

# 2019 JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT OF THE 13<sup>TH</sup> EAST ASIA SUMMIT ENERGY MINISTERS MEETING

*Issued in Bangkok, Thailand on 5 September 2019*

1. The Thirteenth East Asia Summit Energy Ministers Meeting (13<sup>th</sup> EAS EMM) was held on 05 September 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Sontirat Sontijirawong, Minister of Energy of Thailand. The Meeting was attended by the Ministers and Senior Officials responsible for energy from the EAS participating countries, namely the ASEAN Member States, Australia, the People's Republic of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea (ROK), New Zealand, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America. The Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN was also in attendance.
2. The EAS region drives global energy demand and is expected to continue to do so in the long-term. This underlines the continuing imperative for the region to strengthen its partnerships and innovation ecosystems to enable sustainable energy transitions that adequately meet the needs of its peoples. The Meeting discussed the progress of EAS energy cooperation against this background and were pleased to note the deepening cooperation and concrete initiatives that have been implemented and proposed since the last meeting of the EAS EMM.
3. In particular, the Ministers discussed the progress of activities implemented by the three (3) Work Streams of the EAS Energy Cooperation Task Force (ECTF) and noted with appreciation the expanded range of fuels and technologies covered in the current regional initiatives. The ongoing and new initiatives include energy efficiency technologies, distributed energy systems, next generation biofuels, solar PVs and energy storage solutions, wind power technology, promotion of natural gas, mobility decarbonisation, carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS), carbon recycling and hydrogen technologies. The Ministers were pleased that EAS participating countries have stepped-up efforts to share experiences and innovative solutions across the region. They stressed the need for increased attention towards identifying conducive implementation conditions and suitable business models that would improve deployment success and help widen circles of innovation.
4. In particular, for the **Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EE&C) Work Stream**, the Ministers noted the progress in the realisation of energy savings potentials for participating EAS countries as well as the initiative on distributed energy systems (DES) led by Japan that would promote energy efficiency (EE) technologies and renewable energy (RE)-based supply in remote and off-grid communities. The Ministers noted with appreciation the second energy audit completed for the Special Economic Zones in Cambodia and welcomed the additional policy and operational lessons from that exercise. The Ministers also noted the efforts under the work stream to better understand the potential Well-to-Wheel impacts of electric vehicle (EVs) on demand-supply outlooks as well as to examine feasibility and identify appropriate financing models.
5. The Ministers noted that the EE&C work plan for 2019/2020 is expected to include (i) the continuing exercise to update EE savings potential estimates as well as the formulation of roadmaps to deploy EE technologies, (ii) a study on the efficacy of interrelated policies addressing energy efficiency and sustainable development goals, and, (iii) conduct of energy audit for the third site under the DES initiative.
6. For the **Biofuels for Transport and Other Purposes (BTOP) Work Stream**, the Ministers appreciated the joint research led by the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) and EAS participating countries to evaluate the introduction of next generation biofuels in EAS countries. The project has facilitated various technical visits in 2019 to a sugar/ethanol factory,

a biogas pilot facility, and algae cultivation sites in Yogyakarta, Indonesia as well as a hydrogenated fatty acid methyl ester (H-FAME) facility in Bangkok, Thailand.

7. For the **Renewable and Alternative Power Generation (RAPG) Work Stream**, the Ministers welcomed the studies and capacity building activities that explored the potential for deploying renewables with storage/battery technologies in the past year. These include (i) the pre-feasibility study on Renewable Energy and Storage Applications led by the ROK to support the development of photovoltaic and energy storage solutions (PV+ESS) for islands in the ASEAN region; and (ii) the convening by ROK and Brunei Darussalam of a seminar on innovative solar PV and ESS in June 2019 in Ilsan, ROK.
8. The Ministers further acknowledged the effective exchanges and concrete outcomes achieved during the recent EAS Clean Energy Forum held on 11-13 June 2019 in Shenzhen, China, which covered discussions on (i) smart cities, (ii) green finance, (iii) regional energy cooperation and green governance, (iv) new energy and new technologies, and (v) energy access, and will provide consistent support and deepen engagement in the region.
9. The Ministers looked forward to the implementation of the RAPG Work Plan for 2019-2020, which is intended to focus on the adoption of wind power technologies in ASEAN through outreach to policy makers and investors, convening a seminar on wind technologies, and the conduct of a pre-feasibility study to suggest suitable business models.
10. **Initiative on hydrogen and on mobility decarbonisation.** The Ministers appreciated Japan's continuing advocacy to promote regional cooperation and knowledge sharing on all aspects of the development of hydrogen and mobility decarbonisation technologies as an important component of a broad-based, secure and efficient energy portfolio. The Ministers noted the forthcoming Workshop on Hydrogen Potential Study to be convened by ERIA tentatively in May 2020 in Bangkok, Thailand.
11. The Ministers acknowledged the importance of transparent, liquid, stable and competitive global energy markets. They reiterated support for enhancing natural gas security in the region, including through sharing of best practices, convening LNG Final Producer-Consumer Conferences, and the conduct of LNG-related capacity building and training. The Ministers also welcomed Japan and the United States' willingness to continue their joint support for LNG value-chain training in the region and their continued commitment to develop conditions for the relaxation of destination restrictions.
12. **Initiative to promote carbon recycling.** The Ministers discussed the importance of increasing global investments on innovation in order to reduce emissions and provide reliable and affordable energy. They welcomed the proposed Japan-led initiative to promote investments in carbon recycling or carbon capture and utilisation (CCU). The Ministers looked forward to cooperation on research, development and deployment of carbon recycling technologies and reiterated the call to mobilise financing to take advantage of the broad range of energy resources and cleaner energy technologies to achieve resilient economic growth, energy security, energy supply diversity and sustainable ecosystems.
13. The Ministers recognised the need to deepen collaborative actions, including mobilising finance from wide variety of sources and conduct of capacity building, to increase clean coal technology deployment and natural gas utilisation to support energy security and diversity of supply as the region transitions through partnership and innovation to a lower carbon future.
14. **Energy policy research activities in EAS countries.** The Ministers welcomed the implementation of the EAS Mid-Term Energy Policy Research Roadmap, including the research support by ERIA to the three (3) EAS ECTF work streams and the work conducted in response to particular needs

of EAS countries for economic analysis. The work supporting ECTF work streams include energy outlook and savings potential, evaluation of carbon emissions reduction through mobility electrification, introduction of alternative biofuels, hydrogen and LNG demand potential and investment in LNG logistics infrastructure. The Ministers also appreciated the ASEAN Centre for Energy's briefing on its policy research activities in ASEAN and relevant policy research cooperation with other EAS countries.

15. Finally, the EAS Ministers noted the ECTF's continued efforts to enhance the EAS energy platform and to undertake periodic reviews to upgrade the areas of cooperation to reflect the region's evolving priorities and challenges.
16. The Ministers welcomed three (3) international conferences, LNG Producer Consumer Conference, Hydrogen Energy Ministerial Meeting and International Conference on Carbon Recycling to be held on 25-26 September 2019 in Tokyo, Japan as part of Japan's new initiative. The Ministers also welcomed the convening of the 2<sup>nd</sup> East Asia Energy Forum (EAEF2) held on 2 September 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand and noted the "Reflections from the 2<sup>nd</sup> East Asia Energy Forum (EAEF2)".
17. The Ministers looked forward to the next EAS EMM Meeting in September 2020 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam.

The delegations from EAS participating countries, the ASEAN Secretariat and the ASEAN Centre for Energy expressed appreciation to the Government and people of Thailand for the warm hospitality accorded and the excellent arrangements made for the meeting.

#### **MINISTERS FOR ENERGY OF EAS PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES**

1. **H.E. Allan McKinnon PSM**, Australian Ambassador to Thailand, representing, The Hon Angus Taylor MP, Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction, Australia;
2. **The Hon. Dato Mat Suny Hussein**, Minister of Energy, Manpower and Industry, Brunei Darussalam;
3. **H.E. Suy Sem**, Minister of Mines and Energy, Cambodia;
4. **H.E. Liu Baohua**, Vice Administrator, National Energy Administration, The People's Republic of China;
5. **H.E. DR. Arcandra Tahar**, Vice Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources, Indonesia;
6. **H.E. Yoshihiko Isozaki**, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan;
7. **H.E. DR. Khammany Inthirath**, Minister of Energy and Mines, Lao PDR;
8. **The Hon. Yeo Bee Yin**, Minister of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change, Malaysia;
9. **H.E. U Win Khaing**, Union Minister for Electricity and Energy, Myanmar;
10. **H.E. Taha Macpherson**, New Zealand Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand, Kingdom of Cambodia and Lao PDR, representing, Hon. Dr. Megan Woods, Minister of Energy and Resources, New Zealand;
11. **H.E. Alfonso G. Cusi**, Secretary of the Department of Energy, Philippines;
12. **H.E. Youngjoon Joo**, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy, Republic of Korea;

13. **H.E. Mr. Evgeny Tomikhin**, Russian Ambassador to Thailand, representing H.E. Novak Alexander, Minister of Energy, Russia;
14. **H.E. Chee Hong Tat**, Senior Minister of State for Trade and Industry, Singapore
15. **H.E. Sontirat Sontijirawong**, Minister of Energy, Thailand;
16. **Mr. Frank Fannon**, Assistant Secretary of State for Energy Resources, United States of America Department of State; and,
17. **H.E. Dang Hoang An**, Vice Minister of Industry and Trade, Vietnam.
18. **H.E. DR. Aladdin D. Rillo**, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community

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