



CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT
ON THE 17th EAST ASIA SUMMIT ENERGY MINISTERS MEETING
Bali, Indonesia, 25 August 2023

1. The Seventeenth East Asia Summit Energy Ministers Meeting (17th EAS EMM) was hosted by Indonesia on 25 August 2023, in Bali. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Arifin Tasrif, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia. The Meeting was attended by EAS participating countries from ASEAN Member States, Australia, the People's Republic of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America. The Meeting also welcomed the Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources of Timor-Leste as an Observer.

2. Recognising the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the energy sector, promote sustainable development, and ensure continuing energy security and resilience, the Meeting reaffirmed their commitment to advance the region's sustainability agenda and to foster green growth in the region. Further, with the conviction that energy security, resiliency, and the shift to cleaner energy are vital to realising these shared goals, the Meeting underscored the importance of enhancing cooperation within the EAS framework.

Advancing a Sustainability Agenda, Accelerating Energy Transition, and Ensuring Energy Security

3. The Meeting noted the updates on the ASEAN sustainability agenda, including the ASEAN Carbon Neutrality Strategy, the Framework for Circular Economy for the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), and the ASEAN Taxonomy for Sustainable Finance. The Meeting concurred on the importance of cross-sectoral collaboration for the energy transition, which includes addressing the rising demand for critical minerals essential for clean energy technologies, while respecting sovereignty over natural resources. The Meeting acknowledged that certain minerals, materials, products, and technologies are critical as inputs for some zero and low-emission energy technologies, and clean, sustainable, just, affordable, and inclusive energy transitions, and acknowledge the need for expanded investment, recognising differing regulatory approaches and contributions to local and regional development.

4. The Meeting exchanged views on strategic, policy, and practical cooperation initiatives needed to advance climate sustainability and accelerate the energy transition, while ensuring growth and energy security amidst global economic and geopolitical challenges that undermine the group's efforts to enhance regional energy security and affordability. The Meeting affirmed its commitment to exert utmost efforts to enhance cooperation among the EAS Participating Countries in order to support the

establishment of ASEAN as the Epicentrum of Growth in the region. The Meeting further acknowledged the importance of mitigating the economic impact of geopolitical tensions, global economic shocks, and other global shocks to the region as well as to their bilateral trade and economic relations, particularly on issues related to energy security.

5. The EAS Participating Countries took the opportunity to brief the Meeting on key aspects of their respective plans, policies, major initiatives, and challenges towards energy security and energy transitions. The Meeting emphasised the importance of pursuing clean, sustainable, just, affordable, and inclusive energy transitions through an all-fuels, all-technologies approach that enhances the reliability, affordability, and sustainability of energy for all, consistent with global net-zero emissions or carbon neutrality by or around mid-century.

6. The Meeting acknowledged that each country will have its own transition pathway. The Meeting highlighted the need to enhance collaboration in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the energy sector by leveraging alternative and emerging zero and low emissions technologies and systems, including fuel ammonia, hydrogen, bioenergy, natural gas, LNG, renewable energy, energy efficiency, nuclear energy, and carbon management technologies, such as carbon capture, utilisation, and/or storage (CCU/S) and carbon recycling, among others.

Opportunities for Green Growth in Decarbonising and Transitioning the Energy Sector

7. The Meeting exchanged views and shared insights following the briefings from the ASEAN Secretariat, the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE), the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) discussing the key policy enablers for sustainable economic growth through the scaled deployment and adoption of net zero emissions and low carbon energy technologies.

8. The Meeting acknowledged expectations of increasing energy demand in the ASEAN region transition to a green economy. The Meeting acknowledged the need to drive down the cost of clean energy technologies in ASEAN while maintaining the pace of ASEAN's economic growth potential. The Meeting expressed support to collaborate on creating opportunities for new green industries, jobs and technologies, including re-skilling in affected communities. The Meeting called for higher contribution and engagement from the private sector in developing net zero emissions and low-carbon energy technologies and affordable energy in the ASEAN region. The Meeting noted the importance of creating enabling environments for private sector engagement in our energy sectors for high-quality and bankable projects.

Strengthening Energy Security and Sustainability through Concrete Cooperation Initiatives

9. On the 'Energy Efficiency and Conservation' work stream, the Meeting appreciated the latest of energy audits by Japan which were conducted in Phayam Island, Thailand, from December 2022 to February 2023, to verify distributed energy systems and find optimal combination with grid connected power. The Meeting welcomed the updated EAS Energy Saving Potential and Outlook, prepared by the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), with focus on 'Low-Carbon Energy Transition-Carbon Neutral (LCET-CN) scenarios' especially the interplay of energy costs and its implications for energy and technology choices in 18 EAS countries across the power and final energy consumption sectors.

10. On the 'Biofuels for Transport and Other Purposes' work stream, the Meeting noted the publication of the ERIA Research Report in November 2022 on the 'Phase 2 Analysis of EAS Future Mobility Fuel Scenarios, Considering the Sustainable Use of Biofuels and Other Alternative Vehicle Fuels'. The Meeting also noted the comparison of greenhouse gas reduction for biofuels and electric vehicles (EVs) as well as increased cobalt requirements with the increased utilisation of EV under different mobility electrification scenarios in selected EAS countries. The Meeting looked forward to a new joint study on 'Analysis of water-energy-food (WEF) nexus for sustainable biomass utilisation for fuel, fiber, and food in selected EAS countries.

11. On the 'Renewable and Alternative Power Generation' work stream, the Meeting acknowledged the continued emphasis on innovative and emergent renewable energy technologies. The Meeting noted the completion of the Wind Power Pre-Feasibility Study in Brunei Darussalam supported by the Republic of Korea and the conduct of a virtual Hydrogen Technologies Seminar on 6 December 2022. The Meeting looked forward to the conduct of the 'Research on Solar Rooftop development and business model for an ASEAN Industrial complex in Viet Nam' and the capacity building seminar on 'Techno-economic Aspects of co-firing technology using Ammonia and Hydrogen' to be similarly supported by Republic of Korea. The Meeting also welcomed the successful convening of the 6th East Asia Energy Forum by ERIA, ACE and Indonesia on 21 August 2023 in Bali, Indonesia, and the Bali Reflections focusing on the 'Future of Energy: Decarbonising the Final Consumption Sector', and looked forward to the 6th EAS Clean Energy Forum, to be conducted as part of the 2023 China – ASEAN Clean Energy Week (CACEW), on 18 – 24 September 2023, in Hainan, China.

12. On new cooperation activities, the Meeting took note of the ongoing engagement between ASEAN and Australia, including the forthcoming ASEAN-Australia High-Level Dialogue on Climate Change and Energy Transition on 29 September 2023, and the Special Summit to Commemorate the 50th Anniversary of ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations on 4-6 March 2024 which will include a track on climate change and clean energy transition. In addition, the Meeting took note of the relevant initiatives such as Asia Energy Transition Initiative (AETI) by Japan that aim to provide tailored support for energy transitions in the region. The Meeting also noted the approval of the ASEAN-Russia Energy Cooperation Work Plan for 2023-2025. The Meeting further noted the conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding between the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) and the USAID's South East Asia Smart Power

Programme (SPP) to boost regional energy trade by strengthening the ASEAN Power Grid and accelerating the deployment of clean energy technologies.

13. The Meeting also noted the contributions of ERIA towards the EAS energy cooperation agenda through the implementation of activities under ERIA's rolling 3-year Roadmap on EAS Mid-Term Energy Policy Research for 2022-2023 and appreciated ERIA's activities in supporting EAS countries to achieve realistic energy transition pathways towards carbon neutrality, especially those on the Asia CCUS Network and developing a Transition Technology List and reference guidelines for facilitating Transition Finance.

14. The Meeting noted the Feasibility Study on Regional Energy Connectivity in Southeast Asia conducted in partnership with the United States Department of Energy and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, which will support progress in advancing the ASEAN Power Grid. The Meeting looked forward to the organisation of the Singapore International Energy Week (SIEW) Thinktank Roundtable co-organised by the United States Department of Commerce on "Low Carbon Technology in Decarbonising the Energy Sector" on 26 October 2023.

15. The Meeting reaffirmed the need to explore concrete cooperation initiatives under EAS to enhance the region's energy interconnectivity and support the implementation of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC). The Meeting looked forward to tangible initiatives regarding energy efficiency and conservation, net zero emissions and low-carbon energy technologies, hydrogen and ammonia fuels, among others. EAS Participating Countries also noted the opportunities to develop new initiatives under the EAS ECTF Workstreams in support of implementing the ASEAN Carbon Neutrality Strategy, ASEAN Blue Economy Framework, and the Circular Economy Framework for the AEC.

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16. The Meeting looked forward to the next 18th EAS EMM Meeting in 2024 to be hosted by Lao PDR.

The delegations from EAS participating countries, the ASEAN Secretariat and the ASEAN Centre for Energy expressed appreciation to the Government and people of Indonesia for the excellent hosting of the meeting.

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