisation and growing uncertainties. He added that Indonesia as one of ASEAN founders would ensure its contribution in the establishment of an effective ASEAN energy core network and enhancement of energy sustainability in the region as sustainability is fundamentally significant for the future. Lastly, the Vice President wished the ASEAN Energy Ministers Meeting and associated meetings constructive and fruitful discussions.

TOWARDS ENERGY SUSTAINABILITY FOR ASEAN PROSPERITY

3. The Ministers recognised the volatility in the global energy markets due to the economic uncertainty in several countries and the worldwide economic slowdown. In this respect, the Ministers reaffirmed the Leaders' commitment to strengthen energy cooperation to address major energy challenges to ensure secure and reliable energy supply in ASEAN. In line with the good progress made toward an ASEAN Economic Community, the Ministers welcomed the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation Mid-Term Review (APAEC MTR) report, prepared by Regional Energy Policy and Planning Sub-Sector Network (REPP-SSN), which shows that ASEAN is on track to meet most of the key targets set out in the APAEC 2010-2015.
4. Reiterating the key thrusts of the APAEC to enhance energy security, accessibility and sustainability as key pillars for the development and aspirations of each ASEAN Member State, the Ministers tasked the Senior Officials to identify key strategies to ensure the progress of ASEAN's future energy landscape beyond 2015.
5. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to continue strengthening efforts in oil and gas supply cooperation. To this end, the Ministers agreed on the signing of the Instrument to Extend the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the TransASEAN Gas Pipeline (TAGP) Project for another term of 10 years until 20 May 2024. Acknowledging the significant impact of shale gas developments particularly in North America, the Ministers welcomed the convening of the Regional Workshop on the “Changing Global Gas Market and Unconventional Gas” in Jakarta in May 2013 as a platform for ASEAN to gain more knowledge about U.S.' LNG export regulatory framework.

6. The Ministers commended the Heads of ASEAN Power Utilities/Authorities (HAPUA) on their efforts in moving forward on the harmonisation of the technical, legal and regulatory framework and identification of financial modalities for the realization of the ASEAN Power Grid (APG). In particular, the Ministers welcomed the recommendations of the project on "Harmonisation of the Technical Standards, Codes and Guidelines in the area of Planning and Design, System Operation and Maintenance for the APG", which was completed with the assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB). To accelerate the realisation of the APG, the Ministers tasked HAPUA to develop an efficient and effective framework for taxation and customs tariff in order to accelerate investments in the development of APG projects. The Ministers also noted the progress of the six interconnection projects that are currently under construction, particularly the new interconnection projects between Viet Nam and Lao PDR; and between Sarawak in Malaysia and West Kalimantan in Indonesia. The Ministers welcomed the collaboration between HAPUA and ACE on the Joint Study on: a) CO₂ Reduction by Greater Role of Renewable Energy in ASEAN Power Generation; b) Standard on Integrated of Renewable Energy Generation on Wider System Grid; and c) the 4th ASEAN Energy Outlook.
7. The Ministers commended the efforts of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Sub-Sector Network (EE&C-SSN) particularly in promoting and improving energy efficiency in the region, which contributed to a 7.56% reduction in the ASEAN-wide energy intensity (EI) in 2010 over 2005 level, and noted that ASEAN is on track to meeting the collective target of 8% reduction by 2015. In this regard, the Ministers noted the EE&C-SSN's Work Plan to develop a credible long-term EI reduction target for ASEAN and a systematic mechanism to monitor EI reduction. Given Japan's experience in implementing energy efficiency, the Ministers urged EE&C-SSN to continue collaboration with the Energy Conservation of Japan (ECCJ), ASEAN-Japan Energy Efficiency Partnership (AJEEP), and Energy Conservation Workshop under AJEEP (ECAP). The Ministers noted the good progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Energy Management Scheme (AEMAS) under the EU Switch Asia Programme and the project on harmonisation of the household air-conditioners energy efficiency standards.
8. On Renewable Energy (RE), the Ministers noted the activities undertaken by the Renewable Energy Sub-Sector Network (RE-SSN) and the Renewable Energy Support Program (RESP) in promoting the development of renewable energy in the region, including capacity-building workshops on RE Standards, mini-hydro, Solar PV and the publication of the ASEAN RE Development 2006-2011. The Ministers appreciated the efforts of ASEAN Member States and noted the excellent advancement of RE installed capacity to 29.3% in 2011. The Ministers appreciated the successful launching of the 1st ASEAN Renewable Energy Week and the 1st ASEAN Renewable Energy Forum led by Malaysia and the ACE.
9. Due to the increasing dependence on coal in ASEAN, the Ministers reiterated the importance of strengthening cooperation on coal by introducing more efforts on clean coal technology. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed the upcoming activities to be undertaken by the ASEAN Forum on Coal (AFOC) to promote the responsible use of coal in ASEAN and the use of clean coal technology. The Ministers noted the work in the development of the Agreement on Coal Use and Trade (ACUT). The Ministers also noted the efforts to further understanding on ASEAN Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) with the aim to develop a paper on ASEAN CCS Strategic Consideration in collaboration with prominent international CCS institutions.

10. The Ministers lauded the expansion of the ASEAN Energy Awards to champion the best practices in ASEAN with the launching of the first ASEAN Coal Awards. In this regard the Ministers congratulated the 2013 winners of the ASEAN Energy Awards which included the seventeen (17) winners of the ASEAN Coal Awards, twelve (12) winners of the ASEAN Best Practices in Energy Efficient Buildings, fifteen (15) winners of the ASEAN Best Practices in Energy Management and ten (10) winners of the ASEAN Renewable Energy Awards.
11. The Ministers noted the magnitude of the challenges facing the global nuclear energy industry in addressing the nuclear safety issues, particularly following the Fukushima Dai-ichi accident in March 2011. In this regard, the Ministers tasked the Nuclear Energy Cooperation Sub-Sector Network (NEC-SSN) to take the necessary steps to engage the international community, particularly Dialogue Partners and energy International Organisations, including the European Union (EU) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to enhance regional knowledge to build capacity and facilitate cooperation in nuclear energy technologies and public communications. The Ministers welcomed the cooperation activities of the ASEAN Dialogue Partners, including the implementation of the 2nd Phase of the ASEAN+3 Human Resources Development (HRD) Programme on Civilian Nuclear Energy (CNE) 2012-2014 and the Integrated Support Center for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Nuclear Security (ISCN) supported by Republic of Korea and Japan, respectively. The Ministers also noted the convening of Workshop on "Developing a Safe and Secure Nuclear Power Program: The Essential Elements" under the ASEAN-US Work Plan 2011-2014 which will be conducted on 9 October 2013, hosted by Indonesia.
12. As part of the process to enhance ASEAN energy institutions, the Ministers endorsed the recommendations of the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) Enhancement Task Force (AETF) to utilise the ASEAN Energy Endowment Fund (AEEF) as a source of ACE's operational expenses under a close supervision of the ACE Governing Council. The Ministers also welcomed the commencement of the open recruitment process for a professional ACE Executive Director. In this regard, the Ministers agreed on the signing of the Protocol to Amend the Agreement on the Establishment of the ASEAN Centre for Energy of 1998.
13. The Ministers noted the ASEAN Energy Regulators' Network (AERN) Work Plan for 2013-2014, which will focus on: (a) sharing of the AERN 2013 calendar of planned seminars, forums and training programs as part of capacity building and exchange of best practice; and (b) country updates on regulatory issues to share up-to-date practices among AERN Members.
14. The Ministers also took note of the ASEAN Energy Literacy Cooperation Initiative to share views and ideas for enhancing public awareness on energy issues and welcomed Thailand's plan to host the first workshop on ASEAN Energy Literacy Cooperation in January 2014.

ENERGY COOPERATION WITH DIALOGUE PARTNERS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION

15. The Ministers appreciated the significant benefits from the close cooperation with ASEAN Dialogue Partners and international organisations in the realisation of the APAEC 2010-2015 target. The Ministers further welcomed the adoption of the work plans and concrete deliverables under the SOME-METI Energy Cooperation Program Priorities 2013-2014, the SOME-Russia Energy Cooperation for 2013-2014, the SOME-US Energy Cooperation Work Plan 2012-2014, and the EAS ECTF Work Plan 2013-2014.
16. Noting the close collaboration with the International Energy Agency (IEA), following the signing of the MOU in 2011, the Ministers tasked the Senior Officials to consider pursuing a similar cooperation with other international organisations.

NEXT MEETING

17. The Ministers agreed to convene the 32nd ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting and its related Meetings with Dialogue Partners in Lao PDR in 2014.
18. The Ministers expressed appreciation to the Government and the people of the Republic of Indonesia for the warm hospitality accorded to them and for the excellent arrangements made for the 31st AMEM and its related Meetings with Dialogue Partners.

ASEAN MINISTERS FOR ENERGY

1. **Hon. Pehin Dato (Dr.) Mohammad Yasmin Umar**, Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office of Brunei Darussalam;
2. **H.E. ITH Praing**, Secretary of State of Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy of the Kingdom of Cambodia;
3. **H.E. Jero Wacik**, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources of the Republic of Indonesia;
4. **H.E. Viraphonh Viravong**, Vice Minister of Energy and Mines of the Lao People's Democratic Republic;
5. **Hon. Datuk Seri Panglima Dr. Maximus Johnity Ongkili**, Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water of Malaysia;
6. **H.E. Zay Yar Aung**, Union Minister for Energy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;
7. **H.E. Carlos Jericho L. Petilla**, Secretary of the Department of Energy of the Republic of the Philippines;
8. **H.E. S. Iswaran**, Minister in the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister for Home Affairs and Trade and Industry of the Republic of Singapore;
9. **H.E. Police Lieutenant General Dr. Wichianchot Sukchotrat**, Vice Minister of Energy of the Kingdom of Thailand;
10. **H.E. Le Duong Quang**, Vice Minister of Industry and Trade of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam;
and
11. **H.E. Dr. AKP Mochtan**, Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN for Community and Corporate Affairs.