

Statement

ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE)

Second Asian and the Pacific Energy Forum

3-5 April 2018, Bangkok

1. I am representing the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) based in Jakarta, an Intergovernmental Organisation supporting the 10 ASEAN Member States' Ministries of Energy.
2. ASEAN with a population of about 634 million and a combined GDP of USD 2.56 trillion in 2016 is among the fastest growing in the world and this is very much coupled with their energy consumption. Our analysis, released in September 2017 at the 35th ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting, the 5th ASEAN Energy Outlook (AEO5) projected that energy demand is expected to grow as much as 2.3 times over long-term projections up to 2040 from 2015, to cope with the projected economy growth averaging 5% annually in the mid-term.
3. For ASEAN as a regional block the challenge is to meet the rapidly growing energy demand while at the same time ensuring energy security, accessibility, affordability within the framework of sustainable energy transformation, as guided by the regional blueprint, the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2016-2025, which is endorsed at the ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM) in 2015.
4. This regional policy blueprint also reflects the countries' commitment at global level through the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement. At the 35th ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM) last year, 27 September 2017, the Ministers agreed to push their efforts to build one ASEAN Community through Resilient and Sustainable Energy, among others; by working to achieve ASEAN's energy intensity reduction of 20% by 2020 and bolstering efforts to attain ASEAN's aspiration target of 23% of RE in the TPES by 2025 and the enhancement of the interconnectivity with regard to the ASEAN Power Grid (APG) and the Trans-ASEAN Gas Pipeline (TAGP).

5. This year, ASEAN aims to further scale up its effort in transforming energy of the region through investment, innovation and integration. Plans to broaden and deepen collaboration with ASEAN's Dialogue Partners (DPs), International Organisations (IOs), academic institutions as well as the business sector. On 24 January 2018, the region's first multilateral electricity trade took place, between Lao PDR, Malaysia and Thailand. Through the Second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum, we do hope to synergise our efforts with all of our partners at global scale. Many initiatives could be build, one which we like to mention is our collaboration with UN ESCAP and Global Energy Interconnection Cooperation (GEIDCO), through our join study "Pathways for Energy Interconnection in ASEAN - Accelerating energy transition for sustainable and resilient societies" which is expected to be published by Q4 this year.
6. As an inter-governmental organisation that represents the 10 ASEAN Member States' (AMS) interests in the energy sector, ACE fully supports the initiatives of the Second Asian and Pacific Energy Forum, and we are committed to contribute towards integration which brings economic prosperity, social development and environmental preservation as best we can.