



## **Joint Ministerial Statement**

### **The Twentieth ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting Plus Three (China, Japan, Korea) (20<sup>th</sup> AMEM+3)**

**24 August 2023**

#### **Introduction**

- 1 The Twentieth ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting Plus Three (China, Japan, Korea) (20<sup>th</sup> AMEM+3) was held on 24 August 2023 in Bali, Indonesia. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Arifin Tasrif, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources, Indonesia. The Meeting also welcomed the Minister of Petroleum and Minerals of Timor-Leste as observer.
- 2 The Meeting acknowledged ASEAN, as the epicentrum of growth in the region, which is facing numerous challenges towards the harmonisation of energy security, sustainability, and economic development. The Meeting also acknowledged the impacts of the global geopolitical tension which are causing energy price and market volatilities as well as supply chain disruptions. The Meeting emphasised the importance of strengthening regional energy cooperation as an instrument to address those challenges and to keep up the momentum of the economic recovery, growth and development.
- 3 The Meeting welcomed the adoption of the Joint Declaration of the 41<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting on Sustainable Energy Security Through Interconnectivity which highlighted the importance of energy connectivity and market integration as enablers for addressing energy security and resiliency. The

Meeting recognised the urgency to accelerate just and inclusive energy transition towards carbon emissions reduction in the energy sector while ensuring energy security by optimally taking into account all energy resources and technologies in accordance with national and regional circumstances.

- 4 The Meeting also shared the common view that energy transition and carbon emissions reduction in the transport sector should allow for various pathways, such as zero emission vehicles towards achieving net zero emissions/carbon neutrality, depending on domestic circumstances of each country while realising economic growth. Additionally, the Meeting noted the plan to adopt the ASEAN Plus Three Leaders' Statement on Developing Regional Electric Vehicle Ecosystem which will recognise the role of electric vehicles to improve energy security in the region and highlighted the commitment towards building ASEAN as a global production hub for the electric vehicle industry.
- 5 The Meeting noted the successful conduct of the Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) Phase II: 2021-2025, which indicated the strong implementation of action plans towards its completion in 2025. The Meeting also noted that ASEAN will embark in the development of the next cycle of APAEC in 2026-2035 and encouraged the Plus Three Countries to support the preparation of the next plans. The Meeting reaffirmed their shared commitment to deepen and intensify partnerships in supporting the APAEC. The Meeting noted the various initiatives under the ASEAN sustainable development agenda including the development of the ASEAN Strategy for Carbon Neutrality, the release of the version 2 of the ASEAN Taxonomy for Sustainable Finance, the implementation of the ASEAN Circular Economy Framework and the development of the ASEAN Blue Economy Framework. The Meeting encouraged the Plus Three Countries to support the implementation of the initiatives.

### **Energy Security**

- 6 The Meeting expressed its appreciation to Lao PDR to host the upcoming 20<sup>th</sup> Energy Security Forum to be held on 13 October 2023. The Meeting noted that the Forum will focus on measures to address energy price volatility and supply

security issues as well as policies and best practices on the diversification of energy sources and capacity enhancement for new technology transfer and deployment to further enhance energy security and resiliency in the region. The Meeting encouraged the ASEAN+3 Countries to continue the information sharing on policies, best practices, and expertise under abovementioned areas.

- 7 The Meeting acknowledged the various pathways for each country in enhancing energy security and resiliency while achieving a low-carbon society. The Meeting therefore emphasised the need to explore a variety of options and utilise all technologies and fuels to ensure stable and secure supply of energy for achieving a low-carbon society. The Meeting encouraged the deployment and utilisation of various alternative, innovative and emerging low-carbon technologies and systems, such as hydrogen, fuel ammonia, small modular reactor, bioenergy, clean coal technology (CCT), and carbon capture utilisation and/or storage (CCUS)/carbon recycling. The Meeting agreed to exchange information on a regular basis to build capacity and transfer of technology towards the commercialisation of low carbon technologies. The Meeting noted the Japan-led Asia Zero Emission Community (AZEC) and relevant initiatives such as Asia Energy Transition Initiative (AETI) and the private sector-led Asia Transition Finance (ATF) Study Group.
- 8 The Meeting noted the region's reliance on oil imports and emphasised the need to mitigate the impact of oil market volatility as a measure to ensure energy security. The Meeting noted the conduct of the Oil Capacity Building programme on Energy Security on 27 February to 1 March 2023 in Japan, jointly organised by the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) and Japan Organization for Metals and Energy Security (JOGMEC), which shared best practices on oil security and stockpiling policies in the region. The Meeting welcomed the plans to organise the 11<sup>th</sup> Oil Stockpiling Roadmap Workshop to be held on 11 October 2023 in Vientiane, Lao PDR.
- 9 The Meeting noted the role of coal in providing stable and reliable energy supply in the region while paving the way for a seamless and just transition towards

achieving carbon neutrality while ensuring energy security. The Meeting welcomed the Strategic Report on ASEAN Readiness for Clean Coal Technology (CCT) and Carbon Capture Utilisation (CCU) Technologies towards Carbon Neutrality by ACE and Japan Carbon Frontier Organisation (JCOAL) which assessed the potential and recommended pathways towards its deployment in the ASEAN region. The Meeting encouraged further cooperation in addressing the challenges towards the commercial deployment of CCT and CCU, including in the areas of enabling policy, financing and investment, as well as human resources capability enhancement. The Meeting noted the development of the ASEAN CCUS Deployment Framework and Roadmap by ACE which will provide the pathway for CCUS deployment to achieve ASEAN's short-, medium-, and long-term energy targets for the carbon emissions reduction of the energy system.

- 10 The Meeting appreciated the continuing cooperation to build ASEAN's capacity on nuclear science, technology, policy and regulatory, and communication strategies through the conduct of the ACE - Integrated Support Center for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Nuclear Security (ISCN) of the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA) Joint Seminar on Nuclear Security Culture on 11 April 2023 in Clark, Philippines and the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between ACE and Korea Nuclear Association (KNA). The Meeting acknowledged the need to strengthen cooperation by exchanging information on the application of nuclear technologies beyond large power generation including small modular reactors for industrial heating, hydrogen production and powering remote island grids.
- 11 The Meeting looked forward to the implementation of Korea's initiative on Capacity Building in Electrical Safety Management for New and Renewable Energy Power Generation Facilities in the ASEAN region which will include information sharing and facility safety examinations in selected ASEAN Member States (AMS).

### **Oil Market and Natural Gas Forum and Business Dialogue**

- 12 The Meeting expressed its appreciation to Lao PDR for hosting the upcoming 12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN+3 Oil Market and Natural Gas Forum and Business Dialogue to be held on 12 October 2023. The Meeting noted that the Forum will discuss and share

information on oil and gas policies, plans, and business opportunities of the ASEAN+3 in responding to global energy security situation, creating initiatives on methane emissions reduction, and decarbonisation in the oil and gas supply chain.

- 13 The Meeting noted the high dependency of member states on oil and gas products and agreed to deepen cooperation to mitigate supply disruptions and meet climate resiliency goals through capacity building activities.
- 14 The Meeting recognised the important role of increased deliveries and stable supply of liquified natural gas (LNG) and acknowledged that investment in this sector is necessary for energy security and energy transition in the region.

### **New and Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation**

- 15 The Meeting expressed its appreciation to the Philippines for organising the 17<sup>th</sup> ASEAN+3 New and Renewable Energy (NRE) and Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EE&C) Forum on 17 February 2023 in Cebu, Philippines. The Meeting recognised the effort from ASEAN+3 countries in advancing the energy efficiency and conservation measures and ramping up the renewable energy deployment. The Meeting reiterated the importance of carbon emissions reduction from energy-intensive sectors, including the industry and transport sectors, as pathways towards achieving APAEC aspirational targets and called for an expansion of initiatives in these sectors. The Meeting also encouraged the discussion on grid resiliency and critical minerals in energy transitions.
- 16 The Meeting appreciated the continuous support of Korea through the implementation of ASEAN+3 Mitigation Cooperation Programme, jointly implemented by the Korea Energy Agency (KEA) and ACE. The Meeting noted the accomplishments in 2022–2023 including, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> ASEAN–Korea Capacity Building Workshop in the Industry and Transport Sectors, the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Action Plan Working Group (APWG) Meetings, and the 4<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Energy Youth Awards (AEYA). The Meeting noted the continued implementation of the programme in 2023-2024 and looked forward to the progress report in the next meeting.

- 17 The Meeting noted the progress of ASEAN – Japan Energy Efficiency Partnership (AJEEP) Scheme 4 and Scheme 5 which focus on the development of the Sustainable ASEAN Energy Management Certification Scheme (SAEMAS) and the Capacity Building on Policy and Technology towards Carbon Neutrality for the Building, Transport, and Industry Sectors. The Meeting noted the plans to conduct carbon neutrality diagnosis in selected AMS for the period 2023-2024 under the AJEEP Scheme 5.
- 18 The Meeting noted the conduct of the 4<sup>th</sup> Government-Private Forum on Cleaner Energy Future Initiative for ASEAN (CEFIA), which was held on 16 February 2023 in Cebu, Philippines and the 5<sup>th</sup> CEFIA to be held on 25 August 2023 in Bali, Indonesia. The Meeting welcomed the adoption of the CEFIA collaboration roadmap to synergise between CEFIA and the APAEC Phase II: 2021-2025 during the 4<sup>th</sup> CEFIA Forum. The Meeting noted the sharing of best practices and initiatives on smart and integrated digital energy management in the industrial, commercial, and building sectors during the 5<sup>th</sup> CEFIA forum. The Meeting noted the efforts to enhance private sector participation within the 5<sup>th</sup> CEFIA Forum, as supported by Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO). Noting the substantial amount of investment needed for power capacity expansion and energy system transformation to accelerate energy transition, the Meeting encouraged the leveraging of CEFIA as a platform to mobilise transition financing, and, public and private investment for energy transition projects in the region as well as to strengthen initiatives to support carbon emissions reduction in Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

### **Clean Energy Roundtable Dialogue**

- 19 The Meeting acknowledged the conduct of the 5<sup>th</sup> ASEAN+3 Clean Energy Roundtable Dialogue which was organised jointly by Cambodia and China on 4 November 2022 with focus on ramping up renewable energy under a low-carbon transition pathway for ASEAN. The Meeting welcomed the plans to organise the China-ASEAN Clean Energy Week (CACEW), with the theme of *For a Shared Future: Across the Ocean and Abreast into Prosperity*, including the 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN+3 Clean Energy Roundtable Dialogue and the China - ASEAN Clean Energy

Capacity Building Programme 2023 Exchange Project on Offshore Wind Development, to be held on 18-24 September 2023, in Haikou, Hainan Province, China.

- 20 The Meeting acknowledged the two capacity building programmes conducted under the ASEAN - China Clean Energy Capacity Building Programme in 2022, organised by ACE and China Renewable Energy Engineering Institute (CREEI), namely (i) the Solar PV+ Development and Utilisation and (ii) Sustainable Hydropower Development (including the hydropower site visit in Cambodia), conducted in August – October 2022 and November – December 2022, respectively. The Meeting noted the rapid growth and development of solar power and sustainable hydropower in the region and encouraged their applications in the energy transition agenda of ASEAN by considering the importance of community development, environmental protection, social safeguards, dam safety and optimised power dispatch. The Meeting further appreciated the contributions of the programme in strengthening the capability of AMS energy authorities specifically on the topics of solar PV and hydropower.
- 21 The Meeting noted the two on-going studies developed by ACE and CREEI *on Ramping Up Renewable Energy under Low Carbon Transition Pathway of ASEAN and ASEAN Offshore Wind Development Roadmap*, to be launched at the 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN+3 Clean Energy Roundtable Dialogue during CACEW. The studies aim to explore the challenges and opportunities of RE development towards low-carbon energy transition and to pave the pathway for offshore wind development in ASEAN.
- 22 The Meeting noted the progress of ASEAN-China Clean Energy Cooperation Centre (ACCECC) and welcomed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ACE and China's ACCECC Affairs Managing Agency (AMA) on 25 August 2023. The Meeting noted that the MoU aims to set out the general framework, including technical and organisational arrangement for ACCECC to support the implementation of APAEC and regional clean energy cooperation.

## **Next Meeting**

- 23 The delegations of the ASEAN+3 Countries, the ASEAN Secretariat, and ACE expressed their appreciation to the Government and people of Indonesia for the warm hospitality and the excellent arrangements made for the 20<sup>th</sup> AMEM+3.
- 24 The Meeting agreed to meet again in 2024 in Lao PDR for the 21<sup>st</sup> AMEM+3.