

Opening Remarks

Mrs. Premrutai Vinaiphat
Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Energy, Thailand

Expert Working Group on universal access to modern energy services, renewable energy, energy efficiency and cleaner use of fossil fuels (EWG-SDG7)

26 August 2021, UNESCAP, Bangkok

H.E. Ms. Raushan Yesbulatova, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to UN ESCAP,

Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Executive Secretary UN ESCAP, ESCAP Member States, UN-Energy and International Organizations, Distinguished Experts and Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

- On behalf of the Royal Thai Government, it is my honor to attend the **Expert Working Group** on universal access to modern energy services, renewable energy, energy efficiency and cleaner use of fossil fuels under the theme ‘Towards the **High-level Dialogue** on Energy 2021’ organized today.
- In my capacity as Co-Chair of the Committee on Energy, I highly commend the efforts of the two Expert Working Groups created by the Commission (on SDG7 and on Energy Connectivity). Their work ensures continues dialogue among ESCAP members in the periods between the sessions of the Committee. The working groups play an essential role in knowledge dissemination through the sharing of experiences and best practices, to support aligning national energy policies with the Sustainable Development Goal 7.
- As you are aware, to accelerate SDG 7 action for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement requires collective action. Each government will decide how these global targets should be incorporated in national policy and planning that finally must turn into actions.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

- May I recall that the **High-level Dialogue** on Energy will result in a forward-looking statement calling for concrete actions to further accelerate SDG7 implementation, taking into account the role of energy services in tackling the global COVID-19 pandemic.
- With that, one important outcome today includes "Energy Compacts", that is voluntary commitments from member countries. The “Energy Compacts” are flexible instruments for countries to showcase their more detailed national

priorities and commitments towards developing their energy systems in-line with SDG 7 and SDG 13 on Climate Action.

- For this, let us elaborate on details and practical implementation of voluntary commitments from Member States that will detail key outcomes, milestones and implementation timelines with clear tracking frameworks towards 2030.

Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen:

- For **Thailand**, to align with SDG 7 and SDG 13, in the new **National Energy Plan (NEP2022)** we have set the target to move Thailand towards the roadmap of **Carbon Neutrality** by the year **2065 to 2070**. We will increase the proportion of **clean and renewable energy** for power generation **not less than 50 percent** in the new power plants. We will upgrade our **grid modernization** and **energy infrastructure networks** to support the decentralized micro grid system and **regional energy connectivity** to support power trading with neighboring countries. The plan aims to enhance energy security and competitiveness for sustainable and resilient energy future and move towards the carbon neutral pathway.
- We are now in the aggressive move of promoting the **Electric Vehicle Industry** under the plan **30@30 policy** which aims to achieve the target of at least 30% Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) production by the year 2030 by implementing both tax and non-tax policy incentives. In the same way, **battery and energy storage technology** have been actively developed to cover the expansion of EV market. Thailand welcomes all forms of collaboration both technology development and investment partnership.
- At the same time, we also promote a **BCG (Bio-Circular-Green) Economy model** by applying a concept of '*do little but gain more*' to optimize the resource use in the value chain and turn waste into energy and bring the better well-being and environment to the community. Thailand will propose the BCG Model during **Thailand's APEC Chairmanship** at the APEC Summit in 2022.

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

- Thailand has a *vision* for a sustainable energy future that addresses our environmental sustainability performance to achieve the **SDG7 Goal** and simultaneously develop the modernization of the country towards low carbon economy.
- For all of us to achieve the SDG7 together, I do believe, a shared responsibility and collective efforts we make, as well as active engagement with contribution

of national, regional cooperation, together with political and economic groups are vital to move forward our intention for a sustainable energy future.

- I trust the results from the EWG meeting today will provide valuable input to the deliberations at the High-level Dialogue on Energy at a summit level during the **76th session of the General Assembly** of the United Nations in **September 2021 in New York**. I would like to thank the **ESCAP** for organizing this important meeting.

- I wish the meeting every success with fruitful deliberation.

“Wishing you all stay safe and always healthy!” Thank you very much.
