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Committee on Energy

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Chair of the Session, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen
Assalamualaikum and Good Morning/Afternoon/Evening

Excellencies

We have adopted and implemented various policies and initiatives to promote renewable energy, energy efficiency, and cleaner use of fossil fuels, in line with our national development goals and our international commitments. We have already expressed our aspiration to have 40% of our energy from renewable sources by 2041.

Moreover, we are committed to achieving sustainable development goal 7, which aims to ensure universal access to affordable, reliable, and modern energy, increase energy efficiency, and expand the share of renewable energy in the energy mix. We are proud to say that we have increased our electricity coverage from 47 percent in 2009 to 100 percent in 2022. We have also increased our installed power generation capacity from 4.9 GW in 2009 to more than 26 GW in 2023, with a diversified energy mix that includes natural gas, coal, oil, hydro, solar, wind and nuclear. To achieve the SDG 7.2 Bangladesh aims to scale up the generation of renewable energy to provide affordable, reliable, sustainable and clean modern energy to its people.

Our renewable energy policies are guided by the principles of sustainability and are aligned with our national development priorities. We have also developed and deployed various renewable energy technologies, including solar, biogas plants, waste-to-energy projects, and wind power projects. We have made significant progress in the field of renewable energy, with more than 4% of our total power generation

capacity coming from renewable sources. As of today, our renewable energy installed capacity is 1159 MW, of which 925 MW is from solar. We have added more than 250 MW of renewable capacities in 2022 from different renewable technologies. Another clean energy source that is being promoted in the nation is nuclear energy. A nuclear power station with a 2400 Megawatt installed capacity is currently being built.

We are exploring ways to diversify our energy sources and reduce our dependence on natural gas, which now accounts for 75 percent of our electricity production. We are increasing investment in cleaner and more efficient energy technologies, such as combined cycle power plants, liquefied natural gas terminals, nuclear power plants and the use of LPG for modern cooking and transport.

These achievements and efforts demonstrate our determination and ambition to transform our energy sector and contribute to the global fight against climate change. However, we are aware that our domestic energy resources are limited and cannot meet the growing demand of our economy and society. We also recognize the need to reduce our carbon footprint and transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient future. That is why we are keen to explore the potential of the regional power market and regional grid integration in South Asia and beyond. We need more regional cooperation and dialogue on energy transition and resilience, especially in the face of the pandemic and global energy crises and their aftermath.

We believe that the regional power market and grid integration can bring multiple benefits to Bangladesh and the region. The benefits include increased energy security, cost savings, and the use of clean energy

sources. Through bilateral and multinational initiatives, Bangladesh has been actively promoting cross-border electricity trade. Our current power import from India is 1160 MW. We expect that up to 500 MW of electricity generated by hydroelectric project will be imported into Bangladesh via the Indian system, further enhancing our energy security and resilience. Furthermore, we are pleased to have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Bhutan to import 1500 MW of power from Bhutan by 2035. We think that encouraging robust and sustainable energy systems in the region requires strong regional cooperation and collaboration.

Bangladesh is dedicated to collaborating more with its regional allies to achieve our common objectives. Sharing best practices, exchanging data, harmonizing standards, facilitating trade, and mobilizing resources are all necessary. In an effort to improve energy security and diversify its energy sources, Bangladesh is ready to explore more opportunities for cross-border power exchange and grid interconnection with nearby nations including India, Nepal, Bhutan, and Myanmar. By utilizing cross-border energy sharing, trading and multi-country working groups, we can harness these nations' renewable energy resources to provide sustainable energy access for all.

To develop and carry out policies and projects on renewable energy, energy efficiency, and energy access, we also require technology transfer, capacity building support and grant from ESCAP and its partners, including the Asian Development Bank, the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Our joint efforts will be

strengthened if our national energy plans and goals are in line with regional and international frameworks like the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the ESCAP resolution on accelerating the transition to sustainable energy in Asia and the Pacific. Together, we must establish and foster a more stable, dependable, integrated, and sustainable energy future for Asia and the Pacific by building a sense of trust, confidence, and cooperation among us.

I'd like to end by restating Bangladesh's commitment to attaining Sustainable Development Goal 7, energy security and resilience, and our support for advancing sustainable and resilient energy systems in Asia and the Pacific. We are resolved to keep working to lessen our dependency on fossil fuels, expand our capacity for renewable energy, and encourage energy efficiency measures across a range of industries. We are eager to collaborate with ESCAP to achieve this common objective.

Thank you. Joy Bangla.

Oral statements

Madam chair, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

Good Morning,

Excellencies

We are implementing, various policies and initiatives, to promote renewable energy, energy efficiency, and more cleaner use of fossil fuels, in line with our national development goals and our international commitments including SDGs. We have already expressed our aspiration to have 40% of our energy from renewable sources by 2041.

We are proud to say that, we have increased our electricity coverage to 100 percent area in 2022. We have also increased our installed power generation capacity, from 4.9 GigaWatt in 2009, to more than 26 GigaWatt in 2023, with a diversified energy mix that includes natural gas, coal, oil, hydro, solar, wind, and nuclear. To achieve the SDG 7.2 Bangladesh aims to scale up the generation of renewable energy to provide affordable, reliable, sustainable and clean modern energy to its people.

Excellencies

We are increasing investment in cleaner and more efficient energy technologies, including solar, biogas plants, waste-to-energy projects, and wind power projects. Another clean energy source that is being promoted in the nation is nuclear energy. A nuclear power station with a 2400 Megawatt installed capacity is currently being built.

These achievements and efforts demonstrate our determination and ambition to transform our energy sector and contribute to the global fight against climate change. However, we are aware that our domestic energy resources are limited and cannot meet the growing demand of our economy and society. We also recognize the need to reduce our carbon footprint and transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient future. That is why we are keen to explore the potential of the regional power market and regional grid integration in South Asia and beyond. We need more regional cooperation and dialogue on energy transition and resilience, especially in the face of the pandemic and global energy crises and their aftermath.

We believe that the regional power market and grid integration can bring multiple benefits to Bangladesh and the region. The benefits include increased energy security, cost savings, and the use of clean energy sources. Through bilateral and multinational initiatives, Bangladesh has been actively promoting cross-border electricity trade. We currently import power from India and also signed an MOU to import from Bhutan. In an effort to improve energy security and diversify its energy sources, Bangladesh is ready to explore more opportunities for cross-border power exchange and grid interconnection with nearby nations including India, Nepal, Bhutan and beyond.

Together, we must establish and foster a more stable, dependable, integrated, and sustainable energy future for Asia and the Pacific by building a sense of trust, confidence, and cooperation among us.

Thank you. Joy Bangla.