

**JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
OF THE 16th EAST ASIA SUMMIT ENERGY MINISTERS MEETING
16 September 2022**

1. The Sixteenth East Asia Summit Energy Ministers Meeting (16th EAS EMM) was hosted virtually by Cambodia on 16 September 2022. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Suy Sem, Minister of Mines and Energy of Cambodia. 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.

Regional Architecture and Efforts Towards the Sustainability and Decarbonisation Agenda

2. Recognising that the EAS will continue to be an open, inclusive, transparent and outward-looking forum and an integral component of the evolving ASEAN-centred regional architecture, the Meeting acknowledged the need to further strengthen the EAS as the forum for dialogue and cooperation on broad strategic areas including the energy sector.

3. With this in mind, the Meeting congratulated ASEAN for the release of the '7th ASEAN Energy Outlook' that outlines scenarios and potential pathways for ASEAN to achieve energy transitions, considering all energy sources and technologies, energy access and social impact, and options for strengthening ASEAN's energy resiliency. The Meeting also welcomed the release of the '2nd ASEAN Renewable Energy Outlook: Towards Regional Energy Transition', developed for ASEAN by the International Renewable Energy Agency, focused on ASEAN's options to accelerate renewables, end-user electrification, energy efficiency and conservation, and emerging alternative technologies in the region. The Meeting also welcomed the successful commencement of the Lao PDR – Thailand – Malaysia – Singapore Power Integration Project (LTMS-PIP) on 23 June 2022 which serves as an important pathfinder project to advance regional integration and energy resilience, underpinned by the ASEAN Power Grid vision in support of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) Phase II: 2021-2025.

4. The Meeting exchanged views on strategic, policy and practical cooperation initiatives needed to advance the climate sustainability and decarbonisation agenda in the energy sector, amidst geopolitical tensions that undermine the group's efforts to enhance regional energy security and affordability. 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 transition while ensuring energy security and connectivity for their countries. They also discussed the importance of utilising all mechanisms to expand energy transition finance and access to innovative technologies in line with global efforts to implement the Paris Agreement.

The Meeting acknowledged the importance of achieving realistic energy transitions, through utilisation of various alternative and emerging low-carbon technologies and systems, such as fuel ammonia, hydrogen, biomass, nuclear energy, clean coal technology (CCT), and carbon capture utilisation and/or storage (CCU/S)/carbon recycling.

5. The Meeting acknowledged ASEAN's progress in consolidating its sustainability agenda, specifically the ongoing development of the Implementation Plan for the Framework for Circular Economy for the ASEAN Economic Community and the Concept Note on ASEAN Strategy for Carbon Neutrality, which aim to provide guidance on pathways for the region's transition towards a circular and low-carbon economy.

Enhancing Practical Actions and Comprehensive Collaboration towards Energy Transitions

6. The Meeting noted progress made under the work streams of the EAS Energy Cooperation Task Force (ECTF). The Meeting welcomed the implementation of concrete initiatives to foster EAS energy cooperation. In this regard, the EAS EMM also affirmed the continuing importance of the EAS energy platform not only to implement joint efforts but also to explore trends, barriers and opportunities affecting areas of common interest.

7. On the 'Energy Efficiency and Conservation' work stream, the Meeting appreciated the resumption of energy audits by Japan which were previously paused due to the global health pandemic and looked forward to the findings and lessons learned from the latest audit candidate by March 2023. The Meeting noted the findings of the EAS Energy Saving Potential and Outlook prepared by the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), including the generation of 'Low-Carbon Energy Transition-Carbon Neutral (LCET-CN) scenarios' and the implications for energy and technology choices in EAS countries across the power and final energy consumption sectors.

8. On the 'Biofuels for Transport and Other Purposes' work stream, the Meeting noted the publication of the Joint ERIA study in December 2021 on the 'Analysis of EAS Future Mobility Fuel Scenario, Considering the Sustainable Use of Biofuels and Other Alternative Vehicle Fuels'. The Meeting looked forward to the findings and implications of (i) evaluating 'Well-to Wheel' CO₂ emissions when using biofuels in India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam; (ii) assessing the minerals demand and related emissions that underpin mobility electrification; and (iii) the analysis of mobility scenarios for EAS countries considering synergies between biofuel use and electric vehicle output.

9. On the 'Renewable and Alternative Power Generation' work stream, the Meeting welcomed the continued focus on innovative and emerging renewable energy technologies. The Meeting noted the progress of the Brunei Darussalam Wind Power

Pre-Feasibility Study supported by the Republic of Korea and looked forward to its final result. The Meeting also looked forward to the conduct of the seminar on techno-economic aspects of hydrogen generation for ASEAN policymakers and other stakeholders to be organised by Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Korea. The Meeting commended the successful organisation of the 5th EAS Clean Energy Forum held on 25-26 November 2021 in Beijing, China, with the theme 'Boosting Green Recovery with High Proportion of Renewable Energy'.

10. On the promotion of innovative technologies and low-carbon societies, the Meeting expressed appreciation to Japan for its continued advocacy on the development of hydrogen and mobility decarbonisation technologies. Likewise, mindful of the global disruption in the demand and supply of LNG and natural gas, the Meeting appreciated Japan's advocacy for the use of natural gas as a transition fuel to also enhance energy security in Asia as part of the regional transformation to net zero emissions. The Meeting noted the progress of the capacity-building activities and knowledge-sharing conferences to promote CCUS and carbon recycling, and, noted the organisation of the 2nd Asia CCUS Network Forum to be held in September 2022. The Meeting noted ASEAN Dialogue Partners' activities on the promotion of natural gas and proposals on future activities that align with the APAEC Phase II:2021-2025, including natural gas fuel for vehicles.

11. The Meeting appreciated the contributions of ERIA towards energy policy research activities in the EAS region through the implementation of the rolling 3-year Roadmap on EAS Mid-Term Energy Policy Research for 2021-2023, including the voluntary scenario analyses on the ASEAN Carbon Neutrality Scenario conducted with the Institute of Energy Economics of Japan. The Meeting also welcomed the successful convening of the 5th East Asia Energy Forum (EAEF5) and its Phnom Penh Reflections focusing on ASEAN's challenges on carbon neutrality and energy security on 12 September 2022 organised by ERIA and Cambodia.

12. The Meeting noted the Singapore-US Third Country Training Programme on 22- 24 March 2022 on renewable energy. The Meeting also noted the US-Southeast Asia Clean Energy Roundtable in Singapore on 14 July 2022, and looked forward to the feasibility study on enhancing regional energy connectivity to strengthen energy security and grid resilience. The Meeting also looked forward to the U.S. roundtable discussion on battery energy storage systems on 27 October 2022 at the Singapore International Energy Week (SIEW).

Mobilising Finance to Accelerate Energy Transitions

13. The Meeting recognised the importance of accelerating the development and deployment of innovative, scalable, and efficient technologies to advance the pathways for achieving an affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all. The Meeting noted that there is no single pathway to achieve a low carbon economy, but rather there are diverse paths for each country. The Meeting emphasised the need for EAS members to explore a variety of options and utilise all technologies and fuels

to ensure a stable and secure supply of energy for achieving economic growth, as part of the regional transformation to net zero emissions. The Meeting affirmed the importance of the promotion of upstream energy investments in designing pathways towards carbon neutrality to secure access to affordable, clean energy for all, and to address disruptions in supply.

14. The Meeting noted the importance of mobilising finance, technology access and innovation to accelerate energy transitions, and noted the various Memorandums of Cooperation signed by Japan with some ASEAN Member States namely with Indonesia, Singapore, and Thailand, and the joint statement with Viet Nam to promote cooperation under Japan's 'Asia Energy Transition Initiative'. The Meeting noted Japan's related initiative to convene the 2nd Asia Green Growth Partnership Ministerial Meeting on 26 September 2022 to introduce the first versions of an 'Asia Transition Finance Guidelines and Technology List and Perspectives on Transition Finance in Asia' and to pursue continuing work on transition finance and innovation. The Meeting welcomed the expansion of similar initiatives from EAS Participating Countries to strengthen commitments and to scale up and shift investments towards sustainable and climate-resilient infrastructure, including renewable energy and alternative technologies.

17th EAS EMM

15. The Meeting looked forward to the next 17th EAS EMM Meeting in 2023 to be hosted by Indonesia.

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

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