



MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING/
HEAD OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AGENCY

OPENING STATEMENTS

at

The 10th International Forum on Energy
for Sustainable Development

7 - 8 October 2019, UN Conference Center,
Bangkok, Thailand

*Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under-
Secretary-General of the United Nations and
Executive Secretary of ESCAP,*

*Mr. Sontirat Sontijirawong, Minister of Energy,
the Royal Government of Thailand,*

Honorable Guest,

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, let us praise the Almighty God who has
allowed us to be able to attending this event to discuss

one of the problems that we face in this world, including
in Asia Pacific countries, about energy and
development.

I am delighted to be here with you today for the opening
of our "10th International Forum on Energy for
Sustainable Development" which will be held up to
tomorrow in Bangkok, in this magnificent United
Nations Conference Center.

I would like to express honor to Ms. Armida Salsiah
Alisjahbana, Under-Secretary-General of the United
Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCAP, and
former Indonesia's Minister of Development Planning,
for inviting me to join this important forum, where
representatives from the United Nation entities,
governments, international organizations and other
stakeholders particularly from ESCAP member
countries will discuss issues faced the Sustainable
Development Goal, Number 7 in particular.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

a business-as-usual (BAU) scenario, without considering environmental impacts and carrying capacity, will create an economic downturn in the long term. With this in mind, we introduce a **low carbon development initiative**, or LCDI as a basic framework for Indonesia's next five-year medium-term development planning.

The **LCDI** will encourage reductions in the intensity and quantity of greenhouse gas emissions as well as tackling the trade-off between economic activity and carrying capacity. There are at least **five main policies** for Low Carbon Development that we will consider: **1) Energy Transition to Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency**; 2) Preventing Deforestation and Peat Protection; 3) Waste Management and Industrial Improvement; 4) Productivity Improvement in Agriculture; and 5) Improvement in Governance.

The development of renewable energy is one of the keys to the success of LCDI. In the Paris Agreement, Indonesia has committed to reduce 29 percent of its

Goal number 7 of the SDG mentions: **Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all**. We understand that access to energy varies among countries, even different within the country itself, especially for the archipelagic country like Indonesia. One thing that might be similar in Asia Pacific countries, that we are challenging on fulfilling affordable energy to the people, yet sustainable for a long-term basis.

Each country has its own challenges. We in Indonesia, for example, have been long relying on oil as our energy supply. This situation is not ideal because our oil reserves are not plentiful, and will lead to a substantial amount of oil import. We know that energy dependency is every country's least option.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

As experienced, while pursuing economic growth, we need to consider other important aspects, such as carrying capacity and environmental issues. Our recent analysis shows that the performance of our economy in

challenges. Basically, the most common factors that are causing the non-optimum efforts are: the regulations, absence of proper and right institutions, and lack of financial support.

The 10th Forum in Bangkok will open the discussion to answer the issues that hampering the achievement. This Forum would also give the opportunity to explore pathways to close the gap between targets and actions. Many issues such as Present and Future of Sustainable Renewable Energy, Sustainable Energy and Gender Empowerment, Evidence-based policies for the Sustainable Use of Energy Resources in Asia and the Pacific, would be interesting topics to be discussed.

The similar situation among ESCAP member countries will also give an opportunity to have cooperation and share ideas in many aspects of development, especially on how providing an affordable energy to the people, yet sustainable in term of economic and environmental. This forum will also be marked by the

launch of Asia Pacific Network of Energy Think Tanks (APNETT). This is a vehicle for networking and cooperation.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

I also hope that the forum will produce valuable thoughts that we will use later to improve the achievement of particularly goal number 7 of our SDGs.

Finally, once again I'd like to appreciate ESCAP, the committee and sponsors who have made "The 10th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development" can be held.

Thank you very much.

Minister of National Development Planning/

Head of National Development Planning Agency

Bambang P.S. Brodjonegoro

greenhouse gas emissions compared to the business-as-usual scenario by 2030. The reduction target for the energy sector is quite considerable: 314 million tonnes of CO2. **Therefore, in the future, the energy transition from fossil fuel to renewable energy will be the key strategy in our energy development.**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Indonesia has plentiful renewable energy reserve of around 400 GW, but its utilization is only around 10 MW or only 2.5% of its total potential. Currently, renewable energy's share in the Indonesian energy mix is slightly less than 10%, much lower than the target of 15%, for this current year. Slow progress hampered by many factors. But one of the causes is that we have not focused on what we are going to develop. As for that case, and in order to expedite development of renewable energy, we need to focus on what we have as an abundant resource, yet not interfere by intermittent supply. Those resources would be geothermal, biomass and hydro energy.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

Energy efficiency is also part of the future solution of energy and environmental problem. The opportunity for improving energy efficiency in transportation and manufacture industry are still high, as we experience traffic jam in many major cities. We also notice that in many ESCAP member countries, many manufacture industries use old and obsolete technology that is not too efficient. The metropolitan cities could save energy substantially by promoting reliable urban transportation, traffic management, and better regulation on a passenger cars. While in the manufacturing industry, the action should be involved in supporting energy service companies to be more developed.

To achieve development goals, we need to develop a good and precision road map, as well as a number of action plans. But, I also aware, that the challenges are not quite easy to overcome. So that we have to have unusual business scenarios to be able to answer those