

## **CLOSING REMARKS**

by

**H.E. Dr. Siri Jirapongphan**  
**Minister of Energy, Government of Thailand**  
at  
**The 2nd Asia Pacific Energy Forum (APEF2)**  
**5 April 2018**  
**UNCC, Bangkok**

**\*Excellencies, Ministers and Ambassadors from Member States and Associate Members,**

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**\*Madame Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, Under Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP,**

**\*Honorable Delegates**

**\*Distinguished Participants,**

**\*Ladies and Gentlemen,**

After two days of very productive sessions, the Second Asia Pacific Energy Forum finally come to a close.

On behalf of the Ministry of Energy of the Royal Thai Government, I am grateful to the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) for your remarkable arrangements of this **Second Asia Pacific Energy Forum** here in Bangkok and would like to express my sincere appreciation to all delegates from Member States for the productive and successful deliberation at this important gathering, which contributed to a greater mutual understanding for our joint and closer energy cooperation.

I am pleased to learn that the draft Ministerial Declaration on regional cooperation for energy transition towards sustainable and resilient societies in Asia and the Pacific has been successfully reviewed by Senior Officials of the Member States. This attempt will definitely echo ministerial policy perspectives on energy transition and regional cooperation in order to show pathways for ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

## Ladies and Gentlemen

Enhancing energy security and developing policies and strategies to attain the Sustainable Development Goal on Energy, or SDG7, are major concerns and challenges for all Member States in the ESCAP region. Against the backdrop of expected rising energy demand in most of the developing economies, the energy *diversification* should be the prime goal to all Member States to ensure sustainable supply of energy to meet this demand growth. I would assure you that, though our region possesses significant petroleum resources; coal, oil and natural gas, and comprises both major importers and producers of petroleum products, we all are cognizant of the imperatives to deliberate on our transition from the world that is driven by fossil fuel to the world that is dominated by *cleaner energy*. Enablers such as energy policy, technology, regulation, finance and market mechanism must be adapted in harmony to support this challenging energy transition that can bring solution from “policy” to “action”.

Thailand stands firm in its determination to implement the policy that will advance affordable power generation from renewable biomass, solar and wind resources, optimally in such a way that maximizes economic benefits to the broader society, as well as in its desire to cooperate with the **United Nations, relevant Agencies and its Member States** to reinforce our closer collaboration. I do believe that greater involvement and engagement of all Member States; in sharing resources, knowledge and experience, will definitely make Asia and the Pacific rise above these challenges.

## Excellencies, distinguished participants, Ladies and gentlemen

I trust the outcome of this Forum, with the adoption of the *Ministerial Declaration*, will inspire successful implementation of the new initiatives, thereby leads to the achievement of our shared goals, and a way forward to explore future pathways in enhancing and strengthening energy security towards the success of the SDG7 process. We look forward to review these achievements and successes when we next meet at the **Third Ministerial Asian and Pacific Energy Forum** in 2023.

I once again thank to all delegates for your active participation and contribution in making this **Second Asia Pacific Energy Forum** in Bangkok a great success.

Thank you very much and see you again in 2023.