

**JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
OF THE 12th EAST ASIA SUMMIT ENERGY MINISTERS MEETING**
29 October 2018, Singapore

1. The 12th East Asia Summit Energy Ministers Meeting (EAS EMM) was held on 29 October 2018 in Singapore. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Dr. Koh Poh Soon, Senior Minister of State for Trade and Industry of Singapore. 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, New Zealand, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America. The Secretary-General of ASEAN was also in attendance.

2. The EAS region is experiencing high rates of economic growth and energy demand will increase for many years. This is occurring against a background of an energy transition to ensure a low carbon regional economy in the future. The Ministers highlighted the need to work cooperatively in promoting regional energy security, energy supply diversity, energy infrastructure development and the deployment of low emissions technologies. They also highlighted the importance of promoting rules-based, open, transparent and competitive energy trade and investment markets to deliver resilient economic, energy security and environmental outcomes.

3. The EAS Ministers discussed the work plans being implemented under the EAS cooperation, including energy efficiency, renewable energy, natural gas, alternative and low emission technologies. The Ministers also acknowledged the continued role of fossil fuels including natural gas and clean coal technologies in the region in order to contribute to the region's economic growth, energy security and environment protection. To this end, the Ministers called for deeper cooperation and concrete efforts, in mobilising finance from a wide variety of sources, to take advantage of the broad range of energy resources and clean energy technologies to achieve regional economic growth, energy security and sustainable ecosystems.

4. **Progress of the EAS Energy Cooperation.** The EAS Ministers noted the progress of efforts to implement the EAS Leaders' mandate to strengthen the East Asia Summit, including energy as an EAS priority area of cooperation, and looked forward to the recommendations of the EAS Energy Cooperation Task Force in 2019. The Ministers also discussed the progress of activities implemented by the three (3) Work Streams on Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EE&C), Renewable and Alternative Power Generation (RAPG), and Biofuels for Transport and Other Purposes (BTOP).

5. For the EE&C Work Stream, this included the completion and online release of the stock-takes of existing policies and measures on EE&C and energy savings potential as well as the completion of the energy audit in the Perhentian Islands of

Malaysia as the first project of the distributed energy systems (DES) initiative. The Ministers commended the DES initiative in supporting the adoption of EE technologies and introduction of renewable energy (RE)-based supply in remote and off-grid community. The Ministers also looked forward to the energy audit of Cambodia's Phnom Penh Special Economic Zone as the second case implementing the DES initiative supported by Japan.

6. The Ministers noted the progress of activities for the RAPG Work Stream, including the sharing of best practices in deploying floating solar photovoltaic (PV) systems as well as on innovations for sustainable use of conventional and new types of geothermal resources and their benefits in the EAS region. The Ministers also noted the Work Stream's 2019 plans to implement the activities on innovative solar and storage technologies. The Ministers looked forward to the development of the work plan of the EAS Clean Energy Forum, which is a regular event under the Work Stream. The Ministers also welcomed the Republic of Korea as the new Co-Chair of the RAPG Work Stream.

7. The BTOP Work Stream completed its work assessing the renewables potential and effective usage in EAS countries. The Ministers looked forward to the findings from the BTOP proposal to evaluate future reductions in emissions and energy consumption in the transportation sector through mobility electrification and the introduction of next generation biofuels in EAS countries.

8. **Promotion of natural gas.** The Ministers affirmed the critical role of natural gas in improving energy security and helping economies gradually transition towards a low carbon future. The Ministers also reiterated the importance of a strong and visible commitment to increase the utilisation of liquefied natural gas (LNG) and to develop infrastructure which would support the growth of natural gas and LNG markets in the region. In particular, EAS Ministers noted that the 36th ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM) endorsed the key recommendations of the Gas Advocacy White Paper to promote the use of natural gas and LNG, through a well-coordinated and connected regional gas market.

9. The Ministers welcomed Japan and the United States' willingness to continue support for capacity building in LNG value-chain training for the EAS members; finance support mechanisms for LNG infrastructure and related services; and, the development of conditions for the relaxation of destination restrictions. They also noted the implementation by the United States of destination-free LNG deliveries to the Asia Pacific region, which enhance the security and flexibility of the market, as well as the expressed interest from the United States and Russia to collaborate with EAS participating countries to develop the region's gas markets.

10. The Ministers noted the LNG Producer Consumer Conference on 22 October 2018 in Nagoya, Japan and the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)'s contributions towards policy analysis, research studies, roundtables and technical workshops conducted on natural gas and LNG markets.

11. **Initiative on hydrogen and on mobility decarbonisation as well as cross-sector benefits.** The Ministers noted the convening of the Hydrogen Energy Ministerial Meeting in Tokyo on 23 October 2018, and welcomed Japan's proposal to cooperate on research, development and deployment of hydrogen and mobility decarbonisation technologies in order to advance hydrogen as an important component of a broad-based, secure, sustainable and efficient energy portfolio.

12. The Ministers acknowledged that low carbon emission options such as the hydrogen and natural gas utilisation could significantly contribute towards green growth. They looked forward to the pilot projects undertaken by Japan on hydrogen in Australia and Brunei Darussalam. The Ministers also looked forward to expanding collaboration on hydrogen with other EAS participating countries.

13. **Implementation of the EAS policy research roadmap.** The Ministers welcomed the implementation of the EAS Mid-Term Energy Policy Research Roadmap following the adoption of the roadmap at the 11th EAS EMM in September 2017. The studies conducted by ERIA under the roadmap supported the work of the three (3) EAS ECTF work streams, including EAS energy outlook and savings potential, DES application, next generation biofuels and analysis of geothermal energy potential in response to the particular needs of EAS countries for economic analysis.

14. Following the 12th EAS EMM, the Ministers looked forward to participating in the discussions at the 11th Singapore International Energy Week on 30 October 2018.

15. The Ministers looked forward to the next EAS EMM Meeting in September 2019 in Thailand.

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

MINISTERS FOR ENERGY OF EAS PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

1. **H.E. Kate Duff**, Chargé d'affaires, Australian High Commission to Singapore, 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. Akimasa Ishikawa**, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan
7. **H.E. Kim Chang Kyu**, Deputy Minister for Trade and Legal Affairs, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy, Republic of Korea
8. **H.E. Dr. Khammany Inthirath**, Minister of Energy and Mines, Lao PDR
9. **The Hon. Yeo Bee Yin**, Minister of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change, Malaysia
10. **H.E. U Win Khaing**, Union Minister for Electricity and Energy, Myanmar
11. **Dr. Jonathan Austin**, High Commissioner, New Zealand
12. **H.E. Alfonso G. Cusi**, Secretary of the Department of Energy, Philippines
13. **H.E. Anton Inyutsyn**, Deputy Minister of Energy, Russia
14. **H.E. Dr. Koh Poh Soon**, Senior Minister of State for Trade and Industry, Singapore
15. **H.E. Dr. Siri Jirapongphan**, Minister of Energy, Thailand
16. **Mr. Frank Fannon**, Assistant Secretary of State for Energy Resources, United States of America
17. **H.E. Dang Hoang An**, Vice Minister of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam
18. **H.E. Dato Lim Jock Hoi**, Secretary General of ASEAN

-0-