

JOINT STATEMENT
OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF ASEAN MINISTERS ON ENERGY AND THE
MINISTER OF ECONOMY, TRADE AND INDUSTRY OF JAPAN
21 June 2021

“Enhancing Partnerships in Realising Energy Transitions in ASEAN”

1. The Special Meeting of ASEAN Ministers on Energy and the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (the Meeting) was hosted virtually by the ASEAN Secretariat on 21 June 2021. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Nguyen Hong Dien, Minister of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam, and co-chaired by H.E. Kajiyama Hiroshi, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan. The Secretary-General of ASEAN was also in attendance.
2. In light of the unprecedented challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Meeting recognised the urgency of addressing sustainable post-pandemic recovery and affirmed the importance of energy transitions towards sustainable development.
3. The Meeting strongly acknowledged the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2016-2025 Phase II: 2021-2025, with a sub-theme of “Accelerating Energy Transition and Strengthening Energy Resilience through Greater Innovation and Cooperation”, as the framework for the region’s energy cooperation agenda in the next five years as well as the longer-term work towards a sustainable ASEAN energy future.
4. The Meeting recognised the critical role of the ASEAN Centre for Energy in facilitating and advancing the interest of ASEAN energy cooperation under the APAEC Phase II framework with the strong engagement of Dialogue Partners and International Organisations and welcomed further collaboration between ASEAN and Japan, including with the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA).
5. The Meeting recognised that the ASEAN Member States are at various stages of economic development and differing geographical conditions. Hence, energy transitions have to take into account different national circumstances. The Meeting also noted the unique energy policies of each country, which address energy security, economic competitiveness and environmental sustainability based on each country’s circumstances.
6. The Meeting recognised the energy transition strategies, including but not limited to the: expansion of multilateral power trading; development of common ASEAN gas market; optimisation of the role of Clean Coal Technology (CCT) and Carbon Capture, Utilisation, and Storage (CCUS); enhancement of energy efficiency and conservation measures in various sectors; acceleration of renewable energy deployment; advancement of regional energy policy and planning for energy transition and resilience; and development of human resource capacity and capability on nuclear energy for power generation.
7. The Meeting noted the need to improve the utilisation of all energy sources, technologies, information, expertise, and related policies to meet the growing energy

demand in ASEAN through encouraging research, development and innovation, and technology transfer for new and emerging technologies for CCT, CCUS, hydrogen, battery and energy storage, civilian nuclear energy, as well as creating enabling environments for green investments towards sustainability in the ASEAN region.

8. The Meeting noted that the efforts for effective energy transitions in ASEAN will not only achieve the targets in the APAEC Phase II (2021-2025) but also significantly contribute to the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, with the views of promoting green growth and sustainable development in the region, the Meeting also looked forward to furthering cross-sectoral collaboration.

9. The Meeting affirmed the necessity of adequate financing to support the realisation of energy transitions in the region. The Meeting welcomed Japan's 'Asia Energy Transition Initiative (AETI)', which includes a wide range of support for energy transitions in ASEAN, such as 10 billion USD financial support, technology development and deployment support, and human resource development through various training workshops, studies and reports, and knowledge sharing activities such as the proposed Asia CCUS Network, and studying the details of the 'Asia Energy Transition Finance' concept. The Meeting noted Japan's initiative to convene the Asia Green Growth Partnership Ministerial Meeting in October 2021.
