

**Remarks by Mr. Bundit Limschoon  
Secretary General of the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD)  
7<sup>th</sup> Asia Ministerial Energy Roundtable  
Global Energy Markets in Transition: From Visions to Actions  
Bangkok, The Kingdom of Thailand  
2 November 2017**

**His Excellency General Anantaporn Kanjanarat, Minister of Energy, Thailand,  
His Excellency Suhail Mohamed Al Mazrouei, Minister of Energy, UAE,  
His Excellency Sun Xiansheng, Secretary-General, International Energy Forum,  
His Excellency Shamshad Akhtar, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Executive  
Secretary of Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen:**

It is my great honor and privilege to convey a congratulation message from 34 Member States of Asia Cooperation Dialogue or ACD to all members of AMER, especially to the Kingdom of Thailand and the United Arab Emirates, Host and Co-hosted of the 7th Asia Ministerial Energy Roundtable.

This is a historical moment to witness the gathering of Energy Ministers from 22 Asian Countries to discuss global energy market in transition and move from vision to action.

I also would like to thank the AMER protocol committee for giving me the opportunity to address my remark at this very important roundtable.

Since this is the initial meeting between the two forums, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce my organisation briefly.

**Excellencies,**

Asia is very big and diverse. Our continent differs and varies from Far East to Middle East. That is the reason why 16 years ago, 18 Foreign Ministers gathered in Thailand to constitute a missing link by incorporating every Asian country and building an informal mechanism as a platform for dialogue and conversation between Foreign Ministers across Asia.

The cooperation had been developed gradually and finally stepped up to another level when Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah, HH Amir of the State of Kuwait hosted the First ACD Summit in the year 2012 and offered Kuwait City as the Headquarter of our organisation. That was the first time that all Leaders across Asia agreed to turn informal forum for dialogue into a resulted-oriented organisation. The ACD is now a continent-wide cooperative framework, aims to consolidate Asian strengths and fortify Asia's competitiveness by maximising the diversity and rich resources in Asia.

Since the beginning, energy is one of the most significant areas of cooperation. Because we realise that Asia is a vast and diverse continent; there are members that are rich in energy but less in food security and those who have less while plenty of food resources and in high demand of energy. Accordingly, it is essential to help finding the synergy between the lack and excess, creating a middle ground to use strength to cover the weakness of our partners.

We started our work from traditional or conventional energy. Later on, with the evolving global development, our Members refocused their attentions more towards alternative and renewable energy. And after the 2<sup>nd</sup> Summit, the cooperation was resolved and shifted from conventional energy cooperation to recognise, understand and highlight the importance of nexus/interrelation between food, water, and energy security as critical to achieve long term sustainability.

The new momentum of ACD continued to strengthen when HE General Prayut Chan-o Cha, Prime Minister of Thailand hosted and chaired the Second Summit of ACD in Bangkok last year. In that meeting, all Leaders and their representatives agreed to build an Asian Community by the year 2030 and have then consolidated our cooperation into 6 priority areas, including Interrelation of Food, Water and Energy Security.

ACD aims to also build upon Asia's potentials and strengths through supplementing and complimenting existing cooperative frameworks as to become a viable partner for them. On Energy field, over the past year, ACD has been in collaboration with other energy organisations namely; IRENA and ERIA for joint events and workshops on Energy based on similar technical knowledge/experience sharing. The Abu Dhabi Declaration as the outcome of our 15th Ministerial Meeting on 17 January 2017 outlining our leaders vision and plan on Energy and Sustainable Energy sphere, the topic directly related with the AMER.

Additionally, during our Senior Officials' meetings under the past Chairmanship of the UAE, it is recognised that so many energy cooperation in the region and the world emerges, sharing the same principles and members, duplicating even, thus it is important for us to sync between those cooperation. It shall be most beneficial to add values to the shared cooperation of shared resources. The basic idea is that, energy cooperation in ACD will not "try to compete with other existing functional energy agencies." Instead, ACD works toward "encouraging optimum cooperation with all agencies, intergovernmental bodies, in particular Asian's, its ultimate interest being the prosperity and sustainability of the region.

Therefore, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, on the grounds that, the two organisations share the same value and visions, method and ideology of dialogue, the ACD Secretariat views this is a great opportunity for potential collaborations, to synchronise the development direction towards energy policy and implementation and to make the most use of our member's resources through establishing dialogue partners between the ACD and the AMER.

I am more than happy to convey a message of our cooperation to our leaders during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Summit in Tehran and looking forward to positive response and opportunity to work together with you at the next AMER.

Thank you for your attention.